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South Central's Literature Evangelists

COVER STORY

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL L E INSTITUTE

Amid the lofty palm trees, the crisp-scented orange groves and the golden warmth of the sunshine in Orlando, Florida, hundreds of literature evangelists and their families, church administrators and guests gathered at the Hilton Inn West for the Fourth Annual Literature Evangelism Institute held December 30, 1980, to January 3, 1981.

The L E Institute is sponsored and planned by the Family Health Education Service, a corporate body of nine regional publishing directors. These men are committed to reaching all black America with truth-filled literature.

The publishing directors who comprise FHES are: Pastors Robert LaGrone of Allegheny East; R. Lewis of Allegheny West; E. Bullock of Central States; T. S. Barber, Lake Region; S. McClamb, Northeastern; S. C. Robinson, Oakwood College; T. Smith, South Atlantic/Southeastern; S. Ruff, South Central; and J. Marshall, Southwest Region.

The FHES is responsible for twelve percent of all literature delivered in the North American Division. Soul-winning is also an integral part of their ministry. Thousands have been baptized as a result of their labors. For seven years (1973-1980) Allegheny East has led all of North America in soul-winning.

In light of the literature evangelists' diligence to their work, the program was skillfully planned to offer spiritual illumination and relaxation. Many visited Disney World or other tourist attractions, while others went golfing, swimming or just relaxed by reading or planning for the future.

The L E Institute was not a training seminar. It did not focus on technique, but sought to strengthen, solidify and inspire the literature evangelists to do a greater work. Individual publishing directors held conference group meetings to refine and instruct the literature evangelists.

Speakers for the institute were carefully chosen and represented the very essence of the gospel ministry. Each man preached a Christ-centered message. They presented the key to successful literature evangelism: total

dependence on the Holy Spirit; perseverance and diligence; and prayer and the studying of God's word as paramount. They challenged the literature evangelists to let God do the impossible for them.

The guest speakers were Pastor L. R. Palmer, president of Allegheny East; Dr. E. E. Cleveland, director of church missions at Oakwood College; Dr. G. R. Earle, president of Northeastern; H. L. Cleveland, president of Allegheny West; and R. Smith, periodical manager for the Review and Herald, who served as the speaker for the divine worship hour.

On Friday evening hundreds gathered for a testimonial service and the ordinance of humility. Everyone received a rich spiritual blessing as they remembered God's mercy and leading in their lives.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the Sabbath school lesson conducted by Dr. S. Haywood Cox, president of Central States. He concluded the study by defining the mission of the black SDA church in 1981. He told the audience that "we can no longer afford to be a weak imitation of a country club. We must reach the people who are in need . . . We must not only serve the classes, but the masses."

On Sabbath evening the Presidential Forum was held. Seven of the nine presidents (Southwest Region was not present and B. Mann represented President L. R. Palmer of Allegheny East) expressed their commitment to the L E

ministry, appreciation for the blessings it has brought and continued support of the work.

After sunset an awards banquet was held. Dr. C. E. Dudley, president of South Central, was the keynote speaker at the banquet. He gave a dynamic speech and challenged the literature evangelists to work perseveringly seven days a week to spread the good news. He reminded them that they are gospel ministers. Every time they knock on a door, he said, they are preaching the gospel.

He challenged the literature evangelists to be the best and bring a sense of pride and dignity to their work.

Many received trophies for their outstanding work. Pastor Robert LaGrone, former publishing director of Allegheny East and now associate publishing director for the Columbia Union Conference, was honored by his colleagues for consistently having the highest deliveries of any regional conference.

Robert Lewis, former associate publishing director for Allegheny East and presently publishing director for Allegheny West, was also honored by his colleagues for having the highest deliveries of any district within the regional conferences. "A tribute long overdue," according to Pastor Emmanuel Bullock, publishing director of Central States.

Other awards went to Beatrice Johnson, associate publishing director of Allegheny East, for having the top district (\$225,238.15) in all of North America, and Willie Mae Cooper of Lake Region



E. W. Moore, associate circulation manager for the periodical department of the Review and Herald, discusses Message magazine with Matthew Dennis, retired publishing leader.

Conference for the highest deliveries (\$51,964.12) of any individual in the regional conferences.

Allegheny East was named the top regional conference for highest deliveries (\$765,955.90) and the leader in soul-winning with 364 baptized.

The year 1980 was very good for the FHES, with eight conferences reporting more than \$2 million in deliveries.

Literature evangelism has taken on a new meaning within the regional conferences. Gone are the faded images of the colporteur who wears a rumpled suit and barely makes ends meet. Today, literature evangelists represent professional, refined and consecrated workers who sense the urgency of reaching the world through the printed page.

Stephanie D. Johnson

PUBLISHER'S PAGE



Pastor O. W. Mackey

O. W. MACKEY: PORTRAIT OF A LITERATURE EVANGELIST

If in 1878 George Albert King, a pioneer literature evangelist, could have looked into the future as he sold the first *Good Health* and *Signs of the Times* in Ontario, Canada, he would have seen thousands of men and women throughout the world lay down their cherished dreams and put on the cloak of literature evangelism.

He would have been awestruck by the far-reaching influence of his work. No doubt among the thousands of dedicated literature evangelists he would have seen Pastor O. W. Mackey diligently working for 34 years spreading the gospel through the printed page.

Odell Wylie Mackey was born October 15, 1916, to Will and Janie Mackey of Wetkumpka, Alabama. His parents later moved to Birmingham, Alabama, in search of greater opportunities. It was here that Odell worked, played and grew into manhood. He attended the local public school, completing eleven grades before his mother suffered a severe stroke.

Like most Americans, he struggled to survive. While still in his teens, Odell left school and assumed the role of guardian and provider because of his mother's illness and his father's death.

Odell was left to face the challenges of the world. During this time the depression was in full sway. It was a time of uncertainty and despair that sapped the very life forces of the American people. In the midst of this blight, Odell secured a job as a porter at the Tutwiler Hotel.

The future seemed bleak, with only an occasional joy. After working for a number of years, Odell decided it was time to find a lifelong companion. He surveyed the field and fell in love with one of the girls in the neighborhood, Mary Henderson. She was born in Americus, Georgia, to Bobbie and Leroy Henderson.

Early in life Mary, along with her mother and her brother, Walter Jones, moved to Birmingham. While attending the local public school, she attracted the eye of Odell. Years later, in 1938, they were married. Throughout the years Mrs. Mackey has been a loving, strong and supportive wife.

The year 1942 marked the turning point in Odell's life. Light shattered darkness and joy overshadowed despair when Odell bought *Great Fundamentals of Our Wonderful Bible* from Walter Pearson.

After reading the book, he began to take the "Twentieth Century Bible Studies" and also began to study carefully the doctrine of the Sabbath. More and more the conviction came to his mind that the Seventh-day Adventist Church was God's remnant church.

So it was with great interest that he sat under the tent and listened intently as Pastor H. R. Murphy presented the great truths. Soon he began to attend the SDA church and, after a time, decided to join.

After making his decision, he told his wife, who did nothing to discourage him. Next he went to tell his boss that he wanted to keep the Sabbath.



Mrs. Mary Mackey

Immediately his boss said to "go right ahead," thinking he meant keeping Sunday. But after Odell explained about his newfound faith, his boss discovered he wanted to keep the seventh-day Sabbath.

"Oh! We can't do without you," he snapped angrily. Odell knew by the anger in his voice that he would lose his job if he decided to keep the Sabbath, but he decided to be firm in his commitment to God. Oftentimes the trials and tribulations that we face as Christians are great blessings in disguise. God in His wisdom allows them to happen to us to strengthen our faith. If we hold onto His precious promises, He will never leave us or forsake us.

Odell took into consideration that he had a wife and mother to support and the fact that jobs were extremely hard to come by. Especially troublesome was his position as a porter, considered a very good job at that time in America when few black people were able to aspire to great heights. When he weighed things in the light of eternal possibilities, he decided that he would obey God rather than man.

So on Friday evening Odell kept the Sabbath. Later, he returned to his job and told his boss that he kept the Sabbath and now was a member of the SDA church. Odell stood steadfast and unwavering in his commitment to God. His boss looked at him and then smiled. "Mackey, we don't want to get rid of you. That's alright. You just go ahead and keep the Sabbath."

After Odell had taken his stand for God, he was anxious to be baptized. He had been drafted into the Army and was

scheduled to leave on Monday. On the Friday evening before his departure, Odell rushed into the tent and asked Murphy to baptize him. "If you don't baptize me on Friday," he warned, "I'll be gone on Monday." The baptismal pool was prepared and Odell Mackey became a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

A Test of Commitment

In 1943 Odell was drafted into the Army "to make the world safe for democracy." He was stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he received two months of basic training. While he was there, he held firmly to his newfound beliefs, which caused his commanding officers to resent him.

After basic training was completed, PFC Mackey was to be assigned to a unit where conscientious objectors were trained as medics. Because his commanding officers hated his beliefs, he was sent to Camp Ellis, Illinois, a Sabbath Collecting Company, where they bore arms.

Once again his commitment to God was strongly tested. He arrived at Camp Ellis, settled into the barracks and began to talk to some of the other soldiers. He soon discovered he was the only SDA in the company. He knew he would have to stand alone.

On the very first day of military exercises, everyone ran to pick up his rifle, but PFC Mackey did not move.

Captain Saperstein, the commanding officer, was confused and angry. Once again he commanded Mackey to pick up his rifle. Once again PFC Mackey stood unflinchingly, refusing to pick up the rifle. Saperstein exploded in anger. He was enraged! Mackey calmly explained that he was an SDA and, because of his beliefs, refused to bear arms.

Instantly Captain Saperstein's expression of anger and disgust was turned into admiration. He was a Jew and kept the Sabbath. From that day forward he assumed the role of a protective guardian. "Mackey, I'll put you in the kitchen," he said . . . "You can eat what you want and keep the Sabbath so you won't have to bear arms." For three months PFC Mackey enjoyed his Sabbath privileges.

Everything was fine until the captain went on furlough. The new officer in charge had no knowledge of Mackey's religious convictions.

