



*The North American*

# Informant

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## United Nations' Delegate Praises Work of Adventists in Africa

Madam Victoria Sherman, a delegate from Liberia to the General Assembly of the United Nations, came to Washington during the early part of March and praised the work being done by Seventh-day Adventists all over the world, and especially by the missionaries stationed in Liberia.

The distinguished visitor has been a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for four years. When Elder C. Dunbar Henri, now president of the Liberian Mission, held a series of evangelistic meetings in the Grand Bassa district in Lower Buchanan, Liberia, Madam Sherman, wife of the Superintendent of Education, was the first person to accept the message. Later the wives of four other government officials followed her example.

Since that time Madam Sherman's husband, the Honorable George F. Sherman, has been appointed superintendent of the Grand Bassa district. The position is comparable to governor in the United States.

Madam Sherman came to America for medical treatment and to study some advanced secretarial and business courses in New York. Since her arrival, she has visited California as a guest of Elder and Mrs. Nathaniel Banks, formerly missionaries in Liberia, and the Stockton San Joaquin church, which has loyally supported the Liberian mission program. She attended many the churches in California and



told the members about her conversion. She visited the home of Sister Ellen G. White at Elmshaven, St. Helena Sanitarium, and Pacific Union College. Picture news stories of her visit appeared in some of the large daily newspapers on the West Coast.

As Madam Sherman related, her conversion and acceptance of the third angel's message was not an

easy accomplishment. Her husband forbade her to be baptized, and as Liberian women respect their husbands' orders, she postponed her baptism. She remembered, too, that Elder Henri had stated in one of his sermons that wives should obey their husbands. But as time went by she realized that her allegiance to God transcended her responsibility to man, and she requested baptism.

Her husband commanded her not to take their children to church, but later he allowed her to take them "just once." Since that time the children have attended Sabbath school regularly. Superintendent Sherman has since changed his diet to conform with that of the Adventists in his household.

As the wife of a high government official, Madam Sherman has had the opportunity of telling many dignitaries about the doctrines of the church and the Second Advent of Christ.

Madam Sherman, it is believed, is one of the first Seventh-day Adventists to serve as a delegate to the United Nations. She was appointed by the Liberian Government to serve at the eighth session of the General Assembly, which began in February.

While in Washington, Madam Sherman appealed for more liberal offerings to missions. She is superintendent of the Sabbath school in Grand Bassa, and at present the only place for worship is a small school building. She believes that more people will become interested when a respectable house of worship is erected in the district.

## AFRICA

### Report From Liberia

One of the outstanding events in the Liberian mission, in 1953, according to Elder C. Dunbar Henri's report, was the opening of a church in Monrovia, the capital of the republic. The president of Liberia, His Excellency William V. S. Tubman, who has been very sympathetic toward the work of Seventh-day Adventists, preached the opening sermon.

Four hundred of Liberia's leading citizens were present and heard the president endorse Saturday as the true day of worship. Elder Henri believes that President Tubman is the first head of a nation to lead out in the opening of a Seventh-day Adventist church.

After the president's sermon the assistant treasurer of Liberia made

a financial appeal to those present, and one thousand dollars in cash was given to clear the church of debt. God is to be praised for inspiring the leaders of the country to help in spreading the three angels' messages.

For the second time in four years President Tubman allowed the missionaries to use the centennial memorial pavilion, one of the best in West Africa, for a series of evangelistic meetings. The meetings lasted six weeks, and on some nights more than twelve hundred people were present. There was no charge for the use of the pavilion or for the electricity. Fifty persons took a stand for the Sabbath. Fifteen have joined the baptismal class.

After the people of Monrovia contributed the large sum to free the church of debt, the Ingathering campaign was initiated, with some degree of timidity, three months later. The goal was set at \$920, a considerable sum for a country of Liberia's economic standing, but when the campaign ended, the goal had been exceeded by more than two hundred dollars. One member, Sister Rachel Crowe, despite hardships and the loss of a beloved granddaughter during the campaign, raised \$130.

The boarding academy at Konola, under the leadership of Pastor and Mrs. Phillip Giddings and Brother and Sister Richard Simons, has made considerable progress. The enrollment increased from 77 to 145 during the past year.

