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TRI-CONFERENCE WORKERS MEETING—

Rapid Growth of Black Work

COVER STORY



A 1938 meeting in Dallas, Texas for black members of the Southwestern Union.

BEACONS OF LIGHT PROFILES OF GREAT CHRISTIANS

—Stephanie D. Johnson

Like beacons of light in a dark misty harbor guiding a storm tossed ship into a safe port, so are the lives of Christian men and women. Many have brought light and truth to those who sat in darkness. Others have entered foreign lands and blazed trails that no man dared to go. Some have suffered the pain of ostracism and condemnation for their beliefs.

Like Moses, they have chosen "to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt."—Hebrews 11:25, 26.

When one writes of great Christians, Anna Knight, educator, missionary and administrator, immediately comes to mind.

"As a child in Mississippi, Anna found educational opportunities for a black child to be almost nonexistent. On Sundays she would play with some white neighbor children, and by listening to them read and spell she soon learned the basic skills. Having no paper or pencil, she practiced her writing by scratching with a stick. By the time she was in her teens she had completed the common branches taught in the country schools of the time, though she had never been inside a schoolhouse." —SDA Encyclopedia, p. 743.

Her thirst for knowledge led her to become a SDA and study at Battle Creek College where she was trained as a missionary nurse. After completing her training, she returned home where she established a missionary school.

Anna Knight—Blazing a Pioneer's Trail

Her work in Mississippi was not without conflict and controversy; however, she persevered. In the midst of her work, she was called to serve as a missionary to India, thus becoming the first black woman of any denomination to serve in that position.

In the course of her missionary work in India, Anna Knight served as a teacher, missionary and literature evangelist. Often times she faced hunger, thirst, sickness and even mortal danger. During one of her canvassing tours, she went to Dhola, one of the native states, where foreigners were advised not to go because they risked the danger of being kidnapped or worse yet killed.

Nevertheless, she insisted upon going because she had a mission to accomplish. When she went to purchase her ticket the clerk refused to sell her a ticket warning her of grave dangers, but she insisted on going, and he finally sold it to her.

When she finally got on board the train and tried to get some sleep, someone kept knocking on the walls and saying, "Don't go to sleep. There are thieves here."—Anna Knight, *Mississippi Girl* (Nashville, TN: Southern Publishing Association, 1952), P. 118.

Finally, the next morning, she arrived in Dhola, only to discover that it was a railroad junction. There was no town. Next, she discovered that the next train that would take her to her destination would not leave until tomorrow.

So, she decided to write letters home to make the time go by faster. "I was hungry

and thirsty," she said, "but I couldn't drink the water, because it was dirty. I called the station servant and asked him to prepare some breakfast. He brought rice and curry; but there were so many little stones in the rice I could not eat it, and the curry smelled so bad I could not eat it either. It had been cooked with tainted ghee (spoiled animal fat). I threw the whole batch out of the back door and placed the price of the meal on the tray and thanked the servant when he came back."—Ibid, p. 119.

"The following morning, bright and early, I was ready to go, but was very thirsty and hungry. For fear of infection I could not eat or drink in that place. Both food and water were bad."—Ibid, p. 121.

To make matters worse she traveled all morning through a desert-like country with no grass or trees, which served to greatly aggravate her thirst and hunger.

"When I was tired of looking, I turned my face back into the train compartment and there directly in front of me on the other seat was a snow-white plate of brown toast and whole cupful of something steaming hot, not tea or coffee, but something else. I saw no one place it there.

"I was alone in the compartment and prayed a prayer of thanks and proceeded to eat the food. I have never tasted anything like it before or since. Being thirsty and hungry, I ate all the toast and drank the hot liquid and was satisfied. While I was eating, I saw a man in uniform unlike any worn by the men around the station walking on the platform directly in front of my compartment. As my eyes caught his, he spoke to me in perfect English, saying,

"I hope you are enjoying your lunch."

"I answered with a smile saying, 'I certainly am.'

"No more was said. I expected him to collect for it any moment, but just as I had finished eating, the new crew was ready. The guard called, 'All aboard,' and the train started pulling off. I looked for the man to give him the dishes and a tip for the food, but he was not there.

"I knew I was not Elijah or his sister, but I felt that the Lord had surely sent an angel to feed me that day. With a humble heart and sincere gratitude, I said another

"We must be laborers together with God; for God will not complete His work without human agencies.—Review and Herald, March 1, 1887."

prayer of thanks and journeyed on happy in Jesus."—Ibid, p. 122.

After remaining in India for six years, she returned to the U.S. where for 64 years she worked as educator, nurse and administrator in God's vineyard.

B.W. Abney—Into the Belly of the Beast

To exchange the segregation and discrimination of the deep south for South Africa's system of apartheid in the 1930s was the task given to B.W. Abney, as the first black missionary to South Africa. It was a real test of faith to uproot his family and live and work in a tense racial climate.

He described his anguish and uncertainty about his missionary appointment. "There was a little question in my mind but I made it a matter of prayer. There was an experience I had out on the boat that helped to establish me and get out all the fear in my mind. It was a question about how I was going to get along.

"When the boat was half way between New York and England, there on board the ship was a Seventh-day Adventist nurse. She learned of our being on board and she came to our cabin to visit us. Elizabeth Forest was her name. We talked for quite some time. Before she left, she presented us with a little box of a hundred and fifty Bible promises.

"The next day or two, while I was standing on the deck, the ship was stirring up a spree. Whenever you are opposite a spree, you will see a beautiful rainbow. I was standing and looking at that rainbow when Noah's experience came to me. The Lord put the rainbow as a sign that he wasn't going to destroy the earth again with water, but by fire next time. I believed I was having Noah's experience.

"And I believed that it was a sign to me just like it was to Noah, and God was standing back of the promises He made. So, after that I went down to South Africa and stayed down there. Those promises carried us down there and kept us down there. Those promises brought us back, and those promises are still keeping us."

Elder Abney was instrumental in bringing many souls to Christ and establishing a number of churches, during his 7 years of service, that are now some of the strongest SDA churches in South Africa.

Mathieu Bermingham—Standing Without Fear or Favor

Mathieu Bermingham helped to lay the cornerstone of the work in Haiti. In Martinique, French West Indies, he labored to place the Church on solid ground in a very Catholic country and in America he is rightly known as the father of the black French church. One of his traits of character that stands out most is his love for souls. On one of his missionary journeys he went to Azila, in the south of Haiti, along with a companion, Occilius to find a young man who accepted Adventism while working in Cuba.

Mathieu and his friend, Occilius, set out on foot to find this young man. They began their journey at 10 a.m., carrying no food or personal belongings but confident that if they carefully followed the telephone lines that led to Azila, they would reach there before sunset.

Twelve hours later they were still walking, having yet to reach the halfway mark towards their destination.

By now they were weary and exhausted. Their once anxious stride gave way to slow studied steps. In the midst of the darkness they saw a man riding towards them on horseback. When the rider approached, he looked at them with great concern and pity and offered to find them shelter with a friend.

They accepted the invitation. After a good night's rest they woke up at 5 a.m. to continue their journey. At first they walked eagerly to their destination but by 1 p.m. they were so weak from hunger and thirst that every staggering step required great effort and energy. They asked the people in the village if they would sell them some food, but there was none to sell.

Nevertheless, they continued on their journey when they noticed a young boy that was headed up the mountain to feed the pigs. They asked if he would put down his basket to see what kind of food he had.

He willingly obliged and they discovered he had a basket of avocados that he gladly shared with them.

With their strength revived, they finally reached Azila at 3 p.m. When they inquired about the whereabouts of Silas, they were directed to follow the telephone line to the next village. By this time torrential rains were pouring down, so they remained with the villagers until it ended.

By 7 p.m. the rain had ended and the young men started out without a flashlight or compass into the dark, tangled forest. Before long they discovered they were lost. Immediately, they prayed. After their prayer, they saw a small, flickering light which they followed until they reached a village. They were met by a group of men.

"Who are you?" demanded the spokesman.

"We are missionaries," replied Mathieu.

"Where are you going at such a time?"

"We are looking for our brother, Silas."

To their surprise the spokesman answered, "I am the father of that man."

Mathieu and Occilius asked to meet Silas. His father offered to take them to the lonely, isolated mountain retreat where his son lived, cut off from all human contact. The father explained that his son was forced to leave their village because they practiced voodoo and could not live with Christians.

When they reached the mountain retreat, they knocked on the door and a young man answered.

"Are you Silas?" Mathieu asked.

"Yes."

"We are Seventh-day Adventist."

He stared in amazement. "I believed I was the only Seventh-day Adventist in Haiti."

With tears in his eyes and outstretched arms he cried, "Brothers, come! Come! My mother, my father, my brothers and my sisters don't want to see me. You see how many animals they have in the village. They were going to invite a voodoo priest to have a service against me to change my mind. They don't want to have a protestant in the region. God sent you in time to help me!"

They rested in his humble abode, while he fixed them some hot soup. After they finished eating, they sang Adventist hymns. Those joyful songs of salvation echoed throughout the dark village. Soon, members of the village came to the cottage and they began to preach. They preached all night. The Holy Spirit was present to illuminate the people's minds.

Later missionaries were sent to teach the people. Today, the Azila Seventh-day Adventist Church stands as a beacon of light in a village that was once a stronghold of voodoo.

