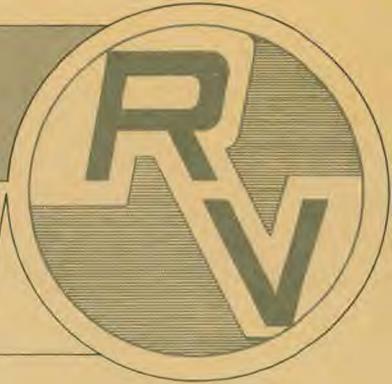


NORTH AMERICAN
REGIONAL

VOICE



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

VOLUME 2

JANUARY 1980

NUMBER 1



“Workers Project 12,000 Baptisms—1980”

COUNCIL ON EVANGELISM: THE CHALLENGE OF THE EIGHTIES

Stephanie D. Johnson

We stand on the threshold of a new decade with all its uncertainties. Many blacks live and die without ever hearing the gospel. It seems an impossible task for little more than a hundred thousand people to reach thirty thousand million people. Yet, we know that, "to everyone who offers himself to the Lord for service, withholding nothing, is given power for the attainment of measureless results."—*Testimonies*, Volume 7, p. 30.

Realizing the urgency of our time the Committee of Ten consisting of: the eight conference presidents; Dr. C. B. Rock, President of Oakwood College; and Dr. E. E. Cleveland, Chairman of the Church Mission met at Oakwood College. The coordinators of the council were: Dr. B. F. Reaves, Chairman of the Religion Department at Oakwood College; Elder E. C. Ward, Pastor of the Oakwood College; and Dr. E. E. Cleveland.



Addison Perkins, Sr. listens intently as council proceeds.

An august assembly of theologians, scholars, evangelists, and conference administrators met at Oakwood College on December 3-5 to "study ways and means" of reaching every black person in North America.

Dr. E. E. Cleveland stated the primary objective of the council, "We are not here to entertain you. We have come to a solemn hour of history. There must be a turning point in the black work. We are going to stop talking about revival and have one."

Evangelism took on a new definition, no longer was it limited to the clergy but



C. E. Bradford, President of the North American Division.

now it seeks to involve every church member. The council was well coordinated and no area of evangelism was overlooked.

Dr. C. E. Bradford, Vice-President of the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventists, was the keynote speaker who set the spiritual tone of the council. The following morning, Elder C. D. Brooks, General Field Secretary of the General Conference of SDA, in the devotional message spoke of the need among workers for more fasting and prayer and the unlimited power that would be received from such a reformation.

Elder T. S. McNealey of South Atlantic Conference; Elder M. Hayden of Allegheny East; and Elder E. C. Ward, Pastor of the Oakwood College Church, spoke on "Guaranteed Baptismal Groups Before the Meeting Harvest." The speakers offered no slick or extravagant presentation but rather the involvement of every church member.

Elder Ward presented "101 Ways to Share My Faith." Some of the ideas were: "placing enrollment cards, lessons, or tracts in bottles on rivers,



Dr. E. T. Mimms pondering during the session.

lakes, tributaries; just before scuba diving; airplane skywriting or blimp; dropping enrollment page by page."

Dr. E. E. Cleveland, Elder J. M. Phipps of Southwest Region, Dr. H. Brewer of Allegheny West, discussed "Making Calls." They presented no psychological tricks. They emphasized the love of Jesus and His undying love for man.

Elder G. Rainey, Southern California Conference evangelist, Elder E. C. Ward, and Elder T. McNealey presented ways of "Getting Decision." T. Kay spoke on "Ministry to the Deaf." He told of methods that could be used to evangelize the deaf.



Dr. E. E. Cleveland and Elder G. H. Rainey expound about 1000 baptisms in the Caribbean this year—1979.

Elder R. Bates, Associate Secretary of the Lay Activities Department of the General Conference of SDA, Elders O. Paul and J. Hinson of South Atlantic Conference, discussed the "Employment and Supervision of Laymen in Evangelism."

Elder H. Williams of South Atlantic Conference did a startling presentation on Prison Ministry. He focused on his own personal experience and made the workers realize the need to evangelize in the prison.

In the evening session the men discussed the evangelistic goals of their conference and the methods that would be used to achieve these goals. The president set forth several plans—total involvement of the laity and an evangelistic crusade to be held by every worker in the conference; to hold a seven hour prayer meeting on January 5, 1980; to establish lay training classes in all churches; to plan departmental rallies, sectional or conference-wide.

To climax the council a dynamic sermon was given by Dr. C. B. Rock, who pointed out how insignificant and fragile we are. God has given us "this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of

PUBLISHER'S PAGE

the power may be of God, and not of us." II Cor. 4:2.

Dr. B. F. Reaves, Coordinator, Dr. M. A. Warren, and Elder C. E. Moseley gave



Dr. C. D. Brooks, one of the devotional speakers challenges church leaders.

lessons in homeletics, "What to Preach and How to Preach It."

Elder R. C. Connors of Lake Union, who baptized over a hundred in each evangelistic crusade, discussed conducting "Church Campaigns." Raymond Saunders of Northeastern Conference counseled the ministers to preach the gospel pure and undefiled. They shared various methods of "Holding the Audience."

Elder H. Wright of Oakwood College, Elder S. Jackson of South Central, Elder R. Saunders of Northeastern, and Elder Ward Sumpter of South Atlantic discussed "Pastoral Evangelism." These ministers "Look at the Church as part and parcel of his evangelistic thrust." "You must sense that everything you do is evangelism." Emphasis was placed on door-to-door evangelism and the Sunday night meeting as evangelistic tools.

The use of the Media as an Evangelistic approach was discussed by Jonathan Thompson of Northeastern Conference, Henry Wright, Tim McNealey and others.

In the evening council, Dr. Reaves and Mrs. J. Phillips of Oakwood College, Elder W. Starks, Field Secretary of the General Conference, Elder E. Moore of Southern Publishing Association, discussed the urgent needs of blacks in the inner city.

The final message was delivered by Elder R. Willis of Allegheny East Conference.

The Council on Evangelism was a spirit-filled assembly of workers who realized the nearness of God's coming and the individual need of revival. It made one realize that the true intent of its leaders is the propagation of the gospel throughout the world.

REFLECTIONS: ON THE COUNCIL OF EVANGELISM '80

"And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant . . . and I, even I only, am left . . ." (I Kings 19:14). The nature of the work of the gospel often fosters feelings of loneliness and seclusion. Especially in times of difficulty and crisis, the Adventist minister can be troubled by the "me against the world" syndrome. It was this disposition which plagued Elijah and plunged him into a state of depression. Overcome and perplexed, he retreated from his post of duty and slumped under a Juniper tree requesting for himself that he might die. There, he was visited and revived by an angel who gave him food, in the strength of which he traveled forty days to Mount Horeb. It was at this historically significant spot that God informed the prophet that he was not alone saying, "Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him." (verse 18). Had the prophet been able to meet some of those fellow-believers, he might have been spared this discouraging experience. The value of fellowship with those of like belief cannot be appraised. It is this experience which first comes to mind when the evangelism council of December 4-6, is viewed in retrospect.



Dr. C. B. Rock stirs up the group with devotional message.

The swift progress of the Advent movement, which today embraces 190 countries, and over three million believers worldwide, is encouraging to hear about. But far more sustaining it is, and was some weeks ago, to see the

actual men who have worked to advance the gospel in Pittsburgh, New Orleans, and Denver. To see all eight regional presidents stand together and report on the growth of the work in their respective fields. To hear eyewitness reports of people in Jamaica and the Caribbean who are receiving the gospel with relish and being baptized by the thousands. To embrace classmates of days gone by, see photographs of their wives and babies, and realize that you are still classmates, earning together in the school of experience. But "Evangelism '80" was more than just fellowship.

In addition to the positive effects of gathering together, there was great inspiration to be found in the simple visibility of our black leaders. It is one thing to read of their evangelistic exploits in print, but even more fulfilling to see them in the flesh. To listen firsthand to the accounts of frontline victories under God. To stand face to face and eye to eye with the warriors who have borne heavy burdens in the heat of the day. To have all in the same room at the same time, the tent-pitching giants who have paved highways for others to walk on. To realize that in one place are the spiritual fathers of tens of thousands of souls collectively, and that you belong to what Elder C. E. Bradford called, "the fellowship that is bound by ties that must never be broken." To anticipate together the coming of the "new Pentecost, when a thousand will be baptized in a single day. To feel the warming trend of its approach and realize that the future can be as near as tomorrow. To hear the cry "evangelize! evangelize!" echoing through the corridors and have the hope of sharing in the latter rain experience revitalized. This was "Evangelism '80," its essence, its flavor, its gist—the results of which will only be seen in the trenches of the new year's warfare.

May the heavenly records show that the work of the gospel was advanced by this council, and by the grace of God, may the next grand fellowship occur in greatly multiplied numbers on the sea of glass mingled with fire.

John S. Nixon
Interim Pastor of Ephesus Church
New York City

Is anything too hard for the Lord?

—Genesis 18:14



Dr. C. E. Dudley, President of South Central Conference.

SOME AMAZING FACTS

By C. E. Dudley
President, South Central Conference

We take courage when we look at the Amazing Facts concerning the Strengthening of the Black Work under the Leadership of Blacks during the history of the church since its beginning and especially during the past 33 years after the organization of Regional Conferences.

We give thanks to the Lord who has led us and kept us thus far on our way. It is only through His blessings and His guiding hand that we have been able to witness the many advances of the work among our people.

IT IS AN AMAZING FACT that:

... it took 46 years for the church to get a net membership of 50 Blacks to join and stay with the movement—from 1844 to 1890.

... it took another 28 years for the church to reach its next plateau in net membership growth for Blacks when it became 9,000—from 1890 to 1918. This was a gain of 8,950 members—net.

... after another 27 years went by the church experienced its peak year in net Black members. The number reported was 16,000. It was a membership gain of 7,000. This period extended from 1918 to 1945, the year when the Regional Conferences were organized. The Black Community felt that this was the worst move in the world for the cries from the Black clergy then were 'Integration.'

