



Pictured are some of the members of the musical-trends committee. Left to right, front row: J. H. Hancock, L. Cornwall, J. Lyles, W. W. Fordham, Mrs. E. Wright, Mrs. A. Blackmon, S. C. Jackson, E. T. Mimms, M. Harris, S. D. Meyers; back row: S. Kilby, B. F. Reaves, W. Wright, B. Barron, W. Arties, Mrs. C. R. Upshaw, W. J. Turnbull, W. S. Banfield.

## Delegates Attend Concurrent Regional Meetings at Andrews University

PRESIDENTS, treasurers, educational superintendents, and a musical trends committee converged on the Andrews University campus during four days in March.

The regional presidents meet twice a year to consider matters pertaining to the work of the conferences, to make recommendations to the Regional Advisory that meets once a year. The Advisory deals with the general aspects of our black work in North America, both in promotional and administrative matters. Many of the Advisory actions are referred to the North American Division committee on administration for implementation.

The meetings of the regional treasurers, a first, was under the chairmanship of F. L. Jones, assistant treasurer of the General Conference. The purpose of this meeting was to deal with many of the recent actions taken at Annual Council and other matters pertaining to the treasury work of the church.

The regional education directors met as a working committee, under the chairmanship of Garland J. Millet, as-

sociate director of education of the General Conference, to refine and give priority to recommendations made at an October, 1976, meeting of educators in Washington, D.C.

The ad hoc committee on musical trends was called as the result of the concern of a number of our pastors, musicians, and laymen about questionable types of music in our churches. The following persons were members of this committee: B. F. Reaves, Allen Breach, Henry Wright, Eleanor

Wright, E. T. Mimms, Bill Barron, Alma Blackmon, Samuel Jackson, Walter Arties, Shelton Kilby, Yolanda Clark, S. D. Meyers, C. E. Dudley, Michael Harris, Walter Turnbull, W. J. Hackett, W. W. Fordham, W. S. Banfield, J. H. Hancock, E. E. Cleveland, Lonita Cornwall.

As a result of serious and prayerful consideration, recommendations were made that we believe ultimately will set goals for (1) the establishment of policy for use of indigenous black music



C. E. Bradford, a leading theologian, evangelist, and administrator in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, should have appeared in the center spread entitled "Pioneering the Way" of the March-April issue of the *INFORMANT*. He is the first black to be elected to serve full time as an associate secretary of the General Conference. His present duties place him in charge of the affairs of the Secretariat in the North American Division.



within the SDA church, and (2) procedures for informing and educating all levels of the church about the use of music of black culture for worship purposes.

We feel that the meeting meant much to all who attended, as one member expressed: "We are encouraged when we witness the work of the Holy Spirit as it permeated the hearts of all who participated last week. The deliberations were thorough, the affects acute, which culminated in a mass determination to seek better ways of implementing exhortations to Christ."

These sessions concluded with two powerful spirit-filled messages, one on Friday evening by A. N. Brogden, and the other on Sabbath morning by C. D. Brooks.

We are indebted to President J. G. Smoot for extending a warm welcome to all those who attended the meetings. We felt the warm hospitality, not only of the faculty but of students during our stay on the campus. We are extremely in debt to Benjamin F. Reaves and his associates at Andrews for preparing for the meetings and planning the logistics that contributed to their success.

## Regional Advisory Sets High Goal

THE Regional Advisory, which recently met at Andrews University, had as its theme "Together for a Finished Work." This was the burden of every committee. How can we have a togetherness in order for God to finish His work? The theme was based on the Annual Council recommendation that



Some of the delegates who attended the five sessions at Andrews University, March 1-4, sponsored by the North American Division Office of Regional Affairs.

challenged the church to recognize the fact that evangelism should be our priority, but every effort should be put forth by both workers and laymen together to reach every human being by the end of this quinquennium, if the Lord should tarry. This would seem to be a monumental task, a mission impossible, and yet so often we have used the term, which is the clarion call of MISSION '77, that now is the time. That statement has almost become trite, for we feel that now is indeed the time to reach the 25 million blacks in North America. Therefore, after earnest discussion and fervent spirit-filled appeal by C. E. Bradford that we should set our sights much higher than in the past and stretch every nerve, not only by working, but praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, we believe that now is the time for Pentecostal results to be duplicated. "All that the apostles did, every church member today is to do."—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 33. What an amazing statement, and we believe it is possible because the servant of the Lord has written: "When we bring our hearts into unity with Christ, and our lives into harmony with His work, the Spirit that fell on the disciples on the day of Pentecost will fall on us." "Wonderful revivals will follow, sinners will be converted, and many souls will be added to the church."—*Testimonies*, vol. 8, p. 246.