It has been due to the self sacrificing spirit exemplified by these noble people and countless others that has aided the growth and development of the SDA church.

*"It is a joyous work to open the Scriptures to others—
Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 118."*

PUBLISHER'S PAGE



Left to right: Daniel Williams (local Elder), Arleen Joyce, Pastor Ira Barksdale. Hughes asked his First Elder and Associate Pastor to assist him as he baptized Joyce on December 14, 1985—Joyce is blind and partially paralyzed.



Left to right: Amy Ray, Arleen Joyce, and Arstine Joyce, with Pastor Hughes after he baptized them on December 14, 1985 into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

BLINDNESS DIDN'T STOP HER

Arleen Joyce helped the Los Angeles Central Church in its annual Harvest Ingathering campaign—what's unusual is that Joyce is blind and partially paralyzed. Furthermore, Joyce was not a baptized member during her first gathering experience.

Joyce's interest in the Seventh-day Adventist Church grew when she listened to Pastor George Vandeman on *It Is Written*. Although she had heard the Adventist message before (her great grandmother was a SDA), Joyce called the toll-free number at the Adventist Information Ministry to request materials from the telecast.

During this time, Carl Hinds (an AIM Chaplain) made arrangements for Christian Record Braille Foundation (CRBF) to send Joyce the Bible on cassette tapes. As she listened to the Bible tapes, Joyce needed someone to answer her questions about the Bible so she called Hinds. After he answered her questions, Hinds asked if she would like to study the Bible with an *It Is Written* representative.

Since she wanted personal home Bible studies, Hinds referred her to

David Hughes (Pastor of the L.A. Central Church). When Hughes invited her to church, Joyce attended the next Sabbath. In time, she started to share her new found faith with her mother. And it wasn't long until she started to attend church with her daughter.

Blindness and partial paralysis didn't stop Joyce from witnessing in her neighborhood where she passes out tracts and shares her faith. Pastor Hughes says, "Arlene is a real blessing to his congregation and the community." On December 14, 1985, he baptized Joyce and her mother Arstine into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Eugene Hamlin

Eugene Hamlin is a communication intern at Adventist Information Ministry, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

I, TOO SING AMERICA

By Caroline Jones

To be alive in 1986 is cause for celebration . . . celebration of life, love, health, healing, miracles . . . celebration of history. Every year throughout the United States the month of February is set aside to celebrate and commemorate the history of Black People.

In 1926, some 60 years ago, black historian Carter G. Woodson, initiated the first Negro History Week. February was chosen because Abraham Lincoln, the president who emancipated the slaves in 1863, and Frederick Douglas, former slave who fought tirelessly for an end to slavery in America; were both born in February. Woodson was very aware of the importance Americans gave to symbolism. He inaugurated this celebration in the hope that all Americans would be reminded of their ethnic roots and a togetherness in the United States among racial groups would develop. Dr. Woodson was also very conscious of the fact that the major contributions of Afro-Americans had been deliberately left out of the textbooks, newspapers, radio and other communication devices available to Americans.

It has been said that this man almost singlehandedly "rescued black history from neglect and made it an important, respected discipline." He founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. He published numerous journals and books about the history of blacks. In February 1984, The United States Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp honoring Carter G. Woodson as part of the Black Heritage U.S. Series.

Mr. Woodson, "Father of Black History", died in Washington, D.C. on April 3, 1950. However, his organization and the celebration of black history have continued to live and to expand.

In 1972 Negro History Week was renamed "Afro-American (Black) History Week." This focused on the new thinking by Blacks which indicated the recognition of their African heritage and a deeper appreciation by the Black person of himself as an individual, a citizen and a major contributor to the American scene. In 1976 during the Bicentennial, the week was changed to a month-long celebration to provide more time for programs. The idea was well received by the public and the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History responded to requests to keep the month-long observation standard! The Washington D.C. based association now has over 25,000 active members throughout the United States. Membership is open to professionals and non-professionals.

It is amazing to recognize that in 1926, Negro History Week was launched with just a handful of programs in Black schools and churches; and today in 1986 the observance is nationwide! February in every state is that time of year when special emphasis is given to the contributions of Afro-Americans in the United States. It is very clear that Blacks have played a major role in the shaping of America. They are participants in government, science, art, music, medicine, sports, theatre, journalism, literature, military, religion, etc. etc. etc. The list is without end! In the following paragraphs, a very brief listing of Afro-Americans who have made significant contributions to the fabric of American life is presented.

Abolitionist Henry Highland Garnet had the special privilege of addressing the Senate and the House of Representatives on February 12, 1865 in commemoration of the passing of the 13th Amendment which abolished slavery forever. Before that all the slaves were not freed. In a short excerpt from his speech Mr. Garnet stated that "the nation has begun its exodus from worse than Egyptian bondage; and I beseech you that you say to the people, that they go forward."

Sojourner Truth was an abolitionist and champion of women's rights. She has been called a prophetess and orator of spellbinding power. In 1875 she retired to Battle Creek, Michigan where she accepted the Adventist Message. She is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Battle Creek.

Harriet Tubman, the Moses of Her People, was responsible for leading more than 300 slaves to freedom through her famous "Underground Railroad." Pine Forge, a Seventh-day Adventist Academy in Pennsylvania is located at the site of one of Mrs. Tubman's stops on the road to freedom.

The phrase "the real McCoy" is a part of our language today. It all began with a black man named Elijah J. McCoy who invented an automatic lubricator for heavy machinery in 1870. No piece of machinery was considered complete unless it had the "McCoy" system. People investigating the machinery often asked, "Is it the real McCoy?" Gradually the meaning spread until it acquired its present meaning as the genuine article, or the real thing.

Dr. Daniel Hale Williams founded Provident Hospital (Chicago) in 1891, which was open for use by all physicians without regard to color. In 1893 he performed the first successful heart surgery in the United States!

In 1879 T. Thomas Fortune started a newspaper, the "Rumor" which later became "The New York Globe." He waged a relentless fight against corrupt politicians. Fortune also published three books and was perhaps, the most fearless of all Black journalists.

Lerome Bennett, Jr. is a most outstanding journalist and historian. He is currently the Senior Editor of Ebony Magazine. He is the author of "Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America." He has also written several articles and books on Black History.

"A Raisin in the Sun" was the first play written by a Black woman, Lorraine Hansberry, to reach Broadway. It opened at the Barrymore Theatre in 1959. Ms. Hansberry received the Drama Critics Circle Award and a special award at the Cannes Film Festival.

In 1950, Gwendolyn Brooks became the first Black poet to receive a Pulitzer Prize for poetry. She has earned praise both for technical artistry and for her "sympathetic revelations of the Afro-American experience."

Langston Hughes is considered to be "the poet laureate of Black America." He has been described as the most versatile Afro-American writer. He wrote plays, poetry, novels, an opera, and edited several anthologies. Long before the 60's and the "Black is Beautiful" slogan,

The Editor's Desk

STUDY CITES OAKWOOD COLLEGE AMONG TOPS IN BLACK SCIENTIFIC TALENT

The New York Times, January 21, 1986, reports: In a study prepared by the Educational Testing Service for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation of Princeton, N.J., Oakwood College was listed as one of the "23 historically black colleges and 11 predominantly white schools as the 'most productive' of black scientific talent. The 23 are: Howard, Morehouse, Fisk, Virginia, Tuskegee, Morgan, Southern Baton Rouge, North Carolina Central, Tougaloo, Tennessee State, Virginia Union, Prairie View A&M, Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Talladega, Lincoln, Dillard, Alcorn, Johnson C. Smith, Xavier, Oakwood, Spelman, Florida A&M and Jackson State.

"The 11 predominantly white schools are Michigan State, the University of Michigan, the University of Chicago, Roosevelt, Stanford, the City University of New York, Brown, Harvard, Wayne State, North Carolina and the University of Southern California."



23 years of service for Christian education—at the close of the 1984-85 school year, Erma D. Williams of the Berean Church School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, said farewell to the classroom. For 22 years of unrelenting dedication, 1963-1985, she devoted time and effort to the work of preparing young people for a life of service. Her quiet unassuming way, and her influence will continue to grow in the hearts of her students.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Feb. 28	Mar. 7	14	21
Boston, Mass.	5:33	5:41	5:49	5:57
New York City	5:43	5:52	6:00	6:08
Buffalo, N.Y.	6:03	6:11	6:20	6:28
Atlanta, Ga.	6:33	6:39	6:45	6:50
Miami, Fla.	6:22	6:26	6:29	6:32
Charlotte, N.C.	6:18	6:24	6:30	6:36
Birmingham, Ala.	5:43	5:48	5:54	5:59
Jackson, Miss.	5:57	6:03	6:08	6:13
Memphis, Tenn.	5:55	6:01	6:07	6:13
Louisville, Ky.	6:35	6:42	6:49	6:56
Detroit, Mich.	6:22	6:30	6:38	6:46
Chicago, Ill.	5:39	5:48	5:56	6:04
South Bend, Indiana	6:34	6:42	6:50	6:58
Minneapolis, Minn.	5:50	6:08	6:18	6:27
St. Louis, Mo.	5:52	6:00	6:07	6:13
Kansas City, Mo.	6:10	6:17	6:24	6:31
Denver, Co.	5:51	5:58	6:06	6:13
Little Rock, Ark.	6:04	6:10	6:16	6:21
Dallas, Texas	6:24	6:29	6:34	6:40
New Orleans, La.	5:59	6:03	6:08	6:12
Albuquerque, N.M.	6:01	6:07	6:13	6:19
Oklahoma City, Okla.	6:25	6:31	6:37	6:43

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

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ALLEGHENY EAST



Left to right: Eric Rogers, son; Mrs. Florence Rogers and daughter Ikema Rogers worked in the city of Baltimore during the summer student program and had sales over \$2,800.