The soldiers in his company decided to test the depth of his commitment. One

evening Mackey walked into his barracks and discovered a note on his bed telling him to walk guard that night.



O. W. Mackey while serving in the armed forces.

Silently, the soldiers waited to see the reaction on his face. He was stunned! "Who put this note on my bed?" Mackey asked, puzzled. "I did!" said one of the soldiers. "The captain would like to see you," he continued.

He took the note, walked into the dark night and prayed that God would fight his battle. He determined within himself that he would rather accept a court-martial than violate a principle.

He appeared before the officer and explained that the bearing of arms would violate his conscience. The officer sneeringly retorted, "There are other young men in the army who are Christian . . . they bear arms. You're no better than any of them." Yet PFC Mackey firmly stood his ground. "Sir, it would violate my conscience. I don't believe in bearing arms." "Soldier, you do what we tell you." This time the command was thundered with profanity. Yet Mackey was unshaken. Courageously he said, "Sir, I can't bear arms."

"GET OUT OF MY OFFICE!" the enraged officer shouted. Outside, the soldiers silently watched as Mackey walked out triumphantly. From that day forward he was highly respected by his fellow soldiers. As for the young man who put the note on his bed, he was commanded to walk guard duty in PFC Mackey's place.

When Captain Saperstein returned from furlough, he was told that Mackey refused to obey orders. He called him into his office and said, "Mackey, I'm going to put you in the medics." The order

came down that he would not have to bear arms or work on the Sabbath.

His steadfast commitment to the truth made such a profound impression upon the soldiers that thousands packed the mess hall on Sunday to listen as Mackey presented the message. Many took their stand for Christ.

While conducting a Bible class, he met a devout Christian young man. They soon developed a friendship and began to study the Bible together. After some time he accepted the message and became a baptized member of the SDA church.

Although they were in the same company, they were in different outfits. With simple faith they prayed that God would put them in the same outfit so they could have Bible studies together. God answered their prayers.

They attended the SDA church in Chicago and maintained a special friendship until they were separated when going overseas. Before they parted, they prayed and asked the Lord to protect them. They parted with hopes of being united throughout eternity. (To be continued.)

Stephanie D. Johnson



Pastor and Mrs. R. LaGrone

PASTOR ROBERT LAGRONE NAMED ASSOCIATE PUBLISHING DIRECTOR FOR COLUMBIA UNION

Pastor Robert LaGrone, former publishing director of Allegheny East Conference, has been elected to serve as associate publishing director for the Columbia Union beginning February, 1981.

He will assist in coordinating the literature ministry in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

LaGrone is a native of Columbus, Mississippi. He moved to Mobile, Alabama, where he accepted the Advent message and was baptized by E. E. Cleveland in 1951.

The following year he was recruited by Pastor P. C. Wintley to enter the literature ministry. However, his work as a literature evangelist was delayed for more than two years because he was drafted into the army to serve in the Korean War.

In 1954 he entered the literature ministry in Mobile, Alabama. He remembers that "my most severe test came at the beginning of my work. I was severely tested for more than four weeks. It was hard to believe that I had worked for more than a month and didn't sell a book, but it happened. I did not give up. I persevered, claimed His promises and believed His word. During this period I believe the Lord tested my sincerity and my dedication to His work. He gave me success."

God richly rewarded his faith and in 27 years he has gone from one level of triumph to another.

Within seven years, he was named associate publishing director for the South Central Conference. From 1962 to 1965 he worked diligently to spread truth-filled literature throughout the region.

In 1966 he was called to Central States Conference to head its publishing department. He was instrumental in building a solid foundation for the publishing work.

After six years of service in Central States, he went to Allegheny East in 1972. For eight consecutive years he has led all regional conferences in sales and all North America in soul-winning, an achievement he credits to the bountiful blessings of God, recruitment and hard work.

He points to the loving support of his wife of 30 years, Evelyn B. LaGrone, a native of Pascogonia, Mississippi, as playing a key role in his success. "I am very fortunate to have a wife and daughter (Gloria LaGrone-Holland of Greenbelt, Maryland) who have been supportive of the work from the beginning. Their prayers, work and understanding have been a real asset to me."

Mrs. LaGrone has untiringly worked alongside her husband throughout his ministry. While in Allegheny East she worked as cashier and bookkeeper of the Family Health Education Service (FHES). She has been a strong right arm.

In the immediate future he looks forward to helping develop a leadership guide for new leaders, especially for regional associate leaders. "This is a void that needs to be filled."

LaGrone, a committed Christian with keen business acumen, counts his sales and profits in terms of eternal gain. He is looking forward to the day when he will lay aside the mantle of literature evangelism and receive a heavenly robe for a job well done!



Pastor Leonard Harris, associate publishing director of Northeastern Conference.

LITERATURE EVANGELISTS REACH THE WORLD

The work of the missionary has seriously been hampered by the emergence of eastern religion, communism and nationalism in the third world. Christianity has been equated with western imperialism. In many nations the work has been closed and prospects of preaching the gospel in all the world seem impossible.

Yet God has opened doors in the most unexpected places so that the gospel commission may be fulfilled. In Northeastern Conference He has used two ladies, Zilphia Burke and Phadia Grimsley, to reach the seemingly unreachable.

These ladies come in contact with ambassadors, journalists, Moslems, businessmen, university students, and people from all walks of life.

From Sunday to Thursday at 12:30 to 5:30 a.m. at the International Arrivals Building of JFK Airport in New York, you

will find Mrs. Burke appropriately attired in a blue blazer, gray skirt and white blouse displaying *Life and Health* and *How to Stop Smoking*. On Monday she is joined by Mrs. Grimsley.

Pastor Leonard Harris, associate publishing director of the Long Island/Queens district, has always dreamed of having literature evangelists working at JFK and La Guardia airports. He remembers "walking through the corridors and silently praying for God to open the doors."

When the fullness of time was come, God sent forth Mrs. Burke. It seems that since her baptism by E. E. Cleveland in 1965 she had wrestled with the idea of being a literature evangelist.

Finally she decided to continue as supervisor for the classified ad section of the Long Island Daily Press, working there for 16 years until it closed. Then she returned to nursing. She enjoyed her work but was not content. Her active involvement with the Jamaica church in Jamaica, New York, could not satisfy her. She felt a pressing need to work full-time for the Lord.

In March, 1980, she attended a literature evangelist workshop conducted by the publishing department of Northeastern Conference. Mrs. Burke listened intently to Pastor Silas McClamb, publishing director, as he explained the ministry of the literature evangelist.

She asked for God's guidance and was led to enter the literature ministry. Her husband, Mannus Burke, attended the workshop with her. He encouraged her to enter the LE ministry.

In September, 1980, she became a full-time literature evangelist working in South Ozone Park, New York, a section of southeast Queens.

While she was canvassing from house to house, planes would fly overhead. She asked, "Isn't the noise from the plane disturbing you?" "No," they would respond. "It's just another sound." By hearing the noise from the plane, the idea came to her mind, "Why not sell literature at JFK?"

After praying about the idea, she called the airport, but had no idea who to contact. Finally she talked to the secretary to Leo G. Thomas, supervisor of the control tower. Mrs. Burke explained her project and an interview was arranged for October 9.

Mrs. Burke discussed her project with Thomas. He was quite impressed with the SDA church and set forth several

guidelines before scheduling another meeting. When the guidelines were all met, Thomas gave final approval.



Literature evangelists Phadia Grimsley (left) and Zilphia M. Burke displaying some of the magazines sold to travelers at Kennedy International Airport.

On November 31, 1980, the JFK International Arrivals Building opened its doors for the first time to SDA literature evangelists.

The greatest obstacle that has been encountered is the language barrier, but even that has been conquered by the universal language—love! Mrs. Burke sold two magazines to a Hebrew woman returning to Tel Aviv. They could not understand one another, but were able to smile, make gestures and speak a few words. Love conquered and they departed with their lives greatly enriched.

By showing love, Mrs. Burke was able to subdue the hostilities of an Iranian who felt Americans hated him because of the hostage crisis. She told him that "God loves you and so do I." His countenance completely changed and he began to smile before purchasing a magazine. Only eternity will be able to tell the far-reaching influence of that interview.

With divine aid, Mrs. Burke has been able to contact thousands, enroll 102 in Bible correspondence courses and bring hope to former SDA's.

Her work has reached into Iran, Israel, Japan, Germany and Holland. In the near future, she envisions every public transportation center displaying truth-filled literature.

Mrs. Burke's partner is Phadia Grimsley of Wyandanch, New York. Every Monday she drives 50 miles one way to work at JFK. She recently retired from nursing after 32 years and entered the literature work on October 31, 1980.

While attending the General Conference session in April, 1980, at Dallas, Texas, she met several LE's and was impressed with the work they were doing.

The Editor's Desk

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

The March edition of the *Regional Voice* is dedicated to that band of intrepid warriors, the literature evangelists. We hope this issue will inspire others to join this noble ministry.

Also in this edition we begin our series on "Pastor O. W. Mackey: Portrait of a Literature Evangelist." Initially, we had decided to publish the series in February, but we knew it would be far more appropriate if it accompanied our issue on literature evangelism.

In this edition we have two conferences that will be joining the *Regional Voice* on a monthly basis: Allegheny West and Southeastern Conference.

We would like to welcome Allegheny West to the *Regional Voice*. Under the capable leadership of Pastor H. L. Cleveland, the conference has grown tremendously. Membership now stands at more than 8,000. Elizabeth Cleveland, administrative assistant to the president, will coordinate the news for the *Voice* from that conference.

Also, we welcome Southeastern Conference to the *Regional Voice*. It is the newest regional conference under the leadership of President J. Edgcombe.

NORTHEASTERN REPORTS \$216,651.57 IN DELIVERIES FOR 1980

Northeastern Conference, under the experienced leadership of Pastor Silas McClamb, has delivered \$216,651.57 and baptized 53 souls.

The Northeastern associate publishing directors are: Calvin Harrison, with \$35,574.18; Alcega Jeaniton, with \$54,058.05; and Delores Smith, leader of the student summer program, with \$15,607.80.

