

**NORTH AMERICAN  
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**VOICE**



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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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**SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

## COVER STORY

### ANOTHER MILESTONE

The Southeastern Conference is a part of the Seventh-day Adventist church organization, comprising the territory of Florida and South Georgia. It came into being on January 1, 1981, with approximately 8,500 members, 51 churches, 20 pastors, 5 church schools, 24 teachers, 12 literature evangelists, and 2 associate publishing secretaries.

The constituency of the South Atlantic Conference requested that study be given to the division of the territory into two conferences. A fact-finding committee was established to develop the facts, and a larger committee to review and make recommendations. Representatives for both committees included Marvin Brown, K.A. Dennis, Kenneth Moore, R.A. Sloan, J.W. Dorsett, Mrs. Julia Jackson, Mrs. W. Waldon, Alpheus Forbes, O.H. Paul, William Winston, R. Patterson, R.B. Hairston, and R.L. Woodfork, from the South Atlantic Conference. Southern Union Conference representatives were: H.H. Schmidt, H.F. Roll, T.W. Cantrell, and J.H. Whitehead; and from the General Conference, F.L. Jones. The study encompassed:

- A. Division of the conference - North and South geographical lines
- B. Projected budget of income and expense
- C. Capital needs
- D. Pre-opening expense
- E. Cash needs

Resolutions for the division of the South Atlantic Conference were: (1) the growth of the Black work would be enhanced; (2) the two conferences could operate with financial soundness; (3) the north conference would have North and South Carolina and Georgia, except for the southerly portion; (4) the south conference would experience faster growth as shown by past progress; (5) the north conference would remain in Atlanta, and the south would construct its headquarters in the Orlando area, geographic center of the proposed territory. See Exhibit A.

A vote was taken to recommend the formation of two separate conferences to the South Atlantic Conference membership, the Southern Union Conference, and the General Conference, effective January 1, 1981. Also a request for financial assistance to bring about the division was received also.



*The committee that acquired the administrative office—Seated, Atty. Julius Williams, Elders R.R. Brown, Executive Secretary, J.A. Edgecombe, President; D.A. Walker, Treasurer; Standing, Mr. Dave Drawdry, Realtor; Atty. Frank McMillan, and Elder K.A. Dennis, Youth Ministries Director.*

S.E. Gooden said in January, 1981, "When the amoeba outgrows itself and divides, each portions as an autonomous entity goes its own way and never meets again." The South Atlantic Conference outgrew itself and life was given to the Southeastern Conference. We have never forgotten our roots, but have maintained the valiant battle for survival.

Elder J.A. Edgecombe, then pastor of the Miami, Florida Bethany S.D.A. church, was called to give leadership as the first conference president, at a constituency meeting held June 22, 1980. D.A. Walker, Secretary-Treasurer for the South Central Conference, was asked to carry on the same responsibilities in the newly formed conference.

Full-time departmental directors were G.W. Timpson and I.L. Harrell. T.R. Smith, publishing director and Olice Brown, ABC Manager, served in both the South Atlantic and Southeastern Conferences. Since those early beginnings, Southeastern Conference has expanded, changed, and added to its office staff. President, J.A. Edgecombe; Secretary, R.R. Brown; Treasurer, D.A. Walker; Assistant Treasurers - Patricia Allen and Eugene Mason; Departmental Directors - I.L. Harrell; Dennis Ross, Jr., who served briefly as Ministerial Secretary, Stewardship Director and Trust Services Director, joined the Southern Union Conference staff; K.A. Dennis; O.H. Paul; secretaries - Winifred Rivers-Allen; Melinda Sewer-

Muganzo; Valerie Price; Myra Richardson; and Janet Cobb; and receptionist - Geralean Edgecombe; comprise the Southeastern Conference office staff, with headquarters in Orlando, Florida.

For 35 years the South Atlantic Conference carefully guarded North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The division would take its toll, mentally, on the constituency, but the objectives of evangelism, etc., would soon erase the trauma. The prospects for growth, development, and expansion created an excitement among ministers, teachers, and laity that has skyrocketed the Southeastern Conference into new orbits.

The hopes, dreams and aspirations of this conference since its beginning were confined, first to 2 suites, then 3, at 801 West Highway 436, Altamonte Springs, Florida. For five years, God blessed the activities of His work out of those cramped quarters. It was from this humble setting that the growth and development of the Lord's work was seen. Everyone anticipated the day when the conference would be under its own "vine and fig tree."

That day finally arrived. The conference acquired a building located at 180 North Westmonte Drive, Altamonte Springs, for \$525,000.00. This ended the long search by realtors, Mrs. Pauline Paul, Mrs. Doris Ware, Mrs. Celia Trumble, and office personnel who followed every lead and sign of vacant land or building.



*Southeastern's office staff—front, Winnifred Rivers Allen, Gerelean Edgecombe. Rear, K.A. Denis, Youth Ministries Director; Valerie Price, Myra Richardson, Melinda Muganzo, Beverley Rivers, Janet Dobbs and I.L. Harrell, Personal Ministries and Sabbath School Director.*

One gorgeous Florida day, O.H. Paul, Education Director and R.R. Brown, Executive Secretary, accompanied President J.A. Edgecombe to a building site. After the morning was almost spent, Elder Edgecombe received a call from Mr. Dave Drawdy of Suburban Realty, who had an office building to show us. This was an answer to 5 years of searching and prayer. When the office staff visited the site, all were amazed that a building in such close proximity was not heretofore seen.

James Merrifield, an architect, re-designed the interior and provided Joe Geiger with specifications. Adventist Building Services, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Geiger contractors, were contacted and contracted to remodel the one year old building to suit the various needs of the work. Mrs. Connie Groves, interior designer, worked untiringly to color coordinate and furnish the lovely setting from which now issues the conference's work.

After three months, on May 18, 1986, the doors were thrown open for service to the constituency and the public. Scores of individuals came to witness the memorable occasion and to rejoice in what God had accomplished.



*J.A. Edgecombe, President of Southeastern Conference.*



*Sitting left to right: O.H. Paul, Superintendent of Education, Patricia Allen, Asst. Treasurer, and Eugene Mason, Asst. Treasurer.*

At the dedicatory ceremony and open house, A.C. McClure, President of the Southern Union Conference, gave the keynote address, and W.D. Sumpter, Executive Secretary of the Union, gave the prayer of dedication. Richard Center, Treasurer of the Southern Union Conference; R.B. Hairston, President of the South Atlantic Conference; M. Gordon, President of the Florida Conference; and Mardian Blair, President of Sunbelt gave remarks.

The building has, without question permitted an acceleration of all functions of the work. The constituency has voiced their pride and approval of the administration's choice, but over and beyond that, there is the ever present consciousness of why the facilities exist. The office staff serves the pastors and churches, and together we anticipate the day when our dreams will be realized; when the work will be done and the purpose for the building fulfilled.

President J.A. Edgecombe, the officers, departmental men and staff have witnessed another milestone in the conference's progress. Elder Edgecombe has given good leadership. He and his executive committee have executed good fiscal responsibility and ought to be commended for the vision, work insight and amplification of their plans.

Elder R.R. Brown  
Communication Secretary

#### EXHIBIT A



\*Denotes separation of North and South Conferences when division took place.

### EXHIBIT B

General Conference appropriation . . . . .	\$375,000.00
Southern Union Conference . . . . .	\$100,000.00
South Atlantic Conference . . . . .	\$125,000.00
<b>TOTAL NEEDED . . . . .</b>	<b>\$600,000.00</b>

### EXHIBIT C

YEAR	TITHE	MEMBERSHIP
1981	\$2,237,284.28	8,511
1982	\$2,549,010.23	9,112
1983	\$3,013,583.95	11,034
1984	\$3,459,274.37	11,722
1985	\$3,675,000.00	12,321

## PUBLISHER'S PAGE

### AMERICA'S MAD

#### (America's Mood-Altering Drug)

At the corner of Rainbow Drive and Candler Road in Decatur, Georgia, is a fruit and vegetable stand. I frequent the place because the operator guarantees all he sells.

I missed seeing him, though his son managed in his absence, for nearly two weeks.

Returning home from church one Sabbath I stopped by to tell him he had been missed.

He came to my car and said, "I have been doing 240 hours of involuntary labor for DUI (i.e. driving under the influence of alcohol.) I have been picking up trash!"

He was one of 2,000,000 arrested each year for driving while intoxicated.

#### The Alcohol Problem

Only recently has alcohol consumption been recognized as a serious public health problem in our country.

"An estimated 7% (9,000,000 people) of the United States adult population are problem drinkers . . . Only about one-third of the adult population are total abstainers . . . Drink among youth is almost universal. Consumption stands at 2.6 gallons of pure alcohol per person, age 15 and over."

The estimated annual cost of alcoholism in the United States is \$21 billion.

#### Introduction . . . Alcohol

A millennium before the Christian era the wise man said, "Wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." *Proverbs 20:1*. Yet in spite of this ancient recognition of the effect of alcohol it has, for decades, been our national mood-changing drug of choice. Its consumption is socially acceptable in most parts of the world . . . In certain social and political circles and in businesses, on occasion it is almost mandatory."