From left: Patricia Richardson and Barbara of Baltimore. Their sales for the summer totaled \$3,000.



From left: Patricia Konyeaso with her mother, Mrs. Patricia Konyeaso. Mrs. Konyeaso worked with the students in the summer program in Baltimore. Patricia's sales totaled \$1,628.

A DIVINE PLAN FOR STUDENTS

Writing in the Review & Herald of June 4, 1908, Mrs. White encouraged students to sell Christian literature in order to aid themselves with tuition needs. She said, ". . . as they handle these books, many learn how to approach people courteously, and how to exercise tact in conversing with them on different points of present truth. As they meet with a degree of success financially, some will learn lessons of thrift and economy, which will be of great advantage to them when they are sent out as missionaries."



Baltimore Jr. Academy students display copies of literature which they sold during the summer campaign. They are flanked by Robert Moses, Associated Publishing Director for the Baltimore Area and Mrs. Leola Allen, Small Literature Coordinator.

The Publishing Department of the Allegheny East Conference under the direction of Elder Noah Beasley has initiated this plan and is reaping good results.

Leola Allen, recently from the Central States Conference, has come to work with the student LE's. She has spent 15 years developing a small literature program and has a special burden for young people.

The past summer was a good example of what can be accomplished. In Baltimore, Maryland, in two months, the students of the Baltimore Junior Academy delivered \$30,000 in small literature. Ms. Allen also has students working in Washington, DC; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Wilmington Delaware and Newark, New Jersey. In addition, students are also going out every day to nearby cities.

It is the conference goal to have our students working throughout our conference.

Parents are also very cooperative and appreciative. "It's a good feeling," one parent remarked, "to send your children to school with all of their bills paid for the year."

Noah Beasley, Director
Publishing Department



Pastor Harold Lee, left, and local elder, Henry Smith give final instructions to Correctional Center resident prior to his baptism.

PRISONERS BAPTIZED BY HAROLD LEE

The Dupont Park SDA Church of Washington, D.C. is designated by its pastor, Harold Lee, as the Caring Church. As a recent result of their care, Pastor Lee was able to baptize five residents of the Lorton Correctional Center in Lorton, Virginia.

Those baptized had completed fourteen weeks of instruction by Henry L. Smith, local elder, who assisted Lee in performing the rite. A portable pool was set up between the two cell blocks. Baptized were: Arthur Smith, Anthony Moten, Elvin Johnson, William Larson and Melvin Atkins.

The Dupont Park Prison Team of Byron McNeil, Joyce James, Bernard Smith, Andrew James, Loretta Warren and David Smith assisted by members of First and Metropolitan Churches, had been planning for this event for the last nine months. They described it as "a thrilling experience, a real miracle."

This ceremony was the first of this nature in over 15 years. The Caring Church (Dupont Park) has successfully completed one step in its venture toward reaching the entire community.

YOUTH CHURCH FOCUS ON TOMORROW

"Tomorrow" was the theme for the Youth Week of Prayer at Sharon Temple in Wilmington, Delaware. The Youth Church presented a spiritual week filled with timely and relevant messages.

Speakers for the week included: Anthony Adams, Roland Carter, Sidney Carter, Reynold Hicks and Philip Simmons. Elder Daniel Davis, Youth Director of the Allegheny East Conference spoke during the divine worship hour on Sabbath morning. His text centered in

Matthew 26:35-46. He related the various personalities of three disciples. Peter—the outspoken and leader, James—the mediator, and John—the shy, reserved disciple are all important in fulfilling the mission of the church.

During the AY hour, Elder Davis shared with the youth the highlights of the camporee that was held this past summer at Camp Hale, Colorado in a beautiful slide presentation.

The Week of Prayer climaxed the numerous activities that the Youth Church has sponsored during the 1985 calendar year.

Charles D. Battles
Communication Secretary

HINDS APPOINTED ASSISTANT PASTOR

Carl Hinds has been appointed to serve as assistant pastor of the West Philadelphia Church, Philadelphia, Pa.

Hinds has worked with crusades in Baltimore, Maryland; Kansas City, Kansas; Richmond, Virginia and northern New Jersey. He has also spent time as chaplain for Adventist Information Ministries, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

He and his wife Gloria have three children. His wife was responsible for leading him to the church. Thirteen years ago she invited him to a Visitor's Day.

Mark Frog Harris
Communication Secretary

WILMINGTON'S CHURCHES WORSHIP TOGETHER

Members of the Templo Des Los Tres Angeles, Sharon Temple and West Wilmington churches, Wilmington, Delaware participated in a two-day fellowship weekend recently.

On Friday evening the three congregations met at the West Wilmington Church. Participation included members from each respective church. The Inspirational Chorale of Sharon Temple presented the special music for the evening. Elder Luther Palmer, Secretary for the Columbia Union was the speaker for the Friday evening service as well as for the Sabbath morning service.

Sabbath services were held at Sharon Temple to accommodate the large gathering from the three churches. Sabbath School, the Divine Worship hour and the AY program that afternoon once again included participation from each church. During the morning worship service the West Wilmington choir presented the special music.

Following the morning service dinner was provided in the lower auditorium where the members were able to fellowship.

The AY Hour culminated the weekend activities.

Charles D. Battles
Communication Secretary

CHARTER MEMBER OF WEST PHILADELPHIA DIES

Mrs. Naomi McNair, one of the charter members of the West Philadelphia Church, Philadelphia, PA, recently died. Mrs. McNair served as a Sabbath School teacher for 35 years and church treasurer for 40 years.

Mrs. McNair is survived by her husband, Thelmar; four children, two sisters, having outlived 20 other siblings; and uncounted grandchildren, great grandchildren and relatives.

Her baptismal mate, Ruby Hurt, the sole surviving charter member, remains to carry on the memories of Elmwood #1, the original name of West Philadelphia Church, when it was located in the southwest part of the city. Because of these early pioneers there are now 500 Adventists worshipping at West Philadelphia and a church in southwest Philadelphia.

Mark Frog Harris
Communication Secretary

HEALTHFUL LIVING EMPHASIZED AT SHARON TEMPLE

Country Life, a self-supporting institution in Frederick, Maryland, and Dr. Samuel DeShay from Clarksville, Maryland, were the guests at Sharon Temple in Wilmington, Delaware for the Health/Temperance weekend.

Country Life presented the Friday evening Vesper service and the AY hour on Sabbath afternoon. Nutrition, diet, home remedies and healthful living in general were the focus of their presentations.

Dr. DeShay spoke on the subject "Wanted: Dead or Alive." Matthew 8:21,22 was his key text. Dr. DeShay has served the world church in various capacities related to the fields of medicine/health/temperance. He currently is in private practice in the Washington area.

On Saturday night, Country Life had on sale a wide variety of whole grains, dried fruit, legumes, nuts, and juices. To end the weekend activities a special cooking demonstration was presented

on Sunday morning by the visiting team.

Lorraine Thomas, Health/Temperance Coordinator at Sharon Temple planned this enlightening weekend.

Charles D. Battles
Communication Secretary



Samuel Darby II, charter member, stresses evangelism in the Sabbath. Other charter members who participated on the program are left to right: Edith Blanding, Lorriane Watkins, and Edith Clark.



Elder R.W. Newman, Director of Trust Services for the Allegheny East Conference and former pastor of the Pottstown congregation presented the general lesson study for Anniversary Day.



Mrs. Iris Ogburn conducts Children's Chapel on Anniversary Day.

POTTSTOWN CELEBRATES SIXTH ANNIVERSARY

Sabbath, December 7, the Walnut Street Church celebrated its sixth anniversary at its present location, 543 Walnut Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

The Sabbath School program was conducted by Marjorie Felder, of the Trust Department of the General Conference. At the time of the original opening of the church, Ms. Felder had been the superintendent. Charter members were the main participants on the program with the prayer by Mrs. Edith Blanding; Progress Report by Mrs. Lorraine Watkins, a talk on evangelism by Samuel E. Darby II, an organ/piano duet by Jayne Darby and Corine Smith and the Mission Emphasis Report by Mrs. Edith Clark.

During the divine worship hour, Mrs. Ruth Watson another charter member, traced the development of the church from its beginnings as a 24-member organization, through the building of a new structure six years ago to its present location. Another Charter Member, Samuel Darby, read the Scripture Lesson. Daniel L. Davis, Youth Director for the Allegheny East Conference, was the morning speaker with a sermon entitled "The Promise God Could Not Make."

Music was provided by the youth choir under the direction of Mrs. Jewel Kibble.

After the fellowship dinner, the congregation reconvened for a concert of local talent, which included the Second Baptist Male Chorus, Mrs. Barbara Wiggins, Lisa Ford, Mrs. Carolyn Jordan and the Gold and Silver Trio from Pine Forge Academy.

This program also launched a project for fund-raising which will culminate in March of 1986 with a goal of \$10,000. A good start was made with \$600 raised on the anniversary date.