The top literature evangelists are Connie Harrell with \$18,538.98 and Anthony Blanc with \$14,656.50.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	March	20	27	April 3	10
Boston, Mass		5:56	6:04	6:12	6:20
New York City		6:07	6:14	6:22	6:30
Buffalo, N.Y.		6:27	6:35	6:43	6:51
Atlanta, Ga.		6:49	6:54	7:00	7:05
Miami, Fla.		6:32	6:35	6:38	6:41
Charlotte, N.C.		6:35	6:41	6:47	6:52
Birmingham, Ala.		5:58	6:04	6:09	6:14
Jackson, Miss.		6:12	6:17	6:22	6:27
Memphis, Tenn.		6:12	6:17	6:23	6:29
Louisville, Ky.		6:55	7:01	7:08	7:14
Detroit, Mich.		6:45	6:53	7:01	7:09
Chicago, Ill.		6:02	6:10	6:18	6:25
South Bend, Indiana		6:57	7:05	7:13	7:20
Minneapolis, Minn.		6:25	6:34	6:43	6:52
St. Louis, Mo.		6:12	6:19	6:26	6:32
Kansas City, Mo.		6:30	6:37	6:44	6:50
Denver, Co.		6:12	6:19	6:26	6:33
Little Rock, Ark.		6:20	6:26	6:31	6:37
Dallas, Texas		6:39	6:44	6:49	6:54
New Orleans, La.		6:12	6:16	6:20	6:24
Albuquerque, N.M.		6:18	6:24	6:29	6:35
Oklahoma City, Okla.		6:42	6:48	6:53	6:59

Add one minute for each 13 miles west; subtract one minute for each 13 miles east.

THE CONFERENCES IN ACTION

DENVER PARK HILL HOSTS OAKWOOD COLLEGE AEOLIANS

The Aeolians touring choir from Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, were presented in concert at the Denver Park Hill Church in Denver, Colorado. The choir was en route to Oakland, California, after a Thanksgiving eve stop in Kansas City, Kansas.

Alma Blackman, choir directress, gave the audience a brief but in-depth look at her career as conductor and arranger for the Aeolians. She has guided, taught and trained voices for the Aeolians for the past eight years. This has been her greatest satisfaction. She said that the apex of her musical experience with the Aeolians will be their expected trip to Poland next summer as goodwill ambassadors.

The quality of the choral performance demonstrated by the Aeolians is electrifying. Their spirit-filled melodies flow from voices unhampered, most of the time, by any instruments. Their music featured a Christmas medley, an inspired performance of the "Peaceable Kingdom" and a medley of Negro spirituals.

Several students from the Park Hill Church are members of the Aeolians. This made the performance even more personable. The outstanding musical performance was described best by Pastor W. D. Felder, church pastor, when he said in closing: "Come again Aeolians. We love you."

Margaret Hayes
Communication Secretary

BETHESDA CONDUCTS TEMPERANCE CAMPAIGN

The Bethesda SDA Church of Omaha, Nebraska, recently conducted a temperance emphasis program in conjunction with Adventist World Temperance Day under the theme of "The Energy of the Eighties" and the National Great

American Smokeout Program for the Omaha area.

Joan Herrington, church temperance secretary, challenged members on Sabbath morning with an appeal for adherence to the temperance principles outlined in the Bible and the writings of Ellen G. White. Remarks by an Omaha public school teacher, Patricia Framp-ton, and the Bethesda AY leader, Thomas Bennett, underscored the need for temperance work particularly among the youth of Omaha.

Realizing the need to share in the work of letting others know about the "abundant life," Bethesda members sponsored *Listen* magazine subscriptions to ten junior and senior high schools in the community, a hospital, the Omaha SDA school, Bedford Elementary. These, together with personal subscriptions, brought the total number of *Listen* subscriptions to 30.

Pastor Gerald H. Jones presented a thought-provoking sermon on Sabbath afternoon, calling upon members to make a commitment to temperance principles in every phase of daily Christian living.

The day's activities ended with several members going to a shopping area in an effort to support the American Cancer Society and sign up people for the Great American Smokeout.



Pastors Emmitt Slocumb and Emmanuel Bullock.

CENTRAL STATES LITERATURE EVANGELIST RALLY

A spiritual "high" at Pikes Peak, literature evangelists from the Colorado district met in Colorado Springs for their annual rally. Glen Conners, district

leader, invited Emmanuel Bullock, publishing director, and Daniel Stewart, associate from Kansas City, to challenge the Denver area literature evangelists.

The Sabbath school, lay activities and worship services were conducted by literature evangelists. Daniel Stewart was the guest speaker.

One highlight of the day was a testimony service which demonstrated the tremendous blessing of the Lord toward area literature evangelists. A greater evidence of God's workings was shown when 32 individuals attended the sales clinic held Sunday morning.

Pastor Bullock attributes the success of the meetings to the tremendous atmosphere and beauty of the Colorado Springs environment.

Daniel Stewart
Associate Director—Publishing
Central States Conference



SLOCUMBS PASTOR PUEBLO- COLORADO SPRINGS DISTRICT

Emmitt Slocumb, Jr., is the new pastor of the Claremont church in Pueblo and the Palace of Peace church of Colorado Springs. Both churches are located on the eastern edge of the Colorado Rocky Mountains.

Emmitt and Joan Slocumb have replaced Pastor and Mrs. G. F. Webb, who have moved to Davenport, Iowa. After completion of a bachelor's degree in theology at Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, Pastor Slocumb entered denominational service for the Central States Conference for the Allon Chapel church in Lincoln, Nebraska. He served

Allon Chapel for 14 months. From there he entered the Andrews University theological seminary where he has completed a master of divinity degree. Most recently, the Slocumbs served three churches in southern Missouri.

Pastor Slocumb's wife, Joan, is a full-time substitute teacher in the Colorado Springs public school system. She holds a bachelor of science degree in elementary education.

We are happy to have the Slocumbs serve the Pueblo-Colorado Springs district.

Bobby Franklin
Communication Secretary



Pastor H. M. Mouzon delivers the Sabbath message.

BEACON LIGHT ENTERS NEW CHURCH HOME

The new year presented a new blessing to the members of the Beacon Light Church in Kansas City, Missouri. The pastor and members of the church worshipped in the new church home on Sabbath, January 3. The new church is

located at 49th and Paseo in Kansas City, Missouri.

After worshipping for more than three years in rented facilities at the corner of 79th and Paseo, Pastor Pettway, Lindsay and First Elder J. Jackson were beaming with gratitude as services began on the first Sabbath of the new year.

The church is being purchased with moneys provided by church members, the Central States Conference and the Mid-America Union. The 52 members of Beacon Light are very grateful for the financial plan initiated by Pastor V. Lindsay and approved by the conference committee.

One of the happiest members on Sabbath, January 3, was First Elder Frank Jackson. Because of his leadership, persistence and dedication, the three-year dream has come true. Guest speaker for the occasion was Pastor H. M. Mouzon, Beacon Light's first pastor.

According to Pastor S. Haywood Cox, conference president, the purpose of the \$250,000 church structure is a tremendous blessing. The church is being purchased for only \$100,000.



Left to right: First Elder Frank Jackson, Pastor Hilliard Pettway.



Beacon Light Church (front).



Beacon Light Church (back).



PRESIDENT PRESENTS 1981 CHALLENGE

S. Haywood Cox, president of the Central States Conference, delivered his 1981 challenge to the workers recently in his monthly *Perspective: A Right Spirit—A Right Attitude*.

The president stated that we should "pause at a milestone and look back briefly. Look back long enough to thank God for His many blessings, long enough to learn from our failures and mistakes. However, we should only pause to look back, not come to a complete stop and linger."

He challenged workers in every church to encourage significant gains for 1981:

1. To have a genuine revival.
2. To show a 10 percent gain in church membership.
3. To put into operation *Harvest Time '81*.
4. To show a 15 percent gain in Sabbath school enrollment and average attendance.
5. For every pastor and layman to set goals for personal growth.
6. To evaluate each department in the church (Sabbath school, personal ministries, AY, etc.) its overall effectiveness, answering the question, *Are we meeting spiritual needs?*
7. To reach all conference goals: In-gathering, *Message*, camp improvement, Christian education offering, etc.
8. To reduce apostasies.

The president concluded his message by stating that "1981 is a great year to begin a year of dedicated service and progress."

William R. Wright, Jr.
Communication Director



ALLEGHENY WEST CONFERENCE

Literature evangelists gather for inspirational meeting.

Kneeling left to right: Danny Milton—associate publishing director for northern Ohio; President H. L. Cleveland—Allegheny West; R. C. Lewis—publishing director—Allegheny West; (Fur Coat) W. Jones—associate director for Pennsylvania; (Next the man with hat) R. Crawford—associate director—S. Ohio.; L. Lampkin—next to W. Jones; V. Ware—woman in white dress—above D. Milton.

ALLEGHENY WEST ATTAINS 108 PERCENT GAIN IN SALES

On Sabbath, June 28, the first weekend of camp meeting for the Allegheny West Conference, three young men were ordained to the gospel ministry. One of the three, Robert C. Lewis, was publishing director for the conference.

Pastor Lewis was born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, but moved at a very early age to Flint, Michigan, where he was reared and received most of his formal education in the Lutheran church school system.

He later moved to St. Louis, Missouri, where he attended Mound City College, majoring in business administration. While living in St. Louis, he met and married Eula Wiley, a nurse. To this union seven children were born, three of whom are now students at Oakwood College.

In 1960 a relative began sending *Message* magazine to the family. These journals were read and the family was

impressed that this was God's truth. The relative came to visit the family in June of 1962 and invited the family to attend the Berean SDA Church in St. Louis. After Bible studies, the family joined the church. In August of that year they were baptized.

In 1964 Robert was impressed to devote his life full-time to the literature ministry after doing it on a part-time basis since his baptism. The Lord blessed his efforts and by 1969 he had received an award for being a member of the million-dollar sales club. He also saw many souls baptized into the church.