Konola students are from some of the best families in Liberia, and most of them are from Monrovia. Since 95 per cent of the students are non-Adventists, there is a great opportunity for evangelism within the school.

On Sabbaths more than two hundred people crowd into the school building at Konola and cluster under nearby trees to hear the sermon, which is preached in English and translated into three of the native dialects. There is as yet no auditorium or chapel at the school. The need in Africa is great, but the Lord's work is going forward.

## Grand Bassa

Under the leadership of Pastor and Mrs. David Hughes, evangelism is reaching the remotest corners of the Grand Bassa district. During the month of November twenty-eight persons were baptized into the church. This brought the membership of the district to 241. At present there are forty-eight persons in the baptismal class.

Although the district got off to a late start on Ingathering, the members raised \$218, which exceeded the goal.

Eight well-trained students—seven boys and one girl—were graduated from the Lower Buchanan Elementary Day School this year. Three of the graduates plan to attend the academy at Konola.

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## NORTHEASTERN

L. H. Bland, Pres.      L. O. Irons, Sec.-Treas.  
560 W. 150th St., New York, N.Y.  
MO. 2-9353

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### New President Arrives

Elder Harold D. Singleton, the new president of the Northeastern Conference, has arrived after recovering from a recent illness. He is now carrying on the work laid down by the late Elder Louis H. Bland.

Since his arrival Elder Singleton has visited the churches in the New York area, Boston, and New Haven, and was warmly welcomed by the members.

Elder Singleton was formerly the president of the South Atlantic Conference, where he promoted widespread evangelistic meetings, which resulted in the harvest of many souls. God's blessings are asked for the new president as he labors in another section of the Master's vineyard.

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### Oakwood College

(Continued from page 7)

congregation of the Berean church in Los Angeles moved into a \$92,000 building. The Delaware Avenue church in Santa Monica was built under his leadership.

### Elder C. E. Moseley Conducts Week of Prayer

An inspiring Week of Prayer was held in the Ephesus church for the young people of the Metropolitan New York area. Elder Calvin E. Moseley, Jr., of the General Conference, was the guest speaker.

The meetings began Sunday night, March 7, and the attendance grew on succeeding nights as the older members of the church came to hear the sermons. Each night a member of the Ephesus MV Society reviewed the sermon of the preceding night. Another youth gave a brief talk before Elder Moseley's sermon.

Elders Lee, Carter, and Jeffries cooperated in the meeting of the churches, and at the end of the week, youth, children, and older people came forward to surrender all to the Master.

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### ALLEGHENY

J. H. Wagner, Pres. M. S. Banfield, Sec.-Treas.  
P.O. Box 720, Pottstown, Pennsylvania  
Pottstown 3844

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### Elder William Cheatham Elected President



Elder William Lee Cheatham, the pastor of Berea Temple in Baltimore, has been elected president of the Allegheny Conference. The former president, Elder J. H. Wagner,

is now in Atlanta as president of the South Atlantic Conference.

Elder Cheatham is the second pastor from Berea Temple to be elected to the position of conference president. The late Elder Louis H. Bland was elected president of Northeastern Conference while pastoring in Baltimore.

The new conference president attended Oakwood and Delaware State colleges. For a number of years he did lay work in Baltimore and served as church elder. As a full-time minister he was successful in raising up several churches in the State of Delaware.

Elder Cheatham's administrative ability was manifested while pastor of Berea Temple. The membership doubled under his leadership, and he moved the congregation into a large and beautiful church on the corner of Madison Avenue and Robert Street.

Elder and Mrs. Cheatham are the parents of eight children—six sons and two daughters. A son, Charles, is a student at Pine Forge, and one daughter, Merle, is attending Oakwood College. Another daughter, Mrs. Anna Timpson, is a teacher in the Baltimore church school. Three of their sons have served in the armed forces, and two saw service in Korea. The youngest child, Wendell, will begin school next September.

Elder William Robinson, who conducted tent efforts in the city last summer, is the new pastor of Berea Temple.