Ulysses S. Willis is the pastor of the congregation.

CLASSIFIED AD

Medical Director for well-established midwestern alcoholism and chemical dependency treatment program. M.D., licensure, and professional experience in the field of alcoholism and chemical dependency required. Contact New Day Centers, Inc., 2620 South Cleveland Avenue, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085, (616) 428-2041.



Membership of the newly organized Franklin, Virginia Church. Elder M.C. Van Putten, Allegheny East Conference President, is on the far right.

FRANKLIN COMPANY BECOMES 76TH CHURCH

The First Church of Franklin, Virginia became the 76th church to belong to the sisterhood of churches of the Allegheny East Conference.

On December 7, Elder M.C. Van Putten, President of the Allegheny East Conference, presided over the ceremonies. During his morning message, Van Putten reaffirmed that the Adventist Church is the true church of Christ based upon the history in which it emerged, its message and the work it will accomplish. He concluded by challenging each listener to continue to go forward in faith.

After the pastor of the Franklin Church, G.M. Donaldson, chronicled the growth of the church from two faithful members in 1982 to its present membership of over 40, Elder Van Putten proceeded to organize Franklin into a church. Assisting Van Putten, Donaldson recommended a nucleus of believers who would serve as a base for the church. This was comprised of James and Rosa Byrd, George and Louise Watson and Henry and Gloria Myrick. This nucleus then had to accept each individual member in the church as each stood and publicly proclaimed that he/she accepted all of

the doctrines of the church and had been baptized by immersion. Once each member had become an official part of the church, the church accepted each officer that had been nominated to serve for 1986. After the church was organized, a motion was carried to have the church accepted into the sisterhood of World Churches at its next meeting in 1987.

Once the Organization ceremony was completed, the ministers proceeded to have an Ordination Ceremony. Henry Myrick was ordained as local elder and Meril Freeman and Robert Scott as deacons. The ordainees assembled on the rostrum for the laying on of hands as Elder W.C. Scales, Sr. delivered the ordination prayers. They were joined by the previously ordained local elder and deacon, George Watson and James Byrd respectively. Pastor Donaldson presented each with a gold-lettered ordination certificate and a Bible.

Highlights of the morning included the song, "I Dreamed I Went to a City Called Glory," sung by Mary Linder and the recognition of the groundwork done by Claude Toombs and Gerald Egar whose Bible work in the community had helped establish Adventism in Franklin.

Barbara N. Donaldson
Communication Secretary

CENTRAL STATES

IN TRANSITION

Pastor Jay Winston from Springfield, MO, to the SDA Theological Seminary, Berrien Springs, MI. Pastor Bobby Waters from Sikeston, MO district to Springfield, MO. Pastor Maurice Valentine to Sikeston, MO. Pastor Gil Webb from Real Truth/Maranatha district, Kansas, MO, to Bethel SDA Church, Kansas City, KS. Brian Mann as interim pastor of the Real Truth SDA Church, Kansas City, MO. Ned Lindsey from Bethel SDA Church, Kansas City, KS, returning to California.

CENTRAL STATES YOUTH CELEBRATES!

It was a quiet Tuesday afternoon when the voices of the Central States youth attending Cedarvale Junior Academy, Raytown, MO, began to assemble for the Christmas play that was held in the school auditorium. The youth participated in song



Students perform in Christmas play at Cedarvale Jr. Academy.



The kindergarten class of the Cedarvale Jr. Academy participated in the Christmas play.

and play as they praised God for the birth, life and sacrifice of His Son. As the students performed, they cheered and thrilled

the hearts of their parents. Once again the magic of Christmas was felt and shared among God's people.

DOLEA FULLWOOD ELEMENTARY MOVES FORWARD

The Dolea Fullwood Elementary School located in Omaha, Nebraska and operated by Sharon and Bethesda SDA churches, received a good report from the Nebraska State Department of Education. In reviewing the school's present operating and educational program, the state department expressed their appreciation for the outstanding program. Dolea Fullwood Elementary under the principalship of Carolyn Preston and staff has led an aggressive program over the past three years. New audio-visual materials, alarm system, hundreds of library books, lunch program, upgraded building and facility and a strong day care program was added and strengthened.

LAKE REGION

AN ACT OF LOVE

Thirty-six years ago in a remote corner of Central America, in British Honduras, was born in a one-parent, one-room dwelling Rudolph S. Brooks. Rudolph is the first born of six brothers and sisters. As he grew up along with his brothers and sisters, who were stair-steps in terms of age, they went from day-to-day not knowing whether or not they would have anything to eat. Several days would sometimes pass and they wouldn't have food to eat. The mother allowed the children to literally rear themselves.

Since Rudolph was the oldest, he felt responsible for finding food for his brothers and sisters. He would go out several times a day to look for food. Often he would find food but most of it was inedible. His source for food was behind the market places where badly bruised or rotten fruit and vegetables were discarded. He would gather what he could and take them home to his family.

Rudolph did not know that the Lord was preparing him to do His work later in life.

At age 17, Rudolph was blessed with a ticket from his aunt to come and live in Chicago. That was an exciting day in Rudolph's life knowing that he was leaving the destitution of poverty and

the pangs of hunger. Of course, he did not want to leave his family behind; but he felt that he could do more for them over in the States once he found a job.

In June of 1966, Rudolph's feet touched American soil. It didn't take long for Rudolph to become Americanized. Three years later he joined the U.S. Navy where he served four years of active duty.

During his tenure in the Service, Rudolph was again blessed. This time he was blessed with the opportunity to travel around the world, and he spent a couple of years in Vietnam. As he traveled, Rudolph saw lots of destitution and poverty. Again and again he was reminded of his home in Central America.

The Service also afforded him the opportunity to learn gourmet cooking and tailoring.

When his tenure in the Armed Services was over, Rudolph's pages of life continued to turn. Everything became progressively better for him. Then one day, Rudolph was approached by a member of the Hyde Park Church in Chicago, who invited him to visit church one Sabbath. Rudolph listened to the still small voice of God and went to the church. After he attended the Hyde Park Church for several months, he became a member.

As Rudolph's faith in Christ grew he wanted to work for Jesus; thus he became a member of the Deacon Board. As he worked in the church he caught the eye of one of its members, Deborah Lee Brewer and later married her. They were blessed with a son, Jason L. Brooks.

Even though Rudolph worked in the church as a deacon, the Lord had placed on his heart a heavy burden. That burden was the perpetuating hunger of the people in the inner city neighborhoods of Chicago. Rudolph knew that he couldn't take all the hungry people he saw to his home to eat, so he started the Hyde Park Soup Kitchen, where he could feed hundreds each week.

The Hyde Park Soup Kitchen is sponsored by Robert L. Jones, pastor, and the members of the Hyde Park Church. After the inception of the idea from Brooks to feed the hungry, other members of the church wanted to become a part of the hunger ministry. They are Baldwin and Polyanna Barnes; the Personal Ministry Department; Sylvia Ham-Ying, Assistant Director; Eugene White,

Assistant Director and Cook; Deborah L. Brooks, Public Relations Coordinator and Personal Secretary; Laura Thomas, Nutritionist and Cook; Ester Bryant, Treasurer/Secretary; Vera Mack, staff member and Cook; Irene Willis, staff member; Amy Gervais, staff member; Irene Ogilvie, Food Distributor and staff member; Christina HamYing, staff member; Rupert HamYing, Sr., staff member; Dora and Wilbur Thompson, staff members and Virlene Robinson, staff member. This group under the supervision of Rudolph Brooks, embarked upon a project that has never before been engaged in, in the Hyde Park Church.

Since the inception of the Soup Kitchen on August 7, for one day per week, for approximately three hours, 3,000 persons have been served a hot 4-course meal.

Rudolph Brooks is very pleased with the progress of the Hyde Park Soup Kitchen, the cooperation he is receiving from his volunteer staff, and the gratification of knowing that he is doing what the Lord asked of him.

It thrills Brooks to know that unlike when he was growing up, others have a means by which they may receive a hot, well-balanced meal.

The Soup Kitchen is financed by donations from a few members of the Hyde Park Church, dues from the staff members. In addition to these donations, and commodities from the Church Federation for Hunger, Rudolph gets up at 5:50 in the morning, goes to the market and asks for donations of food.

Rudolph is employed by Delta Airlines as a Senior Customer Service agent. This job entails doing everything from bringing in the planes to working in the baggage area. On Rudolph's days off he's right there at his Soup Kitchen working harder than he does on his paying job.

The dedication and commitment that is exhibited by all the workers in the Soup Kitchen cannot be adequately described.

Submitted by Deborah L. Brooks, Public Relations Coordinator for Soup Kitchen and wife of Rudolph Brooks.

"It is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ—Christ's Object Lessons, p. 69."



Three Capitol City Church youths, of Indianapolis, received the Clarence E. Hodges award for outstanding accomplishments at church and school. They are pictured from left, Rhonda Holland, Todd Chapman and Julie Taylor. Clarence Hodges was formerly a local elder at the Capitol City Church when he served as an aide to Mayor Richard Lugar. He is now a member of the Reagan administration in the capacity of Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

NEWS NOTE

Wind and snow could not keep the youth of the Metropolitan Church in Evansville from sharing their singing with friends and families in the community around the church.