We believe that now is the time for this experience in view of the fast-filling prophecies that the end is near. So with this in mind, our regional presidents responded by accepting the challenge of Elder Bradford that if our neighbors to the south can baptize 50,000 souls a year, surely North America with a black membership of 102,000, should be able to baptize at least 1,000 souls a month. As this challenge was accepted, the Regional conferences are depending on God's grace and the aid of the Holy Spirit. Working

together we can win 1,000 souls each month.

Each conference worked out its schedule for this program in soul winning. Accordingly it would mean:



thus reaching a total membership of 153,112 by the end of this quinquennium.

When we think of how other religious organizations are out to reach every individual in the church and city, surely the time is come for the members of the remnant church to be involved as never before in seeking God for divine power that we may reach these millions before it is too late.

So we invite you to join us in prayer and witnessing, using your time, talents, and treasure in whatever way the Lord leads so that our work will advance to this end.

May God bless as we unite our efforts to baptize 1,000 new believers each month.

W. W. FORDHAM

## THE NORTH AMERICAN informant

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A Bimonthly Report of the North American Regional Department

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## Crusade in East Caribbean Conference

ROY L. HOYTE, president of the East Caribbean Conference, in his recent letter to the editor writes:

"On Friday evening, January 21, in Castries, St. Lucia, George Rainey opened to a packed tent with as many on the outside as on the inside. I stayed with him for the first five nights, and have never heard him preach better. The Spirit of God is felt in each meeting, and there is the feeling that the



church is engaged in total warfare, with Jesus as the leader. The people are responding enthusiastically to the preached word, and we are praying for a large harvest. The average attendance is about 1600 each night.

"Little Richard [who experienced a conversion] is part of the team, and he is seeking to find a real and deep experience. We are praying for him. The people have been thrilled by his singing. We have six of our young ministers as part of the team. I thought that they should be exposed to another school of evangelistic methods. They are enjoying every moment of this experience, and the saints in St. Lucia are ecstatic. Never before had they a meeting or a preacher like this. Our problem is adequate accommodations for the crowds.

"We are praying for a large harvest, and believe that God will grant it. There is fine cohesion, a good spirit of harmony, and much prayer among the members of the team. The members of the church are giving good cooperation. The seeds for success are being sown, and we expect the Holy Spirit to do His work.

"Kindly let the North American church know what God through George Rainey is doing. God continue to bless you.

Cordially yours,  
Roy L. Hoyte."

## The Regional Capital Scholarship Reversion Fund

IN COOPERATION with the eight Regional conferences and the Office of Regional Affairs in the North Pacific and Pacific unions, the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, through the North American Division Office of Regional Affairs, provides a Regional Capital Scholarship Reversion Fund, 75 per cent of which goes to help finance major building projects in the Regional conferences and the Office of Regional Affairs in the North Pacific and Pacific unions, and 25 per cent to a scholarship fund for medical, dental students and those in other specific areas of study.

The amount available in the Regional Capital Scholarship Reversion Fund for 1977 is \$231,700. Of this amount, \$173,775 will go to assist the major building projects in Allegheny West, East, and Lake Region conferences, amounting to \$57,925 each. The balance of \$57,925 is a scholarship fund, of which \$5,000 is allotted to each Re-

gional conference and to the Office of Regional Affairs in the North Pacific and Pacific unions. The balance of \$7,925 remains in a general fund, from which each of the above organizations may draw after their \$5,000 allotment shall have been appropriated.

The maximum scholarship allowed to medical or dental students is \$3,500 each year for four years. This is a total of \$14,000. Of this amount \$6,000 is considered a grant, and the balance of \$8,000 is classified as a loan to be paid back or amortized at the rate of \$4,000 a year.

For those in graduate school in other specified areas the maximum amount of the scholarship is \$1,500 a year. All assistance on the graduate level is on a loan basis. Assistance on all undergraduate work beyond \$1,500 shall be on a loan basis.

Not everyone will qualify for the maximum amount, since the funds are limited and are granted on the basis of need. Students in need should contact their pastor or local conference office for further information and for the applications, which must be filled out and properly signed.