IT IS AN AMAZING FACT that:

... since the organization of Regional Conferences in 1945 until 1979, that the net membership of the Regional churches has climbed to an all time high of 110,000 members. This is a gain of 104,000 members in 34 years. This figure does not include those Blacks who hold membership in our sister churches in other conferences. God has

smiled upon the work under Black leadership. Blessings have been seen in many areas.

... since 1945 there has been a greater response to the admonition given through inspiration that we enter new territories and set up new monuments for the Lord. Many dark counties have been lighted with the preaching of the word by ministers and laymen. Many new church buildings and school buildings have been built or purchased. The work has been strengthened.

... since the organization of Regional Conferences in 1945 there have been more Black youth hired in the organized work than ever before in the history of the church. There are more pastors, teachers, office workers and leaders in the cause of God who are working together for a finished work. Although the number has increased, we still do not have as many workers as we need to get the job done. When Ellen G. White spoke of the need for 100 workers where we now have one, she spoke of a need for Black workers.

... since the organization of Regional Conferences there are more Black S.D.A. physicians and dentists, nurses and para-medical professionals, attorneys, business and other professionals who have become members of the church than ever in the history of Adventism.

IT IS AN AMAZING FACT that:

... since the organization of Regional Conferences in 1945 there have been more out-reach programs for Black people than at any other time since the days of J. Edson White's journeyings through the Southern field. Nursing homes, academies, low-rent housing projects, friendship camp programs, drug programs are being conducted for the community by the Seventh-day Adventists.

IT IS AN AMAZING FACT that:

... the membership in Regional Conferences in the U.S.A. during 1979 was approximately 120,000 or 17.76% of the total membership of the church (U.S.A.)

... the tithe income in Regional churches in the U.S.A. for 1977 was \$20,436,463.90 or 14% of the total tithe paid by the church membership in the U.S.A.

... the tithe income in Regional Conferences in the U.S.A. for 1978 was \$19,638,300 or 21.27% of the total tithe paid by all other Division Conferences

outside of North America. This amount is larger than the total amount of tithe paid by any Division throughout the world field outside of North America. The people in each of these divisions are operating their own unions.

... in the business world, any group holding 14% to 22% of the income of that organization would certainly have voting representation on the administrative board of directors that direct the business affairs of the company. He would be there by election from his group and not by appointment of the company. This should also be the case of the Regional Conferences in America. There should be elected leadership on the Union administrative level of the SDA church in America.

... in the political system in the United States of America, any group representing from 22% to 25% of the constituent body and who show a concern for good government as it affects the entire group and the needs of the community where that particular group is found would certainly have a voting representation on the Policy Making Level. This must be if that group of people is expected to abide by those policies. This brings strength and unity to the entire body. There must be elected regional representation on the policy making level of the church. This is the union administrative level of the church in North America.

... eight Regional Conferences in North America cover the same territory that fifty-five of our sister conferences cover. Leaders in the conference office and district leaders in the field must spend days away from home in order to get the job done whereas the leaders of our sister conferences can be home each night after their visits to the field if they choose to return.

... there are 3,106 ordained ministers in the North American Division. 173 are in Canada, 2,439 are in the white conferences, 120 are in the General Conference and 279 are serving in Regional Conferences which represents about 9% of the total number. In most instances, the Regional conference worker carries the heavier load.

... there are 5,120 licensed ministers in the North American Division. Ninety-seven are in the General Conference, 66 are in Canada, 4,849 are in the white conferences while only 118 are serving in Regional Conferences which represents approximately 2% of the

total number of licensed ministers. Many of the black ministerial students cannot find employment in the church organization when they have finished their college and university preparation. Many become frustrated and bitter. This problem must be changed by prayerful planning.

... there were 9,000 baptisms in the Regional Conferences during 1978 and 9,073 baptisms during 1979. The 1976 figure represents 25% of all the baptisms in the United States in 1977.

FINANCES

IT IS AN AMAZING FACT that:

... in spite of the need for church schools where our children can be taught of the Lord and in spite of a need for church buildings in which to worship the Lord; in spite of the Regional Conferences inability to hire more workers to pastor in some of the areas where members have been without pastoral leadership for months and sometimes years; in spite of our continued need for funds with which to evangelize in many challenging areas across the land, Black people have given their money to help advance the cause of the Lord.

... over a three year period (1975-77) the Regional churches of North America paid \$56,679,456.95 in tithe of which \$28,607,350.46 was sent to the General and Union Conferences to help support the work of the church at home and over seas.

... during 1979 these same Regional Conference members of North America paid to the church \$19,638,300.00 in tithe, \$1,254,853.00 for missions and \$937,343.66 for the Ingathering program. This was a total amount of \$23,348,258.77 of which the regional conferences and churches sent forward \$13,085,121.13 to help support the work of the church at home and abroad. We must be fair and state that \$4,017,308.81 was returned by the General and Union Conferences for the support of the black work in North America. It must be pointed out, however, that this figure also includes monies given for Oakwood College operation and Capital Improvement and Special funds donated for the Riverside Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee.

... after paying our percentages required by the church there was \$10,263,137.64 left with which to operate the conference offices, pay the ministers and office workers and sup-

port our school teachers and our school program, and give other appropriations to help advance the work of the church operation in our various areas.

... the Regional churches paid 8 percent of their tithe dollar into the Sustentation Fund during 1977 which amounted to \$1,571,064.00. This does not include the amount that was paid by the institutions—Oakwood College, Riverside, F.H.E.S. Operations, A.B.C. Operations. Significantly, it should be noted that this one year's amount placed on a Certificate of Deposit would generate enough interest to pay just about every Black sustentation beneficiary for the remainder of his/her life. The Black worker usually passes away not too many years after retirement.

IT IS AN AMAZING FACT that:

... there are twelve S.D.A. colleges in North America. Only **one** that serves predominantly the Regional Conference constituents both faculty-wise and student wise.

... there are fifty-three S.D.A. hospitals serving the North American Division; only **one** was established to serve the Black people of America.

... of the five hundred plus workers employed by the General Conference in Washington, D.C. approximately 18 are from Regional Conferences in North America. There is no separate division in North America as in overseas divisions.

... of the 1,132 elementary church schools in the North American Division, only sixty-six are in Regional Conferences. Funds left after percentages are paid make it difficult to open new schools in the Regional Conferences and yet, thousands of students in regional churches should receive a Christian education. In most instances when these students attend the church

Continued on page 16

Letters to the Editor

Dear Elder Paschal:

I have received and read all four issues of your *North American Regional Voice*, which has been designated the "official organ of the North American Regional Conferences of Seventh-day Adventists."

I have been pleased with the periodical in every respect except the practice of using the word "regional" to refer

to black Seventh-day Adventists (SDA); black SDA conferences; the president, other workers, and churches within these conferences; and to the proposed black SDA unions. Why was this inappropriate word chosen and why does it continue to be used? I am black; I am a Seventh-day Adventist; but a "regional" I am not. Who is a *regional*? What are the criteria that determine who is a *regional* and who is a *non-regional*? Why not use a word that defines the group to which you refer? "Having the characteristics of a region" (the definition of regional) certainly is not the criteria, because we have black SDAs as well as white SDAs in geographic regions across this country. What is the criteria by which you define as a *regional* a black SDA living on any street in any city in any state, while his or her white SDA neighbor on the same street in the same city and state is defined as a *non-regional*?

Your use of the word *regional* could not be considered a euphemism (the substitution of an agreeable or inoffensive word for that may offend or suggest something unpleasant) because there is nothing offensive or unpleasant about calling black people black or about calling black SDA churches, and conferences and unions, black churches, black conferences and black unions. Was the word *regional* chosen as an attempted coverup of the fact of racial division and lack of unity within the governmental and organizational and operational structures of the Seventh-day Adventist church? If this word were chosen by white church officials, I can understand their possible motivation in being dishonest and deceptive. (I do not know who selected the term.) It is almost inconceivable to me that black church leaders could have made this decision. But regardless of who made the initial decision, I feel offended by the black SDA church leaders who continue to refer to black SDAs and things pertaining to black SDAs as *regionals*.

I do hope that your periodical and the black leaders will use a more appropriate term.

Sincerely,
Billie Louise Lee, A black SDA
who is NOT a *regional*
P.O. Box 10837
Jackson, MS 39209

THE EDITOR'S DESK

54TH GENERAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN DALLAS, TEXAS

Delegates to the 54th General Conference Session of the Seventh-day Adventists will begin coming into the United States about the first of April. They will represent many nations of people from the four corners of the globe. It is cheering to know that there is a oneness and fellowship to be found among the peoples of the church from many nations. All share the hope in the Lord's soon return for His church.

The purposes of this session which is held every five years are to elect officers and departmental leaders who will serve the world body for the next five-year period. In addition to the elections, policies are voted upon which will govern the operation of the church. Plans are also laid for the spreading of the gospel of the coming kingdom.

Some of the dramatic, moving, spirit-filled, colorful reports are given by each of the division leaders of progress that has been made in the area that they represent.

The structure of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is made up on this wise: The General Conference (World Conference) is divided into twelve divisions in the world field. These divisions are divided into union conferences. The union conferences are divided into local conferences and the local conference is made up of the various church groups within its boundaries. Each church group is supported by its membership. Each of the larger bodies oversees and assists the next lower body in effecting its operation.

Delegates are elected by the various divisions to represent their areas at the time when the assembly comes together. Although most of the membership will not serve as delegates, it is educational for as many persons as possible to attend to observe the meetings in session. Some groups have secured blocks of rooms for the meeting. You may inquire of your local conference concerning housing.

The Southwest Region Conference is planning to have a National Singles Camp, April 18-20, at the Lonestar Camp in Athens, Texas. All single interested persons should contact Pastor B. E. Wright at the conference office in Dallas, Texas.

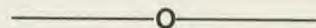
The National Alumni Association is planning to have a banquet for its members and Oakwood boosters on the last Saturday evening of the session. Join with the Alumni in supporting our school at Huntsville.

General Conference time gives an opportunity for members from many parts of the world to come together and speak of the blessing of the Lord that they have experienced in their areas. Plan to meet and greet those who will come from the various parts of the world. The language may not be the same, but the hearts are one.