The group donned caps, gloves, and other warm clothing to help them brave the chilling breezes in order for them to bring a little cheer to the shut-ins. They visited nursing homes, senior citizens' homes, hospitals and private homes.

After they shared their joy with members of the community, they returned to the church where they enjoyed an evening of games, songs, and food.

NEWS NOTE

The First Church in Evanston, Illinois had a very good year for Investment in 1985. After the members reported their projects, the Investment offering totaled \$1,200.00. The Investment leader, Lula Johnson, was especially elated over the participation of the young people in the Investment drive.

NEWS NOTE

Dr. Charles D. Joseph, president of Lake Region, was the guest speaker at the Haughville Church in Indianapolis when they celebrated their third anniversary.

Alfonzo Greene, Jr., pastor, introduced Dr. Joseph and Rosemary Taylor, presented the president with a lovely set of engraved pens.

A fellowship dinner followed the divine worship service.

DORCAS LADIES AND ADVENTIST MEN HOST FELLOWSHIP DINNER

The Dorcas Ladies and Adventist Men of Metropolitan Adventist Church of Evansville hosted a fellowship dinner for the community as an outreach project.

Senior citizens and handicapped persons were served a lovely dinner with all the trimmings. The fellowship hall of the church was colorfully decorated.

Eighteen dinners were delivered to persons too ill to come to the church for the meal. Each person attending the dinner was given copies of "Your Friends the Adventists", a leaflet within the "An Hour with your Bible" series.

All segments of the community were represented, ministers, professionals and the common, everyday people.

The Dorcas Ladies are led by Anna Bradley. The Adventist Men are led by Percy Person.

The congregation of the Haughville Church in Indianapolis gathered together in praise and thanksgiving to God when they recently dedicated their new van to the services of the Lord.

NEBERT FORDE SAVORS HIS 80 YEARS OF ADVENTISM

Recently, Nebert C. Forde, officer and co-founder of the Hyde Park Church, and member emeritus of the Shiloh Church, celebrated his 80th birthday, and concomitantly, his life-long membership in the Adventist church. Like Bruce Springsteen's proud chant, "Born in the U.S.A.", Nebert as proudly proclaims that he was born an S.D.A.

The son of an Adventist minister, Elder W.D. Forde, the first pastor of the Shiloh Church, Nebert was brought to Chicago from Barbadoes, British West Indies in 1905. Though only five years old, Nebert recalls this event, vividly re-living a train of happenings culminating in his thrilling arrival in Chicago.

This re-living, this recounting of significant events that have touched his life as a proud Adventist have come to characterize this enthusiastic man endowed with an extraordinary talent for recall, with a keen sense of history, and with a delightful sense of humor. His infectious reminiscences are at once entertaining and instructive.

With little prodding he will describe the humble little storefront room where the pioneer Shiloh members were worshiping when his father arrived. Partly narrating, partly demonstrating, he would picture those ringing testimonies, those

fervent prayers, that lusty singing, and then the innocent antics of partly bored little children, of whom he named himself one.

Then in 1913, he recalls, the first colored church school is established in the new church on Dearborn Street. He and his little American friends are deliriously happy. They graduate from grammar school in 1919.

There was no academy for colored children so Nebert went to Wendel Phillips High School. Most of his friends accompanied him there. Unfortunately, not all of them remained steadfast in the truth. Nebert did. His love affair with the Adventist Church held him securely in tow.

He himself ascribed his own steadfastness to his preoccupation with his father's "eternal" tent efforts. Early in life, Nebert became his father's "little helper" in these efforts. His duty was to transport the heavy, bulky stereopticon machine to the tent grounds via the big, lurching trolley car. His own description of this chore is hilarious, but spatial limitation prevents my inclusion of it. Suffice it to say that it was a hard, and sometimes onerous task; but nevertheless, Nebert felt, a rewarding one, as he observed the people taking in the truth. In ten years, the small company of twenty his father found here had swelled to close to 400 members.

Considering the very low esteem in which Adventists were held in the 1910-1920 decade, this was an astounding triumph of faith in and labor for God. It set the foundation and steered the course for the 14 pastors, and the myriad of other workers who have followed Elder Forde.

In the 65 years following his dad's era, Nebert has witnessed and rejoiced in the following: Growth in Shiloh membership from 30 to 2,867; increase in number of Chicago-land churches from one to nineteen; the increase in the number of pastors from one to thirteen; the expansion of the one room-one teacher-sixth grade grammar school to a multi-room-30 plus teacher-12th grade academy.

Not only has Nebert witnessed these, and other changes, but has worked with the various pastors to bring them about. Throughout the years, he has labored in the music department, in the Sabbath School department, in the A.Y. department, in the laymen's department, and in the financial department. In addition, he has served on a number of local conference committees.

Besides contributing in these formal capacities, he has assisted, perhaps, un-

wittingly, in a more informal capacity. He has assisted as advisor—without portfolio, that is, without office. His humorous mannerisms and perhaps, hidden vanities, were influential in the choice of candidates for important office. Though given innocently and spontaneously, these imitations revealed a rare insight into people's foibles. The church leaders recognized this.

This desire to help others on Nebert's part had another beneficial effect; it tended to call attention to certain aspects of Adventist concerns. A case in point is the mission fields. The early missionaries were not always taken seriously. The bizarre stories they told of miraculous "native" rescues from pursuing tribal chiefs were taken with a grain of salt. These dramatic story tellers were "naturals" for the imitations of the ebullient Nebert Forde. But Nebert's performance was complimentary to the missionaries. To him they were heroes, indeed latter-day apostles, whose stories thrilled and inspired him. Such was the influence of this perceptive mimic.

His mimicry reflected on him as well as on others. It revealed him as one who revelled in polished language, lofty sentiments, dignified manners, and disciplined behavior. His limitations simply pointed up the degree to which these qualities were absent or present in an individual.

A vital part of his celebration, and his reminiscences on this 80th anniversary is his faithful wife of 56 years, the former Jessie Crenshaw. They have five boys, all for whom they have provided educational and vocational opportunities. Each one occupies a responsible professional position. And each one, as well, has been provided with a meaningful, vivid historical perspective that enables them to know what it means to rejoice in being born an S.D.A.

Herman Clayton
Communication Secretary

CAPITOL CITY IN REVIEW

Looking back at the year 1985, Elder Jerome Davis and the members of Capitol City Church in Indianapolis, can give thanks and praise to God for many blessings and accomplishments. We are happy to share the most significant events:

a. In January, 1985, Elder Jerome Davis and family assumed pastorate of Capitol City Church and were warmly received with a welcome reception.

b. The Sabbath School department under the direction of Charlesetta Dotson

launched a successful drive to increase member participation.

c. The membership purchased and completely paid for a beautiful ebony grand piano for the sanctuary.

d. In July Elder Davis launched an Evangelistic Crusade and later more than 40 individuals were baptized.

e. Three Capitol City youths received the Clarence E. Hodges award for outstanding accomplishments. They were Rhonda Holland, Todd Chapman and Julie Taylor.

f. The personal ministries department under the direction of Joseph Robinson sponsored two paper drives to raise funds for their program development. This department also conducted two 5-Day Stop Smoking classes directed by Alma McRoberts and assisted by James Yates, organized a new prayer band, instituted a tape ministry for the sick and shut-in members and a reading service for the blind, conducted First Aid instructional classes, raised the church Ingathering goal with considerable overflow.

g. The Capitol City school board sponsored a Calendar Tea, chaired by Thelma Simpson, and raised more than \$4,000.00, much needed funds for the church school.

We report the above accomplishments with pride and look forward to greater accomplishments with God's grace, during the year 1986. We solicit your prayers.

Charli Cartwright
Communications Secretary

CONANT GARDEN CHILDREN PRESENT PLAY

The children in the Lower Division of the Conant Gardens Church presented the "Jesus Story" during the A.Y. hour. The play was directed by Madge Cousins and assisted by Ola Brown and N. McLean.

The "Jesus Story" was told in each participant's own way commencing with the birth of Christ. Each child was dressed as the character he played, while music played softly in the background. It was truly a beautiful sight to behold.

The closing remarks of the narrator will live in the childrens' and adults' hearts forever. The remarks were ". . . It's so wonderful to think how the perfect Son of God was willing to take our punishment for us, so we can be forgiven. And He has promised to come back again some day and take all of us who are righteous home to live with Him forever. We just want to tell everyone the Jesus Story."

The finale, He's Alive, was sung by Tanica Willis.

NORTHEASTERN

LALASINGH/NIXON WEDDING

Brooklyn's Hanson Place Seventh-day Adventist Church was the scene of a beautiful midday wedding on Sept. 8, 1985, when Miss Sandria Romeo Lalasingh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Lalasingh of Bronx, NY, was married to Pastor Timothy P. Nixon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Nixon of Brooklyn, NY. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Rupert W. Young, senior minister of the Hanson Place Church.

Annette and Dedra Lalasingh, the bride's sisters were maids of honor, and Pastor John Nixon and Mr. Philip Nixon, brothers of the groom, served as best men. Mrs. Lynna Scott Carnegie coordinated the wedding.

The bride, a registered nurse and a graduate of Andrews University, is presently employed at a New York City hospital, while the groom, himself an Andrews graduate, is the associate pastor of the Hanson Place Church.

About 500 persons were on hand to witness the ceremony; and Nature herself marked the occasion with loud claps of thunder, brilliant flashes of lightening, and finally gentle refreshing midday rains.