It is America's MAD—  
i.e., **Mind-Altering Drug**.

"Man came from the hand of his Creator perfect in organization and beautiful in form, the crowning act of creation . . . All of his organs and faculties were equally developed and harmoniously balanced.

"When man fell from his exalted position through sin, . . . He fell prey to the will of Satan. Satan thought of a plan which would do the most possible evil to the human family. He would take the fruit of the vine, the grain, and other things given by God as food and would convert them to *poisons* which would ruin a man's physical, mental and moral powers."

These *poisons* we now call light beer, heavy beer, ales, table wines, ciders, vintage wines, champagne, sherry port, whiskey, rum, brandy, vodka, and gin.

These *poisons* are made from raw materials such as rice, barley, potatoes, corn, grapes, apples, sugar cane, pineapples, and coconuts.

#### Alcohol—A Problem in the Seventh-day Adventist Church

From a recent communication of the General Conference Health/Temperance Department, I Quote:

"Our members are facing tremendous pressures from the advertising industry, and from peers and friends to become social drinkers. Our young people especially are being tested and tempted. Preliminary results from surveys show that a significant segment of our church (Seventh-day Adventist) is failing to hold up the temperance standard."

To prevent or correct this condition we were given a health message. Specifically, the purposes are to:

(1) "Lessen suffering in our world." 9 T 112, 113

- (2) "Purify His church." 9 T 112, 113
- (3) "Secure the highest development of body and mind and soul." MH 146
- (4) "Evaluate the moral standards." CH 505
- (5) Clarify thought processes and "appropriate sacred truth" CH 21
- (6) "Restore the moral image of God in man." MH 160
- (7) Make "preparation of the people for the Lord's second coming." CH 206
- (8) Be the world's object lesson of health and prosperity. CDF 27

People give a variety of reasons for using the most abused drug in the United States.

Young people (teens in particular) drink to assert independence, to help overcome nervousness, for excitement, and to rebel.

Older people turn to alcohol because of declining health, loss of self-esteem, feelings of uselessness, increased leisure time, depression, isolation, family changes, financial worries, and availability of a socially accepted pastime.

People in general gravitate toward drinking because of loneliness, marital stress, boredom, job problems, illness, insecurity, and to relax.

Some have traced the habit to communion service, weddings and medication.

Getting drunk doesn't make you tall . . . rich . . . strong . . . handsome . . . smart . . . witty . . . sophisticated . . . or sexy. It only makes you drunk.

#### Effects

Despite the glamour and appeal to experiment or succumb to social pressure, the hard, cold facts declare even the moderate use of alcohol as counter productive.

Use of alcoholic beverages causes: brain damage, heart disease, memory loss, liver damage, mood change, stomach problems, damage to developing fetus and spouse abuse.

Alcoholic beverages among young people result in fights; stunted physical growth; lowered GPA; athletes not able to do their best, self-worth and respect of others jeopardized.

Added to these problems are broken families; abused children; ruined careers, and lives cut short.

#### Alcohol and Traffic Accidents

"A comparison of the number of dead and injured of our 1970 national traffic toll

shows it to have been greater than that of the Vietnam War.

"53,316 US Vietnam War dead during 1961-70; wounded, 293,442" "US motor vehicle deaths for the Year 1970 only: 54,000; wounded, 2,000,000."

"Alcohol is responsible for approximately 50% of all deaths due to automobile accidents in the US.

"Problem drinkers, teenagers, and heavy social drinkers make up the majority of persons in alcohol-related crashes."

In a special issue of the magazine **Body-wise**, P. 15, are these facts: "Every 20 minutes a drinking driver in the US kills a person.

"Alcohol costs the nation about \$10 billion a year in lost work time.

"Alcoholism is also one of the major causes of suicide.

"In half of all murders in the US, either the killer or the victim—or both—have been drinking.

"Alcohol kills at least 86,000 people a year."

"America's MAD." Is it worth it?

Don't be misled into thinking that beer has less alcohol than wine or liquor.

"Beer is just as potent as wine or hard liquor. Twelve (12) ounces of beer, five (5) ounces of wine and one and one-half (1 1/2) ounces of 80 proof liquor *all contain* the same amount of alcohol."

Some reasons why one-third (1/3) of Americans don't drink: (1) Do not like the taste of it.

(2) Dislike being out of control.

(3) Drinking is against their religion.

(4) Alcohol consumption makes them ill.

(5) They have a friend or relative whose life has been affected by alcohol.

(6) They are taking medication that could interact dangerously with alcohol.

(8) They *know* alcohol can have harmful effects on health.

Someday . . . somewhere . . . someone . . . may offer you a drink you don't want. There are two ways to handle it.

First, you can accept it and somehow get rid of it.

Second, you *can* say "No thank you."

These are indirect and direct methods, respectively. The latter seems the better.

### Rehab Treatment

"Any successful program to rehabilitate must include a change in lifestyle. An all-around good health program is essential. It consists of a good diet; regular habits of

eating, exercising, working and sleeping; and a hobby interest for leisure time. Relief from tension as much as possible is most important . . . Recognizing an individual's need for help outside of himself—a *dependence on supernatural-divine power.*"

### Conclusion

"Nine-tenths of those who are taken to prison are those who have learned to drink." *Temperance*, p. 24

"The cries of the starving millions in our world would soon be hushed if the money put into the tills of liquor sellers were spent in alleviating the suffering of humanity." E.G. White, *Manuscript* 139, 1899

"Moderate drinking is the school in which men are receiving an education for the drunkard's career." RH 3/24/1884

"In relation to *tea, coffee, tobacco*, and *alcoholic drinks*, the only safe course is to touch not, taste not, handle not." MH, p. 335

"Alcohol is a deceptive drug. It acts first upon the higher nerve centers, releasing inhibitions and giving a false sense of superiority. As intoxication progresses, it depresses the nerve centers, slows motor activity, and finally immobilizes the victim. Finally, by arresting the actions of the lungs and heart, it kills.

"There is no cure for alcoholism, except abstinence."

Your commitment to abstinence is its own reward.

Your gift to the World Health/Temperance Day Offering will make alcoholism preventable for many, treatable and curable for others. The highest evidence of nobility in a man is self-control. This is the sure cure for America's **Mind-Altering Drug**.

Elder Ralph Peay  
Communication Secretary

1) Mervyn G. Hardinge, **A Philosophy of Health**, p. 107

2) *Ibid.*, p. 105

3) **Life More Abundant**, Health Department, Inter-American Division, p. 87

4) Mervyn G. Hardinge, **A Philosophy of Health**, p. 106

5) *Ibid.*, p. 113

6) **What Young Adults Should Know About Alcohol**, Channing Bete, p. 4

7) *Ibid.*, p. 9

8) Mervyn G. Hardinge, **A Philosophy of Health**, p. 114

9) *Ibid.*, p. 114

## ALLEGHENY EAST

### NEW SANCTUARY IN PISGAH, MARYLAND

A twenty year quest for a new sanctuary in Pisgah, Maryland has ended with the recent erection of a new church structure in that location.

The three-day celebration began with a Friday night service conducted by Elder Walter M. Starks, whose tent meetings in 1964 were responsible for the conversion of Charter members Rallie and Lizanne Brown.

On Sabbath morning the official ribbon cutting ceremony featured M.C. Van Putten, Allegheny East Conference President; in addition to local county officials; charter members; and former pastors and lay pastors.

The church history, as read by Mrs. Fleada Scott, highlighted the small and humble beginnings. Pioneer worker Edna Criddle, 87, carried a strong witness to the Pisgah Community. Elder Starks' evangelistic meeting is considered a direct answer to her prayers.

From this, the small group began worshipping in homes. From homes to lodge halls, public schools and local churches, their progress continued.

Elder Van Putten, in the Sabbath sermon, commended the members for being first in the Allegheny East Conference in recent memory to build with their own hands a temple of worship.

The morning service was followed by a fellowship dinner for 400, in the Rector Memorial Fellowship Hall.

Services for the day ended with a gospel concert by the Mt. Olivet Church Choir from Camden, New Jersey.

Formal dedication services ended on Sunday evening with awards and tributes to the community and to the Metropolitan Methodist Church, whose membership permitted the Adventist congregation the use of their building for the past three years. Present pastor, Lecount Butler delivered the closing message with music provided by the Metropolitan Methodist Choir.

Renowned artist, Larry "Erskine" Thomas from the Dupont Park Church in Washington painted a 40 foot scene of the "River Jordan" over the baptistery.

Donald Porter  
Communication Secretary

## WEST PHILADELPHIA CHURCH REMEMBERS HER OWN

On June 28, West Philadelphia Church memorialized her lost ones by erecting a plaque listing those former members and friends awaiting the call of the Life Giver.