Those Black persons who are presently serving at the World Headquarters in Washington, D.C. are: C. E. Bradford, Vice President of the North American Division, F. L. Jones, associate secretary in the treasury department, C. D. Brooks and W. M. Starks, field secretaries, C. L. Brooks, associate director of the Sabbath School

Department, R. W. Bates, associate director of the Lay Activities Department, R. Barron, associate director for the Youth Activities Department, W. C. Scales, associate director of the Ministerial Association, S. D. Meyers, associate director for the Department of Stewardship, C. D. Henri, Vice President for the World field, W. S. Banfield, director of the Office of Human Relations.

The dates for this meeting are April 17-26, 1980, Dallas, Texas. The place will be the municipal auditorium. Pray for the Lord to have His name glorified during these meetings. Pray for unity in the church as we move for a finished work in the earth.



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SUNSET CALENDAR

January	4	11	18	25	January	4	11	18	25
Chicago, Ill.	4:33	4:40	4:48	4:57	Boston, Mass	4:25	4:32	4:40	4:49
South Bend, Indiana	5:28	5:35	5:43	5:52	New York City	4:37	4:44	4:52	5:01
Minneapolis, Minn.	4:45	4:53	5:01	5:11	Buffalo, N.Y.	4:54	5:01	5:09	5:18
St. Louis, Mo.	4:53	4:59	5:07	5:14	Atlanta, Ga.	5:43	5:49	5:55	6:02
Kansas City, Mo.	5:09	5:16	5:23	5:31	Miami, Fla.	5:43	5:48	5:54	5:59
Denver, Co.	4:49	4:55	5:03	5:11	Charlotte, N.C.	5:25	5:31	5:38	5:45
Little Rock, Ark.	5:11	5:17	5:24	5:31	Birmingham, Ala.	4:52	4:58	5:05	5:11
Dallas, Texas	5:34	5:40	5:47	5:53	Jackson, Miss.	5:09	5:15	5:21	5:28
New Orleans, La.	5:14	5:19	5:25	5:31	Memphis, Tenn.	5:01	5:08	5:14	5:21
Albuquerque, N.M.	5:08	5:14	5:21	5:28	Louisville, Ky.	5:36	5:43	5:50	5:58
Oklahoma City, Okla.	5:31	5:37	5:44	5:51	Detroit, Mich.	5:15	5:22	5:30	5:39

THE CONFERENCES IN ACTION

72 HOUR PRAY-A-THONS

Nations war against nations. Lawlessness and disobedience abound. Occultism flourishes. Satan worship is a growing phenomenon. Divorces are increasing. Morality, respect, and sacredness are scarce. Sickness and disease rage. Inflation is out of control. Missions are hopelessly lost and headed for hell. The world is on a collision course with the judgments of God. *Something must be done!*

The ministry is weary. The laity is complacent. Family altars are a thing of the past. Conferences have to cut budgets for 1980. Churches struggle to pay the bills. Churches vainly attempt to repair, replace, rebuild or purchase church buildings. But there is hope. Something can be done!

Lot was saved from destruction in Sodom and Gomorrah because Abraham intervened for him with God. Nineveh was saved from being overthrown when the king proclaimed a fast. Peter was delivered from prison when the church prayed, and Paul and Silas were freed from prison when an earthquake shook the foundation of the prison as they sang praises and prayed. Something will be done!

If God moved in behalf of these, the Church of the Living God can also unite in prayer until we see the hand of God move just as miraculously for us. We can and we shall!

The scriptures declare, "When Zion travailed she brought forth her children". When Central States travails, not one minister, not one member, not one church, but the whole conference can expect the supernatural manifestations of the power of God. It will be seen in our ministers, in our churches, in our conferences. The time is now. God is pouring out His Spirit. Let Central States travail in 1980 until she is saturated with the supernatural Spirit of the Living God.

The three-day pray-a-thons are in no way the answer to our dilemma. However, it is a start. It is believed that the members who participate in these pray-a-thons will have their appetite whetted for a deeper, consecrated walk with the Lord. If you know how to pray, have a burden for the lost, and want to experience a mighty moving of God in your life, in your church, and in your conference, you are invited to participate in this gigantic prayer meeting. You are encouraged to pray for:

1. A Holy Ghost revival throughout the conference.
2. An effective evangelistic effort in each local church.
3. An all-out effort to have Bible studies and revivals, and to reclaim 10 percent of the missing and lost members.
4. A better equipped ministry.
5. Better qualified local church leaders.
6. Your local and union conference.
7. Your division and General Conference session (April, 1980).
8. God to *Save Our Families* this year.
9. Camp meeting, 1980 (June 20-28).
10. Increase in tithes and membership of at least 10 percent in 1980.
11. A united effort to strengthen the conference educational program.
12. The "I Gave/I Care" camp development project.
13. General Conference Worldwide prayer and fast day (April 12).

Please send your name and address to the office of the president at the conference office stating the hour of the three days that you will be praying for these requests and others that you feel the need to pray for. As already mentioned, this short time of prayer is not the answer, but it is hoped that God will so burden each of us that we will continue to utilize the time we choose each day to pray and seek God for a moving of His Spirit.

If we want a supernatural moving of the Holy Ghost, then let us ask God to give it to us. The scriptures declare that, "We have not because we ask not". May this be the greatest prayer meeting that the Central States Conference has ever known. A prayer meeting as great as that time when the Holy Ghost shook the New Testament church when it prayed for boldness.

S. Haywood Cox



72-hour Pray-a-thons chart.

PATHFINDER RALLY DAY

Sabbath, October 27, 1979 will be a day long remembered by the members of the Grove Heights SDA Church in Wichita, Kansas. It was Pathfinder Rally Day.

All of the Sabbath services were conducted by the Pathfinders and their counselors. The theme: Pathfinders—"A Servant of God and Friend to Man" was displayed before the congregation just above the pulpit. It was a thrill as Pathfinder leader to see our young people serving the Lord.

The Sabbath program began with Sabbath School at 9:15 a.m. The congregation was led in the singing of hymns by Dwyant Garratt, Superintendent for the Sabbath School was James McClain III. The worship hour message was delivered by William R. Wright, conference Pathfinder Director. He shared with those in attendance highlights from the past year and objectives for 1980. His sermon topic was "The Beginning of Wisdom."



William R. Wright, Jr., Pathfinder Director, Conference guest speaker.

LAKE REGION

For the year 1980 the Grove Heights Pathfinders plan to raise \$1,000 to purchase tents for camping opportunities. Other goals for the year are: To have a master guide class taught by Barbara Green, member of the South SDA Church; collect and distribute canned goods to the needy of their community and assemble fruit baskets for the senior citizens of the church.

In the afternoon service, the Pathfinders participated in a candlelight program. It was a beautiful service of dedication. Twenty-four Pathfinders received 105 MV honors in 21 different categories. The final service of the day was a vesper consecration message delivered by the pastor, Elder George Murray.

It is the hope of the counselors and of Pathfinder leader, James McClain, that Wichita can host a conference-wide Pathfinder Rally in 1980.

James McClain
Communication Secretary



Jimmy McClain, Robert Johnson, color guards.



Steve McClain giving Sabbath School mission story.

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

—Luke 1:37

A STORY OF SALVATION

One recent Thursday evening, Mae Peake, in sheer despair, kneeled to pray, earnestly asking God for truth and peace. She had been searching for some time and had visited many churches of different beliefs, searching for truth.

Mae's twin sister, Mildred, had become a Seventh-day Adventist through the radio program, "It Is Written." She never missed a program. Mildred, wanting to know more, wrote a letter to the program with questions she had. Instead of answering the questions through the mail, a Bible worker was sent to the base in Houston, Texas where Mildred was stationed while serving in the Armed Forces. The two of them would sit for hours studying together. On Sabbath, the members of the nearby church would take her into their homes. Mildred accepted the Adventist message and was baptized.

She began sending literature to Mae which sparked her interest and caused her to diligently seek for God's truth. Though Mae was looking for something solid, she couldn't seem to find it and this caused her feelings of despair on this particular Thursday.

As an answer to her prayer, Mildred unexpectedly flew to Kalamazoo, Michigan, Mae's home. She had been scheduled to go to Korea for a tour of duty but for some unexplained reason her orders had been delayed.

Immediately upon her arrival she began studying with Mae. Each morning at 6:00 a.m. the sisters studied and prayed together. Mildred's eagerness to share her faith with Mae really impressed Mae. Mildred, the guest, refused to allow Mae to wash a single dish. She prepared the vegetarian meals and cared for the children while Mae went to work. After dinner the two sisters once again studied together. Mildred explained the Three Angel's Message, the papacy and Sabbath keeping. She would often stop during the study and encourage Mae to keep her eyes on Jesus and not on man. She was patient and understanding; never pushy or judgmental.



Mae Peake. The Lord answered her prayer and sent her twin sister to lead her to Him.

All too soon the week came to a close and it was nearing time for Mildred to leave for Korea. The Sabbath before she left she and Mae attended the Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lansing, Michigan. The appeal song was given and the words "If this is not the time, the time will never come," convicted Mae's heart. For the first time she knew she had found what she was looking for. She finally had that total joy and peace.

After further studies with Pastor Ricardo Graham, Mae was baptized. With the encouragement and inspiration of the members, she is growing and devoting her life and service to the Lord.

Mildred continues to keep in touch and send words of encouragement to Mae. In a recent letter she wrote, "I know you are doing all right if you still have the Lord".

Crystal R. Drake
Correspondent

MEET OUR PASTOR

Elder and Mrs. Auldwin Humphrey recently joined the Lake Region Conference family. They have taken up their responsibilities with the Sharon Milwaukee, Wisconsin Church.

Elder and Mrs. Humphrey bring with them many years of experience in various areas of the ministry.

Elder Humphrey pastored in the Allegheny East Conference, served as Youth Director for the Allegheny West Conference and most recently served as

principal of Pine Forge Academy.

Mrs. Adele Humphrey is an experienced teacher and served as principal of the Columbus, Ohio school.

The Humphrey family includes three children.

Crystal R. Drake
Correspondent



Pastor Auldwin Humphrey and family.