I. Scholarship Assistance Eligibility—To be eligible the applicant must:

a. Be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and show promise of being a future denominational employee or strong supportive layman.

b. Be North American Division based. Students from other divisions in the United States, for educational purposes, are excluded.

c. Be a full-time student in a graduate or professional school or a full-time junior or senior undergraduate student.

d. Submit verification of financial need based on information included in the application.

e. Be earning satisfactory grades.

II. Approved Courses of Study

a. Graduate and Graduate Professional Level

Accounting  
Business administration  
Communication and journalism  
Dentistry  
Dietetics: Food administration  
Elementary and secondary teaching  
Hospital administration  
Law  
Medicine  
Public health  
Nursing  
Social work  
Industrial education  
Speech pathology and

audiology

b. Undergraduate Level  
Business  
Secretarial science

All applications for aid for September, 1977, must be postmarked no later than July 15, 1977. Any received after that date and before October 31, 1977, will be considered for January, 1978.

## R. F. Warnick Announces Retirement

RAPHAEL F. WARNICK, a native of Washington, D.C., son of a preacher, began his ministry in 1925. During his career he served in the following capacities: Teacher, pastor, literature evangelist, dean of men at Oakwood College, chaplain at Riverside Sanatorium, evangelist, and writer.

He married Marie Biggs from Tyler,



Elder and Mrs. R. F. Warnick, Southwest Region Conference workers.

Texas, and to this union two sons were born, Raphael, Jr., now of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Gary Eugene, who lives in Houma, Louisiana. The work of the Lord has carried the Warnicks to many areas of labor, including Washington, D.C., Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Huntsville, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference where he was ordained, Paducah, Memphis, Nashville, Chicago, Evanston, Illinois, Detroit, and Indianapolis.

Elder and Mrs. Warnick accepted a call to the Southwest in the mid-fifties, and their talents and efforts have spread the gospel in all States of our territory. For forty-two years they have given devoted service to the church, and hundreds have been baptized under their ministry. As Elder Warnick preached, Mrs. Warnick taught and served as Bible instructor and musician.

The Southwest Region Conference recently paid tribute to the Warnicks:

"For your sound scholarship of the Word, for your unique way of writing





Workers' meeting of Southwest Region.

and speaking the common things in an uncommon way, and for your personal counseling spirit and knack of dealing with individuals, Elder Warnick, it is great to have been associated with you—so thanks for passing this way. May God's continued blessings be yours as you serve Him in the golden years of your life."

If you have known the Warnicks during the years and they have been a blessing to you and your church, express your gratitude by writing: Elder and Mrs. R. F. Warnick, 3408 North Bryant, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73121.

W. C. JONES, *President*  
*Southwest Region Conference*



## Pacific Union News Notes

● For thirteen years the Berean church in Los Angeles has been waiting for what happened on Sunday, February 12—the groundbreaking for their multi-purpose building. Ever since the members of Berean began worshipping in their church in 1963, they have been looking forward to the building of the second phase of this plant—a community service building that would provide a gymnasium and various other rooms for a community outreach program. The gymnasium will provide space for recreational activities not only for the Berean church but the youth of the nearby SDA churches also will be able to enjoy the new facility. Elder Hilbert Nembhard, pastor, announced the construction will begin soon.

Not many of the black Adventist churches in the Pacific Union territory have been in existence fifty-five years

or more. In fact, the San Diego, 31st Street church was the third of the black churches in the Pacific Union to be organized. The year was 1922.

They celebrated their 55th anniversary January 8, which featured former pastors and associates.

● February 4 and 5 was Pacific Union Conference Weekend at Oakwood College, where 120 students from the Pacific Union are in attendance. Elder Jack Doggette, pastor of the 54th Street church in Los Angeles, was the Sabbath morning worship speaker. The 30-voice Miramonte Chorale, directed by Rayford Woods, presented a concert on Sabbath afternoon. The weekend events began Friday evening with vespers followed by the MV program that featured the Bible Quiz-a-Rama, an exciting Bible quiz, with contestants from all of the Regional conferences, the Pacific Union, and the international students.

Students from the Pacific Union presented a variety musical program on Friday night following the MV program. They were also in charge of Sabbath school. The last event was a party and a basketball game in the gym on Saturday night. Elders Canson and Major White were present to represent the Pacific Union Conference.