In 1970 Robert received a call to be the associate publishing director of the Allegheny East Conference. In 1971 he received the award for having the highest sales in the conference. Through the years he has received various awards for highest sales and souls throughout the union, ranking in the top five districts during the last two years.

Over the past ten years Lewis has seen more than 500 souls baptized into the truth and more than 1.25 million dol-

lars in truth-filled literature placed in homes.

In November of 1979 he was called to the Allegheny West Conference as publishing director and began working in this capacity on January 1, 1980.

In the few months he served in this capacity, the Lord has used him to build a strong leadership team, recruit a strong group of dedicated literature evangelists and, at this writing, lead the department in showing a 108 percent gain in sales.

The conference is indeed proud of Pastor Lewis. May God continue to bless him as he leads out in a strong way in the literature ministry of the Allegheny East Conference!

Lewis is appreciative to God, his associates and his president, H. L. Cleveland, for his total support of this program, along with the loyal literature evangelists who helped make this outstanding report possible.

Elizabeth M. Cleveland
Correspondent

MARY ADAMS, SOUL WINNER

Mary Adams from Cleveland, Ohio, started her experience by stating that "we serve a marvelous God" and went on to tell that during a recent month she had set her goal at \$5,000 in sales and three souls. She then told the Lord, "I've set my goals, now You help me reach them."

"The sales came easy," she stated, "but the souls were a different story." Up until the last Sabbath of the month she had no souls to present.

Then—on that last Sabbath—as she was sitting in church a customer she had contacted in 1976 came into the church with three of her children, sat down beside her and stated that she wanted to be baptized. She had been reading the books and was impressed with the truths they contained.

"God tried me to the very end, but I knew He would come through—and He certainly did. He didn't give me three souls—but four! Yes, we do serve a marvelous God."

"I make God responsible for my suc-

cess and He never fails me. He is using you and me to save others and by so doing, we save ourselves," she concluded.

Mary Adams has been in the literature ministry for six years. Her goal for 1980 in sales was \$35,000. The Lord blessed her with \$43,114.70.



Mary Adams and new members she is responsible for bringing into the church. Sister Adams has hat on.

TOTAL SALES FOR 1980
\$250,225.24 (Increase of 108 percent)

District #1

Danny Milton, Cleveland, Ohio

Total sales for 1980: \$132,282.72

District #2

Welton Jones, Sr., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Total sales for 1980: \$72,161.84

District #3

Robert Crawford, Cincinnati, Ohio

Total sales for 1980: \$40,647.08

District #4

Auxiliary, Danville, Virginia

Total sales for 1980: \$5,133.60

TOTAL BAPTISMS FOR 1980: 60

Top Literature

Evangelists for Year	Total Sales	Souls
Mary Adams	\$43,114.70	6
Veronica Ware	22,153.84	2
Lawrence Lampkins	15,946.68	10
Annie Moore	14,310.41	16



R. C. Lewis, publishing director, Allegheny West Conference.



From left to right: Annie Moore, Alton Humphreys, Robert C. Lewis, director, and Mary Adams.



T. S. Barber

FAMILY HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICE AIDS CONFERENCES

It is said that "necessity is the mother of invention" and everything has its beginning. For example, a teakettle on the stove was the beginning of the steam engine, a shirt waving on a clothes line was the beginning of a balloon, the forerunner of the Graf Zeppelin, a spider-web strung across a garden path suggested the suspension bridge, a lantern swinging in a tower was the beginning of the pendulum, and an apple falling from a tree was the cause of discovering the law of gravitation.

Discovering, in 1956, that the Home Health Education Service (HHES) plan, in spite of all its good qualities, could not, would not and did not work successfully for black literature evangelists brought the beginning of the Family Health Education Service (FHES) plan, a successful, workable plan for the regional conferences.

In 1968 I accepted a call to become the publishing secretary for the Lake Region Conference. It was made certain to me then that the HHES plan was not the program for us.

To recruit workers to take out literature to the teeming millions in the Lake Region Conference, there had to be a plan that would meet the needs of both the literature evangelist and the public.

We were given two choices: either the pay-by-mail plan (HHES) or pay cash for all our literature for each worker.

Neither the literature evangelists nor the publishing department had the money for the cash plan and we had learned by experience that our customers did not mail in their payments.

The publishing department was in debt with the Review and Herald Publish-

ing House by \$22,000, Pacific Press by \$18,000 and had miscellaneous debts of \$13,000. There was not one up-to-date book on the shelf. The unwrapped stock was valued at about \$900.

The Book and Bible House, as was always the policy, was in full control of ordering, handling the supplies and all finances of the publishing department. This had proven to be disadvantageous to the publishing department. Whenever the publishing secretary needed funds for his workers or to promote his program, he had to go to the Book and Bible House Manager. Often the funds were not there when the need would arise, to the embarrassment of the publishing secretary and inconvenience of the literature evangelist.

Whenever there was a deficit, it was invariably attributed to the literature evangelists. Often the literature evangelists could not receive their courtesies even when they qualified, due to lack of funds. This resulted in the publishing department losing full-time workers.

These experiences brought me to the conclusion that the time had come for the publishing secretary to take over the responsibilities for which he was elected—directing the publishing program in all its phases. Under the present set-up, he was publishing secretary in name only. The Book and Bible House manager in reality was directing the publishing department.

It seemed only logical that the publishing secretary take over his own responsibilities as head of his department. Knowing that he was held responsible for whatever progress or loss by the department, he would take greater interest in its program and work harder to make it and his literature evangelists succeed.

With those and other thoughts in mind, I decided to go in to see Pastor C. E. Bradford, then president of the Lake Region Conference, lay my plan for the FHES program before him and say, "if I perish, I perish."

The God who knows all about our struggles was with me, for Pastor Bradford "held out the scepter" and said, "Barber, that sounds like a good plan and I am behind you 100 percent." Thereafter he always gave his full support to the FHES program. The same cooperation was tendered by the late J. R. Wagner and the current president, Dr. Charles Joseph.

The new plan needed a name with sig-

nificance. It was decided that it would be called Family Health Education Service.

Since slavery, the blacks' homes have been broken up and families separated. Calling it the Family Health Education Service would serve as a means of knitting black families together, keeping the family in good *health* and *educating* that family to be of service to God and community.

God gave us this plan that the message could be more speedily carried to every man's door.

I had prayed earnestly before going to see Pastor Bradford. Now that he had given the "green light," we prayed even more earnestly for divine guidance. It is not in man to guide his steps. We still needed the Saviour with us all the way.

Being deeply in debt, the Lake Region Conference made available to the FHES program \$3,500. With this sum in hand and owing \$120,000, the program was launched. But God was in that \$3,500 and He won the battle.

To get this plan established was by no means easy. There was much opposition from every side. Some said it could never be done. One high-ranking official predicted that I would never live to see it work. However, the General Conference voted in the Family Health Education Service as an organization within the General Conference. God gave us this plan and "if God be for us, who can be against us?"

Upon arriving in Lake Region, we discovered that deliveries for 1967 were \$69,000. Our deliveries have increased each year and reached \$611,212.42 in 1980. The literature evangelists have increased in number from 1½ full-time workers to 112 in 1980. We also have four full-time assistants working in the program. A single lay literature evangelist delivered \$51,964 for 1980. Inventory has increased from \$900 to our present paid-in-full inventory on hand of more than \$122,300. As a result of the work done by the literature evangelists, this past year 203 persons have been baptized.

During the summer months students delivered \$89,005 worth of literature. FHES now owns five vans valued at about \$30,000 and has collectible outstanding accounts of \$50,000. Cash in the bank amounts to \$16,000.

Necessity is the mother of invention. It was of necessity that FHES was born. The FHES plan is proving to be a blessing to others of our sister regional con-

ferences. At the close of 1980, deliveries for seven of the regional conferences totaled \$2,536,154.81.

God gave us the Family Health Education Service plan and we glorify His name. For He has done great things for us, whereof we are glad.

T. S. Barber, Publishing Director
Family Health Education Service
Lake Region Conference



Willie Mae Cooper

THE BIBLE LADY

"Aren't you the Bible Lady?" the little child asked. Willie Mae Cooper smiled and answered "yes," for this is what the children in her literature evangelist territory have affectionately named her.

Each morning, after seeing her husband off to work, she spends one uninterrupted hour in meditation, prayer and study, asking the Lord to give her something that she in turn can share with the people she will come in contact with that day.

Willie Cooper does not consider herself an eloquent speaker and attributes her success to the Lord. Although money was not the motivating factor for Willie's decision to sell books, the Lord has blessed her diligence.

Putting in seven hours a day and driving 50 miles one way to her territory, Mrs. Cooper delivered more than \$43,000 in literature in 1979 and \$51,964.12 in 1980. This fantastic record has singled her out as having the highest deliveries of all literature evangelists for the past two years in the regional conferences. This is quite an accomplishment, since Mrs. Cooper has been engaged in this work for only three years.

Mrs. Cooper has found in her work

that people are searching for answers to life's problems. The books which they purchase are not placed on a shelf, but are hungrily read. The majority of her customers are steady, for they purchase books regularly from her.

One customer who refused to purchase any books from Mrs. Cooper later searched and had others searching until Mrs. Cooper was located. She wanted her to explain what the Bible had to say about the state of the dead. Mrs. Cooper gave up her lunch hour to study with this lady until they had covered 24 lessons.

Another customer, after purchasing some literature, confided to Mrs. Cooper that she had stopped studying her Bible after a person visiting her home had completely confused her on Bible teachings. The young woman was full of questions and with Mrs. Cooper's help was able to find scriptural answers. At the close of the visit, the woman shared with her that she felt as though she could once again begin studying the Bible.

Mrs. Cooper has been privileged to see ten people who have purchased her books unite their lives with Christ. She stated that a literature evangelist must have a real love for people, be patient and a good listener. Willie Cooper loves her work and it shows.

Crystal R. Drake
Correspondent



Melinda Suttle

A SIX-YEAR-OLD LEADS THE WAY

The Family Health Education Service Student Scholarship Program in the Lake Region Conference was blessed with sales for 1980 of \$89,005. Students ranging from six to fourteen years old sold magazines to earn scholarships.