### Church Treasurer Retires

Brother James E. Hawkins, who for the past nineteen years served as the treasurer of the Berea Temple church in Baltimore, has been succeeded by Brother DeWitt Pinkney. The retiring treasurer, who is seventy-five years of age, took the office to finish out the year of Sister Bertha Stewart's death.

Since that time the membership has more than doubled, and the tithe has multiplied more than ten times. During Brother Hawkins's first year, the membership was 310

and the tithe was less than \$5,000 for the year. The membership for last year was 750, and the tithe amounted to almost \$50,000.

Brother Hawkins has a collection of foreign coins that were placed in the offering through the years. He has saved coins from most of the European countries, some from Asia, and a few from the countries in South America.

The retired treasurer stated that it had been a joy to see the funds pour in and leave for ends of the earth. The money, he knew, meant that others would be privileged to hear the story of the gospel.

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### SOUTHWEST REGION

W. W. Fordham, Pres. V. Roberts, Sec.-Treas.  
A. R. Carethers, Secretary-Treasurer  
P.O. Box 6289, Dallas, Texas

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### Ministerial Changes

Elder Raphael F. Warnick, formerly the pastor of the Capitol Avenue church in Indianapolis, has arrived in the Southwest Region, and is the new pastor of the church in New Orleans.

Elder Warnick has served as pastor-evangelist in many of the large cities of the South and East, and his arrival in New Orleans is expected to be followed by many blessings to the work.

The conference committee met during the early part of 1954, and after prayer and careful consideration, they voted to make some changes in ministerial locations.

(Continued on page 6)

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### The North American Informant

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# NORTH AMERICAN COLORED DEPARTMENT

## 1953 STATISTICAL REPORT

Union	Churches & Companies	Members	Baptisms	Tithe	Sabbath School	Ingathering	Total Mission Offerings	Weekly Per Capita	Total Local Ch. Expense
<b>Atlantic Union</b>									
Northeastern .....	23	4,034	294	\$ 344,660.79	\$ 59,797.97	\$ 32,553.32	\$ 93,378.70	\$ .450	\$155,904.97
<b>Central Union</b>									
Central States .....	18	1,612	240	104,663.77	18,839.88	13,500.00	32,586.77	.470	33,756.83
<b>Columbia Union</b>									
Allegheny .....	56	5,821	488	443,864.95	80,829.95	82,384.92	163,214.87	.561	130,272.00
<b>Lake Union</b>									
Lake Region .....	36	3,606	234	277,687.05	59,587.85	31,186.79	92,243.83	.523	36,000.00
<b>Northern Union</b>									
Minnesota (Minneapolis) .....	1	65	6	4,446.92	1,114.08	741.94	1,856.02	.580	.....
<b>North Pacific Union</b>									
Oregon (Portland) .....	1	133	9	5,017.08	910.09	639.22	1,584.60	.280	1,090.35
Washington (Seattle) .....	1	83	15	8,030.55	1,125.34	608.64	1,824.82	.649	3,304.81
<hr/>									
Total .....	2	216	24	\$13,047.63	\$2,035.43	\$1,247.86	\$3,409.42	\$ .303	\$4,395.16
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<b>Pacific Union</b>									
Arizona .....	2	105	6	8,964.03	2,219.84	1,163.74	3,403.33	.623	.....
Central California .....	6	600	41	27,618.74	10,530.06	4,122.94	14,988.34	.474	2,791.38
Nevada-Utah .....	1	28	.....	2,535.96	744.70	1,146.82	1,942.14	1.333	1,192.84
Northern California .....	4	717	75	62,234.19	11,518.66	5,847.65	18,177.68	2.306	19,827.75
Southeastern California .....	5	585	40	53,463.01	13,325.65	3,789.08	17,767.23	.745	17,888.80
Southern California .....	7	1,826	123	137,741.54	25,268.54	12,580.10	39,651.29	.417	.....
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Total .....	25	3,861	285	\$292,557.47	\$63,607.45	\$28,650.33	\$95,930.01	\$ .477	\$41,700.77
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<b>Southern Union</b>									
South Atlantic .....	92	5,599	600	265,660.12	62,924.20	71,347.94	135,157.01	.464	.....