● Elder C. M. Willis, associate publishing secretary of the General Conference, was guest speaker at the King's Daughters' annual Black History Program. The program was held at the Tamarind Avenue church in Compton, where nearly 1000 people were in attendance to hear Elder Willis speak of our pioneer literature evangelists who had "borne the burden and the heat of the day." Many of the literature evangelists in the Southern California area were honored for their faithfulness and accomplishments. Mrs. Sue Pearson received a plaque from the General Conference Publishing Department and also one from the King's Daughters and the local churches for her outstanding achievements in the literature work. She delivered \$25,595.91 worth of books during 1976. This was more

than any other woman colporteur had delivered in the Pacific Union. Brother Ernest McGriff was honored posthumously for years of faithful service as a literature evangelist and a leader. He was the associate publishing secretary of the Southern California Conference from 1939-1947. Sister McGriff, his widow, was present to receive his plaque.

## Workers on the Move in Pacific Union

RICHARD HAMILTON, associate youth director, Southeastern California Conference, will become associate youth director of Central California Conference, April 1.

David Taylor, Oakwood College chaplain and instructor, will be the associate youth director of Northern California Conference beginning in June.

G. H. Rainey, former pastor of the Los Angeles University church, is on loan from Southern California Conference to Barbados, where he is conducting a major evangelistic campaign.

J. P. Winston, formerly the administrator of Riverside Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee, is now pastor of the University church in Los Angeles.

Thomas Hill, pastor of the Stockton, Market and E. Street church, will become pastor of the Elmhurst church in Oakland, California.

James Lee, assistant pastor of the Pacoima church, is joining the Altadena church to be the assistant pastor there.

Ms. Shirley Brown, who has been the Bible instructor in Bakersfield, is now working in the East Palo Alto area.

E. A. CANSON



## south central International Day at Riverside Chapel

THE entire Sabbath of November 29, 1976, will be long remembered in the hearts of members and visitors at the Riverside Chapel church in Nashville. It has been described as the most colorful event in recent times.

Persons representing ten different parts of the world gathered to worship praise God, and dine. The idea for this unique full-day program came from





Ushers in attractive dresses helped to accent the international flavor.



The bamboo orchestra from the Philippines performs for the Sabbath school program as others look on.

Mrs. Carolyn Anderson, an employee at Riverside Adventist Hospital.

Song service was conducted by Howard Coes during Sabbath school, assisted by Mel Lightford, Jr., on the saxophone, and Elder Ted Jones on the trumpet. Resman Marbun of Indonesia offered the opening prayer. Mrs. Geneva Hutchinson greeted the Sabbath school in six languages, followed by Pauline Brenya from Ghana, who gave the secretary's report. Marlene Smith

from Jamaica presented the mission story.

A large group from the Philippines rendered three songs on their bamboo hand-held marimbas, called *angklung* in their native area. A nurses quartet also gave special music. Dr. L. L. Quirante taught a dynamic Sabbath school lesson. The eleven o'clock message was delivered by Dr. C. Abraham Chacko, an educator from Kentucky State College. Miss Hannah

Chacko sang before her father's sermon.

The lower auditorium of Riverside Chapel was decorated with flags from many countries and attractive cloth materials from the Far East and Africa. All the women ushers were attired in colorful African hats and dresses.

During the MV hour, four Filipino guests participated in a panel discussion, moderated by Elder Ted Jones, former missionary to the Far East. The New World Singers from Riverside Chapel and the Guadalupe family from



Pauline Brenya from Ghana gave the secretary's report. Right: Dr. C. Abraham Chacko from Kentucky State College delivered the sermon.

Argentina provided special music. Dr. Donald F. Blake, an administrator at Kentucky State College, presented a thought-provoking vesper message.

A vote was taken at the end of the eventful day to determine whether the occasion should be repeated. A unanimous response was given and plans are now being made to have a larger International Day at Riverside Chapel in 1977. The gathering of so many people from various cultures and backgrounds was a foretaste of the time when Jesus shall gather all nations unto Himself.

Appreciation was expressed for the ushers, pianists and organist, cooks, and all who worked together to make this event a great success.

TED JONES



Irs. Irene Williams and Elder G. I. Pearson rejoice and handshake after receiving the Amana oven for having the highest per cent gain in the Southern Union.

## South Central's Record High Sales

IN 1976 South Central Conference had the Southern Union's highest per capita gain in sales in both the Book Center and Family Health Education.