With the texts Ps. 116:15—"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of the saints," Hosea 13:14—"I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes," and the EGW quote "The Lord is not unconcerned or indifferent about the death of his saints. Guardian angels accompany the saints through the valley of the shadow of death, mark their resting places, and are the first to greet them in the glorious resurrection morning," Ed. 305 Pastor George L. Braxton presented it to the waiting members.

Hopefully no more names will be added, but while we await Christ's return, let us make ready.

Mark Frog Harris  
Communication Secretary

## HUNGER SAVES

One of the joys of operating a community soup kitchen is not only seeing hungry stomachs filled, but occasionally finding a soul who chose to come to know Jesus. West Philadelphia Church, Philadelphia, Pa., had that joy when Juan Beauchamp and James Huntley were baptized into their church.

Juan had only been in the United States a year since leaving his native, Puerto Rico, when he discovered the soup kitchen. He visited for two years before he accepted the truth. The work of the Holy Spirit is quite evident in this young life, when you learn that his family is made up of Baptists and Jehovah's Witness', and his mother is a spiritualist medium.

Juan likes to attend services, and occasionally plays his harmonica for Sabbath School.

Mark Frog Harris  
Communication Secretary

## JERRI McLEAN AND FOOD FOR LIFE HIGHEST HONOR

Jerri McLean, Founder and Director of *Food For Life of SDA* received the highest honor the city council can bestow for humanitarian service.

Since 1982 this volunteer organization has provided food, counseling and other

# The Editor's Desk

## NORTHEASTERN ACADEMY AWARDED HIGHEST ACCREDITATION

On April 14, 1986, six representatives of the Board of Regents of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists converged on the campus of Northeastern Academy, located at 532 W. 215th Street in the Inwood section of Upper Manhattan. The sole purpose of the committee was to engage itself in the evaluation process and to determine the actual situation as it exists in the school. For three days the Visiting Committee diligently addressed itself to this task.

The team considered the educational program to be excellent, with few exceptions, according to chairman, Dr. Timothy McDonald, "We were hard-pressed to find a flaw." They were greatly impressed with the teacher-pupil interaction and with the respect that the students demonstrated for their teachers and for each other.

As a result, the Academy was granted the maximum term of accreditation—seven years. The administrator and staff are well pleased with the assessment and concluding report of the committee. Together they pledged their wholehearted cooperation to the continued growth and success of the school's program.

Members of the Evaluation Committee were: Timothy McDonald, Director of Education for the Columbia Union; Sandra Bent, teacher, Greater Boston Academy, Boston, MA; Myrna Candelaria, teacher, Greater New York Academy, Queens, NY; Gary Frost, Principal, Pine Tree Academy, Woodside, ME; Franklin Moses, Guidance Counselor and Registrar, South Lancaster Academy, So. Lancaster, MA; and Ron Scott, Director of Education for the Southern New England Conference.

Yvonne Moore  
Librarian

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	Sept. 26	Oct. 3	10	17
Boston, Mass.	6:35	6:23	6:11	6:00
New York City	6:46	6:33	6:22	6:11
Buffalo, N.Y.	7:07	6:53	6:41	6:30
Atlanta, Ga.	7:29	7:20	7:11	7:02
Miami, Fla.	7:13	7:06	6:58	6:52
Charlotte, N.C.	7:15	7:05	6:56	6:46
Birmingham, Ala.	6:39	6:29	6:20	6:11
Jackson, Miss.	6:53	6:43	6:35	6:26
Memphis, Tenn.	6:52	6:42	6:32	6:23
Louisville, Ky.	7:34	7:23	7:13	7:03
Detroit, Mich.	7:24	7:12	7:00	6:49
Chicago, Ill.	6:41	6:29	6:18	6:07
South Bend, Indiana	6:37	6:24	6:13	6:01
Minneapolis, Minn.	7:04	6:51	6:38	6:25
St. Louis, Mo.	6:52	6:41	6:30	6:20
Kansas City, Mo.	7:09	6:58	6:48	6:37
Denver, Co.	6:51	6:40	6:29	6:18
Little Rock, Ark.	7:00	6:51	6:41	6:32
Dallas, Texas	7:19	7:10	7:01	6:52
New Orleans, La.	6:52	6:44	6:35	6:28
Albuquerque, N.M.	6:58	6:48	6:39	6:29
Oklahoma City, Okla.	7:22	7:12	7:02	6:53

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

social services to persons in need. Funding is entirely from personal donations. Members use their own automobiles to make deliveries and their own time to package sandwiches and fruit for the needy.

McLean says, "... we feed approximately 500 each week and I have a strong united corps of Christian workers. It has not always been peaches and cream. I recall a time when there was only 26 cents in our treasury; but we fed the needy. God has always provided."

"Needy" is defined as anyone who is homeless or jobless. And may include food stamp recipients, the aged, the young or even financially successful persons suffering a reversal of circumstances.

Others involved in this ministry include: Luther and Alice Bruner; Ernestine Fisher; Ralph, Betti and Glenda Glenmore; Lucy Jones; Ralph and Brenda Jones; Clara Mae Lewis; John and Romaine Littles; Ora Morrow; Madeline Palmer; Larue and Eva Stokes and Florence and Yvonne Warre.

Mrs. McLean cites as her ultimate dream, to see a *Better Living Center* "where body and mind may be recreated for better living."

Jerri McLean  
Director Food For Life



*Dr. B.F. Reaves, President of Oakwood College, delivers Sabbath sermon.*

### ALLEGHENY EAST CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING

Nearly 12,000 persons crowded the Allegheny East Conference campgrounds between July 3 and 13 for the annual camp meeting festivities at Pine Forge, Pennsylvania.

The general theme for the encampment was *Our Firm Foundation*. The program, prepared for each age level, reflected the careful planning that was needed to facilitate that theme.



*W.W. Fordham, far left, presents the Senior Citizen Tram to the Conference Administrators to be used to transport senior citizens who need help in getting from place to place. Accepting the tram are, left to right, B.W. Mann, A.M. Kibble and M.C. Van Putten.*



*Carlos Street, left, Treasurer of the Allegheny East Conference Senior Citizen Organization gives his report while W.W. Fordham, association president looks on.*



*Participants in the Sabbath School Seminar learn a new song. The seminar was presented by Mrs. Denise Valenzuela of the Southern California Conference.*

The camp meeting opened with the Senior Citizens' Association and the Conference Administrators dedicating a new Senior Citizen tram. The tram was purchased by the two organizations to aid those Senior Citizens who need help in getting from one place to another. Elder W.W. Fordham, President of the Allegheny East Conference Senior Citizen Association, made the presentation and Elder M.C. Van Putten, Elder Alvin Kibble and Mr. Bennie Mann, the Conference Administrators accepted the tram.

The Senior Citizens also held their annual banquet.

Camp Meeting is always an opportune time for seminars and workshops. This year's camp meeting included seminars in the areas of Health, Personal Ministries, Community Services, Spirit of Prophecy, Stewardship, Family Life, Sabbath School, Music and others.

Mrs. Denise Valenzuela, Associate Personal Ministries Director for Children's Ministries for the Sabbath School Department of the Southern California Conference, presented an outstanding seminar on *How to Lead a Child to Christ*.

Elder D.A. Delafield of the E.G. White Estate, presented a well attended seminar on the Spirit of Prophecy.



*Frank Jackson, in foreground is always on duty during camp meeting as coordinator of Camp Meeting Ushers.*

Special guests for each Sabbath included Dr. Benjamin F. Reaves, President of Oakwood College; Dr. C.B. Rock, Vice President of the General Conference; Matthew Bediako, Vice President of the General Conference; Reginald O. Robinson of the *Breath of Life*; James Edgcombe, President of the Southeastern Conference and newly elected President of the Southwest Region Conference, Richard Barron.

The first weekend of camp meeting was highlighted by the Pathfinder Fair, while the second weekend was highlighted by the Ordination of Jose Melendez and Armando Morais.

Melendez and Morais each pastor one of the conference's two Spanish churches in Wilmington, Delaware and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, respectively.

Plans are already afoot to make Camp Meeting 1987 a real spiritual feast.

Robert L. Booker



*Richard Barron, newly elected president of the Southwest Region Conference brings greetings to his home conference. Barron was born and raised in New Jersey.*

### **VIRGINIA CHAPTER YOUTH FEDERATION DRAWS OVER 600**

When the Virginia Chapter of the Allegheny East Conference Youth Federation held its recent meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia, over 600 people were in attendance.

Elders Danny Davis, Allegheny East Youth Leader; Richard Barron, Southwest Region Conference President and James Clements, Associate Director of Church Ministries for the Columbia Union were among the guests present.

Gene Donaldson, pastor of the Williamsburg and Franklin Churches presented the morning message entitled, "If You Feel Far Removed From God, Guess Who Moved?"

Music was provided by the Teens' Choir and Robin Davis of Norfolk, Va., Children's Choir of Williamsburg, Va., and Vanessa Wise and Tironne Ratliff of Newport News, Va.

At the afternoon A.Y. program, coordinated by Dr. Joe Ford, Norfolk A.Y. Leader, approximately 60 youth participated from the nine churches composing the chapter.