South Central .....	57	3,722	514	158,184.88	33,581.02	41,293.15	35,664.73	.184	.....
Total .....	149	9,321	1,114	\$423,845.00	\$96,505.22	\$112,641.09	\$170,821.74	\$ .352	.....
<b>Southwest Union</b>									
Southwest Region .....	48	2,542	287	122,818.91	31,729.77	24,132.30	55,956.55	.260	25,075.00
GRAND TOTAL .....	358	31,078	2,972	\$2,027,592.49	\$414,047.60	\$294,485.23	\$709,397.91	\$ .431	\$427,104.73

NOTE: Membership reported to December 31, 1953.

## COMPARATIVE STATEMENT NORTH AMERICAN COLORED DEPARTMENT

	1950	1951	1952	1953	Increase of 1953 Over 1952
Title .....	\$1,393,808.21	\$1,693,496.31	\$1,869,011.89	\$2,027,592.49	\$158,580.60
Sabbath School .....	329,150.44	375,586.39	404,738.40	414,047.60	9,309.20
Ingathering .....	231,646.32	258,773.77	288,751.15	294,485.23	5,734.08
Total Mission Offerings .....	574,141.99	648,254.36	687,138.89	709,397.91	22,259.02
Total Local Church Expense .....	381,194.20	392,357.60	407,997.70	427,104.73	19,107.03
Churches and Companies .....	328	338	342	358	16
Membership .....	26,526	28,171	29,591	31,078	1,487
Baptisms .....	2,334	2,885	2,619	2,972	353
Ordained Ministers .....	97	110	118	124	6
Licensed Ministers .....	76	70	90	73	17*
Bible Instructors .....	30	28	30	26	4*
Teachers: Church School .....	133	129	144	141	3*
Colporteurs .....	231	223	225	212	13*
Approximate value church buildings and other conference properties:			\$4,469,849.53	\$4,580,194.67	

\* Decrease

Prepared by the North American Colored Department

## Southwest Region

(Continued from page 3)

Elder Allen B. Humphrey was moved from Shreveport to the Lubbock district in Texas. Pastor John Smith, who had been at Alexandria, was appointed to the Shreveport church. Pastor Van Runnels was sent from Lubbock to Lake Charles, to replace Pastor Jesse R. Wagner, who assumed the pastorate of San Antonio church.

Pastor Milton Young is now serving as district leader of the Hot Springs, Pine Bluff, and Texarkana churches. The principal of the Baton Rouge church school, Prof. Gabe Chissell, is now in charge of the churches at Hammond and Covington.

## Texas MV Federation Held at Fort Worth

The Texas Federation, composed of Missionary Volunteer youth leaders and friends, met in Fort Worth on Sabbath, February 13.

Sabbath school was the first activity of the day. At the eleven o'clock hour a symposium was presented by three youths, Louis Henderson, Jr., Beverly Humphrey, and Ervin Phillips, of Houston.

Prof. Louis D. Henderson, principal of the Houston Academy, preached the morning sermon. Hearts were stirred, and many responded to the call for consecration. Three persons surrendered their lives to God and united with the Advent Movement.

The day's program was climaxed by a social. The traditional hospitality was shown by the Fort Worth MV Society and the church.

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## LAKE REGION

T. M. Fountain, Pres. F. N. Crowe, Sec.-Treas.  
619-621 Woodland Park, Chicago, Ill.  
Boulevard 3331

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## Elder Allison Moves to Indianapolis

Elder Jonathan W. Allison, Jr., came to the Capitol Avenue church



Before leaving Detroit, Elder Allison poses with a group of the Hartford members who were added to the church during his leadership.

in Indianapolis the first of March, after having spent the past six years in Detroit. His work in that city was showered with God's blessings.

Almost three hundred members were added to the Hartford Avenue and Ecorse churches while Elder Allison labored in Detroit. He was faithfully assisted in his efforts by Sister Bertha Bailey, the Bible instructor.