FAIRHAVEN HOLDS FALL WEEK OF PRAYER

During the annual Fall Week of Prayer, Pastor Richard Washington from the Muskegon/Idlewild district came to Flint. The Fairhaven SDA Church members who attended the week of prayer were informed how very necessary prayer is and why we need to pray. As a result of his efforts in opening up new avenues and expounding on old ones, four persons decided to follow the Lord all the way.

William G. Washington
Communication Secretary

TEACHER TRAINING SESSION HELD IN CHICAGO HEIGHTS

As a result of many requests for assistance in learning how to work with the lower division Sabbath School and Story Hour programs at the Emmanuel SDA Church, in Chicago Heights, Illinois, Ms. Sally Washington and Ms. Ruth Willis of Detroit, Michigan presented a well-structured workshop for Cradle Roll and the Primary Sabbath Schools. Many ideas and helpful hints were shared. Many felts and Sabbath School devices were provided for audience participation.

It was emphasized that planning ahead each week is a must. It was also stressed that organization and creativity are essential ingredients in making the program a success.

Rhona Alexander
Communication Secretary

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CONDUCTED AT EASTSIDE

The Eastside Seventh-day Adventist Church of Indianapolis, Indiana were very happy and thankful to God for being able to conduct their first Vacation Bible School in their new church.

With careful planning, preparation and prayer, the Lord blessed with over 50 children participating daily from August 6 through August 10, 1979 in lesson study, story hour, outdoor activities, arts and crafts and with special health foods for nourishment and refreshment. The children were from the community and other areas of the city.

The children held their closing program on Sabbath, August 7. They presented the oath to the American Flag, the Christian Flag and to the Bible. The group also offered music and prayer. The participants reviewed some of the things they had learned during the week and put their arts and crafts on display.

Arts and crafts leader was Doris Dearman, assisted by Cathy Wood. Teachers Betty Winder and Brent Ellis were assisted by Dorothy Winder and Ruby Allen. Elder Roy Bellinger presented the story hour and Elaine Whitehead led devotions assisted by the teachers. Mary Alice Jointer assisted with the nourishment and transportation.

Gertrude Jackson
Communication Secretary



The children who attended the Eastside Vacation Bible School.

YOU MUST DECIDE

Have you ever wondered what alcohol, drugs, Satan and your peer group have in common? Well, the Adventist Youth Society of the Fairhaven SDA Church in Flint, Michigan found out during a recent program presented by the Young Drama Club from the Detroit area churches.

As one young devil and one young angel of the Lord wrestled with one young soul, it was clearly shown that if you pause a moment to check out the goodies of Satan, that's all the time he needs to trap you. If that is not enough, your friends will get involved and prove to you that being in church, A.Y., Sabbath School and prayer meetings is really not much fun.

During all these interruptions, the Holy Spirit and the guardian angel still try to woo and let the person know that they don't have to fail. If you fail, you fail by choice.

When the drama ended, one young soul was lost simply because she wanted to see what the devil's goodies were all about. Peer pressure, alcohol, drugs, cigarettes and the world won.

The question was asked, what about us? Are we checking the devil's goodies or are we searching for a permanent place in a society that will last forever?

William G. Washington
Communication Secretary



One young soul trying to decide between good and evil.



Left to right: Elder Vern M. Joyner, Pastor Richard Washington as they prepared to baptize a new convert.



Elder T. A. McNealy.

EVANGELIST ESCAPES ASSASSINATION

Elder T. A. McNealy is the pastor-evangelist of the Atlanta-Maranatha church in the South Atlantic Conference. For the past two years, since coming to Atlanta, he has baptized over 500 souls increasing the membership of the church in excess of 1,200. The new believers are largely the result of mass-evangelism. In addition to his successful evangelism, and pastoring a 1,200 member church without an assistant pastor, he maintains an on-going radio program which is fast becoming one of Atlanta's most popular religious radio programs.

All of this is not being accomplished without great danger to McNealy's life. Among those attending one of the Big Tent's was a promising couple along with their two children. The mother and children responded to the messages and accepted Christ. The father stopped attending the meetings and strongly warned his wife and children against going through with their commitment to the Lord.

Elder McNealy visited the family for their final preparation before baptism. While there talking to them, the husband walked in, intoxicated, with a shotgun, cocked it, pointed it at McNealy and threatened to kill him. The pastor prayed a silent prayer like Peter's when he was sinking, "Lord save me." Matt. 14:30. He then tried to talk the man into putting the gun down. Simultaneously, the mother and daughter screamed for help, and ran into the street. This diverted the man's attention long enough for the son to snatch the gun from him, run out of

the room and hide it, thus saving the pastor's life.

The mother reported that she saw the whole drama in a dream, but told no one but her two children. She and the children devised the plan to save the pastor's life if indeed her dream should become a reality. It did.

Samuel E. Graden



Pictured, left to right: Mrs. Gloria Moore, Church Communication's Secretary; Mrs. Mamie Alston, Mr. Frank Alston; Mr. Benjamin Ruffin, Assistant to the Governor of North Carolina; and Elder George Powell.

DURHAM CHURCH HONORS ALSTON

Frank Howard Alston, a science teacher at Hillside High School, was the guest of honor at the Community Relations Day at Emmanuel Temple SDA Church in Durham. "This is the greatest day of my life," Alston said in response to the reception and plaque presented to him and the speech made in his behalf by Mr. Benjamin Ruffin, a former student of Alston's, and at present an assistant to the governor of North Carolina, and advisor on Minority Affairs.

A newspaper article in Durham which carried a long story on the activities of Frank Alston characterized him as "An insitiation within an institution." He is to retire at the end of the 1979-80 school year after 33 years of teaching in the city of Durham.

Frank Alston was chosen for this singular honor by the Durham community. "All that the Church Board had to do was to put its stamp of approval on him," stated Gloria Moore, the energetic Communication's Director of the Durham church. In fact, many of the members of the church are former students of Alston's. He became a dominant force and well-beloved teacher and member of the community because he demonstrated a genuine love for people of the community and an intense interest in his students.

The Community Day speaker was Elder George Powell of the Southern Union Conference. He is the Associate Director of Communication. Elder Powell preached a spirit-filled sermon which was tailored for the many well-wishers of Frank Alston. This was Mr. Alston's first visit to the SDA Church, but I am sure it will not be his last.



A group of Pathfinders and their leaders of the Oakland Avenue SDA Church in Florence, South Carolina. They collected over 100 cans of food for the needy, while other children were performing tricks if they were not properly treated for their selfish indulgences. The Pathfinders prepared a large number of Thanksgiving baskets to delight and bring joy to those persons in need of food in the city of Florence.

THE DEDICATION OF THE ELLENVILLE SDA CHURCH

In the fall of the year, October 6, 1979, the Ellenville SDA Church under the pastoral leadership of Elder Charles Parker, was dedicated. Dr. George Earle, President of the Northeastern Conference and Elder A. N. Brogden, Secretary of the Atlantic Union were among the many distinguished participants. Here is a brief history of the trials and triumphs of this church:

"And it came to pass" under God's direction, around 1938, a small company of Seventh-day Adventists established roots in Ellenville for the main purpose of spreading the gospel of salvation. Like the disciples of Christ's day they had a strong desire to worship their creator so they held services in the homes of various ones. As a result, others began to come from various areas of the land to help in the fostering of the work.

In October 15, 1947, it was necessary to organize this group into the Ellenville S.D.A. Mission on Center St. under the Leadership of Bro. Charles W. Nelson who was sent by the late Elder L. H.

Bland, then the President of the North-eastern Conference. This group increased and began seeking other accommodations which was gladly opened to them by the Reformed Church in May, 1948. By the leading hand of God, our first official leader was sent to us by the Conference in the person of Samuel J. Hooper in October 1953.

One of their greatest moments was the acceptance into the sisterhood of churches and given the name First S.D.A. Church on May 1, 1954, by Elder H. D. Singleton, former President and Elder V. L. Roberts, former Secretary-Treasurer of Northeastern Conference. At this time there was an approximate membership of 35.

On September 18, 1954, the church members moved to the children's auditorium of Christ Lutheran Church on Center Street. We later moved to the Community Baptist Church on Berme Road for our services. However, with all these achievements, through the fellowship of Jesus Christ, there still remained in their hearts a desire to have their own place of worship. This aspiration was executed by the purchase of a lot on the corner of Clinton Avenue and Center St.

It was a happy occasion that on Sunday afternoon, May 1, 1955, ground was broken on the lot they had purchased. Services were held on the site by Elder H. D. Singleton. Although far from completion the First S.D.A. Church moved into their own church building on May 5, 1956. On February 13, 1960 it was voted that the "First" be dropped from its title and be only called Ellenville Seventh-day Adventist Church of Ellenville, N.Y.

As the membership enlarged, many wanted to complete the church building and they began by appealing to others for this purpose. The present structure of this edifice was completed under the able and vigorous leadership of Pastor Dennis Ross.

We cannot fail in mentioning other leaders that made strives and shares their dreams over the years toward the same goal. Such capable Elders as Samuel W. Stovall, George W. Timpson, James J. North, E. C. Atkinson, Lance V. Shand, Dennis Ross, Jr., Robert Wisdom Sr., and Alfonso Williams are filled with joy to realize that their attempts were not in vain.

On Sabbath April 3, 1971 it was a great and glorious moment. It marked the grand opening of their new church

building on the Corner of Clinton Avenue and Center Streets.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was M.C.'d by Lawrence Evers, Village Manager of Ellenville along with John Maddox, one of the first settlers here, Pastor Dennis Ross, Pastor Herbert E. Henley, Elder George R. Earle, Elder Theophilus Wright, and also Samuel J. Hooper.

Trophies were presented to Elder Earle, Elder Carter, Elder Brooks, and Dennis Ross, our former Pastor. Acknowledgement and gratitude was given Elder John Maddox for his untiring effort in the building of the pulpit.

On October 21, 1972 Ralph L. Williams was appointed Pastor of the Church. His wife Willie Mae and their 5 children served in this area until October 11, 1975. Under his leadership a successful team effort was conducted winning many souls to Christ thus increasing the membership. Also many necessities were added to the church interior and exterior to improve it.