Melinda Suttle, daughter of Arthur and

Martha Suttle of Chicago, Illinois, is a bright, outgoing six-year-old. This past summer she sold a record \$1,700 in magazines. Her bright smile and flawless canvass aided in her sales.

Showing no fear, Melinda would canvass anyone who crossed her path. Five days a week she would ride in the van provided by the publishing department to her "territory," where she would sell as many as 75 magazines for herself and then help her eight-year-old brother, Melvin.

At the summer's end, Melinda had earned a full year's scholarship and a trip for outstanding work in her age group.

Crystal R. Drake
Correspondent

LITERATURE EVANGELISTS CONDUCT CHAPEL PROGRAM

In every large city there should be a corps of organized, well-disciplined workers, not merely one or two, but scores should be set to work. . . .

Each company of workers should be under the direction of a *competent* leader, and it should ever be kept before them that they are to be missionaries in the highest sense of the term. Such systematic labor, wisely conducted, would produce blessed results.

Such a competent leader is Pastor James Jones, Jr., associate publishing director of the Lake Region Conference. In October, 1980, the students of Peterson-Warren SDA Academy in Detroit, Michigan, listened intently as a corps of their fellow classmates, under the direction of Pastor Jones, presented the noble work of literature evangelism.

Paige invited God's blessings upon the entire assembly. Music was in the air. Katrina Crittendon sang and Mrs. Paige and Mrs. Berry filled the auditorium with music.

Jones spoke briefly on the eternal value of literature evangelism. He encouraged all the students to become active in God's vineyard.

Afterwards, he presented \$6,000 in scholarships to student literature evangelists. Among the top student LE's were Ruth and Cheryle Wilchur, \$900, and Omar Wright, \$600. In the future Jones looks forward to involving the whole student body in literature evangelism.

I. Shelton
Correspondent

HOLY LAND TOUR



Lee Paschal, editor of the North American Regional Voice.

REFLECTIONS ON THE HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

It was a joyful experience for 69 persons to board an Olympic Airlines 747 jet at New York's Kennedy Airport for the country of Israel. The travelers had come from several cities across the United States and many churches in the Northeastern Conference.

It was November 11, 1980, when the "Big Plane" roared down the runway. There was excitement among the group. In a few seconds we were airborne and shortly thereafter many fell asleep!

Excitement was again generated when our plane landed in Tel Aviv, Israel, after a stay in Athens, Greece.

Land of the Bible

The Jewish empire was at its height during the kingdoms of David and Solomon. During this period in history the nation's borders extended from "the river of Egypt" to the Euphrates. Modern Israel as it emerged from the 1948 war of independence occupied 7,992 square miles, about one-eighth of the area ruled by Solomon.

The Northeastern Conference travelers visiting this small but educational and inspirational country were moved to tears as they came to Jerusalem and visited the five stations of the cross on the Via Dolorosa, the way taken by Jesus from where He was condemned to Golgotha. Other points of interest in the city of King David included the Mount of Olives, Gethsemane, the room of the Last Supper, the Wailing Wall, the Dome of the Rock, the Shrine of the Book, part of Jerusalem's museum, and the Knesset, Israel's parliament.

A visit to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, to Jericho, the first town taken by the Israelites after crossing the Jordan,

Nazareth, the town where Jesus grew up, and Joppa, the town where Jonah embarked on his ill-fated voyage to Tarshish, was indeed more than just a journey. It was a pilgrimage to the Land of the Bible.

Lee A. Paschal
Editor

I was very happy to see the progress made in Israel since the destruction of 1967. When I was there three years ago there was so much evidence of the work. Even the barbed wire was still on the streets.

I was disappointed not to see the Jordan filled with water. The guide said this was due to a lack of rain for several months, but that by summer it would be filled again.

Among the things I had not seen before was the dock in Caesarea from which Paul might have set sail for Rome. I was impressed by the beautiful university, a lovely place and setting for learning.

Crossing the Suez Canal at night was quite an experience. I never would have thought that I would climb through a boat window to get a ride across. The extreme poverty in Egypt was appalling.

Meeting with fellow believers in other countries was a real blessing. I enjoyed the fellowship with the Northeastern congregation, especially my roommate. I hope I will again be so privileged.

Ardella Barrett
Correspondent



Ardella Barrett

As seen through the eyes of a Bostonian

I had often dreamed of visiting the Holy Land, the place where our Saviour was born, lived, worked and gave His life so that we might have eternal life.

You can imagine the joy that filled my heart when I had the opportunity to visit the Holy Land. It was one of the most wonderful experiences of my life. I thank God for allowing me to make such a journey.

Israel is the crossroad of continents, ancient civilization, the land of the Bible and the cradle of Judaism, Mohammedanism and Christianity. The places and sights are too numerous to mention.

My Holy Land pilgrimage was illuminating, but I look forward to the day I shall never have to return home, but rather live throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity.

Pearl L. Blake



Pearl Blake

REFLECTIONS ON THE HOLY LAND

As seen through the eyes of a school administrator

The trip to the Middle East, namely Israel (the Holy Land) and Egypt, is one all educators should have the privilege of enjoying. A great cultural, historical and spiritual void would exist in my academia without this "on-site" visit to that part of the world.



Edna Lett Williamson

I was extremely impressed with the high priority placed on education in Israel. Thirty percent of the national budget is spent on education. The official concern for education of youth was apparent throughout the country. I had contact with many Israeli children . . . at museums, in the streets, in department stores and at school. Their inquisitiveness and alertness was reflected through their persistence in social contact with tour members, their conversations and queries, and their general interest in America, Americans and New York in particular. Many of them spoke fluent English. Photographing these children of Israel was a delight to them and us.

Through schooling, art work, their religious activity, taped recording and life in the kibbutz, the deep national pride and religious heritage of their forefathers was kept constantly before the children. War experiences and the reality of everyday life could be seen in the faces of boys and girls, as well as men and women. This special emphasis placed on reinforcement of the Jewish heritage, culture, history as a people and national goals were evidenced during our stay in Israel.

For me as a Christian educator, following daily in the footsteps of Jesus from his birthplace in Bethlehem through the Garden of Gethsemane at the foot of the Mount of Olives on to the "empty tomb" was an unforgettable experience. The Holy Land tour brought into sharp focus the history, culture, activities and spirituality of Jesus' life on earth as taught in our Bible classes.

Impressive highlights that will be a pleasure to share with student, staff and parents include visiting Bethlehem,

Nazareth, Capernaum, Caesaria-by-the-Sea, Joppa, Jericho, Megiddo, the Kidron Valley, Mount Tabor, Tiberias, Haifa, the Golan Heights, the Jordan River, the Dead Sea, the Sea of Galilee, etc.

Before entering Egypt, we had the experience of traveling the Gaza strip and through the Sinai Desert. The change in living habits and culture were apparent everywhere. The sight of sand dunes, flat lands, bedouin tents and almost impassable roads brought us to the Suez Canal. Here we shared a crowded ferry with local people as we crossed the canal heading for Cairo. Once more the cultural and historical significance of our mid-eastern sojourn loomed before us. The majesty of the pyramids and the puzzling engineering feat of placing the 80-ton Sphinx in Memphis caused us to marvel at the genius of these ancient Egyptians. Again, first-hand experience is superior to pages of accounts of life in Egypt. Camel-riding, visiting the tomb of Ramases II, walking the crowded streets of Cairo's market places and observing the manufacturing of papyrus added a second dimension to our travels.

Indeed, I am a fuller, richer person—in culture, history and spirituality for having participated in the Northeastern Conference 1980 Holy Land Pilgrimage.

Edna Lett Williamson
Principal, Northeastern Academy

CALVARY STILL STANDS

On November 11, 1980, a group of 69 disciples arrived in the Holy Land on the tour sponsored by Pastor Stennet Brooks, treasurer of the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Emotion seized us as we entered an old Judea-Samaria area in which Jesus walked and worked many years ago. Today, however, it is known as Tel Aviv, the largest and most modern city in Israel.

It was a real inspiration to visit the supposed places where Christ was born, lived, performed miracles of love and mercy, was tried, crucified, buried, rose again and ascended to heaven from the Mount of Olives. He left a promise of hope to come again and receive us into the place where He is.

Majestic churches and monuments shelter the locations of crowning acts in Christ's earthly ministry. The Roman soldiers of Bible times are gone, but sol-

diers still stand guard. Today the Israeli soldiers find it very important to stand guard, night and day, against the nations all around them and their many enemies, even within their borders, for Israel is occupied by three major world religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The Islamic religion in Israel is as prominent as Judaism, consisting of almost 50 percent of the nation's population. Christianity, with so many splendid churches in the area, is the minority in membership. So the majority is still rejecting the Christ when given a choice.

We followed the path of Mary and Joseph with the Christ through the Sinai desert to Egypt and lodged in the area known as Goshen in Bible times, where Moses, under the leadership of God, had led his people from Egypt to the borders of Canaan, which is now modern Israel.

As I observed the activities of the people throughout the entire journey, my mind reflected over and over on one central thought: Calvary still stands. Calvary still stands because, in spite of God unfolding the secrets of His providence by allowing the Jews to find many Bible scrolls written by the prophets, including the complete book of Isaiah, which announces in clear language the coming of Jesus, the Jews still reject Him and look for a Messiah to come.

Calvary still stands because Jews and Arabs alike commercialize on Jesus, but belligerently refuse to acknowledge Him as Lord and Christ. Calvary still stands because the cry of "crucify Him" is still reflected in their choice of material possessions over spiritual inheritance. The Barabbases of pleasure, fame and gain are still the same. The same sins and conditions existing at Calvary still exist in Israel and the whole world today. Perhaps the occasion of crucifixion would be worse today than it was when it really happened. On the road back home, I made one commitment: to be a part of the group travelling to heaven—the holiest of holy lands.