As an outreach program, under the direction of Lawsey Thomas from Williamsburg, 55 people from the community were enrolled in Bible courses.

Other notable contributions to the success of the program included: donations of altar flowers from Stephen Boyce, James Clements and St. Clare Phipps; the theme song composed by Fernandez Ratliff of Newport News; Theme Banner created by Newport News A.Y. Department and a huge lobby entrance welcome poster printed by Ollison Cheatham.

Bea P. Brito

Communication Secretary

### **ORANGE PRESENTS AN EVENING IN JAPAN**

An "Evening in Japan" was presented by the Education Committee of the Church of the Oranges. Pastor J. Glenn Roberts gave the invocation and Thelma Kilby, the Director of the Education Committee welcomed the guests and spoke on the importance of Christian Education.

One would have thought they had just walked into an exclusive Japanese restaurant with Oriental music playing softly in the background. Tables were set with colorful paper-made Japanese lanterns that served as centerpieces. Beautiful flower arrangements graced the walls of the Fellowship Hall and the stage was set in an Oriental motif. Committee members and many of the guests were in Japanese attire.



*Souvenirs from "An Evening In Japan."*

Children of the church placed flowers on the tables of all the guests as they sang a Spring song. Cynthia Jones spoke about the culture and customs of the Japanese. Romona Hardy exhibited a graceful Japanese artistic expression and Niki Broderick rendered a violin solo. This was followed by a skit portraying a traditional custom of the removal of shoes and tea drinking served by the husband to visitors.

Barbara Howard, who had served as a missionary to Japan, gave a chopstick demonstration. Beryl Howard, Barbara's mother presented a travelogue with slide pictures, souvenirs and gifts. Mrs. Howard stated that all of the gifts were from Japan-

ese families she had visited while with her daughter last year. She also stated that the people were so friendly that they never let you leave their homes empty-handed.

An Oriental dinner was served, chopsticks and all!

This affair was made possible through contributions donated by the members of the Education Committee: Catherine Belcher, Beryl Howard, Cynthia Jones and Barbara Peoples. The scenery was by Arvie Dudley. Costumes were made and designed by Dionne Jones and Cynthia Anderson. The proceeds from this affair (to be used for scholarships) went to the Educational Fund. Joyce A. Sampson  
Communication Secretary

P.S. Japanese Gift and Souvenir Display from "An Evening in Paris" sponsored by Church of the Oranges



*Roho Rafikima Pathfinders march forward.*

## WOMEN RALLY AT LIBERTY HEIGHTS

For the second time in as many years, the women at the Liberty Heights Church of Baltimore, Maryland rallied for the Church Building Fund.

The guest speaker, Dr. Joyce Woods is a clinical psychologist in the Washington D.C. area. She exhorted the congregation to commit themselves first to God and then to their family if their spiritual and human endeavors would prosper.

The day was brought to a climax by a sacred musical extravaganza. Participating groups included the **Cornelius Thomas Chorale** of Baltimore-Berea, Liberty Heights **Inspirational Voices of Liberty** and the **Sanctuary Choir**.

Pastor William Taliaferro congratulated the women on the program and contributions of the day approximated \$6,000.

Connie North  
Communication Secretary



*Roho Rafikima Flag bearers lead the way.*

## CENTRAL STATES

### PARK HILL PATHFINDERS IN ACTION

The Roho Rafikima Pathfinders of the Park Hill SDA Church, Denver, CO, have been involved in a series of pathfinder activities. Under the leadership of Lonnie Webber, the pathfinders are on the move. The club members are excited about the growth and development of their organization. Park Hill was awarded a plaque from the conference youth department for their consistent youth program.



*Roho Rafikima Pathfinders on parade.*

### A FAREWELL TO BETHESDA

Recently, the members of the Berthesda Church, Omaha, NE, listened to Pastor Stephen Gibson's farewell sermon. He delivered a timely message, and encouraged the members to strive for a higher mark.

Another highlight of the day was a special ceremony held to rename portions of the church's annex. The multi-purpose room was renamed the W.R. Bath Auditorium and the Julius Minor Gymnasium in honor of these loyal church members.

W.R. Bath  
Communication Secretary



*Pastor and Mrs. Stephen Gibson and son, Thomas.*

## CALVARY CHURCH HOLDS REVELATION SEMINAR

Recently, Roscoe Smiley, first elder of the Calvary Church, Davenport, IA, conducted a 12 week Revelation Seminar, 10 people were baptized. The average attendance range from forty to sixty-five every Tuesday and Thursday evening and fewer than half were church members. At the conclusion of the seminar and baptism, a banquet was held for all attendees and their guests.

Elder Willie Wilson commended Elder Smiley on the tremendous dedication and hard work he expended during the seminar. Plans are already being formulated to conduct another Revelation Seminar this fall.

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

## A CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM

Memorizing Bible texts is a challenge. Each Sabbath, Ms. Lealer Stewart, Bethesda's Sabbath School superintendent, has members recite the Sabbath School lesson's memory verses.

To highlight the 13th Sabbath program on July 5, 1986, Stephanie Manners and Robert Mason along with the junior class, lead by teacher, Ms. Geraldine Webb, recited every memory verse for the second quarter.

W. Richard Bath  
Communication Secretary



*Kneeling, Pastor Willie Wilson, left and Elder Roscoe Smiley, surrounded by the recently baptized members.*

## CHURCH TREASURER HONORED

Ms. Orissa Bates of Park Hill SDA Church in Denver, Colorado, was recently honored for her long and outstanding service as church treasurer. She became church treasurer twenty-two years ago when the church was named BethHaven with a membership of approximately 250. The membership is now over 700. The plaque given to Ms. Bates was only a token of the love and appreciation the members and the pastor have for Ms. Bates.

Ivory Chalmers  
Communication Secretary



*Ms. Orissa Bates holding the plaque given to her for twenty-two years of faithful service.*



*Geraldine Webb, along with Robert Mason and Stephanie Manners stand with the Junior class after reciting all thirteen memory verses.*

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

*Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.—Prov. 17:1—RSV*

## LAKE REGION

### MAYOR WASHINGTON SPEAKS AT SHILOH COMMENCEMENT

The Honorable Harold Washington, Mayor of the City of Chicago, combined politics and pure sound advice as he spoke to the Shiloh Academy graduating classes during their Commencement service on June 8.

In an upbeat address, the Mayor urged the graduates of the 8th Grade and Senior classes to continue their education and to view it as a debt that must be repaid to their society.

"You're literate; you can read, you can write, you can comprehend. New worlds you never thought existed are now open to you," the mayor told the graduates.

"The more educated you are, the more you owe. You've got to take it, turn it over and give it back", Washington said.

Washington then told the students that he is proud to have finally gained a majority in the Chicago City Council. He also outlined what he described as "The significant achievements" of his administration. He further stated that he has high expectations for the city and city government for the next six months.

Mayor Harold Washington, was presented a beautiful plaque by Werner Lightner, chairman of the Shiloh Academy School Board, for his outstanding service to the city of Chicago.

The response to the Mayor's commencement address was given by Carla Joseph, valedictorian of the senior class.

Elder J. Paul Monk, president of the Central States Conference, gave the charge to the graduates encouraging them to take the advantage of each opportunity which is presented to them.

Special music for the graduation service consisted of vocal selections by the Ministers of Music, a group of junior and senior young men, under the direction of Dave Daly and a group of young ladies from the eight grade class. Cynthia Palmer and Alicia McCree played a flute duet and a group of former Shiloh students presented a musical selection with their brass instruments.

The Baccalaureate service was also a very special part of the graduation weekend at Shiloh Academy. Guest speaker for this service was Walter L. Pearson, pastor of the Berean Church in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme of his message was

based on the parable, found in Matthew 9, where Jesus healed a paralyzed man and commissioned him to take up his bed and go into his house. Special music for this Sabbath morning service was a vocal selection presented by Samuel Turner, a vice president at Hyde Park Hospital in Chicago, and Jarrod Williams, a junior at Shiloh Academy, played a trumpet solo.

President for the senior class was Relyea Paul Dixon; vice president was Acquenette Jackson. Sponsor the class was Vivian Joseph.

## NORTHEASTERN

### THEY DID NOT BEND NOR BOW

Monday, August 11, 1986 will long be remembered by three courageous young people of the Faith S.D.A. Church in Hartford, Connecticut. Stephen Carter, Lloyd Pinnock and Azalee Watson received their High School diploma in a very special and unusual graduation ceremony because they refused to bend or bow to peer pressure by attending their graduation on Friday night.

These 3 young people attended Weaver High School and by completing their studies with honors, had every reason to be at their graduation, except that they did not, because of their determination to keep the Sabbath holy.

When the A.Y.S. leader, Mark Blake and the Education Secretary learned of the plight of these gallant youths, a meeting was held with the Pastor and A.Y.S. sponsor and plans were immediately made to offer them an alternative to the Friday night graduation exercises.

For one of these young people, the problems were just about to begin. His father, who is not a S.D.A. Church member, became furious when he learned of the decision of his son. However, with much prayer by members of the church, this young man was allowed to follow his conscience.