The reception, ably emceed by Mr. Dwight Carnegie, was held at the fashionable Le Cordon Bleu in Queens, NY.

Lloyd Goodridge

WEEK OF PRAYER BRINGS BLESSINGS TO MEMBERS

Every person that entered the Brooklyn Temple Church, Brooklyn, New York received a blessing during the Week of Prayer, November 16-24, 1985. The guest speaker was Dr. Franklin S. Hill, pastor of the Mt. Calvary Church, Huntsville, Alabama.

His nightly messages left the congregation on a high spiritual plane. The preaching services convened at divine worship hour on each of the two Sabbaths, and at 7:30 p.m. each night preceeded by the regular "Review" readings one half hour earlier.

The services were enhanced by excellent music throughout by the Brooklyn Temple Young Adult Choir, the Templaires, the Temple Choir, and the Children's choir under the direction of Marie Hodge/Monica Hendrickson, Satira Wis-



The new bride is all smiles as she signs the marriage register while the bridegroom and Pastor Rupert W. Young, marriage officer, approvingly look on.

dom, Barbara Tucker, and Avery Jiminez respectively. Alice Pinkney, a former female big-band professional, rendered trumpet solos as a special treat. Solos and trios were also rendered to add to the above musical aggregation. Ruby Foster and Gene Andrews, Sr. were the instrumentalists.

The week concluded with a sterling appeal sermon from Dr. Hill, and a wonderful children's corner story and song was given by the wife of the speaker, Mrs. Lucille Hill.

The church as a whole, was greatly strengthened, and baptisms will be realized.

Pastor Gilbert Foster
Pastor of the Brooklyn Temple Church

CUC TO BECOME AFFILIATED WITH ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

Members of the North American Chapter of Caribbean Union College Alumni Association have received word from Trinidad that their alma mater, widely known as CUC, became affiliated with Andrews University on Nov. 21, 1985 when this university voted to establish this historic relationship.

Although the move to affiliation with Andrews was started by Dr. Bernard Benn more than five years ago, it was intensive

negotiations between the two schools during the last two years that has brought this endeavor to fruition.

Dr. Walter B.T. Douglas, a CUC alumnist and professor of church history at Andrews, said, "This affiliation is a significant turning point in Seventh-day Adventist education in the Caribbean, and will give a tremendous impetus to the mission of the church in the Caribbean Union."

Commenting in a similar vein, Dr. Timothy Greaves, chairman of the National Committee of the North American Chapter, said, "Affiliation with Andrews University, a quality institution of higher learning in North America, is a considered response by CUC to the challenge for excellence in education in the ever-changing process that characterizes the Commonwealth Caribbean."

Started almost 60 years ago with but three students in Trinidad's verdant Maracas Valley, CUC presently has an enrollment of more than 1000. Also, in keeping with its motto: "A Light to the Caribbean," its graduates, who hail from the Caribbean and beyond, have distinguished themselves in medicine, law, theology, education, business and communication, nationally and internationally.

Lloyd Goodridge
Correspondent

VISITOR'S DAY FOCUSES ON CARIBBEAN CONTRIBUTIONS

On October 26, 1985, the Lebanon Church of Seventh-day Adventists in Laurelton, New York celebrated its annual Community Guest Day, and had as its theme "United in Christ."

The spotlight was turned on the Caribbean Islands (that group of islands that stretches from the tip of Florida peninsula to the southern tip of the continent of South America).

They came from almost every island united in Christ to hear about the work that was being carried on. A brief history was given about the start of the Advent message in each island and the rapidly growing number of Sabbath School and church members.

There are over one million Seventh-day Adventist Christians scattered in the Caribbean. There are hospitals, colleges, secondary and primary schools operating in the area.

The government of some of the islands were represented by ambassadors.

James A. Pompey St. Vincent and the Grenadines ambassador to the United Nations.

Sharon Brennan The Bahamas Mission to the United Nations

Andrew Oliver Samuel Jamaica Mission to the United Nations

Grace Heavens President of the Jamaican Nationalist Mission

Hyacinth Bloomfield ... Representative of the Jamaican Mission

Each gave a brief speech, and was then presented with a copy of the book "The Desire of Ages."

Wilma Nanton-King
Communications Secretary

HOME AND SCHOOL DAY AT BETHEL

Harrison Thompson, associate pastor of the Bethel SDA Church, Brooklyn, New York was the speaker for the church's home and school day on November 16, 1985.

In his sermon he expressed the need for parents to prepare and train their children for good conduct and performance at school. School, he said, was not the place for behaviors and attitudes to be formed. Home, he said, is the proper place to train one's children. Parents should not relinquish their responsibilities, Elder Thompson continued, by expecting the

teachers to do what they the parents should be doing.

During his sermon, Pastor Thompson expressed appreciation to the teachers and administrator of the Bethel School for their devotion to Christian education.

He also urged the teachers to be patient with the children and to let Christ reign in the classrooms.

Music was provided by the Bethel Children's Angelic Choir. The afternoon program was given by the Bethel School children.

BETHEL HOLDS STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS DAY

Stewardship Emphasis Day was held at Bethel SDA Church, Brooklyn, New York. The guest speaker was Elder H.W. Baptiste, Secretary of the Northeastern Conference. Pastor Baptiste developed his sermon from the scripture found in Joshua 2:10-15 which alludes to the several blessings God has bestowed on his people. He declared that stewardship is more than just the giving of money, but it envelopes the total person.

Pastor Baptiste further stated that we can accomplish all things, through God, if we but commit ourselves to Him. It is this commitment that makes all else possible. He then gave us examples of the committed individuals outlined in Hebrews 11.

The sermon concluded with a prayer of consecration by Elder Roy Ashmeade, pastor of the church.

Sonia Johnson
Correspondence

SOUTH CENTRAL

COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER DEDICATED

A new Community Service Center has been opened and dedicated by the Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church, Mobile, Alabama, under the leadership of Ann Parker, on Sunday November 12, 1985.

The center, located behind the church, is equipped and stocked to meet the needs and emergencies of the community, with clothing, canned goods, and other necessities.

Herman Taylor was the Master of Ceremony of the dedication program. Prayer was by Bobby Gould; welcome was by Catherine Altice; poem was

given by Lorraine McDaniels and a solo by Melony Powe.

Ann Parker, Community Service Leader, introduced the guest speaker, S.B. Williams, President of the Mobile chapter of the American Red Cross, who gave the dedication speech. Carrie Sanders, R.N., the head nurse of Springhill Memorial Hospital, gave a lecture on health showing the causes of strokes and heart attacks.

Daisy Jones, Community Service Leader of Jordan Street Church in Pensacola, Florida, gave an inspiring speech on her visit to Cohutta Springs Resort. She presented the Mobile Center with a green plant from the Pensacola Center.

The Mobile Center sent hundreds of cans of food and boxes of clothing to the hurricane victims in Mississippi. More than 200 hours of work were given by members in sorting, and distributing clothing and other materials.

Mrs. Parker said, "The opening and dedication of the center is a blessing and a dream come true."

CHAPLAIN GRIMES SPEAKS TO WORKERS

Chaplain Wanda Grimes serves as one of the chaplains for the Medical Center in Memphis, Tennessee who brings sources of encouragement and help to many who come to the facility for treatment. She is a member of the Longview Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church in Memphis and formerly served at the Kettering Medical Center in Ohio in the same capacity. Although she was born in the eastern part of the United States, her parents hail from Memphis, Tennessee.

The South Central Conference has accepted Miss Grimes as one of its spiritual leaders in the conference. At a recent workers' meeting that was held at Eufaula, Alabama, Chaplain Grimes in addition to giving other inputs, gave the devotion for the workers during Sabbath morning service.

MEDICAL STUDENTS ATTEND RECRUITMENT LUNCHEON

At the time of the Annual Council that was held in Washington, D.C., the Southern Union Conference under the direction of Elder H.F. Roll, Dr. L. Linebarger, Dr. Joe Cruse and the local conference leaders from the Union held a luncheon for the Medical/Dental Stu-

dents from Howard University, the University of Maryland and other medical/dental schools in the area. This is an annual event that is sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Harry Y.C. Wong of the School of Medicine at Howard U. Dr. Wong is a Seventh-day Adventist and has led out in this program for more than twenty years. A goodly number of students who attend these schools in the D.C. area are a blessing to the witness of the church when they are students and after they have completed their studies.

BUILDING IN BIRMINGHAM MAKING PROGRESS

Members of the Ephesus S.D.A. Church of Birmingham, Alabama are anxiously watching as their new church home is being constructed from day to day. Weather conditions as well as usual problems had brought some delay, but rapid progress is being made now. Dr. P.E. Vincent, the minister and Elder W.O. Freeman are on the job daily (except on Sabbath) to guide in the program.

The congregation is one of the oldest groups in the South Central Conference whose history dates back to the earlier part of this century. The group has worshipped in several locations since its early beginnings. The facility that they were worshipping in was razed and the new building is being placed on the same location. It will seat one thousand persons. Completion of the facility is scheduled in early 1986.