On October 11, 1975 Williams was transferred to Pastor the Shiloh SDA Church in Springfield, Mass.

The church was without a Pastor for 9 months. Nevertheless, church members continued to look onward, upward, and forward until June 5, 1976 when Pastor Reginal W. Washington came to Shepherd the Flock.

Under his leadership, he started to dig us out of our deep financial hole and put us on our feet financially and spiritually. In a matter of months we were working on plans to burn the mortgage. At the time we only had \$400 in the building fund.

Sister Agatha Hazell was appointed chairperson of the Building Fund Committee in February 1978 and in a matter of months over \$20,000 was raised toward the Building Fund.

On February 7, 1979 the Pastor along with several officers of the church went to the Empire National Bank in Newburgh to pay off the mortgage. This was a glorious day for us all.

Then, on February 15, 1979, Pastor Washington was selected to serve the Poughkeepsie, Kingston and Beacon churches, and Pastor Charles E. Parker, on March 3, 1979, became our new Pastor.

Today we have a church we can be proud of, and our prayer today is one of Thanksgiving—"Praise God from whom all Blessings flow!!"



Temperance leader, Esther P. Thomas and Pathfinders, LaTonja Moore and Maxine McCullough at work passing out literature. "Smoking Sam" in background.

WILMINGTON CHURCH AT COUNTY FAIR

The Ephesus SDA Church of Wilmington, North Carolina, was an active participant at the New Hanover County Fair, October 1-6, 1979.

At the display booth which the church sponsored, they screened over 200 persons for high blood pressure, handed out more than 8,000 pieces of literature, and enrolled over 1,300 for Bible courses. The church gave 100 percent financial and other voluntary support. A continuous audio-visual presentation in the form of a video tape kept hundreds of people spellbound as it traced the Creation Story to the Second Coming of Jesus and Eden Restored.

The large palm reader booth just behind the Adventist booth For Better Living may have been a blessing because it drew a crowd of people who wanted to know what man had to tell about the future. They also learned what God had to say about the past, present, and future.

Joe Bryant, the Lay Activities Director along with Smoking Sam, demonstrated the dangers of smoking by showing what happens to Sam's synthetic lungs. Mary Duke, Health Leader of the church, coordinated the staff every night. Esther Pearl Thomas, Temperance Leader assisted by Joe Green and his Pathfinder Club, spearheaded the literature distribution. Thelma Boyer, nurse and Communications Secretary, monitored the blood pressure screening, while her husband, Joseph Boyer, directed the photography.

The leaders of the project reported such good cooperation from the church membership that, like Moses of old, they had to refuse help. It was a very gratifying experience.



*500 attend Regional Council on Evangelism
at Oakwood College December 3-6, 1979.
9000 baptisms were reported.*

EVA B. DYKES LIBRARY





Dr. G. R. Earle, President, Northeastern Conference.

LOOKING AHEAD IN 1980

By G. R. Earle

As the year 1979 draws near to its close, we reflect over the past eleven months with a great measure of satisfaction and gratitude to God for His providential leadership in our Conference operation. Our Conference membership has exceeded the twenty-one thousand mark and our tithe income is well in excess of five million dollars. Considering a few minor hindrances and unusual circumstances, the year '79' has provided progress and production in our overall Conference growth.

Soon we shall embark upon a new decade. As we await the birth of the eighties, we face troublesome times—an unstable economy, a rising and uncontrollable inflation, an ever-growing rate of unemployment, a social order that is shattered and falling apart by internal problems of every kind and description, political disturbances that plague our world society, with attention focused particularly on the Middle East crisis that could well be the final summons for our civilization en masse to prepare for that supreme day and the inevitable hour. From a human point of view, the future offers little hope for the kind of unprecedented performance experienced over the past year.

Despite the dark, dismal days ahead of us, we are encouraged by these words of assurance from the pen of inspiration: "The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the Power of God than marked its opening. The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel, are again to

be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close."—*Great Controversy*, pp. 611, 612.

The Northeastern Conference is committed to a partnership relation with the agencies of heaven in the finishing of the work of God in all the world. To make this relationship significant and effective, I propose the following objectives:

1. A greater acceleration of evangelistic outreach through the combined efforts of the ministry and laity.
2. An increasing stabilizing Sabbath School attendance with a one-to-one evangelistic approach.
3. Greater lay involvement in soulwinning and church operation.
4. Encourage a more effective partnership relation between conference and constituency in sacrificial giving for world missions and Conference development programs.
5. Encourage a more spiritualized ministry in the work of preparing a people for the coming of Christ.
6. To make the voice of the church heard in the world, lest it be lost in the babel of voices of commerce, politics and entertainment.
7. Through the potential power centers of Seventh-day Adventist youth make the church more relevant to the spiritual and social needs of all mankind and to make them better equipped for life task.
8. To make Christian education, quality education, for our children and young people, and recognize this objective as the most important function and concern of the church.
9. To urge the practical implementation of Isaiah 58 by combining the medical missionary work, community services, and the gospel ministry as God's special message to the world today.
10. To demonstrate that God evaluates the Literature Ministry as being fully equal to that of the Gospel Ministry and to urge the churches to increase the number of full-time literature evangelists by more than two-hundred percent.
11. To give serious study to generate ways and means of housing more of our unhoused church congregations.

12. To provide more housing, meeting facilities, and an adequate dining room at Victory Lake Camp to meet the growing demands of an ever expanding constituency membership.
13. To provide a well designed Senior Citizens Complex for the comfort of our aged and all who stand in special need of the basic services of the church and its spiritual reforms.

The achievement of these objectives demands the time, energy, and means of every member of the Northeastern Conference. If we are willing to involve the ingredients of prayer, faith, sacrifice, and hard work, we can with the help of God bring to fruition all of these objectives in a relatively short period of time.

Therefore, I call upon every pastor, Bible Instructor, church officer and member to stand in full support of the objectives for a finished work within the territory of the Northeastern Conference.

MOUNT OF OLIVES CLIMBS UPWARD

Under the pastoral leadership of Elder Gilbert Foster of the Mount of Olives SDA Church in Brooklyn, New York a new church edifice will be dedicated at the beginning of the year.

Elder Foster is the former pastor of Trinity Temple SDA of Poughkeepsie, New York and the Superintendent of the Victory Lake Camp.

The pastor's wife Ruby E. Foster works closely with him in his ministry as a musician. The Fosters have three children, Stephen who is completing his master's degree at Andrews University in Religious Communications, Preston, a recent graduate of Oakwood College with a degree in Business Administration now working as a sales manager for the South Central Bell Telephone Company in Birmingham, Alabama and Pamela Ruth, a freshman at Pine Forge Academy.

The Mount of Olives church has been tremendously blessed with the leadership of Elder and Mrs. Foster.

David E. Henry
Communications Secretary



**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF
CITY TABERNACLE
SALUTES EDUCATORS**

Mrs. Norel James, Director, Elder R. Ashmeade, Pastor, and the 48 members of the Education Department at City Tabernacle in New York City scored once again with their Third Annual salute to educators. Much planning, great effort, and intense dedication goes into this annual Education weekend from which children, parents, students, and educators derive great benefit.

The contributions of 20 persons to the cause of Christian Education and our youth were made known through presentations during the weekend. On Sabbath, October 17, the entire day was devoted to Christian Education: Sabbath School, Divine Service, and the afternoon program. Prof. Ivan L. Warden, a graduate of Northeastern Academy and presently on the faculty of Andrews University, was guest speaker at the 11:00 a.m. service. He ably cited the positive influences of Christian education and that of several honorees on his life while attending church school and academy.

The weekend climax was a formal banquet held at the beautiful Chateau Pelham on Sunday evening. Pastor Harold Baptiste kept activities lively as an engaging Master of Ceremonies. Special tributes were paid to four of our outstanding conference educators:

- Prof. Emerton C. Whidbee
Northeastern Conference
Superintendent of Education
- Mrs. Edna Lett Williamson
Principal, Northeastern Academy
- Mrs. Ruth Paschal
Principal of R. T. Hudson
Elementary School
- Mrs. Vernelle Earle

Director, Northeastern Senior
Citizens Association

A highlight of the evening was a tribute to the honorees in the form of an international costume fashion show by the children of City Tabernacle (directed by Beryl Fothergill and Frances Bailey with Valerie Bennett, narrator) in honor of the International Year of the Child.

Tributes were given also by Northeastern Escorts, Northeastern Academy Choir, Northeastern Academy Staff, and Northeastern Senior Citizen's Association.

Other honorees included:

- Mr. Ted Elsbergh
President of Council of Supervisors
and Administrators of NYC
- Mr. Lewis Lyman
Principal, Albert Leonard Jr. High
School, New Rochelle
- John T. Murray, Esq. of C.S.A.—
New York City
- Samuel F. Williams
Principal of Intermediate School
195 Manhattan
- Dr. Muriel Petion
Member of 100 Black Women, Inc.

Pastor Ashmeade complimented the Education Department in his remarks in the attractive Souvenir Journal:

It is my great pleasure to congratulate the Education Department of the City Tabernacle Church on this your Third Annual "Salute to Educators."

You have displayed outstanding leadership in the Church's activities as you endeavored to stimulate our youth to excellence in education in general, and in spiritual upliftment in particular.

We are grateful for your contributions. May God continue to bless you as you carry out your aim "Love in Action."



Professor Emerton Whidby, Superintendent of Education, Northeastern Conference.



Mrs. Ruth H. Paschal, Principal of Northeastern Elementary School.



Mrs. Edna L. Williamson, Principal, Northeastern academy.



Mrs. Vernell Earle, Secretary to the President, Northeastern Conference.

The actions of men are the best interpreters of their thoughts.

“COMMUNION WEEKEND” AT EBENEZER

“Communion Weekend” was held at Ebenezer SDA Church in Freeport, New York on November 9, 1979. The Friday night services were conducted by Dr. E. T. Mimms of the Bethel SDA Church, Brooklyn, NY, who spoke about the history, the significance, and the beauty of the communion service.