This special graduation service which was organized by the A.Y.S. department and financed by the church, was supported by about 150 family members and friends. The commencement speaker was Dr. Patrick Coggins of New Hampshire College. Also in attendance were Thelma Dickenson, President of the Hartford Board of Education and Darryl Burke, Vice Principal of Weaver High School.

In his address, Dr. Coggins encouraged

the graduates to reach for the best that was in themselves. He also implored the church to continue to provide the means and encouragement to young people so that they may continue to pursue their educational goals. Mrs. Dickerson and Mr. Burke were very high in their praises for the young people in standing up for what they believe in. They encouraged them to hold on to their beliefs and never give up. Diplomas were handed to the graduates by the guests; assisted by the Education Secretary.

The Golden Eagle Pathfinder Club, of which the three are members, presented a drum salute to their friends and they were presented with medallions and certificates of achievement by Joan Simmons - Vice President of the Pathfinder Federation. After the graduation ceremony, a reception was held to honor the graduates.

Throughout this special ceremony, emotions ran high. Some people cried, everyone cheered, the graduates were overwhelmed and Heaven must have been well pleased. On the Sabbath following the graduation, the A.Y.S. Department presented plaques to the graduates and the Education Department presented each with a scholarship check.

We congratulate these young people who had the courage to dare to be different. "They did not bend nor bow."

### 1986 CHAMPION EDUCATOR'S AWARD

Mrs. Edna Lett Williamson, former Oakwood College instructor, president of the New York A. Samuel Rashford Chapter of the Oakwood College Alumni Association, and



Mrs. Edna Lett Williamson.

member of the Board of Trustees, received the 1986 Champion Educator's Award at the college commencement exercises June 1, 1986.

Her plaque reads:

*"The Administration and Officers of Oakwood College present this CHAMPION EDUCATOR'S AWARD to Edna Lett Williamson . . . for loyal and dedicated service to the college. You may take pride in the fact that through the years, your efforts and dedication to the ideals of Christian education, you have woven a considerable part of yourself into the fabric of our school and contributed to its achievements over the years. This plaque is an expression of gratitude for work well-done."*

## 1986 DISTINGUISHED CRUSADER'S AWARD

Mr. Wilfred G. Gooden, president of W.G. Gooden Construction Company and chairman of the Concerned Committee for Christian Education, received the 1986 Distinguished Crusader's Award at Oakwood College's commencement, June 1, 1986.



Wilfred G. Gooden.

Mr. Gooden is a philanthropist and an avid supporter of Christian education. He has established scholarship funds for worthy students in pursuit of education. Oakwood College, West Indies College, Northeastern Academy, and R.T. Hudson Elementary School have received generous contributions from him.

His plaque reads:

*The Administration and Officers of Oakwood College present this Distinguished Crusader's Award to Wilfred G. Gooden for his consistent and generous financial support of Christian education generally, and Oakwood College in particular, by your generosity. You have woven a considerable portion of yourself into the fabric of our school and contributed to its achievements. This plaque is an expression of gratitude for a work well-done.*

B. Reaves, President  
Roy E. Malcolm, Vice President  
Rosa T. Banks, Vice President

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*He who diligently seeks good seeks favor, but evil comes to him who searches for it.*

*Prov. 11:27—RSV*

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## BROOKLYN TEMPLE MEMBERS DISTRIBUTE 5,000 TRACTS

"Onward Christian Soldiers," this familiar hymn was sung once more by the Brooklyn Temple congregation, Brooklyn, NY, on April 5 to begin divine worship hour. But something was different this time. After the hymn was sung, the congregation did not settle into seats to again resume a warm and comfortable spot and listen to the sermon. Instead they started marching. Marching? Yes, marching into the neighboring community. The usual worship was pre-empted and approximately 250 members began putting into practice what they preach. Sharing their faith and spreading the good news to their community.

The Personal Ministry department organized the membership into small groups of people and they proceeded to go into the surrounding buildings, parks and streets to hand out tracts and talk to people about the saving grace of Jesus. Approximately 5,000 pieces of literature were distributed to the community.



Elder W.M. Starks.

## V.I.P. DAY HELD AT EPHEBUS

On June 7, 1986, the Ephesus Church, New York City, honored its senior citizens—V.I.P. (Very Important Persons)—as they are called. The day's program began with the Sabbath School. Although she lives in Florida, it was the effort of Mrs. Marie Sampson Brown and the cooperation of those planning the program that it was very well conducted.

The Divine Worship Hour, Elder Walter Starks, Stewardship Director for the Allegheny East Conference, was the guest for the senior church and Mrs. Evelyn Chandler Gibson was responsible for the music rendered by the Special V.I.P. Choir.

Those given special honor were: Mrs. Anna O. Walker, Mrs. Mary Lou Adams, Mr. William Spencer, Elder George C. Chandler and Mr. Harold D. Nelson. The A.Y.S. program entitled, "Meeting the Needs of the Senior Citizens" (V.I.P.), was very informative. It was orchestrated by Mr. Alfred Fornay, editor of Ebony Man, and Mrs. Gwendolyn Nicholas, coordinator of V.I.P. Day.

John Tillman  
Communication Secretary

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*A liberal man will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.*

*Prov. 11:25—RSV*

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## REVIVAL MEETING HELD AT CITY TABERNACLE

At the beginning of the year Pastor Milton Thomas, pastor of the City Tabernacle (now Director of Church Growth Department for the Northeastern Conference), New York City, presented to his members an outlined revival program to be launched mid-spring. The foundation for the crusade was laid by the members; they were encouraged to reach out to their non-Adventist friends. Study guides entitled, "Discovery," were given to non-believers. After weeks of study, each person that received "Discovery," was invited to attend the crusade.

"Revival Time New York City," began April 27 and concluded with the baptism of several candidates after seven weeks of nightly meetings which examined both social and Biblical questions. Accompanying each evenings program was a rousing 16 member evangelical choir directed by Kenneth Tripp and Glenda Campbell of the New Hope Mission, New York City.

Some of the topics examined were: "Is There a Cure for This World's Sickness," "Crime, Lawlessness, Political Corruption—The Real Reason," "Should Unhappy Couples Separate?" "The Sexual Revolution," "What Is the Sin That God Cannot Forgive?"

He emphasized that the application of Christian principles must be constant. "Our greatest hope," said Thomas, "lies in Jesus' compassionate words, I AM the Light and the Way."

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*Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.*

*Prov. 17:1—RSV*

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## NEWS CAPSULES FROM SOUTH BROOKLYN CHURCH

The month of June was filled with many special events at the South Brooklyn Church, Brooklyn, NY. "Father's Day Tribute and Golden Years Club's Anniversary Day," were held on June 14. During the Sabbath School program, two special fathers were honored: Elder Frank Stokes and Amando Lindo. Every adult male received a carnation. The speaker for the day was Elder Gordon Jones, a former member of the church.

The following Sabbath, June 21, the education department under the leadership of Ms. Barbara Johnson, honored four members of the church who graduated from educational institutions. They were: Joyce Brown, M.S. in Education; Joseph

Johnson, Jr., B.S. in Accounting; Joyce Clement, elementary school to junior high school; and Melissa Herrera, from Brooklyn Temple kindergarten to first grade.

Mary Gborkorquellie  
Communication Secretary

### **PATHFINDERS SPREAD THE "MESSAGE"**

Sunday, April 20, 1986, marked a new experience for about 30 Pathfinders, counselors and friends of the Berea Church, Boston, MA, as they ventured into the Boston Commons to sell Message Magazine. It was a beautiful day, after rehearsing their sales strategy on the steps of Berea.

Pathfinders approached many people and invited them to Berea. Four subscriptions were sold. One of the youngest Pathfinders, 10 years old, Marcia Burke, sold two subscriptions.

After completing their work at the Boston Commons, Berea's Club Director, Jacques Eusebe, lined his troops up and had them march boldly down Winter Street to the Washington Street Station. Here they gave away 50 Message Magazines and approximately 20 Bible Study pamphlets.

Kena L.A. Drumgo  
Communication Secretary

### **SPRING REVIVAL HELD AT BEREA CHURCH**

Elder Michael Bernard, pastor of Berea Church, Boston MA, assisted by Convelle Morton held a spring revival, April 6-19. Music was rendered by the Golden Harmonaires and soloist, Christine Williams.

On the opening night, the topic was "Ready or Not, Here I Come." Quoting from the texts, Acts 1:9-11, Rev. 1:18 and Rev. 21:5-8, Pastor Bernard emphasized the urgent need for all to be prepared for Christ's second coming, particularly in the light of the rapid rise of evil in the world today.

Other topics discussed were, "Is God picky or particular?"; "Don't crucify Him again," and "Something greater than the name of Jesus." Approximately 1,000 Mat-tapan and Dorchester residents were introduced to the Advent message. Several expressed a desire for Bible study.

