

M Center City[©]

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OCTOBER 2, 1975

St. Mary's Cathedral at 700 Poplar and the surrounding cathedral grounds will be the setting for Cathedral Celebration Day, an unusual downtown event to be held Tuesday, October 28. From 10 to 4 o'clock there will be a continuing series of interesting things to do, to see, and to hear, and the public is invited.

The Women of St. Mary's, sponsors of the event, aim to focus attention on the cathedral as a downtown attraction and a community center for all. By spotlighting the cathedral's architectural, artistic and historical importance, its unique facilities and location, the lay people and staff, along with artists and craftsmen from the area, have put together a program with something for everybody. A published schedule will make it possible for downtown people to select whatever appeals to them.

Of paramount interest will be three buildings in the cathedral complex: the cathedral itself; the Sisters' Chapel, which is joined to the cathedral by a cloister on the west; and the Diocesan House, a Gothic stone mansion on the west which was built as a new residence for the Bishops in 1902 and now

CATHEDRAL CELEBRATION

by
Miriam Horne Northop



Photograph — St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, 700 Poplar. Built in the shape of a Latin cross, the cathedral is in the style of modified 13th century Gothic, technically termed "early pointed." The shape and location of the central tower over the crossing are reminiscent of the Anglo-Saxon tradition which has survived from the fortress castles of pre-Norman England. The exterior is white stone quarried on Sewanee Mountain in East Tennessee. W. Halsey Wood, an architect for St. John the Divine in New York, was the original architect in 1898. Wood was followed by L.M. Weathers as architect in 1905 and by Bayard Snowden Cairne in 1925.

used for diocesan and cathedral offices. The entire complex of buildings is now a part of the Victorian Village preservation district.

The original church at Poplar and Orleans, then a dirt road at the eastern edge of the city, was a mission started in 1857 by Calvary, the "downtown Episcopal Church. It became the cathedral for Tennessee in 1871.

The Sisters' Chapel was built in 1887 for the Sisters of St. Mary and the students of St. Mary's School, which they ran. Originally of red brick, it was restored and faced with white Tennessee stone to match the cathedral after 1926. It has been described by church architects as a "perfect example of Victorian architecture." Tours of the cathedral and chapel will be given at 1:00 and 2:30 with special attention given to the brilliant stained glass windows, designed and executed over more than a quarter of a century by one artist; the brass pulpit and lectern cast in Italy; and the stone altar and marble reredos. The altar is a memorial to the Sisters of St. Mary who died nursing yellow fever victims. It was installed in the old wooden cathedral in 1879, moved to the partially completed cathedral in 1905 and again to its present location in 1926.

The cathedral organ, built in the 1950s contains 50 ranks, 70 speaking stops, and 3173 pipes. It is an evolutionary instrument incorporating pipes from two previous cathedral organs dating back to the turn of the century. It is continuing to evolve. The most spectacular addition, a set of brass trumpets, was installed this year over the great door. The trumpets, designed to announce festivals and to accompany processions, are unique in Memphis and one of the few in the southeast.

This instrument, its characteristics and capabilities, will be demonstrated in two recitals. Joe Morrow, cathedral organist and choirmaster, and organist for the Memphis Symphony, will play at 11:45, and Dr. Sam Batt Owens, choirmaster and organist at Grace-St. Luke's Church, will play at 2:00. The organ also will be used in concert with a string trio from the Memphis Symphony at 1:45.

The Memphis Harp Ensemble, featuring five harps, will give a concert at 11:30 from the north transept of the cathedral. Noon day prayers will be

said at 12 by the Very Rev. C. E. Reeves, Jr., Dean of the cathedral. The Cathedral Players will perform "The Apple Tree" on the Parish Hall stage at 1:00.

A seated brunch will be served in the cathedral crypt from 11 to 1, and an English tea will be served in the Diocesan House from 2 to 4. These two events will require tickets which must be purchased in advance. They are available by mail from Mrs. William Lea, 1495 Goodbar, 38104. Checks should be made out to St. Mary's Cathedral Celebration Day. Brunch tickets are \$3.50 and tea tickets are \$3.00. The Cathedral office (phone 527-3361) or any member of The Women of St. Mary's also can supply tickets.

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FUEL FOR DOWNTOWN

from Memphis Light, Gas & Water Division

The MLGW Energy Recovery System will solve two of the city's most pressing needs—disposing of the garbage and providing an energy source for downtown Memphis and the medical center. Many of the buildings in this area already face curtailment of their gas supply and there is no gas for future growth in the area.

MLGW believes in the future of downtown Memphis and the energy recovery system will give this area a reliable fuel for the future.

Some questions have been raised about the similarity of the MLGW plant to the one in Nashville, which has experienced problems in its first year of operation.

The concept of the MLGW plant is based on the Nashville Thermal Transfer Corporation, but there are major differences in the MLGW plant. The MLGW consulting engineers—Eilers, Fanning, Oakley, Chester & Rike—have worked closely with the general manager of the Nashville plant so Memphis can avoid its problems.

The biggest problem in Nashville was pollution. They simply cut corners on their pollution control system to save money. The MLGW plant will have electrostatic precipitators similar to the one on the huge Thomas H. Allen Steam Generating Plant.

The Memphis plant will be able to use the full energy benefits from the garbage every day, 24 hours a day. In Nashville when they have more garbage than is needed, steam of chilled water energy, the excess energy has to be vented into the air and wasted. The MLGW plant will generate electricity with the excess energy. The plant will be operating at its peak

only a short time out of the year, so the rest of the year it will be providing electricity to the Memphis electric system.