For twenty-five years the South Central Book Center has struggled for its existence and reached its lowest income in the early sixties when it was not able to pay for books and Sabbath school supplies sent out to the churches. This happened because of





Riverside Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee.

the large accounts unpaid by churches, members, and workers. The policy changed from credit to cash. Mrs. Irene Williams was asked to serve as secretary of the Center. In time all bills were paid and the Center was able to pay cash for all its books ordered from the publishing companies.

In August of 1976, Elder G. I. Pearson was invited to serve as manager of the ABC. Sales jumped as he bought a van and set up a bookmobile schedule.

In January of 1977, representatives of the Southern Publishing Association came to the ABC and presented an Amana oven to Elder Pearson and Mrs. Williams for helping South Central achieve this outstanding record.

## Riverside Hospital Reorganization

RIVERSIDE ADVENTIST HOSPITAL in Nashville, Tennessee, by a vote of its board and constituency, has become the twelfth hospital in the Southern Union under the management of the Seventh-day Adventist Health-Care and Hospital Services.

Riverside Hospital holds a unique place among Seventh-day Adventist hospitals. It is the only existing institution in North America operated by and for the constituency of the black Adventist churches. Its beginnings go back to the early part of the twentieth century, when Mrs. Nellie H. Druillard, a Scotswoman, purchased property on a bluff overlooking the Cumberland River and there began work for black people in the South.

In 1935 Mrs. Druillard gave the institution to the General Conference.

By vote of the General Conference Committee, under the new arrangement the Southern Union and Seventh-day Adventist Health-Care and Hospital Services will be responsible

for the management and operation of the hospital.

Through the years Riverside has struggled to be a successful and viable institution. However, it is overshadowed by three major medical institutions—Meharry Medical College, Vanderbilt University Hospital, and Madison Seventh-day Adventist Hospital. At the present time it is an acute-care institution with 52 beds.

Riverside has been plagued by debt, resulting from the construction of a new hospital facility and a professional building, making it extremely difficult for it to maintain itself financially. During recent years the following funds have been contributed for building and operation: Regional conferences, \$258,000; the Southern Union, \$50,000; and the General Conference, \$1,300,000. It is hoped that under the management of SAHHS, with its expertise and experience in the operation of large and small hospitals in the South, Riverside will again become a viable institution.

C. D. HENRI



## north eastern

### Hyde Park Resident Becomes USM President

PRESTON FOSTER, a resident of Hyde Park, New York, has been elected president of the United Student Movement of Oakwood College.

Preston, the son of Pastor and Mrs. Gilbert Foster, of the Poughkeepsie Trinity church, was elected as the 1977

president and urged "TOGETHERNESS" for progress.

His message outlined social adjustments and innovations, along with the need for Christian youth to "reach for a new realism beyond what our governments can offer."

"Like a mighty army," Foster proclaims, "let's marshal our forces and



Preston Foster, newly elected United Student Movement president of Oakwood College, has also been selected to be among the 1977 OUTSTANDING YOUNG MEN OF AMERICA, an award that honors the achievements and abilities of the nation's finest young men.

move forward—TOGETHER in attempts to solve these problems: (1) of governing ourselves to be temperate in all things; (2) to help our school gain capital resources; (3) to improve academically; (4) to understand our school policies and to abide by them; (5) and to work harmoniously as a cohesive Christian community."

CONGRATULATIONS, Mr. Foster, from Northeastern Conference!

## News Notes

● A farewell was given in honor of the James P. Willis family on Sunday, January 9, at the City Tabernacle church. They expressed love and gratitude for the services rendered by the Willises, in the form of gifts and tributes through the church departments, for the five years of dedicated service. Elder Willis is now Sabbath school director for the Northeastern Conference. Roy W. Ashmeade is the new pastor of City Tabernacle. His homeland is Jamaica, West Indies, where he graduated from West Indies College in 1954. He served his internship at the North Street and Rollington Town churches, returned to the West Indies to obtain his Bachelor's in Theology in 1960, and completed his Master of Divinity degree at Andrews University. Mrs. Ashmeade a graduate nurse, is studying for a degree in nursing. They have two sons,

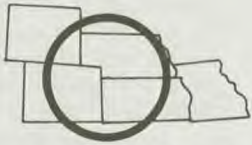


Roy Jr. and John. We welcome the Ashmeades to City Tabernacle.