Marjut Turner  
Communication Secretary

### **LADIES DAY AT EPHEBUS**

"Women of the 80's Progress Towards Eternity" was the theme of the Ladies Day Celebration on Sabbath, May 10th at the



*Lois Wesley.*

Ephesus Church in New York City.

It all began with Sabbath School which featured outstanding women of the Bible. Mary Smalls was the coordinator of this most informative program. The Divine Worship Service was extra special as the church paid tribute to four outstanding ladies which included: Mother Clara Hale, the founder of Hale House, a home for children born with an addiction to drugs; Augusta Ferdinand, the oldest active member of the church (93 years old); Millie Lee Wilson, the woman with the most children at Ephesus (9); and Mrs. Jean Hutson, former director of the Schomburg Library, an institution dedicated to the preservation of Black History. All of the honorees were very pleased. Perhaps their sentiments can be summarized in the words of Mother Hale's son who received the award for her because she was ill. He congratulated the church for giving his mother this award, noting that while it is good to receive honor from those in high places, it is especially meaningful when "home folk" say thank you for the work that's being done!

The Ladies Chorale directed by Everyl Gibson presented the music." Just Heav-enly", "Beautiful", "Praise the Lord", were just some of the phrases that were echoed by the congregation as they enjoyed the choir.

Lois Wesley, the first and only woman Elder at Ephesus, was the speaker. She reflected on Christ's relationship to women, noting especially His disregard for social norms of the day which considered women as 2nd class citizens. Elder Wesley emphasized the fact that Christ's longest recorded conversation was with

the Woman of Samaria who received the Living Water of Christ and became the first woman evangelist!

In closing, she praised the women of the 80's for having drank from the fountains of motherhood, housekeeping, youth, science, literature, medicine and compassion. She encouraged them to forge ahead noting that there are still "hidden treasures undiscovered, songs to be written, books to be printed, knowledge yet untapped, disease still unconquered, problems still unsolved and knowledge that still mystifies." However, she reminded the women that they must always drink from Christ, the Fountain of Ever Living Water, if their desire is to never thirst again!

Service in the Youth Sanctuary was also conducted by all ladies! Joannette Goodard, the new Bible Instructor for Ephesus was the speaker. She asked the question, "Why Hasn't It Happened?" which focused on the imminent return of Jesus Christ. "Most enlightening," "We want to hear her again," were just some of the very positive comments. The Majestic II, a group of young ladies directed by Mrs. Sylvia Williams, provided the music. A delicious, vegetarian dinner was served to all visitors, program participants, and special guests by the men of Ephesus. Culinary delights were prepared by Evetta Agard and staff.

To conclude this very beautiful day, the men, led by A.Y.S. Leader Leslie Bridges took over! Pastor Charles McDonald gave an eloquent tribute to his wife, Vivene, as he sang "Walk Hand In Hand With Me." Pastor Clement Murray paid tribute to his wife Janice and also sang a solo entitled "He's Alive." Kenneth Price, William Byrd, Jr. and Leslie Bridges publicly thanked their "Moms" for all the love, caring and sacrifice given them through the years. The Judgment Hour Quartet and Peter Carrington also presented special music dedicated to the ladies of Ephesus.

Joseph Merriweather, well known for his outstanding youth leadership, paid special honor to all the ladies present! He also informed the congregation that the very first Mother's Day was held on May 9, 1914, due to the inspiration of Mrs. Anna Jarvis.

The day began with carnations being presented to all ladies who attended Sabbath School and ended with carnations presented to all mothers at A.Y.S. Ladies Day, 1986 at Ephesus will long be remembered for the flowers, the heavenly music, the good food, the special tributes, and the enlightening sermons; but most of all

Ephesians will remember the spirit of cooperation and love displayed as the women and the men worked hand in hand to make this day a grand Sabbath Celebration!

Caroline Jones  
Communication Secretary

## SOUTH CENTRAL

### GADSDEN, ALABAMA BURNS MORTGAGE

One of the last ceremonies that Elder Lorenzo Shepherd conducted before leaving the Anniston/Gadsden district was to conduct a mortgage-burning service for the building at Gadsden, Alabama. During his four year stay in the district some fifty souls have been added to the church and building improvements have been done for the Gadsden congrega-



*Phenix City, Alabama congregation.*



*Pastor Loranzo Shepherd says farewell to Gadsden/Anniston district.*

tion's house of worship. Shepherd is being transferred to the Athens and Triana churches in Alabama. Pastor Washington Johnson, Jr. will serve in the Anniston/Gadsden district.



*Mayor of Hurstboro, Alabama extends greetings to Elder Jesse Wilson.*

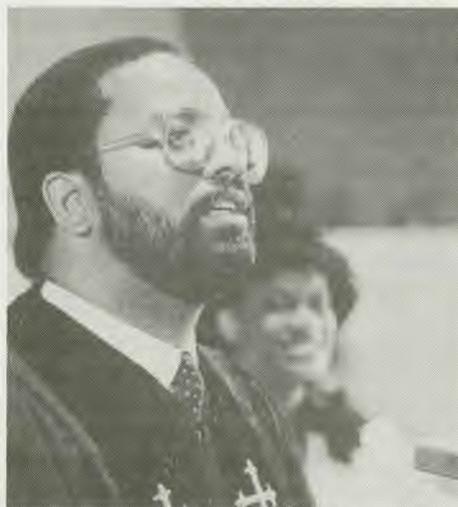
### NEW PASTORS INTRODUCED

On Sabbath, July 12, 1986 Elder and Mrs. Russell Seay, Jr. were introduced to the members of the Hillcrest SDA Church in Nashville as their new spiritual leaders. In outlining his plans for the onward movement of the work in the area, Seay was received with opened arms by his flock. He is native son from Memphis, Tennessee and served in the conference for the past seven or eight years.

When Elder and Mrs. Jesse Wilson were introduced to their new memberships in Phenix City and Union Springs, Alabama, on hand to welcome were the senator of Alabama from that district, the mayor from the city of Hurtsboro, the senior pastor in the area from Columbus, Georgia just across the bridge along with a group of cordial members. Mrs. Bess Dorsett served as the chairman of the 'welcoming committee'.

Other pastors to change districts during the summer were, W. Harold Kibble to

Jackson/Brownsville, Tennessee, P.N. Smith to Columbia/Franklin, Tennessee, R.L. Willis to Huntsville, Alabama (First Church).



*Pastor and Mrs. Russell Seay, Jr. are introduced at Hillcrest—Nashville, Tennessee.*



*Washington Butler, Jr.*

### **WASHINGTON BUTLER, JR. —ADVENTISM & POLITICS**

"Yes, a sincere dedicated Adventist Christian can participate in the political life in this country without compromising his religious convictions," says Washington Butler, Jr., an Adventist, who recently ran for nomination to the Tennessee Public Service Commission, a statewide office.

Butler, a member of the Riverside Chapel SDA Church, Nashville, Tennessee, has been in the Adventist church for fourteen years. He has held elective office in the past and was a candidate for nomination for Governor in 1974. "As a matter of fact," he said, "it was during a campaign for election to the Shelby County Quarterly Court (now County Commission) that Donald Sherman invited me to a tent effort being conducted by Elder Robert L. Willis, and I learned about and accepted the message. I won the election handily. I am thoroughly enjoying my experience as a Seventh-day Adventist and the many opportunities to share my faith with others."

As a candidate for public office, Butler is well-qualified. He has a Masters Degree in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where he has completed most of the course work for the PhD and passed one language exam. He also has a B.S. in Chemistry and Math from Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia. Butler was first elected to public office in 1959 while living in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He was elected to two four year terms on the City Council there. In addition, he has extensive experience as a public administrator

and in private business. Presently, he is part owner of American Diversified Asset Management Corporation, a property management company which manages all of the existing housing complexes owned by the South Central Conference.

In the August 7th Public Service Commission race, Butler placed third in a field of five. "I felt that my established statewide name recognition would have given me an edge over other candidates, but the lack of money kept me from establishing high visibility through the media. I campaigned all over the state, met many people and made many new friendships. I also had numerous opportunities to witness and tell people about the Seventh-day Adventist faith because many persons kept asking why I would not attend and participate in political rallies held during Sabbath hours. This type of question gave me an opening to tell others about my commitment to Christ and what He has done for me. Many seeds were planted this way."

I am not discouraged by the results. I know that the Lord was with me throughout the entire campaign from the moment I first considered getting into the race. It was disheartening when I was not able to get the contributions necessary to run a more highly visible race. But, it's amazing how much God can do with almost no money! For less than \$10,000 I was able to travel all over the state, print campaign literature, produce a campaign jingle written by my two sons, and with the help of a lot of people convince 42,000-plus voters to vote for me. I still have a deficit but I am thankful for the support that I received. It was a real blessing."

Butler is married to the former Maria A. Hill of Cowan, Tennessee. She is a former

Associate Warden at the Tennessee Prison for Women and is now a special education instructor at the State Prison for Men at Nashville. They have three children. Leah, the youngest, is an 8th grader at F.H. Jenkins Elementary, Nashville. Luthuli is a junior at Hunters Lane High School, Nashville. And Landry, the oldest, will begin his sophomore year at Andrews University this year as a transfer student from Oakwood College.