For those who missed the opportunity of visiting the Holy Land in 1980, the privilege is again extended for several tours being arranged to the area for 1981, scheduled for August 10-21 to Israel, Egypt and Athens, Greece. Also, Rome is optional August 22-24. If you are interested, please contact me at the Northeastern Conference office, 115-50 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, New York, (212) 291-8006.

Robert L. Lister, Director



Middle East tour group, number 1.



Mother Cumberbach, 91 years of age, stands with her daughter at the Jerusalem Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Middle East traveler, Mrs. Hines, enjoys a camel ride.



Middle East tour group, number 2.



Lamartine J. Honore sits on a camel.



Seventh-day church in Cairo, Egypt.

Continued next month

SHEPHERD DRIVE CHURCH HOLDS COMMUNITY GUEST DAY PROGRAM

The annual Community Guest Day program was observed at the Shepherd Drive SDA Church on Sabbath, October 11, 1980. The theme for the occasion was, "Spending One's Self for Christ in Service for Others."

The program began with special remarks from Ruby Paulino, the Sabbath school superintendent, and continued with musical selections, mission reports and Bible lesson study.

The crowning hour was when special recognition was given to Ocie Harris, founder and director of House of Mercy, a non-profit organization that gives service to the poor and those society has cast away. She and her organization offer a free hot meal daily and other services to those who come for aid.

Bernice Jones, communication secretary, along with Ora Walker, community service leader for the church, presented Mrs. Harris with a plaque, a book entitled *Ministry of Healing* by Ellen G. White and a cash award. Other guests on the program included Associate Pastor Nelson Cliatt of Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church and Mrs. Harris' husband, John G. Harris.

D. M. Jones, host church pastor, introduced the guest speaker for the occasion, former Pastor K. S. Smallwood, who currently serves as secretary of the Allegheny West Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Columbus, Ohio. The lobby of the church was colorfully arranged with health, Christian education, community service and evangelism displays which expressed areas of concern the church is involved in. A special musical concert was given at 4:30 p.m. by St. James AME Church Choir and Shepherd Drive's own junior academy choir.

Bernice Jones
Communication Secretary



Ruby Paulino, Pastor D. M. Jones, Ocie Harris, guest Pastor K. S. Smallwood, Bernice Jones and Ora Walker at Community Guest Day program held at Shepherd Drive SDA Church.



Pastor H. D. Singleton, founder of the Rocky Mount, North Carolina church was the guest speaker at the 40th anniversary on November 28-29, 1980.

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED IN ROCKY MOUNT

The Highland Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, celebrated its 40th anniversary on November 28 and 29, 1980. After weeks of planning for the event, Cheryl Willis started the activities of spiritual refreshing with a program of praise to the Lord.

Pastor H. D. Singleton, former director of the black work in the General Conference (now retired) and who founded the Rocky Mount church 40 years ago when he pastored in this territory, was the guest speaker. The theme of his message at the divine service on Sabbath morning was the two prize-winning races—the worldly race for wealth, power and fame and the Christian race for a crown of life.

A number of guests and former members and officers of the church were on hand for the occasion. J. W. Warren of Williamsboro, New Jersey, was a local elder for more than fifteen years. Elizabeth Pitts of New Haven, Connecticut, supplied the music, assisted by Mrs. Warren, as well as having worked faithfully in other departments of the church for more than 25 years.

L. A. McKinnon and his wife of Wilmington, North Carolina, who taught the Sabbath school lesson, was a charter member of the church. Elizabeth Nelson and family from Portsmouth, Virginia, served the Sabbath school and lay activities departments and choir for many years. Also present were members from the sister churches of Wilson and Roanoke Rapids.

ADVENTIST YOUTH SOCIETY IN DUBLIN HOLDS BANQUET

Sunday, December 28, 1980, was a day long to be remembered by the Adventist Youth Society in Dublin, Georgia. The occasion was the first banquet held in the history of the local church.

The setting was McClain's Restaurant, located in the heart of downtown Dublin, which is owned and operated by a young Bible student, Art McClain. He greeted everyone and gave some dynamic comments to the youth, encouraging them to be "proud, set goals and be determined to be somebody because they are created by God, but at the same time be humble so that God can use you." He further urged them to "have dreams and aspirations and to trust God because He can supply their every need."

We felt honored to have as our mistress of ceremonies Dr. Florence Moore of the Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist Church in Milledgeville, Georgia.

The keynote speaker, Irene Ellerbe, wife of Pastor T. J. Ellerbe, delivered a heartwarming speech. She said that "to each of you has been given a name. Your name carries a lot of meaning to it. Are you living up to the meaning of your name? If your name is Frank, that means sincerity and forthrightness." She emphasized that God named His only begotten son because the name of "Jesus" has a real purpose. This means the "survivor-one" who came to die for the sins of the world.

Guests of honor were the parents of the youth leader, Mr. and Mrs. Grady L. Johnson and the mother of the 1981 leader, Mrs. Martha Oglesby of Fort Valley. Another guest was Harvey Thompson of Detroit, Michigan, who sang "Rise Again." Present also were the members of our sister church in Milledgeville, Georgia, along with their youth leader, Roxie Harris.

Grady J. Johnson, youth leader for Dublin, was happy to present certificates of appreciation to Adventist Youth Society members for outstanding service, moral support, faithful attendance and other contributions made to the society in 1980.

Entertainment was brought by Howard Moore of St. Louis, Missouri, who kept the banquet alive with a variety of entertainment ranging from humor to songs of inspiration.

Tuwanna Johnson

WOODFORKS RECEIVE GRAND FAREWELL

In previous years the trophies and awards given to centurions and others have always highlighted the January workers' meeting banquet in the South Atlantic Conference. This was not so at the banquet on January 6, 1981.

The spotlight was turned on the president who had served so well for nine years—Dr. R. L. Woodfork. The first joint meeting of the South Atlantic and Southeastern conferences gave Woodfork a chance to present both presidents who took his place in the divided conference to the workers and ask for support for these two new leaders.

Pastor R. B. Hairston, newly-elected president of the South Atlantic Conference and who has worked with Woodfork the closest and the longest, led out in the festivities.

Gifts of all kinds, including money, were given from the churches, pastors and office staff. J. A. Edgecombe, newly-elected president of the Southeastern Conference, presented the workers with their gifts from Southeastern and was followed by Hairston with workers from the South Atlantic Conference.

It was indeed a paradoxical occasion, because there were tears of joy and sorrow. Sorrow because the Woodforks were leaving their long-time friends, though many rejoiced with them because of their call to higher and greater responsibilities in the Lord's work at the General Conference.

Even though the glamorous and glittering send-off for Pastor and Mrs. Woodfork seemed to have overshadowed the evangelistic and other exploits of the workers for the year, it could not outshine the fact that 1980 was the most evangelistically productive year in the history of South Atlantic Conference. The total of baptisms was 2,220, the largest number ever baptized in one year, and, of course, was a fitting "swan song" for Woodfork's inspiration.

Pastor T. A. McNealy, even while pastoring the 1,300-member church, Atlanta Maranatha, lead the centurions with 319 baptisms. The other centurions were Ted Ellerbe, F. W. Parker, Ken Moore and Roy Brown, who has started a new church in Miami. Pastor Ward Sumpter, associate secretary of the Southern Union, also held a meeting in Atlanta and baptized 140.

There were eleven quinquadrinarians

in the persons of Dennis Ross, Joe Follette, Ralph Franklin, Trevor Fraser, David Jones, E. J. Lewis, G. Nozea, William Byrd, Joe Harris, Ira Harrell and Joe Hinson.

The first joint workers' meeting was blessed with some very spirited contributors. Pastor John Collins, associate director of personal ministries at Pacific Union Conference, in several sessions informed the workers how to do it.

Leon Cox, pastor of the second largest black Adventist church in the world (the largest is North Street SDA Church in Kingston, Jamaica, with 4,500 members), also spoke on the value and fulfillment of personal ministry.

Pastor T. A. McNealy, the champion evangelist of South Atlantic, who was one of the instructors on evangelism at the Southern Union session in Biloxi, Mississippi, on February 8-12, was also one of the contributors.

Dr. E. E. Cleveland conducted the morning devotions and was the speaker at the banquet.

LAY EVANGELISM PROVES SUCCESSFUL IN GEORGIA

On May 21, 1980, Pastor D. M. Jones of the Shepherd Drive SDA Church in Columbus, Georgia, called a special committee together made up of elders and Bible workers. Plans were laid for the running of a lay evangelistic meeting. A portion of the committee was selected to check the surrounding dark counties, choose a city, find a suitable spot for a tent and report back to the group.

The pastor, in turn, would contact Alex Todd, a young ministerial student at Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama, who, along with the local elders, would run the meetings.

After a number of days' search, the city of Buena Vista, Georgia, was decided upon by the team. The only problem with Buena Vista was the fact that no one would allow a meeting to be held on his property.

By the ninth day of June, Pastor Jones had asked Wesley Jones, first elder, to go to Buena Vista to seek a spot. The Lord led him to E. Perry, a local non-SDA businessman. He allowed the meetings to be held on his property without a fee.

By the 15th of June handbills had been distributed, the "Big Gospel Tent" was up and lay evangelist Alex Todd was

preaching his first sermon. He continued nightly for seven weeks, assisted by church elders Willie Herbert and Wesley Jones and counseled by Pastor Jones.

Operating on a \$200 budget, freewill offerings by members and a volunteer Bible worker team, the Big Gospel Tent struggled until the 12th of July. Despite the hardships, the Lord blessed the lay effort with a company of thirteen. This lighted that dark county.

Their names are as follows: Vanessa McKay, Lizzie King, Beulah Kimbrough, Sonji Kimbrough, Dorothy Kimbrough, Doris Thomas, Brenda Thomas, Janis Thomas, Desiree Thomas, Mary Sanders, Willie Dismuke and Mary Dismuke.

Pastor D. M. Jones

PECAN GROVE PROJECT OPENS

The South Atlantic Conference is sponsoring a 75-unit housing project in Orangeburg, South Carolina. The first stage, consisting of nineteen units called "A" was opened for its first residence on December 1, 1980. The rest of the project will be forthcoming.