CHURCH BIDS MINISTER'S WIFE FAREWELL

Celestine Bell, the departing Adventist Youth Society Leader of the Maranatha Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama was awarded a plaque and other gifts for her sincere and devoted service to the youths of the church. Her AYS program included: plays and dramas depicting the problems facing today's youth; musical programs featuring invited choirs and other music groups; fund raising that involved the youth but benefited the whole church; and setting up a Satellite School and Day Care center. J.R. Bell, Celestine's husband and pastor of Maranatha, was transferred to the Emmanuel Church in Mobile, AL.

AFTER 20 YEARS CHURCH RE-OPENS SCHOOL

The OPEN HOUSE FOR THE FIRST SDA CHURCH SCHOOL FOR TWENTY YEARS in Tuscaloosa, AL, started when

Johnnie Richards gave the mission appeal and asked why "our children were not being taught in the School of the Lord?" This sparked the interest of Ora Wisdom, who promptly called the pastor who put her in touch with the conference Education Department. The next Sabbath Ora Wisdom informed the church of her efforts and her search for a teacher. The Lord provided her with a teacher that same day. So on September 3, 1985, with only three children, Ora Wisdom with Celestine Bell opened the doors to the first church school in twenty years.

CHURCH HOLDS REVIVAL WEEK

Oscar Lane, former Pentecostal minister, now a SDA evangelist conducted a revival week at the Magazine Street Church, Louisville, KY, in December 1985. As a result of this revival 37 persons were baptized.

12 BAPTIZED AS A RESULT OF REVIVAL

Twelve were baptized as a result of a week long revival conducted by Elder Shelton Kilby, Minister of Music for the conference, in Cleveland, TN. Last year he conducted a meeting in Greenville, TN, and plans to conduct a summer evangelist crusade.

"The printed word of truth is to be translated into different languages, and carried to the ends of the earth.—Testimonies, vol. 9, p. 16."

NEWS NOTES

Handel's Messiah, a music tradition at the Riverside Church, Nashville, TN, was presented to a standing room only crowd on December 14. Guest soloists were: Dave Walker, tenor, a voice instructor at Tennessee State University; Diane Poe, soprano, from the music department of the Baptist Theological Seminary; Gwen Brown, contralto, a voice student at Fisk University; and Duane Hamilton, bass, recording artist. This year Darrick Lasley of Huntsville directed the Messiah, due to the illness of Dr. Luke Dixon. The pianists were: Brian Jones and Eva Jenkins and at the organ, Meleta Herbert.

- THE KIDS PRAISE MINISTRY

In Huntsville, Alabama at the New Life Church where the membership resulted largely from an evangelistic crusade

conducted by evangelist Oscar Lane, a feeling of revival continues in the church. Elder S.J. Jackson became the pastor and the spirit of revival continued. Jackson passed the revival flame to the present pastor Morris Patterson. Elder Patterson has urged the members to let the revival burn in each heart and let the Holy Ghost make each member a revivalist.

The Kids Praise Ministry was part of this revival program. The news spread around the city that the children would be preaching and singing. Children choirs and soloists rendered special music and four children ministers proclaimed the Gospel to approximately 300 listeners.

Master Robby Sullivan of Mt. Calvary Church, Huntsville, spoke first on the topic, "Which Way Is Up." The next speaker was Master Russell Fields. He spoke on "God's Battle." Following his sermon, his family rendered special music. Next came Master Russell Fields whose topic was "If God Says Do It, Will You Do It?"

The last speaker, five year old Master Charles Brooms, spoke as bravely as David meeting the giant Goliath. Brooms' topic was "Peter's Imprisonment."

The meeting closed with Pastor Patterson challenging the children to prepare themselves for greater service in God's cause. The Kids Praise Ministry will be a monthly feature at the New Life Church.

SDA BLACK AFRICANS ENJOY FELLOWSHIP WITH AMERICAN BLACKS

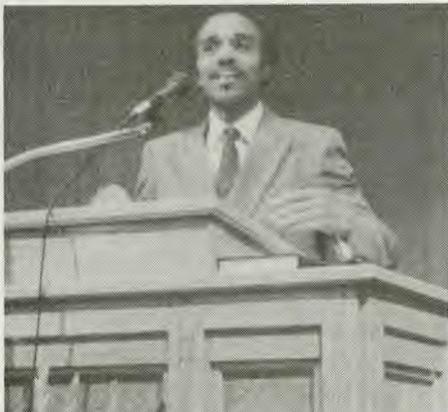
The meetings are joyous and provide lasting fellowship for the Blacks of African nationalities and for the Blacks of African heritage. We speak of the annual fellowship dinner that is held at the time of Annual Council each year in Washington, D.C. At the most recent meeting some of the brethren revealed and expressed their joys in their comings together with their brethren of America whose roots are found in their homeland.

"There was a time during the nineteen sixties when we were told to beware of the American Blacks; they are contagious. We watched them from afar. When the seventies arrived we sought to investigate for ourselves and found them to be 'real brothers' in the faith. In the eighties, we rejoice to be able to

meet, greet and to fellowship with you in this capacity." (The setting was all black and beautiful.) The pastors' wives in the D.C. area get together each year and prepare the food to serve some two or three hundred persons. Blacks in Africa and Blacks in America realize that they have many things in common. Our African brethren are urging that the Blacks of America come to the homeland to help them in getting the message to the teeming millions of people who are found there. "We need your support and your help. Please come."



Elder W.J. Cleveland, left, talks to his brother, Elder H.L. Cleveland during the testimonial.



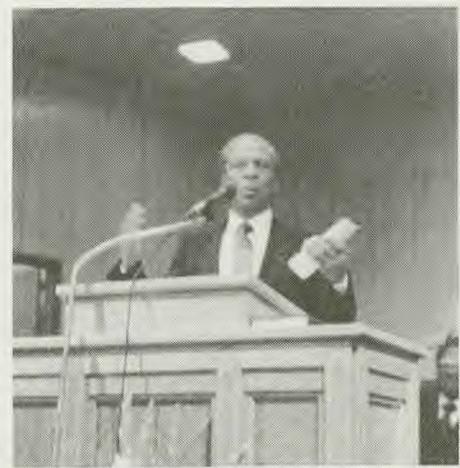
S.H. Cox of Oakwood College, gave a tribute to W.J. Cleveland.

W.J. CLEVELAND HONORED FOR 45 YEARS OF SERVICE

It was December 14, 1985 that Elder and Mrs. W.J. Cleveland received a testimonial service honoring them for their 45 years of service in the Ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Cleveland came to Birmingham, Alabama in 1976 to pastor the Ephesus Church, where he labored for three and a half years. The combined efforts of W.J. and E.E. Cleveland led to the organization of the 600 member South Park Church in Birmingham. He pastored this church for five years.



C.E. Dudley, President of South Central Conference gives tribute at W.J. Cleveland's retirement testimonial.



F.N. Crowe, treasurer of the South Central Conference, made a presentation on behalf of the conference to W.J. Cleveland.

He began his ministry in 1940 in Louisville, Kentucky, assisting the late Henry J. Miller. He later pastored in Bowling Green, Paducah and Lexington, Kentucky. He pioneered the work in Seattle, Washington organizing a church of 15 members which grew to 104 members when the Clevelands left the northwest to begin work in the Southwest Region Conference. He pastored churches in Dallas, San Antonio and Austin, Texas. In Louisiana he pastored churches in Shreveport, Baton Rouge and New Orleans. From 1968 through 1976 he served as president of the Southwest Region Conference.

In the morning worship service of December 14, H.L. Cleveland, brother of W.J. Cleveland, gave the worship sermon. Dr. C.E. Dudley, president of the South Central Conference presided over the evening program. Life sketches were given by Doris Willis; tributes were given by Dr. Dudley; music was given by William Dykes, Voices of Praise, the church choir and others. Tributes, plaques and gifts were presented by ministers from the Southern Union, local pastors, laymen from Southwestern Union, administrators and pastors of the South Central Conference and the South Park Church.



With a song of tribute William Dykes and Voices of Praise performed during W.J. Cleveland testimonial.

SOUTHEASTERN



W.C. Byrd, pastor of the Dania, Ft. Lauderdale, and Pompano Beach district.

CHURCH NEWS

W.C. Byrd is the district pastor for the Dania, Ft. Lauderdale, and Pompano Beach churches in South Florida. His assistant pastor is Larry Harris. A church school in the district adds to their responsibilities in the areas of Christian education.

When 1985 closed, the tithe for Southeastern Conference was \$3,698,574.00. The district with the highest tithe of \$287,618.00 was Byrd's. At the awards banquet held in Orlando, Florida, he was cited for giving outstanding leadership in stewardship.



Persons cited for special contributions.

CHURCH NEWS

The Jacksonville, Florida Ephesus SDA Church had its Community Center Awards Program to cite several persons for their special contributions. Former director of the Ephesus Community Center, Mrs. Elisa Young and Mrs. B. Gresham, Community Service Leader, were guest speakers. Both highlighted the caring church posture in this volunteer ministry.

The awards were presented by Gloria Kinkland, Director, and Grayce Bateman, Coordinator. Herman L. Davis is the pastor.



Pam Solomon, to the far right on the first row. Pathfinder group of Jacksonville, FL, Ephesus SDA Church.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE FOR SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

The Southeastern Conference has been "like a tree planted by the rivers of water." The progress, gains and successes of this five-year-old institution have rewarded the hopes and dreams of those whose vision made the division of the then South Atlantic Conference into what is now a Conference. Never in their wildest dreams did the pioneers of this bold adventure envision that a genesis of only 8,511 would total 12,391 in five years and a tithe of \$3,698,574. The growth has been phenomenal in all areas. The conference from whom we separated took 34 years to acquire its administrative offices. Here in Southeastern Conference things are done in unique style. Within five years the conference has purchased its own campgrounds.