From the results of his primary race for the Public Service Commission, Butler promises to be a formidable contender for other elective offices in the future. He says that the position of Mayor and of Councilman-At-Large are being mentioned to him. Neither is being ruled out at this time, he said.

### **JULIUS' TO ATTEND THE SEMINARY**

Edmond and Avriel Julius came to Oakwood College five years ago from Johannesburg, South Africa. They came to prepare themselves for the ministry. Since that time considerable changes have taken place in their homeland which has brought some grave concerns, but with a prayer, and a trust in the Lord and words of encouragement from church leaders and friends, they have graduated from their course of study at the college and are now attending Andrews University Seminary. Their courage is strong. Since coming to the states the Lord has given them two additional children.

Several others of Seventh-day Adventist South African families have come to Oakwood to prepare themselves for service. These students need all of the prayers and support that can be given.



*Pastor Edmond and Mrs. A. Julius of South Africa.*



**OBITUARY  
RONALD & LOLITA BERRY**

Pastor Ronald Le Branch Berry and his wife Mrs. Lolita Marie Smith Berry, seminarians at Andrews University were involved in an accident on their way back to Michigan after a trip to Columbus, Mississippi and a short stay in Nashville, Tennessee on August 3, 1986. Lolita was killed instantly when an 'eighteen wheeler' truck collided with the automobile which she was driving and her husband, Ronald, died just a few days later. They had been to Columbus to lay plans for serving their new district beginning August 16. Ronald was to graduate from Berrien Springs (Andrews University) on the 6th of August.

Pastor Berry enrolled at Oakwood College in the fall of 1978 with a Theology major and a Music minor. While there in the "School of Prophets," he distinguished himself by being actively involved in the numerous organizations and activities. He was a member of the Oakwood College Choir, the Aeolians, president of the South Central Conference Student Organization, and a member of the United Student Movement at Oakwood.

After receiving the Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1982 from Oakwood College, he was hired by the South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and assigned to organize a church in Phenix City, Alabama. Accepting this challenge, he wasted no time in conducting an evangelistic crusade from which a church was organized and grew under his leadership.

During the evangelistic effort in Phenix City, Ronald met and was later united in holy matrimony to the former Miss Lolita Smith. Lolita was born in Phenix City, Alabama. At an early age she accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and united with the Franchise Baptist Church where she served as a member of the Junior Choir.

Recognizing the importance of higher education, she enrolled in Prairie View University, Prairie View, Texas, where she received the Bachelor of Science Degree.

The couple was funeralized on August 11, 1986 at the Bethany Seventh-day Adventist Church in Montgomery, Alabama with Elder Roy L. Patterson, officiating; Elder Charles E. Dudley, President of South Central Conference gave the Eulogy.

Wholly dedicated and endowed with a strong charismatic personality, Ronald touched many lives and will continue to be an inspiration for years to come.

the president of the South Central Conference. He is the uncle of the bride, he is the son of Elder and Mrs. Herbert E. Henley, Sr. of the Northeastern Conference.

**BLACK LEADERS MEET IN CALIFORNIA**

When the Black leadership of the church in North America came together on August 18 through 20 in California a goodly number of ideas were exchanged whereby the work of God could advance in a stronger way in the areas of responsibilities where they each serve. After reports were given concerning the progress of the church growth around the division, some of the other areas of concern were also addressed.

Plans were laid for a strong promotion of the Breath of Life Telecast. The circulation of the Message Magazine, the development of a Pan African Development Corporation which will bring the members of these two continents together in a mutual interest for a finished work to hasten the Lord's imminent return for the church.

**BLACK LEADERS MEET AT THE MEDIA CENTER**

While in California, the Black leadership journeyed to Thousand Oaks, California for a visit with the leaders of the media center and the Breath of Life staff. Breath of Life is adding a goodly number of souls to the church annually through its television ministries. Elder C.D. Brooks, speaker/director and Elder Walter Arties gave encouraging reports of the blessings that are coming to the church through this program that is being

**IN THE NEWS**

**HENLEY & WASHINGTON EXCHANGE VOWS**

On Sunday, August 17, 1986 Herbert E. Henley, Jr. and Kimberly M. Washington exchanged their wedding vows at the Berean SDA Church in South Bend, Indiana. She is a native of South Bend; he is from New York City. The ceremony was performed by Elder Marcus Harris, the pastor of the church and Dr. C.E. Dudley,



*Alfred L. Dudley, Mrs. Lucille Sneed, Mrs. Kimberly Henley, Mr. Herbert Henley and his mother.*

aired in Africa, the Caribbean Islands as well as across the North American Division. Funds are needed to help produce more programs. The Lord has blessed the brethren to get the telecasts on a number of Black News Network Stations and the P.T.L. Network. Members are supporting the telecast with their offerings and prayers.

### **SOUTH CENTRAL TEACHERS ATTEND INSERVICE SEMINAR**

Over fifty teachers of the South Central Conference met in Nashville, Tennessee on August 5 through 8 for their annual In-service Seminar that is held at the beginning of the school year. Professor N.G. Higgs states that this is a time when he seeks to acquaint his teachers with new methods, policies, guidelines, classroom procedures that will help them and their students prepare for lives of service to God and mankind during the days that lie ahead.

Some of the instructors for these meetings were: Dr. Frances Bliss of Oakwood College, Dr. N. Marshall of the Southern Union Conference. Dr. C.E. Dudley, the president, spoke to the teachers at their banquet. His theme was based on 'Commitment, Dedication and Excellence'. He stated that a "mind is truly a terrible thing to waste" (or) to be wasted-mold them for the future with a good conscience. Be dedicated to service and do a good job. You will rejoice over your product as you see the works of your hands develop into manhood and womanhood as servants of the living God.

Awards and service pens were given to each teacher that was present.

### **TWO NEW LEADERS JOIN NAD**

Since the beginning of the year two new leaders have joined the leadership ranks of the Black Conferences in North America. President E. Richardson who served as the pastor for the Berean Temple church in Baltimore, Maryland now serves as the spiritual leader of the Bermuda Conference on the Island of Bermuda. The churches in this area were organized into full conference status earlier in the Spring of the year. Elder Richardson serves where Elder Alvin Gouldburne labored for a number of years. He has been called to serve as the secretary for the Atlantic Union Conference.

President Richard Barron is serving as the president of the Southwest Region Conference. He replaced Elder W.C. Jones who lead the conference for more than ten years in a beautiful way. Elder Jones presently is serving as the associate secretary for the Southwestern Union Conference in Fort Worth, Texas.

### **EVANGELISM CONTINUES TO MOVE IN SOUTH CENTRAL**

Sixteen tent meetings were conducted in the South Central Conference this summer along with a goodly number of church meetings, Revelation Seminars. Four new congregations were brought into being as a result of some of these meetings this summer. Kingsport, Tennessee by Elder Shelton Kilby; Childersburg, Alabama by Pastor Walton Rose; Mariana, Florida by Pastor James Young and Hurtsboro, Alabama by Pastor M.R. Moulder.

Brother Robert Whitlow, a literature evangelist in Birmingham, Alabama pitched a tent in a section of the city known as Ensley, Alabama and has baptized between five and ten new believers. He is hopeful of beginning a new company in the area. Pastors Roy E. Gaiter and Milton Johnson ran successful meetings in Brent and Perris, Alabama but upon the completion of these meetings, the Spirit of the Lord was on them so strongly until they put the tents up in another city and started again. Elder E.E. Cleveland has retired but is still conducting crusades in some of the churches. He is running meetings in the College Hill church in Knoxville this summer.

### **96 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE MAGAZINE ST. SDA CHURCH**

During the entire month of May, the Magazine Street Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated its 96th Anniversary. Because Magazine Street is the oldest Black Seventh-day Adventist Church in the denomination, it was felt that the theme of the program should be based on "Love." Emphasis was placed on love for our families, neighbors, friends, our church and God. The motto of the program was "Jesus, Just Because We Love You, We Serve."

Five dynamic speakers participated in the anniversary celebration. A difference speaker was featured for each Sabbath of the month. Elder John C. Smith of Columbus, Ohio, who is secretary of Sabbath Schools for the Allegheny West Conference, spoke on the first Sabbath followed by Dr. Harold Cleveland of Nashville, Tennessee, former President of the Allegheny West Conference. Elder Walter Wright of Columbus, Ohio current Communications Secretary for the Allegheny West Conference spoke on the third Sabbath followed by Dr. Calvin B. Rock of Washington, D.C., former President of Oakwood College, and presently Vice-president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The closing sermon for the final Sabbath in May was delivered by the pastor, Elder Issac L. Lester.

All of the speakers inspired members to renew their dedication to the service of God and to realize that our blessings and many years of progress have been from God as we have labored together for a finished work.