Nashville also had a problem with the garbage burning hotter than expected. It actually had more energy value than was anticipated and the boilers in the Nashville plant had to be adapted for the extra heat. The boilers in the MLGW plant will be specifically designed to burn raw garbage, eliminating this problem.

Originally the Nashville plant was designed for a conventional fuel such as natural gas to produce the steam and chiller water—burning garbage was an afterthought. The MLGW plant will be designed for garbage as the primary fuel.

Reliability is an important factor in any energy plant. The MLGW Energy Recovery System will have two alternate energy sources. The boilers can be fired by fuel oil and the plant will have a stand-by supply. And it can use electricity from the Memphis electric system to produce chilled water if

NTOWN'S FUTURE

necessary.

There will be some disruption of traffic while the distribution system is under construction. But the entire system will not be built at once. Only one lane of one block of a street will be affected at any one time, just like when we install a water main now.

The plant will be financed by revenue bonds and

Continued on the last page.

POLITICS '75

In response to the questions put to candidates by CENTER CITY readers and published in our July 10th issue, Jack Gibson, candidate for the City Council, District 5, has submitted the following answers:

CENTER CITY READERS: Do you favor a no-annexation policy—at least until we get the old city back in shape?

GIBSON: Yes. Memphis is already one of the five largest cities in the country in terms of land area. Our population density is now less than 2500 persons per square mile. To permit further sprawl at this low density will be exceedingly expensive. If the city council really believes in efficiency and economy in government, it will

adopt a policy of only annexing areas that would improve our tax base and offer an attractive service cost-tax benefit ratio. At present the residents of older, established neighborhoods are being required to shoulder much of the cost of servicing newly annexed areas while their neighborhoods and mine receive inferior services. Rather than growth in land area, we should concentrate on improvement in the quality of life in our city.

CENTER CITY READERS: Would you support an annual, up-to-date tax assessment of all real property parcels in Memphis?

GIBSON: Yes. State law now stipulates an annual reassessment. It should also be pointed out that an annual reassessment is fairer to the tax payers because new construction and recent real estate transfers would be taxed at their current market value, rather than taxed at a lower adjusted value. A person whose property has increased in value would be taxed at the higher value, whereas a person whose property has not increased in value would be taxed less. Presently, both properties could be taxed the same.

CENTER CITY READERS: What zoning reforms would you propose if elected?

GIBSON: Rather than only rezone land on a parcel-by-parcel basis upon request, I believe the council must revise the city's zoning on an areawide basis, looking at the zoning needs of entire neighborhoods at one time. Our present ordinance is very weak in terms of performance standards, particularly for commercial zones. This explains why commercial development is resisted so strongly. I would amend the zoning ordinance to specify permissible levels of light, glare, noise, advertising signs, traffic movements, etc., to ensure that commercial uses would not detract from the enjoyment of abutting residential property.

We must stop zoning on a piecemeal basis and begin to use zoning as it was intended—as a legal tool to aid in implementing neighborhood and community plans. Of course, to accomplish that objective, we first need plans.

earthly delights

FILMS

Lyceum Film Theatre

October 7—"Beauty and the Beast"—
First National Bank Auditorium—
7:30 p.m.

Filmtrak

October 7—"The House On Chelouche
Street"—Jewish Community Center—
8:00 p.m.

Center Film Society

October 10—"Cries and Whispers"—UT
Student Activity Center Auditorium—
7:30 p.m.

DOWNTOWN EXHIBITS

First National Bank (Lobby)

October—Paintings by Carol Sams and
Stella Enrich-Brown

LECTURES-REVIEWS-DIALOGUE

The American Issues Forum

October 7—"The Sprawling City"—
discussion led by William S. Pollard—First
National Bank Auditorium—12:15 p.m.*

October 9—"The Sprawling City"—Cossitt-
Goodwyn Library—12:15 p.m.*

Trinity Lutheran Church Book Reviews

October 8—Chaplain E.W. Callies reviews
"Healing" by Wm. A. Nolen—12:15 p.m.*

FUELING THE FUTURE (MLG&W)

it would be self-supporting. The plant would cost about \$70 million and the break-even point of operation will be when the plant was operating at 75 percent of its maximum load. MLGW already has letters of intent from owners of 56 buildings in the distribution system area saying they would be steam and chilled water customers if the plant is built. That is 64 percent of the steam load already.

The need for the energy is here. And most of the large energy users in the downtown and medical center area can be easily adapted to the system. It will provide an economical, reliable fuel that will provide for the needs of a growing downtown community.

CIVIC CENTER COMMUNITY CULINARY CLUB NEW HOURS: 11:30 - 1:15

*First Presbyterian Church, 166 Poplar Avenue
PRICE: \$1.50 per serving, including drink*

MENU FOR OCTOBER 2 - OCTOBER 13

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Fried Chicken, Cream Corn, Squash, Rolls

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Meat Loaf, Whipped Potatoes, Turnip Greens, Corn Bread

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

Roast Beef, Whipped Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Salmon Croquettes, Hash Brown Potatoes, Tossed Salad, Rolls

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Spaghetti, Cole Slaw, French Bread

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

Fried Chicken, Rice & Gravy, Squash or Green Beans, Rolls

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

Ham, Blackeyed Peas, Corn, Corn Bread

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

Chopped steak, Whipped Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls



166 Poplar
Memphis, Tenn. 38103

*Second-class
postage paid at
Memphis, Tennessee*