As we approach the next five years of operations, we have the distinction of purchasing an office building which will be the headquarters for the Southeastern Conference family. The General and Southern Union Conferences have placed their stamp of approval on this gigantic undertaking.

This modern edifice is nestled in the growing city of Orlando. In close proximity are the airport, hotels, support businesses, restaurants, and other facilities as thought needful by the division committee and administrators.

What began in 1980 as a dream has grown into a dynamic reality. South-

eastern's reason for existence is to provide spiritual and educational excellence and leadership without peer to its constituency. This has been the characteristic feature for the past five years. That which began with the leaders of South Atlantic Conference and has stood as a beacon will never dim, but stay ablaze until the effulgent glory of Savior's eclipses the torch held.



Southeastern Conference Administrative Office Building.

CHURCH NEWS

Pam Solomon, Pathfinder Director, is congratulated by Georgia Blount, Community Service Leader. Canned goods solicited by the Pathfinder's Club for Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays was an outstanding performance. The baskets distributed to the needy brightened many otherwise darkened homes.

SOUTHWEST REGION



George Lewis has been appointed to serve as assistant treasurer for the conference. He is a native of Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Lewis attended Oakwood College where he majored in business administration. He has served as senior accountant for the Southeastern Conference. He is married to the former Stephanie Johnson, who is also from Chicago, and is a nurse.

GEORGE LEWIS APPOINTED ASSISTANT TREASURER

George Lewis was recently appointed assistant treasurer of Southwest Region. Prior to this appointment he served as Senior Accountant for the Southeastern Conference.

Lewis is a graduate of Oakwood College, where he received a degree in Business Administration. He is a native of Chicago and married to the former Stephanie Johnson, a nurse.

Doris Jones
Correspondent



Theodore Brown has been appointed auditor for the conference. He is a native of Detroit, Michigan. Brown, a graduate of Oakwood, pastored the Roswell-Hobbs district. He is married to the former Vicky Hale, a nurse.

THEODORE BROWN APPOINTED AUDITOR

Theodore Brown was recently appointed auditor for the Southwest Region Conference. Brown is a graduate of Oakwood College and has pastored in the Roswell-Hobbs, New Mexico district.

A native of Detroit, Brown is married to the former Vicky Hale, a nurse.

Doris Jones
Correspondent



Smyrna Church in Alexandria, LA, sponsored a Benefit Dinner at Rapides Parish Coliseum Sunday, September 1, 1985. The special guest soloist was Clifton Davis, former star of "That's My Mama" TV series. Presently, Clifton is an SDA minister completing his Master's of Divinity Degree at Andrews University. His performance was magnificent, which netted the church a handsome sum to assist facility that's being constructed in Alexandria.

SMYRNA CHURCH CELEBRATES 24TH ANNIVERSARY

On September 28, 1985, the members of the Smyrna Church celebrated their 24th anniversary. Elder W.C. Jones, conference president, was the guest speaker. It was a well planned and executed event; fifteen of the original charter members were present.

A LIGHT SHINES IN MINDEN

During the summer of 1985 Norman Stiggers joined forces with Pastor A. Teele of Shreveport, LA. Together they pitched a tent in Minden, a dark county in Louisiana. After a hot dry summer, the Lord blessed with 27 souls. Pastor Stiggers was left to shepherd the flock.

On December 27, 1985, this small band of believers were organized into a church. In addition, on that special day two persons, Ivy Lee King and Prince Mitchell, were baptized.



Norman Stiggers, pastor of the new church in Minden, LA.

A STAR SHINES IN MIDLAND

Two years ago Pastor Troy Wilson and his wife were sent as infiltration workers to Midland, TX, a dark county. After working for 2 years going house to house and conducting Revelation Seminars, 27 people became SDAs. On January 11, 1986, a church was organized in Midland. Also, on that day, four adults joined the church. The members of the church plan to acquire some land and build a church before the fall of 1986.

Doris Jones
Reporter

A BAPTIST CHURCH BECOMES AN SDA CHURCH

Christ Universal Church in Houston, TX, has an unusual beginning. A Baptist minister passed on, and willed his church property to his brother, Jesse Wade, an Adventist deacon. The church was called Christ Universal Baptist Church, with a membership of approximately 100 persons.

When Deacon Wade was notified of this unusual gift, he contacted his pastor, J.R. Ellis, who conducted a Revelation Seminar, followed by a crusade conducted by Oscar Lane. Afterwards, forty persons were baptized.

On September 28, 1985, the group was organized into the Christ Universal SDA Church. Today, the membership stands at 60, because 20 more of the former Baptist members have joined.

Doris Jones
Correspondent



Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Wade, Pastor and Mrs. David Hinds, Sherman Howard, church treasurer, and Pastor J. Ellis, all played key roles in the establishment of the Christ Universal SDA Church.



Members of the newly organized Christ Universal SDA Church.



Members of the newly organized church in Midland, TX. Troy Wilson is the pastor.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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TAKE IT TO GOD IN PRAYER

When the toils of the world are upon me
And there seems to be no answer
there,
I recall what a kind woman told me—
“Son, take it to God in prayer.”

So when life's roads seem to be rough to travel

And its burdens too hard to bear,
I just do what the messenger told me
And take it to God in prayer.

Now the devil is desperately trying
To dismay, depress, and despair
But there is no reason to worry
It's been taken to our God in prayer.

James Dawkins

James Dawkins writes from Birmingham, Alabama.

“A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work—Review and Herald, March 22, 1887.”

IN THE NEWS

HADLEY HOSPITAL RECEIVES MANY BLESSINGS

Dr. Gordon Hadley and wife founded the Hadley Hospital in Southwest Washington, D.C. during the nineteen forties to provide medical attention for the Black population that was denied entrance into the other health facilities at that time. It has met with its many challenges to survive through the years because of a need for a physician to practice there and for a lack of funds.

President Albert L. Dudley, its present director and the first Black to serve in that capacity, speaks of the blessings of the Lord that are coming to the hospital in many ways. The patient census is up; the medical team is increasing, the finances are coming into line and a new facility is to be completed by mid summer of 1986. Mr. Dudley was the vice president at the Kettering Memorial Hospital for over nine years where he developed tremendous expertise in the field of hospital administration. He is a graduate of Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama and of Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. He is married to the former Miss Nancy Edmond of Cleveland, Ohio. They have one son, Albert Jr.

NAD PLANS FOR HARVEST '90

In a letter sent to the workers in the North American Division, Elder C.E. Bradford, president of the division listed the four major quinquennial objectives:

- I. Renewal and personal growth through Bible study, intercessory prayer, fellowship and worship.
- II. Doubling the number of accessions that were achieved during the 1,000 Days of Reaping (Goal—225,149).
- III. Doubling the number of people attending and participating in church activities on Sabbath.
- IV. Training, equipping and involving a majority of attending church members in soul winning activities in the context of the Caring Church strategy.

We are asking our readers to take an active part in Harvest '90.

QUARTERLY MEETINGS REVIVE CHURCHES

For the last two years the churches of East Tennessee have held a quarterly

meeting. These meetings have had a profound effect on the congregations.

"There seems to be a zeal for finishing the Lord's work in east Tennessee," said Elder Joseph Milner, lay pastor of the Cleveland, Tennessee church.

Recently, at the quarterly meeting, M.E. Joiner, Personal Ministries Director, was the guest speaker. He challenged them to join together in literature distribution and Bible studies enrollment.

I, TOO SING AMERICA

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Hughes emphasized this theme in all of his works.

Edward Dwight, Jr. was the first Black astronaut candidate in 1963. Those hopes fizzled after the assassination of John F. Kennedy. However, he did not give up. He now has a lucrative career as a sculptor. One of his works sold for \$19,000!

Wilma Rudolph captivated the world in 1960 by winning three gold medals at the Rome Olympics. At the age of 4, Wilma was stricken with scarlet fever and was unable to walk until she was eight years old. Ms. Rudolph has established the Wilma Rudolph Foundation, Inc. in Indianapolis to help promote amateur sports. In October, 1983 she was inducted into the United States Olympic Hall of Fame.

Certainly, we can never forget those great fighters for freedom, namely Frederick Douglas, Paul Robeson, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Malcolm X, Jesse Jackson and Martin Luther King, Jr., the Drum Major for Peace.

In retrospect, as we evaluate the reasons for Black History Month, it is important that we understand that it is "*Our History*" that we commemorate. It is the story of the struggles and the accomplishments of our parents, grandparents, and great grandparents. As we study, we must continue to be motivated to follow through on the dream of Woodson and "work together." We must heed the words of Henry Highland Garnet and "Go Forward." We must never forget that our kinsmen gave their lives so that we could experience those inalienable rights outlined in the Constitution. We must proclaim with the poet, Margaret Walker, "Let a second generation full of courage issue forth; let a people loving freedom come to growth." And finally, we must stand tall with dignity and pride and declare with Langston Hughes,

"I am the Darker Brother
I, too, sing America!"

THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

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COVER PICTURE

A Joint Workers Meeting of the Southwest Region
Conference, Central States Conference and South
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