The members of the New Rochelle church have worked with their Bible instructor, Mary Holyfield, to help increase the membership of the church. As a result forty-one new members have been baptized during the past year. Their purchase of five communion plates was made just in time to accommodate the new members.

● A church officers' workshop was held recently at Northeastern Academy for the newly elected officers of the lay activities, youth and communication departments. Approximately 300 officers attended from the metropolitan area churches. W. R. Robinson, editor of *The Message Magazine*, was guest speaker. Each director—Trevor Baker, youth; John F. Guy, lay activities; and L. A. Paschal, communication—coordinated his own program and then separated for their respective activities.

L. A. PASCHAL, PR Director



## central states

### Workers' Meeting and Awards Banquet

"THE WINNING ADVENTURE" was the theme of the message presented by W. O. Coe, president of Central Union Conference, on the opening night of the first workers' meeting of 1977. Meetings were held January 9-12, at the Linwood Boulevard SDA Temple, Kansas City, Missouri.



L. Jennings receives plaque from S. D. Meyers as outstanding soul winner for 1976, with 80 baptisms.

Guest speakers included, W. W. Fordham, director, Office of Regional Affairs; R. W. Nixon, associate director, Religious Liberty Department of the General Conference; W. S. Lee, secretary; C. R. Beeler, communication director; W. E. Peeke, Sabbath school and lay activities director; and C. E. Bishop, Trust Services director of the Central Union Conference; J. R. Wagner and R. C. Brown, president and secretary, respectively, of Lake Region Conference.

Each department of the conference presented awards to pastors and churches of outstanding achievements in the various fields. Pastor B. T. Rice was nominated "Pastor of the Year" for 1976.

### Pathfinder Workshop

ON FEBRUARY 4 and 5 the Central States Conference held a conference-wide Pathfinder Workshop. All of the districts of the conference were present except two.

D. L. Davis, youth director for the Columbia Union, was the principal participant at the workshop. Our own Central Union youth director, Don Schneider, along with Kingsley Whitsett, the Missouri Conference youth director, assisted in this workshop.

All those who attended expressed appreciation to the Central States Conference youth department for sponsoring a much-needed Pathfinder Workshop. It is felt that this will cause the organizing of many more Pathfinder clubs throughout the conference.

S. H. Cox



## lake region

### Lake Region Evangelism

J. D. SIMONS of Straford Memorial and Beacon of Joy churches of Chicago, Illinois, conducted a four-week tent meeting from July 17 to August 14 along with Barry E. Brandon and members of both churches.

Prayer bands consisting of four members each were organized and while the elders were preaching, one of the bands prayed during the service. As



Baptism in Lake Michigan (L-R) J. C. Wray, J. D. Simons, and Elders Williams and Glanton.

a result of the preaching and prayers, forty-seven candidates were brought to Christ for baptism. One of the candidates had spent six years training for the Catholic priesthood. He stated he was praying that others will be exposed to the message of truth as found in the Seventh-day Adventist Church and be a part of this great message that Christ is soon coming.

For the past two years Pastor Simons had dreamed of baptizing in Lake Michigan, so his dream came true on August 14. He along with J. C. Wray of Hyde Park and the elders of Altaged Gardens baptized in the Lake also. We thank God for that blessed day.

### Year of Growth at Beacon of Joy Church

THE Bicentennial year was a period of growth for Beacon of Joy church in Chicago, Illinois. Lillie Mae Walton, church secretary, reported that 40 persons joined the church through baptism, 14 through profession of faith, and 21 of these were young people coming to Christ.

On May 29, 1976, our church



(L-R) M. Leon, P. Pierson (in back); D. Sherrod, J. Leon (middle); C. Mitchell, A. Barnett, W. Johnson (seated in front).

members became involved in local welfare work, Bible distribution, and special programs, according to Pastor J.



D. Simons. We also gave Bible studies in various sections of the city. This welfare program is conducted by Marceline Leon.

Phabian Pierson, temperance secretary, notes that for three weeks the young people of the church sponsored a program called "Check Out My High." This program was sponsored to help people kick the habit of smoking, drinking, or using any kind of illegal drugs. Owing to the success of the program several more have been scheduled for 1977.

James C. Wray conducted our evangelistic services. Mrs. Wray held Bible classes for the children, and everyone enjoyed a week of spiritual emphasis.