The project is built strictly for the elderly and indigent. W. H. Winbourne, a government employee and local elder of the Seventh-day Adventist church in Orangeburg, has been the spark behind the project from the start and reports that all is going well.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SOUTH ATLANTIC

Rallies—Literature Evangelists

February 21—Macon, Georgia

February 28—Winston-Salem, North Carolina

March 7—Charlotte, North Carolina

March 14—Columbus, Georgia

April 4—Raleigh, North Carolina

February 28

Listen Campaign (Conference)

March 1-31

Spring Revival (Conference)

March 7-8

Education Workshops—Wilmington, North Carolina

March 9

School Evaluation—Wilmington, North Carolina

March 10

School Evaluation—Florence, South Carolina

March 14-21

Youth Week of Prayer

Christian Education EMPHASIS Weekend



Principal Woodard, Dr. Elizabeth Martin, school board member, and Dr. Charlie Folsom, chairperson, on the pulpit for Sabbath services at Longview.

EDUCATION WEEKEND HELD IN MEMPHIS

"Coming together is a beginning, working together is progress, and staying together is success." These were the words of Dr. Norwida Marshall at the Saturday evening session of Christian Education Weekend observed recently by five Memphis Seventh-day Adventist churches. The churches involved were Longview Heights, Breath of Life, Westhaven, Overton Park and Eads.

The idea for the weekend originated with Pastor Isaac Lester, who stressed the need for such an observance during one of the Alcy Seventh-day Adventist Junior Academy's school board meetings. It was then that the board decided that Lester, Robert Woodard, principal of the academy, and Dr. Charlie Folsom, school board chairman, should spearhead the event.

With the planning of these three men and the cooperation of the other pastors and school board members, the "beginning" stated by Marshall became a reality. Enthusiastic church members and other supporters of Christian education attended the various phases in record numbers.

Friday night vesper services were held at the Longview Heights church, including opening prayer by Woodard, a statement of purpose by Folsom and the keynote address by Dr. Joseph Dent, South Central Conference superintendent of education.

Guest speakers were presented at three churches during the divine worship hour. They were Superintendent Dent at Westhaven, Pastor Milton M. Young of Tulsa, Oklahoma, at Longview, and Lloyd Hudson, a student at Oakwood College, at Breath of Life.

A panel discussion highlighted the Sabbath afternoon service at the Longview Heights church, with its minister, Victor Brooks, serving as the moderator. Panelists and their subjects were: Lilburne Thompson, principal for 24 years of the Baton Rouge, Louisiana, church school, "Highlights of SDA Christian Education;" Dr. Paul Brantley of Oakwood College, "Testimonies Surrounding Christian Education Experiences;" Dr. Norwida Marshall, Southern Union education department, "A Look at the Basic Principles of SDA Education;" and Superintendent Dent, "Personal Experiences in SDA Administration." Each of the panelists included success stories as part of the presentation.



Dr. Joseph Dent, superintendent of education, South Central Conference.

Home and school leaders, school board members, their spouses and guests relaxed Saturday evening at a social planned by Mrs. Eileen Lester.

A number of topics were presented during the Sunday morning workshop, including "Adventist Principles of Education," "Increasing Church School Enrollment," "Financing Christian Education," "Gaining Church Support," "School Board Functioning and Responsibilities" and "Volunteers for a Successful Church School Program."

Following a wrap-up summary, the weekend ended with a benediction by Roy Patterson, minister of the Breath of Life church. Other ministers participating were Isaac Lester of the Westhaven church and Sargent Simms of the Bethany church in Eads, Tennessee, and the Overton Park church in Memphis.

"Progress and Success" as stated by Dr. Marshall "are determined by working together and staying together." The coming together of the Memphis Adventist community is certainly the kind of beginning that encourages continued progress and anticipates inevitable success for Christian education in the greater Memphis area.

McCann Reid and R. M. Woodward



Some of the Alcy School Board Members who gave their support.



South Central housing for the elderly.

CONFERENCE VENTURES INTO CLARKSVILLE WITH HOUSING PROJECT

The United States government seeks to assist local governments in meeting the housing needs of elderly and handicapped persons through its Section 202 loan program. Projects financed under this program are routinely subsidized under provisions of Section 8 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended.

In February, 1979, an announcement of fund availability for the fiscal year was released, indicating that qualified project proposals would be considered for direct loan financing in designated communities. In order for communities to have been designated to receive approval for construction of a qualified facility, they must have demonstrated a need for elderly and/or handicapped housing in their respective housing assistance plans. This need was conclusively demonstrated in the Clarksville housing assistance plan and therefore it qualifies as one of the communities to be approved for construction of an elderly housing project.

The legislation requires that only private non-profit corporations and consumer cooperatives may qualify for the Section 202 direct loans. Applicants are invited to submit proposals which are, in turn, evaluated on a competitive basis. Applications for federally funded housing projects are very technical and require much time and know-how to be properly prepared.

Many applications were submitted for the Clarksville project. The successful applicant was Better Living Services, Inc., a subsidiary private, non-profit, tax-exempt corporation of the South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

As a part of its humanitarian commitment, this organization successfully

sponsors federally assisted housing in Paducah and Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Nashville, Tennessee. It has also been approved for projects in Cleveland, Mississippi, Louisville, Kentucky, and Clarksville, Tennessee.

At the recent groundbreaking ceremonies for the Cleveland, Mississippi, project, Mayor Martin T. King stated in welcoming remarks that he was "happy that the Adventists had chosen Cleveland, Mississippi, as the location for South Central Village." The mayor also stressed the need for adequate housing in the area.

Often people ask what profit the Seventh-day Adventist Church gets out of sponsoring housing projects. The response to that question is best expressed by Pastor I. J. Johnson, housing coordinator for South Central Conference, who said the church gets "the inner satisfaction of providing a needed service. As a nonprofit group, the church organization gets no money. However, knowing that there is a need for well-built, comfortable, economy housing, the church is happy to sponsor such."

The 134-unit project to be constructed in Clarksville will meet a definite community need. According to the Clarksville Housing Assistance Plan, there is a need for units of elderly and handicapped housing. The Section 202 project to be constructed here by Better Living Services, Inc., will provide 134 of these much-needed units.

The Tennessee General Assembly has enacted legislation which exempts qualified federally assisted housing from property, personal and ad valorem taxes. The project to be constructed in Clarksville, the South Central Village of Tennessee, is exempt from property and ad valorem taxes. The statutory basis for this exemption is found in TCA para 67-509. As a private, non-profit and tax-

exempt corporation as certified by a definitive ruling from the Internal Revenue Service, Better Living Services, Inc., is in compliance with TCA-509. The directors of the corporation serve without compensation and the corporation is irrevocably dedicated to and operated exclusively for non-profit purposes.

According to Washington Butler, Jr., consultant for the project, people who now live in Clarksville will be the residents of this project. They may be living with relatives now or alone. Some may be on the waiting list for the Clarksville Housing Authority. This is "a very good program" (the Section 202/8 HUD direct loan), says Butler, and "will definitely be an asset to the community."

Washington Butler, Jr.
Correspondent

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

- 1 Literature Evangelist Rally, Birmingham, Alabama
- 4 Mini Workers Meeting, Jackson, Mississippi
- 6 Mini Workers Meeting, Mobile, Alabama
- 6-8 Stewardship Workshop, Jackson, Tennessee
- 7 District Bible Bowl
- 8-12 F.H.E.S. Meeting
- 9 Housing Board, Nashville, Tennessee
- 11 Conference Committee Meeting, Nashville, Tennessee
- 14 Temperance Day
- 14 Bible Bowl and Basketball Run Off
- 16 Board of Education Meeting
- 20, 21 Stewardship Workshop, Pensacola, Florida
- 21 Community Relations Day
- 21 Sabbath School Visitors Day
- 22 Community Workshop, Jackson, Mississippi
- 27-28 Stewardship Workshop, Morristown, Tennessee
- 28 Basketball Playoff
- 29-31 F.H.E.S., Oakwood College

APRIL

- 1-5 Publishing Department Institute, Oakwood College
- 3-4 Stewardship Revival and Reformation, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
- 5 Mini Workers Meeting, Memphis, Tennessee



The team of workers in Southeastern are shown here with those seated from left to right: Matthew Green (retired), George Timpson, education and youth director; Donald Walker, secretary-treasurer; James Edgecombe, president; Robert Woodfork, former president, now General Conference representative; Ira Harrell, Sabbath school and lay activities director. Oster Paul and Keith Dennis were members of the commission which effected the division of the conference.

THIS IS SOUTHEASTERN

A new conference came into being on January 1. Its territory stretches from the farmlands of south Georgia through the citrus groves of central Florida on to the islands of the Florida Keys.

Approximately 8,500 members are in the Southeastern Conference, comprising its 51 churches. There are 20 pastors, five schools, 24 teachers, twelve literature evangelists and two associate publishing directors.

Giving leadership to the conference is its president, James A. Edgecombe, who was elected during a special constituency meeting on June 22. Edgecombe was the pastor of the 850-member Bethany church in Miami and the smaller Mt. Pisgah and Tabernacle churches.

Also elected at the June meeting was Donald A. Walker, who will be secretary/treasurer. Walker held the same positions in the South Central Conference.

Full-time departmental directors are George W. Timpson and Ira L. Harrell. Timpson was a department director in the South Atlantic Conference and Harrell was pastor of the Jacksonville, Florida, church. Serving the South Atlantic and Southeastern conferences will be T. R. Smith, publishing director, and Olice Brown, Adventist Book Center manager.

Evangelism will be a major priority for the Southeastern Conference. "Our objective is to baptize 1,000 souls during 1981," states Edgecombe. Within three to five years, the conference hopes to have 14,000 members. Augmenting the growth through baptism will be those moving to the area from places in the north and others moving to the mainland from the Caribbean Islands.

