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CHRIST OUR LOVE AND OUR LIFE



COVER STORY

PACIFIC UNION—BLACK CAUCUS ATTENDEES:

- 1 Mrs. Effie White—a member of long standing in the Pacific Union (Mother of Elder Major C. White).
- 2 Elder Charles E. Bradford, President of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists.
- 3 Elder Earl A. Canson, director of the Office of Regional Affairs, Pacific Union Conference (organizer of the Black Convocation for the Union).
- 4 Elder Major C. White, Secretary of the Pacific Union Conference.
- 5 Elder John Collins, director for Church Ministries Department of the Pacific Union Conference.
- 6 Elder Joseph T. Powell (standing with Elder and Mrs. W.C. Webb) retirees.
- 7 Dr. Rayfield Lewis, M.D., Physician.

THE LIGHT RISES IN THE WEST—THE STORY OF THE BLACK MEN AND WOMEN WHO PIONEERED IN THE WEST

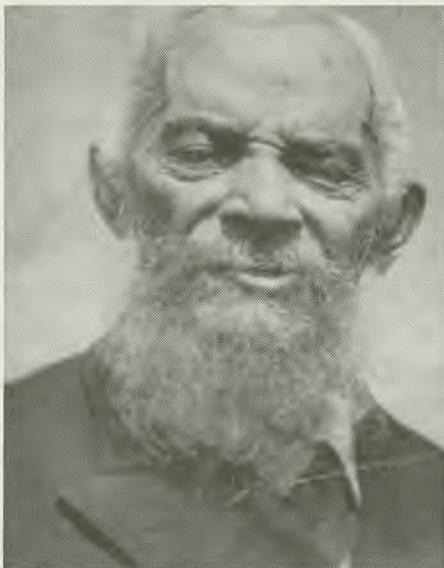
—Elder Earl Canson

(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from a report presented by Elder Earl A. Canson, Director of Regional affairs, Pacific Union Conference, at the Annual Black Convocation, Lynwood, California, April 25.)

The story of the Black men and women who worked untiringly to bring the gospel to the West—California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah and Hawaii—is little known. Much of the Black S.D.A. Church was not recorded but it is a historical fact that Blacks were believers since the inception of the S.D.A. Church.

In the 1850s, America was going through a crucial stage in its development. A national debate was ensuing on the question of slavery, which would inevitably plunge the nation into anarchy and civil war. At the other end of the spectrum, Americans were migrating in large number to the West, discovering unprecedented wealth and prosperity. Among the many migrants S.D.A.s who came West in 1859.

Nine years later, Elder J.N. Loughborough and D.T. Bourdeau arrived in San Francisco, July 1868, to begin what was to become a 10 year evangelistic crusade in the West. The last of these meetings were held in Reno, Nevada, July 1878. Twenty or more people were baptized, among the converts, a Black man, Charles M. Kinny.



Elder C.M. Kinney, First Black minister ordained in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Kinny was born a slave in Richmond, Virginia, in 1855. He was 10 or 11 when the Civil War ended. He joined a group of liberated men and journeyed West as far as Reno. Despite the disadvantage that slavery and poverty had placed upon him, Kinny had learned to read and write.

Kinny was elected clerk for the newly formed church. He was also placed in charge of the Book & Bible House, he sold Signs of the Times. With the help of the members he was able to enroll in a 2 year training course at Healdsburg College. After the completion of his course, Kinny was called to Kansas to sell books. Later, he was sent to Louisville, KY to preach. In 1889, Kinny became the first Black minister ordained by the S.D.A. Church.

1900-1910 YEARS OF BEGINNING

Until the beginning of the 20th century, there were few, if any Blacks besides Charles Kinny in the Pacific Union territory. By 1900, there were no more than 100 Black S.D.A.s in the U.S. By 1909, there were 900 Black believers, less than 50 lived in the West.

At the beginning of the century, Blacks were beginning to move west, mainly San Francisco and Los Angeles. As a result, 2 Black churches were established in California.

THE FIRST BLACK SDA CHURCH IN THE WEST

On November 3, 1906, the first Black S.D.A. Church in the West was established in Berkeley, CA by Elder Andrew Brorsen.

The 14 members met regularly in a hall on Alcatraz Street. Nothing else is heard about the church, except, the Pacific Union Conference Recorder, 1907, reported the church contributed \$92.01 for tithe. It is evident, the interest died, the church was disbanded.

In the meanwhile, a growing interest was developing in the Los Angeles area. It all began, in 1906, at a prayer meeting held at Carr Street Church (now the Central Church), Jennie Ireland expressed an interest in working for the Black population in the city. Her first contacts were Theodore & Estelle Troy, and their young son, Owen. Miss Ireland, a graduate nurse trained at Battle Creek Sanitarium, combined Bible classes with home nursing, health and cooking classes. Soon there were 8 adults who met on Sabbath.



Owen A. Troy.



Paul B. Bontemps, early California Black minister.

An evangelistic meeting was held and more Blacks were introduced to S.D.A. beliefs. On August 8, 1908, the Furlong Track Church was organized with 28 charter members. Jennie Ireland remained its pastor until a church building was

acquired and there were over 100 members.

This church, later known as the Wadsworth Church, now known as the University Church, was instrumental in producing a number of outstanding leaders. The Troy's son, Owen, became a pioneer in the work among Blacks in the Pacific Union Conference, authority in Church Administration and Sabbath School for the world field.

Paul Bontemps, a brick mason, who later became the first Black pastor in the Pacific Union Conference, had two fsprings that greatly enhanced the work. His son, Arna Bontemps, began his career as a church school teacher and later became a distinguished poet, writer and librarian at Fisk University. His daughter, Ruby, a gifted public speaker and musician, became Mrs. Owen A. Troy, Sr.