Since assuming the pastorate at the Capitol Avenue church, Elder Allison has initiated a program for adult education. Classes in English and mathematics are held on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, and are taught by Prof. Charles Gray, one of the church school teachers. Professor Gray formerly served as dean of men at the Oakwood College and was later a teacher in the academy.

## MV OFFICERS' INSTITUTE HELD IN SHILOH

A CONFERENCE-WIDE MV officers' institute was conducted at the Shiloh church in Chicago, Illinois, February 12-14, and was geared for greater efficiency of the 1954 MV officers. It was very helpful to all who attended.

Friday evening, after a singspiration period by the congregation, musical selections were given by the Chicago-Hyde Park Choir, under the direction of Brother Cleo Willis, and a ladies' trio, which included Mrs. Zephyr Hunt, Mrs. Rosietta Crowe, and Miss Ruby Cartwright.

Selections were given by Mrs. Elizabeth Jackson-Nunez and Elder A. L. Kirk. Elder Harvey W. Kibble, the conference president, gave the keynote address. He said that the burden of carrying the message to all the world in this generation is the responsibility of the youth.

Sabbath morning, Elder Leon H. Davis, MV secretary, served as Sabbath school superintendent. Elder Joseph P. Winston, pastor of the Savannah, Georgia, church, spoke at the morning service. He began his message by reviewing the startling rise and presence of juvenile delinquency, and presented the mighty challenge of saving our youth amid such perilous and eventful times. Music for the service was rendered by the Shiloh Choral Society, a young people's group under the direction of Brother Robert McKenzie. A solo was given by Miss Marjorie Vincent.

The parish hall was decorated with colorful and challenging mottoes and posters depicting various phases of MV endeavor. These were joined together with multi-colored paper streamers. The auditorium was filled to capacity with approximately one hundred Missionary Volunteer officers and Pathfinder directors and members from the surrounding churches.

## Outpost Evangelism

During the afternoon meeting Elder Donald B. Simons, conference home missionary secretary, presented a display of valuable



Ford Hall, Oakwood's science building, was named for the late Harry E. Ford, a leading specialist in the use of X-ray during his time, and later manager of Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital in Nashville.

sionary projects for use in Outpost Evangelism. Several types of projectors and filmstrips were shown. All were exhibited before the assembly, and several of the brethren present who owned S.A.V.E. equipment gave demonstrations, and related experiences of how souls have been won to the church as a result of just such evangelism.

#### Legion of Honor Ceremony

The afternoon program continued with a Legion of Honor covenant ceremony. This was very impressive as Elder J. H. Hancock, Lake Union MV secretary, gave the introductory remarks discussing what the MV Legion of Honor is and how it works in the lives of our youth. He presented some of the younger ministers, who gave three-minute talks on the subject of how to honor Christ in all the phases of day-to-day living.

After the talks special covenant cards were passed out, and the MV officers, parents, and youth signed them. In the evening a film on the Pan-American Youth Congress was shown. The young people spent the remainder of the time in a period of fellowship and recreation in the parish hall gymnasium.

#### Pathfinder Clubs

Sunday morning all officers and Pathfinder directors assembled for devotion. Elder Joseph P. Winston brought the special message. Elder J. H. Hancock spoke on the Path-

finder Club work—what it is, how it fits into the MV program of the church, and how such clubs are organized.

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### Oakwood College

F. L. Peterson, Pres.  
Huntsville, Ala.

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### Elder G. J. Millet Elected President

A California minister, Elder Garland J. Millet, was elected by the Oakwood College board on March 24 to succeed Elder Frank L. Peterson as president of the college. Elder Millet will be the fifth to serve as president since Prof. J. I. Beardsley was first appointed president in 1917.

President Peterson is returning to

the ministry. Since coming to the college nine years ago, he has been successful in an expansive building program. Full accreditation for the college by 1955 has been his goal.

The latest buildings erected on the campus were the W. H. Green Memorial Library, built on the sites where Old Mansion and the college store stood, and the H. E. Ford Science Hall, which stands by the old administration building and near Butler Hall, next to the highway. Both buildings were dedicated in a ceremony held on Sunday, February 21, 1954. The largest building constructed during President Peterson's administration was Cunningham Hall, the college girls' dormitory.