This was followed by congregational singing, testimonies, prayer, special music, and selected readings from Mrs. White’s writings, and “The Upper Room,” a film which depicted the Last Supper and the washing of the Disciples’ feet. This opening service was concluded shortly after midnight.

Sabbath services began in the afternoon with Sabbath School followed by a Divine Worship Service. The ordinance of humility took place at sunset, followed by a candlelight communion service.

At the dawn of Sunday morning each person gained the victory over besetting sins that had been previously written on 3 x 5 cards, as they symbolically tossed their sins into the depths of the sea at the Freeport Beach Park. Returning to the church there was singing, congregational testimonies, and the reading of the Morning Watch by Pastor Murray. A prayer breakfast of pancakes, eggs, stripples, juice, and postum was prepared for the members. After breakfast, a film entitled “The Power of the Resurrection” was shown, which concluded a spirit-filled weekend.

WILLIAMSON AND ROCHESTER HOLD CRUSADES

Evangelism has flourished in the Rochester and Williamson areas of New York. An effort was held in the outlying community of Williamson, and also in the city of Rochester. The crusade in Williamson was climaxed with baptism of ten precious souls, and at least eight people have made commitments in the Rochester crusade.

Elder Clarence A. Richardson, pastor of the Jefferson Avenue Church in Rochester conducted the efforts, and he was ably assisted by Allan Martin, Gordon Bliss, Jr., Charles Allen, Minister of Music, Soloists Carolyn Jones and Patterson. Mrs. Avis Carethers was the Bible instructor.

Other activities that the crusades fostered were: a daily children’s recreation program, clothing distribution to the needy, free blood pressure screening, health lectures and a community talent night.

One of the highlights of the Rochester crusade was the appearance and personal testimony of Richard (Little Richard) Penniman, former rock singer, who drew capacity crowds in both the church and crusade tent.



Baptism at Medford, Salem, 1979, Boston.



Pastor L. Honore of Salem, Boston, baptizing a candidate in the pool of First Baptist Church, Medford.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT HOW TO BE A WHOLE PERSON

SMILE—It’s the melody of the soul.

WORK—It’s the service of the spirit.

PLAY—It’s the secret of youthfulness.

READ—It’s the the source of wisdom.

LOVE—It’s the gift of the heart.

PRAY—It’s the answer to every need.

SOUTH CENTRAL

TELEX NEWS ITEMS

BREATH OF LIFE Church in Memphis, Tennessee witnessed much crying when Elder V. Brooks preached his farewell sermon on November 24. The B.O.L. Church was organized three years ago when Evangelist C. D. Brooks, speaker for the Breath of Life telecast program came to Memphis for an Evangelistic crusade. Pastor V. Brooks, no relation to C. D. Brooks, was left to shepherd the 120 members. The church now has nearly 300 members and a tithe of nearly \$50,000. V. Brooks was transferred to Longview Heights Church in Memphis.

Continued from page 5

school operated by the sister church, a higher tuition is charged because the parents of the student are not constituent members of that conference. This sometimes forces the black member who could give financial support and intellectual and spiritual input to the work in black circles . . . it forces him/her to leave from the place where their help is needed most.

. . . out of 87 academies operated in the North American Division, only four are in Regional Conferences and only one of the four is a boarding academy owned and operated by a Regional Conference. How do we save our children? It should be noted that because of this situation, from 85 percent to 95 percent of the students who enter Oakwood College come from non-S.D.A. schools.

. . . there are 526 congregations in the regional conferences in America. Many are poorly housed and some have no building in which to worship. Some are disbanded because of this situation.

For continuous growth and strength in the Seventh-day Adventist Church among its regional membership there must be a restructuring of the monetary arrangements, the policy making organizations and the committee mix at the Union administrative level. Regional Unions offer some solutions.

At a recent staff meeting of the South Central Conference, Elder D. A. Walker reported that South Central had a \$303,000 gain in tithe as of October 31. This is larger than any gain for any whole year in South Central's history. In his usual way, Walker concluded with "The Lord Is Good."

- President and Mrs. Dudley, Elder Joseph Dent and wife, Judy, recently went on an educational tour of Spain and North Africa along with some 40 other teachers and workers and laymen of the conference.

- Pastor Dudley reported that a new church is being built every three months and a new congregation is being organized into a new church every month. New churches completed in 1979 include Morristown, Tenn.; West Point, Miss.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; churches bought include Huntsville's third church; Overton Park in Memphis, Tenn.; churches under construction include Franklin, Tenn.; Jackson, Miss.; a school was bought in Louisville, Ken., making six new buildings occupied and two under construction. Hopkinsville, Ken. was the eleventh church to be organized in 1979 and Birmingham's second church was the twelfth, making the church per month dream of President Dudley a reality.

- "It really works" reported Pastor Benjamin Jones in a recent conversation. "The Pure Stewardship Program really works." Jones was happy that the church which recently constructed a new building in Mobile, Alabama, was surprised that its necessary outgo was increased five times over the amount required at the old church. But the church has kept to the stewardship program and met all of its requirements, without rallies, drives, or any other gimmicks. Systematic Benevolence is God's way to finance His work. Jones stated that the church opened a school this year which added another financial burden to the church. The Stewardship program will care for this, too. It really works.

- Montgomery, Alabama, where E. E. Cleveland baptized over 400 persons in 1954, put up a new church building, and a few years ago added their education wing, for which they borrowed nearly \$100,000. Pastor S. J. Jackson says that Montgomery has MORTGAGE BURN-

ING on its mind and plans to pay off the mortgage in the spring of 1980.

- Pastor Richard Bell reports that the new \$345,000 sanctuary in Jackson, Mississippi will be ready for occupancy in the spring of 1980. The contractor promised it in December, but unavoidable delays will carry it over into 1980. It is stage one of the total church and school plant planned for the ten-acre site in Jackson.

- At a meeting with the President on Saturday night, December 1, Elder Isaac Lester told of the progress made by the Westhaven Church of Memphis, Tennessee, toward its new church plant. They have paid for the seven acre site, and the plans and specifications. The plans include a 650 seat sanctuary and an academy. Having to leave the rented church which they now use, Westhaven plans to start phase one which will be the auditorium of the academy. Phase two will be the classrooms and phase three will be the sanctuary. The total plant will cost an estimated \$800,000.

I. J. Johnson

PENSACOLA 1909-1979

A church was born in 1909 in Pensacola, Florida when Elder J. H. Laurence held a tent meeting assisted by Elder George Edwards Peters. Among the converts baptized was Frank L. Peterson, age 14, who went on to Seventh-day Adventist schools and became the president of Oakwood College, after teaching, and pastoring some of the larger churches including the famous old "Wadsworth" church in Los Angeles, California. He later served as associate secretary and a general vice president of the General Conference.

Another Pensacola convert, Otis B. Edwards, who attended Seventh-day Adventist schools and earned a doctorate degree at the University of Nebraska, filled teaching posts and later became academic dean of Oakwood College.

For many years Oakwood was prospering under the leadership of Pensacola converts, while the church in Pensacola seemed to be dying. The membership was only 6 in 1964. And being one of three churches in the Mobile, Alabama district received little help. Dur-



ing these years, the Earl Jones Sr. family was the stabilizing factor. Mrs. Daisy Jones and her children held most of the offices.

A layman, Frank McGinnis moved in and started a radio program, held Bible studies, and a tent meeting. The membership started to grow. Under Pastor B. Browne a new site was purchased. Under the present pastor the church at 919 W. Gadsden Street went up for sale. The small membership knew that to buy this plant would mean sacrifice. They had faith. They bought. And the Jordan Street Baptist Church became the Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The brick seems to have a little yellow glow beneath the red, and with the gothic arches, and stone caped pilasters the outside commands reverence and respect in its beauty.

Add to the attractive and comfortable sanctuary the four large classrooms, the spacious fellowship hall with its huge fireplace, the three bedroom parsonage and the three bedroom house for rent all standing beneath the oaks, the pines and the palm trees, then you have an idea of the Pensacola church plant.

It was one year ago in November of 1978 that the plant was formally entered, with a theme "Through Trials to Triumph." Former pastors visited and spoke. The last Sabbath was reserved for the conference president who had been a real spark in the life and growth of the church. Elder C. E. Dudley, in his captivating style preached, then sang. The celebration was ended with a banquet in the spacious fellowship hall. Elders T. M. Fountain, S. C. Robinson, I. J. Johnson, B. Browne were some of the ministers who joined in the four-day celebration.

The membership in 1979 is 79. The pastor and members plan for the membership to be more than 100 in 1980. Pensacola's Ebenezer S.D.A. Church, after seventy years of trials, rises to take its place in the growing city on the Gulf of Mexico. Its present pastor, Morris Patterson, is to be congratulated for his faith and leadership in securing the new building.

TRANSITIONS

Victor Brooks transferred from the Breath Of Life Church in Memphis to the Longview Heights Church in Memphis, Tennessee.

Roy Patterson from the Greenwood district in Mississippi to the Breath Of Life Church in Memphis, Tennessee. Other transfers to be made on December 17.

WESTHAVEN S.D.A. CHURCH HOLDS ANNUAL HONORS BANQUET

The entire membership of the Memphis Westhaven Seventh-day Adventist Church gathered at the Whitehaven Community Center on December 9, 1979 at 8 p.m. to honor those who had rendered outstanding support to the church program during 1979. Plaques and certificates were given for most outstanding service.

Mr. Dwight Hendree, along with his lovely wife, was given the highest award for all-around achievements in 1979. Mr. Hendree lead the church and Conference for individual Ingathering solicitations totaling over seven-hundred twenty (\$720) dollars for this campaign. He further worked with the youth of the church, supported tent evangelism, assisted in organizing the church basketball team, and served faithfully as church treasurer with no reports late to the Conference office during the year.

Mr. George Edwards, lay-activities leader, was given special appreciation for his outstanding service. Others noted were: Mrs. Vashti Harvey, Sabbath School Dept.; Mrs. Sandra VanBuren, Adventist Youth Leader; Mrs. Daisy Smith, outstanding soul-winning; Mr. Noble Powell, support in Christian Education; Mr. Larry Dandridge, outstanding work in the Sabbath School Dept. Others awarded were those who were up-to-date on the 'Through the Bible in a Year' study and certificates of recognition were given to persons who had exhibited outstanding stewardship participation in the various departments.