*Higgs awards plaque to teacher with highest baptisms in her school during the year.*

## NEWS RELEASE

On August 18, 1986, in Long Beach, California, the Black Leadership Caucus of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America unanimously resolved the following:

Whereas God is no respecter of persons; and whereas a person or government cannot undermine the dignity of any person or the quality of any life without at the same time showing disrespect for the essential value of humanity in general; and whereas to give support to the denial or rejection of anyone's personhood is to deny in a larger sense the equitable nature and the brotherhood of all men; and whereas the apartheid system in South Africa is intrinsically unjust, inherently immoral, and is an affront to human dignity and equality:

We the members of the Caucus unequivocally oppose the apartheid system in all of its forms, through word, deed, and influence. We also encourage our constituents likewise to oppose it. Further, we encourage our churches and members to seek to become sanctuaries for South African refugees in the United States who may be in need of moral and/or financial support. While we will continue to pray for a peaceful resolution we cannot in good conscience remain silent while our African brothers and sisters suffer physically, socially, and spiritually.

## REAGAN PRAISES MESSAGE

When the *Message* exclusive featuring *Challenger* astronaut Ron McNair came off the presses at the Review and Herald,

it contained excerpts from a speech given by President Reagan honoring *Challenger's* crew.

*Message* editor, Delbert Baker, promptly sent a number of copies to the White House inviting President Reagan to review them. In response to this invitation, Baker got a letter from the president commending *Message* for the fine tribute given to Ron McNair.

The opening paragraph read: "Nancy and I have been deeply touched by your tribute to Ron McNair. Ron wanted his life to be an uplifting example to all those he touched in his journey on this earth. You have done Ron a great honor and your readers a great service in telling his story." The letter was signed by Ronald Reagan.

## NORTHEASTERN ACADEMY AWARDED HIGHEST ACCREDITATION STATUS

On April 14, 1986, six representatives of the Board of Regents of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists converged on the campus of Northeastern Academy, located on 532 W. 215th Street in the Inwood section of Upper Manhattan. The sole purpose of the committee was to engage itself in the evaluation process and to determine the actual situation as it exists in the school. For three days the Visiting Committee diligently addressed itself to this task.

The team considered the educational program to be excellent, with few exceptions, according to chairman, Dr. Timothy McDonald, "we were hard-pressed to find a flaw." They were greatly impressed with

the teacher-pupil interaction and with the respect that the students demonstrated for their teachers and for each other.

As a result, the Academy was granted the maximum term of accreditation—seven years. The administration and staff are well pleased with the assessment and concluding report of the committee. Together they pledged their wholehearted cooperation of the continued growth and success of the school's program.

Members of the Evaluation Committee were: Timothy McDonald, Director of Education for the Columbia Union; Sandra Bent, teacher, Greater Boston Academy, Boston, MA; Myrna Candeleria, teacher, Greater New York Academy, Queens, NY; Gary Frost, Principal, Pine Tree Academy, Woodside, ME; Franklin Moses, Guidance Counselor and Register, South Lancaster Academy, So. Lancaster, MA; and Ron Scott, Director of Education for the Southern New England Conference.

YVonne Moore  
Librarian

## OBITUARY

### PURNELL ALFRED LEWIS, SR.

1928-1986

"Death is not death—the end to live, to breathe no more it is the glorious beginning of everlasting life."

Mr. Purnell Alfred Lewis, Sr. was born January 11, 1928 in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was the son of the late Ford and Edna Lewis.

Having been reared by a Christian mother, Purnell accepted Christ as his personal savior at an early age. Tent Master, M.V. Leader and Sabbath School Teacher. He has been President of the Missionary Aid and Burial Society for 25 years. But his greatest love was for music. He was a member of the church choir as well as the "Oriolians." Later he displayed his directing skills by directing the Male Chorus, Youth Choir, the Chancel Choir and former Manager of the Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Until his passing Purnell has served as Minister of Music at Ephesus Church.

Purnell received his formal education at Ephesus Jr. Academy, Hoffman School, Booker T. Washington High School and Oakwood Jr. College. After graduating from Oakwood he taught for several years at Sunrise High in Braithwaite, Louisiana.

At an early age Purnell took an interest in the funeral business. His early employment was with Joseph P. Gettis Funeral



Home. Through the years he has been affiliated with several local mortuaries. Presently his affiliation was with the J.T. Willie & Son Funeral Home.

On February 2, 1950, he was joined in matrimony to Emelda Francois. To this union two children were born, Mrs. Hedda Lewis Wade and Mr. Purnell Alfred Lewis, Jr.

Purnell will be sorely missed for his power to encourage others, his kind-heartedness, and his willingness to help anyone in need. During the years his home has been a haven for a weary traveling minister or friend. Often when his co-workers would be disheartened by lack of interest or a passing failure, he would remind them that God never demands success—only faithfulness to His cause.

On August 18, 1986, Purnell departed this life. He leaves to mourn his devoted wife, Mrs. Emelda Francois Lewis; two children, Mrs. Hedda Lewis Wade and Purnell Alfred Lewis, Jr; four grandchildren, Shonnette Lewis, La Toya Wade, Emmett Cheri and Arnell Lewis; one daughter-in-law, Mrs. Charlene B. Lewis; a mother-in-law, Mrs. Bessie J. Francois; two brothers-in-law Mr. Benjamin Francois and Mr. Claude Francois; two sisters-in-law, Mrs. Lillian Francois and Mrs. Edna Lewis; two devoted friends, Mrs. Lillian Johnson and Beatrice Green, along with a host of other relatives and friends.

### HADLEY MEMORIAL PLANS GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

Were you one of the many babies delivered by Dr. Henry G. Hadley in Southwest, Southeast, Washington? If so, you are invited to a special two-day Grand Opening Celebration of the new Hadley Memorial Hospital, September 29th and 30th. The two sons, Drs. Gordon and Henry Hadley, Mrs. Anna Hadley, 92, wife and co-worker with the late doctor, and a host of city officials, as the District of Columbia celebrates "Hadley Days" September 29th and 30th.

The opening of this brand new, beautifully designed hospital is a tribute to the Ward 8 Community and the District of Columbia. It is also an opportunity for all of Dr. Hadley's babies to come back to their roots and celebrate Dr. Hadley's Vision Bold—a new Hadley Memorial Hospital, committed to ministering to the needs of the whole person in an atmosphere of caring professionalism.

If you were one—a Dr. Hadley Baby—then plan to be here on Hadley Day, September 29th, at 10:30 a.m. Call 574-5774 to find out how you can receive your "Dr. Hadley Baby" commemorative gift.

### CLASSIFIED AD

#### LOMA LINDA INTERVIEWS

Dr. Rene Evard, Associate Dean for Admissions for Loma Linda University School of Medicine will be on the campus of Oakwood College in mid-September to interview interested students. All students planning to apply to Loma Linda School of Medicine for the 1987-88 school year should have an interview with Dr. Evard to complete their application.

Please contact the office of Dr. Emerson Cooper at (205) 837-1630 in order to schedule an appointment.

### CLASSIFIED AD

#### DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Marvelous opportunity to build college's development program right from the beginning. Send resume to David Osborne, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement, Atlantic Union College, South Lancaster, MA 01561: (617) 365-4561.

### CLASSIFIED AD

#### NURSES

Nurses needed in critical care, medical, surgical, ortho and other specialties, to staff 1071 bed Florida hospital in Orlando. Phone Judy Bond, Employment 1-800-327-1914 out of Florida, or (305) 897-1998 Collect for Florida residents.

### CLASSIFIED AD

#### ADMINISTRATORS NURSING CENTERS

Progressive nursing center administrators, interested in denominational employment opportunities in the ten western states, may send resumes to H.H. Hill, President, Pacific Living Centers, P.O. Box 619004, Roseville, CA 95661-9004, Telephone: 916/781-4631.

#### ADMINISTRATORS RETIREMENT CENTERS

Opportunities are opening in the ten western states for individuals with strong, successful administrative experience who are interested in the retirement center field. Send resume to H.H. Hill, President, Pacific Living Centers, P.O. Box 619004, Roseville, CA 95661-9004, Telephone: 916/781-4631.

## THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

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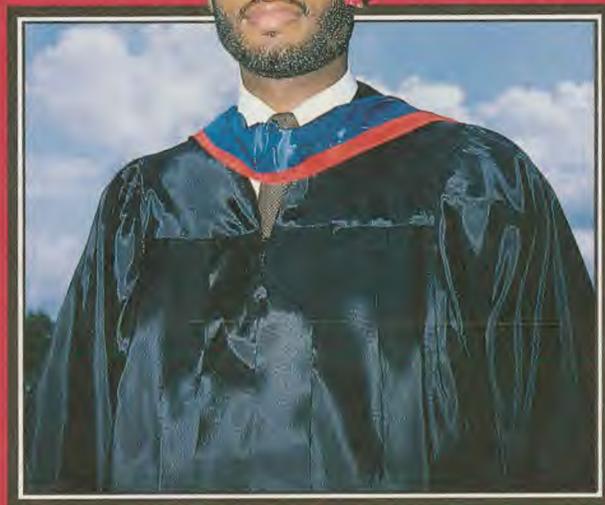
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