The incoming president is a graduate of Pacific Union College, where he received the Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees. Like Elder Peterson, he taught English at Oakwood College some years before his election to the presidency.

Elder Millet has had administrative as well as teaching experience. He was formerly principal of the Washington Union Academy in Washington, D.C. Before entering the ministry, he served as instructor of English at the Los Angeles Academy.

According to a bulletin received from the Pacific Union Conference, Elder Millet's work in the ministry has been characterized by aggressive leadership. Under his pastorage the

*(Continued on page 2)*



The new library at Oakwood College was named for the late William H. Green, a lawyer, who became a Seventh-day Adventist minister, and later served as a secretary of the General Conference.



The new church in St. Louis represents fifty years of progress for Berean, which was organized in 1904 with thirteen members. At the left is the parish hall.

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## CENTRAL STATES MISSION

F. L. Bland, Pres.     H. T. Saulter, Sec.-Treas.  
2528 Benton Blvd.  
Kansas City, Missouri

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### Members in St. Louis Move to New Church

On Sabbath, March 6, Elder Charles E. Bradford and the Berean congregation in St. Louis gathered in a building at 1244 Union Boulevard to hear President Frank L. Peterson, of Oakwood College, preach the first sermon in their newly purchased church.

Officials from the Central States Conference and members from other churches in the area were present to rejoice with the members of Berea as they worshiped God in one of the best church buildings in the city.

The church, with the parish hall, was purchased for \$85,000. The sum was raised by the sale of the former church, a grant from the conference, and a goal raised by the members. The goal for each member was fifty dollars. Some collected two hundred dollars for the project, and others brought in one hundred dollars. More than six thousand dollars was raised in six weeks.

One member in the congregation, Sister Laura Lewis, had more reason than the others to be pleased at the advancement of the church, for it was under a tent in her backyard that she and twelve other Seventh-day Adventists organized Berean in July, 1904. Sister Lewis is distinguished by being the only one of the original members in the present congregation.

Elder Bradford, the twelfth minister to pastor at Berean, succeeded Elder Leslie J. Pryor as pastor of the church in June, 1953. He held a series of evangelistic meetings in the city last summer, assisted by two Oakwood College ministerial graduates, James Melancon and S. A. Hutchins, now students at the Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

More than seventy members have been added to the church since Elder Bradford arrived, and more are taking their stand each Sabbath. On Sunday evening, March 14, a Bible school was opened in the parish hall "to bring a knowledge of the Bible to the masses."

Elder Bradford and the members of Berean are dedicated to the work of finishing the gospel in St. Louis, and are steadily moving forward toward this goal.

### Seminary Graduate Sent to Mission Field

Pastor E. Milton Nebblett and family have arrived in Georgetown, British Guiana, where he will serve as home missionary, Sabbath school, and Missionary Volunteer secretary. Before his appointment to the South American field, Pastor Nebblett was the leader of one of the churches in Trinidad.

Pastor Nebblett is a graduate of Oakwood College and the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. His wife is the former Miss Ivy Tynes, of Nassau, the Bahamas.

### Wedding Bells

Miss Alyce Louise Bowman and Pvt. Russell Nathaniel Jordan were united in marriage on Sunday afternoon, February 28, in Pittsburgh.

Mrs. Jordan is an alumna of the Glendale School of Nursing in Glendale, California, and more recently she attended the University of Michigan. She is on the staff of the Wayne County General Hospital in Eloise, Michigan.

Private Jordan was graduated from Oakwood College. Before entering the service he was employed in the accounting department of Riverside Sanitarium in Nashville.

After the honeymoon Private Jordan reported to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, where he expected to receive an overseas assignment.

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Miss Malyce Wisdom Jones, the daughter of Elder and Mrs. James Wisdom Jones, became the bride of Mr. James Alfred Bush on Sunday, April 25, in the Riverside Sanitarium church.

Mrs. Bush attended Oakwood College and was graduated from the Loma Linda School of Nursing at Loma Linda, California. She is on the staff at Riverside Sanitarium.

The bridegroom attended Oakwood College and Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. He plans to enter a school of dentistry in the near future.