The theme of the banquet was "The Gospel Explodes in our Day" and the motto was "Spreading Glad Tidings." This reflects the kind of spirit that has prevailed over the Westhaven Church since its birth. God was truly present in this fellowship. As Hebrews 10:24-25 states: And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more as ye see the day approaching; so, the Westhaven Church

assembled themselves together in love and glad fellowship.

We would also like to extend special thanks to the program, menu, decoration, hostess, location and publicity committees for outstanding service that contributed to the success of this banquet. God richly blessed this occasion and we sincerely desire your prayers for the year 1980 to help forward our evangelistic effort. BEST WISHES and GLAD TIDINGS to you all.

Isaac Lester, Pastor
Linda Lowe, PR Secretary

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

- 5 Soul Winning Commitment Day
- 5 Seven hour prayer meeting
- 6-9 Workers meeting, Nashville, TN
- 12 Jackson, MS New Heights church opening
- 12 Religious Liberty
- 12 COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP, MONTGOMERY, AL *BOOKMOBILE*
- 19 COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP, BIRMINGHAM, AL *BOOKMOBILE*
- 18-20 Southern Union Secular Campus Ministries
- 18-20 Annual AYS Federation Officers Retreat
- 26 Medical Missionary Day
- 26 ADVENTURES IN FAITH OFFERING

FEBRUARY

- 2 Bible Evangelism Day
- 2 COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP, CHATTANOOGA *BOOKMOBILE*
- 9 BREATH OF LIFE OFFERING
- 15-16 Southern Union Temperance Weekend, Forest Lake, Fla.
- 9 COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP, NASHVILLE, AT HILLCREST *BOOKMOBILE*
- 16 COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP, HUNTSVILLE FIRST CHURCH *BOOKMOBILE*
- 16, 17 Literature Evangelist Rally, Jackson, MS
- 16 Christian Home and Family Day
- 22, 23 South Central Weekend at Oakwood College
- 23 COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP, MEMPHIS, TN AT LONGVIEW HEIGHTS *BOOKMOBILE*
- 23 Listen Campaign, Temperance

NEWS FROM ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

The believers of the Albuquerque church have hosted several outstanding programs in recent months:

1) Evangelist Robert Connor of Lake Union, Berrien Springs, Michigan conducted a revival in the Albuquerque church and several decisions were made.

2) Richard Penniman of Los Angeles, California visited the church and gave his testimony.

3) The MV leader, Daniel McKinney, planned well for a youth filled weekend. Youth and friends of the youth journeyed from as far away as Phoenix, Ariz.; Denver, Col.; Kansas City, Mo.; New Orleans, La., and friends from the different sections of the city. We used as a theme "Youth Joined in Christ". This exciting weekend began with vespers on Friday evening using a panel discussion and appropriate vesper music. S. H. Cox, president of the Central States Conference in Kansas City was the speaker for Sabbath morning. The Sabbath School Program was conducted by the Park Hill Church of Denver, Col. Following a palatable meal the Phoenix choir joined ten other choirs in providing music for the day. Recreation was planned for Saturday night, and a picnic Sunday morning. The conference youth director, B. E. Wright complimented the host Pastor P. Williams, members and the youth leader for a spiritual and eventful youth meeting. The purpose of this rally was to join youth together for a better enrichment in Christ. Indeed, this theme was realized.

Newton MacZino & Jackie McKinney
Communication Department



S. H. Cox, President Central States Conference, guest speaker for Youth meeting in Albuquerque. (In the background B. E. Wright, Conference Youth Director and W. Felder, Pastor, Park Hill, Denver, CO.)



Robert Connor, Union Evangelist, conducts Revival at the Albuquerque, NM church.



Members and friends eat and fellowship together at mealtime.

EVANGELISM IN THE SOUTHWEST

Under the dynamic leadership of W. C. Jones, conference president, the Southwest Region Conference is experiencing its greatest year in soul-winning since the conference was organized as a mission in 1947.

As we approached the beginning of 1979, it was discovered, through research, that the conference had never reached the 500 mark in baptisms since its organization. We set out to establish a new record in 1979. At the end of the third quarter more than 460 baptisms had been reported. As the results of the fourth quarter soul-winning endeavors filter in, we are assured that by the year's end baptisms will have far exceeded 500.

We thank God for this outstanding achievement, but we look forward to 1980 with renewed zeal and unparalleled enthusiasm as we set out to double our 1979 accomplishments, under the power of God, and baptize 1000 souls in the Southwest Region Conference. I challenge the ministers and the membership of this conference to make evangelism top priority, and press the battle until the full goal we attain.

J. M. Phipps
Ministerial Secretary

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L. B. Davison, local elder and layman from Sapulpa, Oklahoma set a goal of 25 baptisms this year. Seven have been baptized. We wish him God's speed as he strives to help finish the work in Sapulpa. (Pictured L. B. Davison, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Bruner, daughter and baby—new converts.)



J. M. Phipps interviews student at Southwestern Adventist College.

A LOOK AT OUR PIONEERS



Elder T. M. Fountaine

PORTRAIT OF A PIONEER: ELDER THOMAS MOSES FOUNTAIN

“The Advent Message Comes
to Montgomery”

by

Stephanie D. Johnson

At the turn of the century, Montgomery, Alabama, once the proud capital of the ex-confederate state was like a southern belle who had lost all her virtue. Montgomery had once been the habitation of southern aristocracy, now the land of sharecroppers. Gone were the great architectural landmarks and in its place wooden frame houses where blacks and whites lived separate but not equal.

While the world was being shaken by the industrial revolution, Montgomery stood still. Life was free from urban excesses. Its citizens were blissfully ignorant of the world around them. The majority of its people were devout Southern Baptist or Methodist who rigidly kept Sunday.

So it was in 1906 that God sent his servant, Elder T. B. Buckner to this city. Elder Buckner was a devout Seventh-day Adventist minister who believed in the second coming of Christ and who kept the Biblical Sabbath rather than Sunday, the first day of the week.

Immediately when he arrived in Montgomery he set up a church school in a little flat top building on Early Street. That was open to every child in Montgomery who wanted an education. Thomas, Jr. was among the many boys and girls who attended this school.

Elder Buckner became acquainted with Thomas Fountain, Sr. and Louis Frazier both class leaders in the Methodist Church. He held Bible studies in the Frazier's home and soon both men became Seventh-day Adventists, and the first deacons of the church.

It drastically changed the lifestyle of both men. Sunday became a day of work rather than worship; ten percent of all their earnings were given to the church as tithe. The smell of a golden brown pork chop roasting in the oven no longer excited their appetite.

Thomas Fountain, Sr.'s, new beliefs were not shared by his wife, Rosa. She stubbornly hung to religious traditions and refused to yield.

Young Thomas, Jr. remembers, “One day my father came home and my mother had some swine flesh cooking in the pot. My father walked in and immediately took the pot and threw it out the door. He soon realized the rashness of his action and apologized.”

Two years later Rosa Fountain became a Seventh-day Adventist and remained faithful until she died in 1971 at the age of ninety-seven years and eight months.

In the prime of life at age thirty-six, Thomas, Sr. died. Before his death he gathered the family around the bed and said, “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.” He left his wife, Rosa, and his four children—Carrie, Thomas, Jr., Elizabeth and Francis Rosebud who never forgot their father's last words and remained faithful to the church.

The Fountains were left without their father who was both farmer and brickmason to provide for them. Rosa courageously kept the family together by taking in washing and ironing. (In later years she went to Tuskegee and took a practical nursing course. She cared for some of the wealthiest people in Montgomery.)

Young Thomas, Jr. at age nine became the man of the house. He would take his little tin wagon and go up and down the streets of Montgomery selling vegetables. The Fountains prospered because of their faithfulness and “the union of divine power with human effort.” Rosa Fountain worked hard to see that all her children attended college and remained faithful to the church. She lived to see her dream become a reality.

NEXT MONTH: “Stalwart of the Advent Message”

NOTHING BUT LOVE

He left His golden throne above,
Gave up His all because of love,
He was a babe in manger born,
There was no heat to keep Him warm.

Though a carpenter when He
was grown,
He built no house to call His
own,
He taught the birds to build a
nest,
The fox a hole to hide and rest.

No beast to ride, no boat
supplied,
He walked and walked from sun
to sun,
No place to enjoy when day was
done,
Just heaven's dome when night
had come.

No army His to fight the foe,
No expense account to help Him
go,
No fancy clothes or shoes
aglow,
No shelter from the rain and
snow.

And yet this life which began
so small,
Became the greatest one of all,
Before Him all the mighty fall,
He rose above sin's beckoning
call.

He walked on water, made the
blind to see,
Raised a son to relieve a
widow's misery,
He stilled a storm and kept His
friends alive,
Fed five thousand with 2 fishes
and loaves but five,
He made a deaf man hear and a
wild man tame,
Yet He commanded him not to
mention His name.

There was Napoleon, Caesar and
Alexander the Great,
Among famous names these
men would rate,
But each of these men had his
fall,
Christ triumphed with **Nothing
But Love**, that's all.

—George A. Martin



Enter to learn;

depart to serve.

SCHOOL GIVES STUDENTS OPPORTUNITY TO EARN WHILE LEARNING

Friday sundown has come to Oakwood College, and labor at the college's many industries has ceased for the Sabbath.

On Oakwood's 500-acre farm, tractors sit quietly, waiting for Sunday when work is to begin again. The college bakery is empty, as are the print shop, the laundry and the dairy operation, where hundreds of students have worked since Oakwood was founded by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1896. Production stops in keeping with Biblical law laid down thousands of years ago.

Clinging fast to tradition and tenets established by church founder Ellen G. White, two-thirds of Oakwood's 1,300 students still include work as part of their daily schedules.

... student employment coordinator Minneola Dixon explained recently, "Our entire program was and is structured around the philosophy that education included development of the head, the heart and the hands.

"Developing the head meant traditional education, developing the heart included studies in Christian principles," she said.