The headquarters for the conference is located in Orlando and is presently housed in temporary quarters at 801 Highway 436, Suite E, Altamonte Springs, 32701. (Phone: 305-869-5264.) A

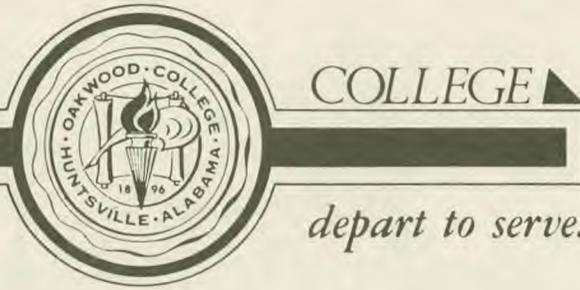
primary goal, according to Edgecombe, is to secure a permanent location for the office.

After 35 years of affiliation with the South Atlantic Conference, it may take a few months to mentally adjust to being a new conference with a separate office, acknowledges Walker. "We will continue to communicate with our treasurers, clerks and other church officers in an effort to educate them to send all reports and direct all their inquiries to our office here."

When questioned as to what his 1981 appeal to the membership would be, Edgecombe replied: "I would want to see each pastor, worker and member daily seek a true saving relationship with Jesus through deep heart-searching and earnest prayer, penetrative study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, and a full surrender of self to Jesus Christ. When that happens, we are going to witness a pentecostal power."

OAKWOOD

COLLEGE



Enter to learn;

depart to serve.

FACULTY FARE AND FACTS

By Mervyn A. Warren, Ph.D., D.Min.

"I have been instructed that for the development of . . . Oakwood . . . , the very best class of workers should be secured, because a special work is to be done here in revealing what religious education will do . . . through the labor of consecrated and skillful teachers." ("The Huntsville School," Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 12X, p. 2.)

Thus spake Ellen G. White, our Adventist prophetess, on February 16, 1909, thirteen years after Oakwood was established. And when Mrs. White speaks, everybody listens!

The Oakwood College board and administration continually hear and respond to the challenge of providing qualified teachers for quality Christian instruction. Recognizing that a major tool in any higher educational machinery means a vibrant and viable faculty, Oakwood sustains a full-time teaching staff of 70 with 34.3 percent holding an earned doctorate, 60 percent having a master's degree, and 5.7 percent a bachelor's. Of the seventeen teachers currently engaged in doctoral studies, twelve have completed all their work and are now writing their dissertations.

The professional rank profile for the faculty spreads as follows: 10 percent are professors, 22.86 percent associate professors, 44.28 percent assistant professors and 22.86 percent instructors. A supportive part-time staff of 43 persons is grafted in from among professors at neighboring universities, retired Adventist educators settled in the Huntsville area and Oakwood administrators.

Further instructional support streams from our Freshmen Studies Program, Inner College remedial and tutorial services, Counseling, Career Planning and Testing Services all buttressed by the Eva B. Dykes Library, containing 90,000 books, periodicals and media materials.

A portion of our faculty taught classes for the summer graduate program by Andrews University on the Oakwood campus, providing studies toward the master's degree in teaching and the master's degree in religion. Begun in 1980, the arrangement proposes to be annual.

Ongoing instructional strength needs constant feeding and, in this sense, research and publishing are *sine qua non*. School year 1979-80 saw Oakwood College sponsoring 44 teachers to attend some 83 academically professional meetings at which several of our faculty members presented research papers germane to their teaching disciplines. Since 1978, about 36 articles by our teachers have been published in such journals as *Adventist Heritage*, *Caribbean Quarterly*, *Journal of Adventist Education*, *Business Education World*, *Spectrum*, *Adventist Review*, *Journal of Ethnic Studies* and *Journal of Psychiatry*. Oakwood's own *Journal of Faculty Research*, containing 183 pages of research essays by eleven faculty members, made its debut in 1978 with volume two now being planned for. Recently published also were two books by staff members, while at least four or five other manuscripts are either being completed or are already finished and being considered for publication.

An example of faculty research occurred at the December 9-13, 1980, session of the American Chemical Society convened at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans, where one of our professors, Dr. Ephraim T. Gwebu of the chemistry department, presented a paper entitled, "Effect of Benzoyl Peroxide on Platelet Aggregation." The occasion, featuring medicinal chemistry, also included two Oakwood pre-medical students, Patricia Holness of Springfield Gardens, New York, and Reginald Coopwood of Nashville, Tennessee, who had assisted Dr. Gwebu in the research project on the Oakwood College campus.

LITERATURE EVANGELIST

Continued from page 6

When she returned home, the Holy Spirit directed her to start a branch Sabbath school and become a literature evangelist. At first she felt she could not do the work. Mrs. Grimsley prayed and asked the Lord what she should do. These words came to her mind: "The harvest is truly plenteous, but the laborers are few." Matthew 9:27.

In August, 1980, Mrs. Grimsley, along with six members from the Bethesda church in Amityville, New York, started a branch Sabbath school. God richly blessed their endeavors. On January 3, 1981, the branch Sabbath school became the Macedonia SDA Mission of Wyandanch, New York. There are 63 people attending and fourteen are being prepared for baptism.

She accepted the calling of a literature evangelist after Harris came by to visit on several occasions. She made her decision on October 30, and October 31, 1980, she began work.

Her deliveries for the first day totalled \$500 and by the end of the week had reached \$1,200. She began working in her neighborhood and then ventured out.

At the LE training school held in Washington, D. C., every new recruit wrote an essay on "Why I Became a Literature Evangelist." Mrs. Grimsley's essay won first prize from the Atlantic Union.

God has richly blessed her efforts. The literature evangelists of Northeastern are committed to spreading the gospel everywhere. Harris looks forward to the day when truth-filled literature will be carried on every aircraft carrier. "With God all things are possible."

Stephanie D. Johnson

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IN THE NEWS

IN TRANSITION

John Simons, treasurer, to be secretary of the conference, replacing R. B. Hairston, now conference president.

F. W. Parker, youth, temperance and stewardship, replacing G. W. Timpson, who went to Southeastern, and O. J. McKinney, who went to the Southern Union.

Ralph Franklin, pastor of the Atlanta-Berean church, to replace F. W. Parker, who went to the conference office.

E. J. Lewis, pastor of the Charlotte-Berean church, replacing Ralph Franklin.

Vanard Mendinghall to Savannah, replacing E. J. Lewis.

Emmanuel Jackson from Augusta to Greensboro, replacing Dennis Ross, who has accepted a call to Southeastern to pastor the Miami-Bethany church.

Pastor Richard Long from Florida City to Southeastern to Augusta, replacing Emmanuel Jackson.

C. Dunbar Henri from the General Conference to the Atlanta-Boulevard church, replacing F. S. Hill, III, who accepted a call to the Southwest Region Conference.



Pastor F. W. Parker, newly appointed youth director for the South Atlantic Conference.



Pastor C. D. Henri, retired General Conference vice president, appointed as pastor of the Atlanta Boulevard Seventh-day Adventist Church.



The five centurions are flanked on left by President Hairston and on the right by Ministerial Secretary McKinney and President Edgcombe. Left to right they are: T. A. McNealy, Ted Ellerbe, Fred Parker, Ken Moore and Roy Brown.



The champion—triple centurion—Pastor T. A. McNealy, center, with President Hairston on the left and President Edgcombe on the right.

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COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE CELEBRATES SECOND ANNIVERSARY

Pastor Roland Hill and the members of the Columbia, Tennessee, congregation, along with other members from across the district, celebrated their second year of worshiping in their new church home. Pastor Hill greets the church elders from the district: Fayetteville, Tennessee, F. Murray; Franklin, Tennessee, J. Brown; Columbia, Tennessee, A. Amos and Pulaski, Tennessee, E. Davis. Plans are in the making for a new facility at Decherd and Pulaski, Tennessee. The Franklin building is presently under construction.

ROBERT LOGRONE REPORTS LARGEST SALES AND BAPTISMS IN NORTH AMERICA

For eight consecutive years Pastor Robert LaGrone, publishing director of Allegheny East, has led all regional conferences in deliveries. At the literature evangelism institute he reported a total of \$765,955.50 in sales and 364 souls in baptisms, thus making Allegheny East the only regional conference among the top ten in deliveries and the leading conference in soul-winning for North America.

LaGrone attributes his success to the goodness of the Lord, hard work and recruiting. The Allegheny East associate publishing directors are: Beatrice Johnson (top district for all of North America) with \$225,238.15; Noah Beasley with \$133,364.10; James Milton, \$96,536.25; Elijah Watson, \$125,981.40; Garthell Wade, \$60,847.55; and Geneva Washington, part-time associate publishing director, \$52,140.

The top literature evangelists are Mary Flowers with \$38,000 and Robert Moses with \$28,000.

OBITUARIES

Joseph Latimore was born to Sammie and Sophronia Latimore in Atlanta, Georgia, and on February 14, 1905, and passed away on January 28, 1981. He was the father-in-law of Pastor R. B. Hairston, president of South Atlantic Conference. Katherine Latimore-Hairston is the mother of five grandchildren of Joseph Latimore.

Latimore, a businessman in Atlanta, was faithful and supportive to his church throughout the years. He was a great community worker who will be greatly missed.

He leaves to mourn his loss: a beloved wife, Sammie B. Latimore, who was the dietitian for the Atlanta-Berean SDA Day Care Center for a number of years before her retirement; a number of grand- and great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews and a host of relatives and friends.

Elizabeth Tarlton Dozier, born March 4, 1892, in Bullock County, Alabama, departed this life on December 6, 1980.

She started to teach in Alabama public schools in 1910 and continued the molding of lives—both young and old—until her formal retirement in 1956.

The daughter of Fannie and Green Tarlton, she married Etheridge Dozier in 1917 and shortly after became a Seventh-day Adventist. She became a faithful worker in the churches where she held her membership until her last at the Shepherd Drive SDA Church in Columbus, Georgia, where she spent her last years. Here she was known as the pillar and backbone of the church, having held offices as treasurer, deaconess, dorcas leader and more.

She leaves to mourn her loss: one daughter, Imogene Allen; a brother, Green Tarlton; four grandchildren, a son-in-law, Terry Allen; nieces and nephews along with a host of relatives and friends.

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