CLARA WARREN, *PR Secretary*  
*Straford Memorial Church*

## Happenings at the Detroit Center

IN THE winter of 1969, J. M. Phipps and the Bible Palace Evangelistic team came to Detroit and set up a lively and fruitful crusade in the old Rialto Theater building on Detroit's East Side. The result was the Detroit Center church officially organized a few months later on January 10, 1970.

Following its organization, a number of significant events put the Center into the limelight: a visit from R. H. Pierson, General Conference president; a book sale on the eve of organization, which netted sales of more than \$2,000; an Ingathering campaign, launched and climaxed on the same day, in which \$2,000 was reported; and a \$41,000 tithe report at the end of the first year. Also by the end of 1970, 287 persons had been baptized. After a few relocated in sister churches, the membership rounded out to 257.

Recently a Homecoming was sponsored at the Detroit Center from January 5-8. The church was divided into work groups whose functions were to publicize and prepare for the four-day



Elder Charles Blackwell accepts a check from Frances Edwards. J. M. Phipps (center) looks on.

event. Former pastors and evangelistic workers who helped out in past crusades were invited along with guest speakers from other conferences.

On Wednesday, former pastor Oliver Cheatham, from Allegheny East Conference, was guest speaker in the Hour of Remembrance. On Thursday evening Sinclair Phipps, from Allegheny West, spoke for the Hour of Praise, and Fred Williams, former pastor and now youth director for Lake Region, spoke on Friday evening during the Hour of Togetherness.

Sabbath services were especially inspiring. Morris Wren taught the Sabbath school lesson in the Hour of Thanksgiving.

Detroit Center's founding pastor and mentor, J. M. Phipps, delivered the rousing sermon "Home at Last," in which he invited backsliders to come back to the church. At midday, Willie Lewis, director of education for Allegheny West Conference, spoke on "What It Means to Be a Seventh-day Adventist," reminding members of their commitment to the Lord and the movement.

A special appreciation service at six o'clock, the Hour of Presentation, was held to honor local elder Charles Blackwell, who by his love of the Lord carried on Detroit Center's program during periods of transition. He was presented with a monetary gift for his devotion.

Closing remarks were made by J. R. Wagner, president of Lake Region Conference. Congratulatory messages were read from Elders George Rainey and Sylister Jackson, former pastors who were unable to attend.

JOYCE T. JONES, *PR Secretary*

## District Changes

THE following pastors will assume leadership of new churches: Leon Cox, Shiloh; R. P. Stafford, City Temple; J. D. Parker, Burns Avenue; C. R. Graham, Gary Mizpah, Gary West, and Michigan City; J. D. Simons, Capital Avenue and Kokomo; Vern Joyner, Flint and Saginaw; Zadock Reid, Battle Creek and Jackson; Robert L. Smith, East Saint Louis and Springfield. Coming into the conference office will be Harold A. Lindsey, serving as director of religious liberty, Trust Services, industrial relations, war and civil defense; and Samuel Flagg as director of the stewardship department.

F. A. WILLIAMS, *Director*  
*Communications*



## allegheny west

### Groundbreaking at Cleveland Southeast

ON SUNDAY, January 9, the Southeast Seventh-day Adventist church held groundbreaking ceremonies at the site of their new church building, on the corner of Lee Road and Tarkington Avenue, in Cleveland, Ohio.

The Southeast church was formed just two-and-one-half years ago. King S. Smallwood accepted a call to lead the new church and began an aggressive program to organize the membership for evangelism, even though they had no place of their own in which to worship. Simultaneously, Smallwood was forming the committees that would help seek out the best way to house this growing congregation. Once the church decided to build, it was time to raise funds, and God blessed their efforts tremendously. The membership gave more than \$100,000 within a two-year period, with a minimal amount of help from outside contributions. Madison and Madison, an international architectural firm, was contacted to design the structure. With the customary turning of the shovels of earth, the Southeast congregation announced to the community its plans to erect the contemporary church building, which will be valued at half a million dollars. This project is the most recent venture in the Allegheny West Conference Development Program.

Among the visiting officials at the groundbreaking ceremonies were the Honorable Mayor Ralph J. Perk, mayor of Cleveland, Ohio; Arnold Pinkney, president of the Cleveland school board; John Barnes, councilman of Ward 30 in Cleveland; Robert Madison, of Madison and Madison architects, and H. L. Cleveland, conference president.

W. L. PEARSON, JR.  
*Communication Director*

Forgiveness saves the expense  
of anger, the cost of hatred,  
and the waste of energy.

—Megiddo Message.