"Developing the hands meant developing a manual skill so that every one of our students can earn a living at something, they can be productive, they don't have to be dependent on what society wants to give them," Mrs. Dixon said.

Though most of Oakwood's campus population must work to meet a \$1,508 quarterly tuition, room and board charge, college administrators still place heavy emphasis on the virtues of hard work and manual labor. As Mrs. White wrote more than 100 years ago, "Manual training is deserving of far more attention than it has received. . . . Every youth, on leaving school, should have acquired a knowledge of some

trade or occupation by which, if need be, he may earn a livelihood."

Many educators and parents today see manual training opportunities for students as something new and valuable. But Adventist schools and academies are merely refining a theme taught for four generations.

At Oakwood, the work theme has helped the school stay afloat while many other private colleges have suffered financially.

Oakwood has over the years prospered and perhaps grown far beyond the dreams of Mrs. White, a white woman whose vision helped establish the predominantly black school.

Since the school opened with 16 students as the Oakwood Manual Training School, more than 20,000 students have passed through its doors. Since it became a four-year college in 1943, more than 2,500 students have graduated.

The school has grown despite inauspicious and austere beginnings and what is for many the stern Adventist doctrine which prohibits smoking, drinking, dancing or cursing and espouses the virtues of a vegetarian diet.

The regionally accredited college offers 33 fields of study from 17 departments of instruction including pre-professional training for law, medical and dental schools. Students can study anything from biology and food and nutrition to mathematics, theology and social work.

But perhaps the most outstanding aspect of an Oakwood College education is the opportunity to work while learning. The college budget sets aside \$800,000 annually to employ students in 53 different departments.

While a great many of these jobs are clerical in nature, students still have a chance to learn first-hand the skills of dairy production, farming, baking, food preparation and furniture making. Though these industries shut down for Sabbath every Friday afternoon and Saturday, those in charge of these operations say productivity is as high or

higher than similar plants found in the secular world.

The college bakery, where an average of 25 students are employed, turns out 300 loaves of bread a day. While most of the seven-grain, whole wheat and soya bread made here is eaten at the college cafeteria, some bread is sold commercially at Oakwood's health food store and at two stores in town.

Oakwood's dairy production averages 6,500 pounds of milk per month sold to a local commercial distributor. Another 500 gallons of milk each week is used at the school.

The farm provides 1,500 tons of corn each winter for the dairy operation, while all of Oakwood's soybean crop is sold.

Equally as productive is Oakwood's linen service, which has contracts for laundry cleaning with several local motels, the Redstone Arsenal, Marshall Space Flight Center and some high schools.

About 300 students earn tuition scholarships at Oakwood working as literature evangelists, walking door-to-door selling religious books, pamphlets and magazines. During the summer, many of these same students work in hospitals and churches, and overseas as student missionaries.

The newest student industry, though not on campus, is Harris Pine Mills located in the industrial park in Madison. Owned by the General Conference of the Adventist Church, Harris Pine Mills was brought to Huntsville in a cooperative effort between the college and the private firm which runs the operation for the conference.

Harris Pine, with its home offices in Oregon, has made a practice of selecting plant sites close to Adventist academies and colleges. To date, 18 plants near Adventist schools have opened, making Harris Pine first in the nation in wholesale unfinished furniture sales, and 10th in finished furniture.

At the Huntsville plant, 32 students work four hours a day assembling and finishing beds, dressers and dining room furniture. Presently, the two-line assembly operation packages 500 pieces a week, and plant officials hope to have production up to 1,500 pieces. Eventually, 100 students will work at the plant.

This article appeared in the Huntsville Times written by Susan Still, staff writer.

BLACK ADVENTIST BUSINESSES—IN ACTION



Robert Jackson

ROBERT JACKSON INSURES THE SAFETY OF THOUSANDS

The responsibility of insuring the safety of our twenty-one thousand people in the Northeastern Conference is the job of the Insurance and Loss Control Director, Robert Jackson.

The idea of a risk management department is a recent trend among Church Administrators who did not see the necessity of insuring its properties and employees. Opinion has changed and now the General Conference coordinates a Risk Management Department. Northeastern Conference is the only Regional Conference that operates such a department.

The Administration of Northeastern recognizes the increased growth of its membership and its personal properties, and decided to implement Risk Management to reduce hazards among members. For such a new concept a proven professional was needed. Northeastern secured the services of Robert Jackson, a graduate of Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama where he received a B.A. in Business Administration.

Robert Jackson has extensive training in the Insurance Business. He worked as an Insurance Agent for Commonwealth Life Insurance, and Reserved Life Insurance of Dallas, Texas. He was a Claim Adjuster for Continental Life Insurance. He investigated Claims for policyholders in automobile settlements, accident claims and workman's compensation.

He has a considerable amount of experience in Banking as a Bank Examiner for the Comptroller of Currency for the Federal Government, and a Bank Manager Trainee for the Republic National Bank of Dallas, Texas, one of the largest banks in the Southwest.

Although satisfied with the financial rewards of work in the secular world he longed to use his talents for the Lord. When he was asked to leave Dallas, Texas, sell his furniture, leave many friends and relatives, he immediately responded and came to New York.

He credits his wife, who encouraged him to venture on new ground. Since coming to New York, he now looks back and sees the providential hand of God was preparing him for this task.

Mr. Jackson's primary duties are investigating ways to reduce hazards that might occur to the constituents or the Church properties, maintaining files on each conference employee and their insurance coverage and inspection on church properties.

He annually updates certificates for newly purchased properties. He investigates the cost of insuring church property. He makes on the spot official inspection with the General Conference Risk Management Representative and sets up seminars for local churches insurance representatives.

The seminars have proven to be effective in acquainting local representatives to ways of reducing hazards and the business details involved in such an operation. As the Director he has sought to achieve the optimum level of communications with the representatives by being both responsive and sensitive to their needs.

Mr. Jackson is assisted by Mrs. Joyce Hospedales, who coordinates the day to day management of the office. He describes her assistance as invaluable.

Since the department's initial stages, it has received much support and guidance from Elder S. H. Brooks, Treasurer of the Northeastern Conference. Robert Jackson is appreciative of that support. "It makes a difference when you have leadership behind you. It gives you a greater sense of accomplishment and well-being when the conference endorses your activity."



Unlike the average insurance company he sees the goal of his department as eternal value, to prepare each member for the second coming of Christ while providing a safe edifice for them to worship in. Mr. Jackson feels that if we don't include Christ in everything we do we will ultimately fail. "Too many people seek to achieve worldly standards instead of asking the Lord what he would have them do. Many sacrifice character for transitory things rather than striving for eternal life."

Robert Jackson is married to former Kathryn Black who teaches fifth grade at Hanson Place Elementary School in Brooklyn, New York. He has two sons Damian, Robert II, and a daughter, La Toya. He is one of six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Christina Jackson. He was born in Detroit, Michigan and spent his early childhood in Austin, Texas and later moved to Dallas, Texas. He is a product of



Miss Joyce Hospedales serves as assistant to Mr. Jackson.

Church School and a third generation Seventh-day Adventist. He was baptized by Dr. W. J. Cleveland.

Robert Jackson is a gifted singer who during his teen years traveled with a quartet throughout the Southwest with Elder L. A. Paschal, then M.V. Secretary of the Southwest Region Conference. During those years he developed a love for singing. His voice has been aired on "Your Bible Speaks," a program on WEUP in Huntsville, Alabama. His hobbies include: table tennis, swimming, photography, singing, and traveling. One of his most consuming interests is a day to day Christian Witness. His enthusiasm is contagious when he talks about the eternal rewards of door to door witnessing.

In the future he plans to pursue a C.L.U.—Certified Life Underwriter's Degree, which in the insurance business is comparable as an M.D. to a Medical Doctor or a Ph.D. to an Academician. He is optimistic about the future because he can do all things through Christ which strengthens him.

IN THE NEWS

OBITUARY

RHONDA LYNN PATRICK, born January 10, 1969 in New York City, was the elder of two children born to John and Florence Patrick.

Rhonda was a happy go lucky type of girl. She loved being with people. She had a winning smile which was a major part of her personality. She had a way with people that her friends enjoyed being with her, and was so well mannered that adults esteemed her highly. She found happiness in doing things children her age usually enjoyed—running, games, going on picnics, outings, and swimming.

She attended the City Tabernacle Church of SDA and had her start from the Cradle Roll through Kindergarten, Primary and Junior Divisions of the Church. Although she was very young, she loved the Lord Jesus and expressed her desire to be soon baptized. Taking part in the different activities of the Church was a pleasure to her.

She was a lover of music, especially vocal. She was fond of giving recitations. Her favorite songs were "Soon and Very

Soon" and "I Made a Vow." She enjoyed taking part in the Ingathering Program and was looking forward to becoming a Junior Usher and Pathfinder, when sudden illness confined her to a long hospital stay.

Rhonda was a student at the R. T. Hudson Elementary School until her illness in January 1979.

Many Church families and friends along with her family had hoped and prayed for a full recovery for Rhonda, but on Monday, November 19, 1979, she departed this life to await the Lord's return.

Her smiles, laughter, warm heartedness and joy of being with people will long be remembered.

She leaves to mourn; her parents, brother Rendell, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and a host of friends.

OBITUARY

CELESTINO ANSELMO DENNERY, JR., born June 29, 1970 in New York City departed this life December 2, 1979. He was the son to Mr. and Mrs. Celestino Dennery.

Celestino Jr., better known as Junie by his family and everyone who loved him, attended the R. T. Hudson Elementary School. He was a dedicated little soldier for the Lord. One who loved singing and talking Jesus, Jesus. He taught his sisters, Celeste and Delva in his own little way how to pray, and read Bible stories for them.

Junie at the age of 9 years left to mourn his mother, Margarite, his father Celestino Sr., two sisters, two grandfathers, two grandmothers, six aunts and ten uncles, and a host of relatives and friends.

He will be missed by all who ever came in contact with him. We will always remember his beautiful smile, and cheerful face.

But only to remember, he's just away. . . .

**Oakwood
College
Homecoming
April 4-6, 1980**

THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

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