1910—1920 YEARS OF PREPARATION

The decade, 1910—1920, was a time of preparation for the infant church. In the S.D.A. elementary schools, academies and colleges, the youth were preparing for leadership. John King, a nursing student became the first Black graduate of Loma Linda University, 1911. Dr. Ruth J. Temple, a member of the Furlong Track Church, became the first Black and the first woman to graduate from Loma Linda Medical College, 1918.

Frank Loris Peterson was among the first Black students at Pacific Union college and in 1916 the first Black graduate. Peterson, later, served as president of Oakwood College and Vice President of the General Conference.

While the young were being educated, the church was expanding and developing on all sides. In the San Joaquin Valley, an all Black township, Allensworth, CA, was created. The founder, Colonel Allen Allensworth, a retired army chaplain had vision of a Black community where one could live and work in dignity without daily racial confrontation.

In 1910, Black S.D.A.s came to Allensworth. Joshua & Henrietta Singleton moved from Winfield, Kansas, where they became S.D.A.s after hearing Elder Sydney Scott preach. Two years later, the family of James & Fannie Smith moved from Kansas. James passed and Fannie moved West with their 3 children. These two families formed the nucleus of the church. At first Sabbath School and church services were held in homes, then

the school, finally, a building was purchased. Allensworth Church wasn't organized until 1945, but branch Sabbath School was continually held since 1911.

The year 1914 signaled the beginning of World War I and the beginning of the Watts Church. It was evident that God was leading, the story of the Watts Church began at Boyle Heights, 14 miles from Watts. The Seymour Webb family was studying with Myrtis Beaman and Jennie Ireland.

The Webbs moved to Watts during the course of study and left no forwarding address. The diligent bible instructors located the Webbs at their new address and they were finally baptized. Two sons, Adolphus and William, became powerful S.D.A. ministers.

While the membership church was developing, there was also activity on the west side of Los Angeles. Elder Lewis C. Sheafe, former Baptist minister, formed a congregation, built a church at 1446 W. 36th Place, organized in 1914 or 1915.

The Berean Church, organized about 1915, soon defected from the denomination and became an independent church. Sheafe had questions about race relations in the S.D.A. church and his influence had an unsettling effect upon the congregation. Later, the congregation returned to the sisterhood of S.D.A. churches.

In 1920, a number of Black S.D.A. moved from Los Angeles to Blythe, CA, a farming community bordering on the state of Arizona. They attended the White church, the Southeastern California Conference, thought it would be a good idea to organize a Black congregation.

Elder Sydney Scott, and experienced evangelist who served in the South and East, was called to begin the work in Blythe. Among the early converts were D.F. Black and his wife, Isabella. Their youngest children Evelyn & Dennis were baptized. Dennis became a minister, Evelyn, a faithful member and worker, her son, Earl Canson, became a minister. By 1920, there were 3 churches—not including the Allensworth branch Sabbath School, and less than 200 members.

1920—1930 THE STEADY MARCH

For the secular world, this decade, "The Roaring 20's," was a time of frivolity, conspicuous consumption and unparalleled wealth. For the Black S.D.A. it was a time of hard work and steady growth.



Evangelist Rodgers.

Elder Sydney Scott completed his task in Blythe and was called to San Diego. There were quite a few Blacks living in the city. A few had heard the message and formed the "G" Street church. Jerod & Evelyn Johnson, were among the "G" members, who were Scott's parishioners. In 1922, the Johnsons helped Elder Scott conduct an evangelistic campaign in San Diego. The meeting was profitable, the Beacon Light Church was organized. Afterwards, Mr. Johnson was employed by the Southeastern California Conference and became pastor of the church.

The following year, November 23, 1923, the Oakland Church, now known as the Market Street Church, was organized. The following spring, April 2, 1924, Elder Owen Troy, Sr., became the pastor.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, the Furlong Track Church was getting an experienced pastor, Elder P.G. Rodgers. He had served in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, MD. Rodgers began his pastoral duties at Furlong Track Church in 1923.

As early as 1925, residents of Pasadena would come to hear Elder Rodgers speak, as a result the Pasadena Church was organized in 1928. In Salt Lake City, Utah, William G. Green, a layman, was holding together a group of more than 10 believers. In 1924, the group was organized into a company with P.G. Rodgers officiating. It was through Green's persistence and influence that the Liberty Park Church was built.

In 1930, the first Black S.D.A. Church was organized in San Francisco. Groundwork was laid by a number of laymen—George Jennings, Major Mann, and Hanson Mitchell members of the Market Street Church, who frequently visited San Francisco to find interested people. In 1929, Elder Troy invited Elder J.E. Johnson to join him in an evangelistic crusade. They were assisted by Ms. Emma Spillard (Burnett-Neely), an experienced Bible Instructor who had worked in Nebraska and Colorado.

At the end of the 20's, there were an estimated 350 members in the Pacific Union.

1930—1940

YEARS OF STRUGGLE AND SURVIVAL

The 30s ushered in the great depression. Despite the obstacles the members continued their task of spreading the gospel. Churches were constructed and existing edifices purchased. Four churches were established—San Bernardino, Riverside, Fresno, and Phoenix. The work not only survived but progressed!

In San Francisco it seemed as if the church would not survive its infancy. The California Conference had been reorganized in 1932 and San Francisco was no longer part of the same conference as the Market Street Church. Without the crucial support of the mother church and its minister, the San Francisco members became discouraged and the faithful few began attending the San Francisco Central Church.

The crisis was salvaged when Elder Norman S. McLeod was appointed the pastor. He pulled the church together and they became known as the Philadelphian Church.

In 1927, two families—Weston and Lane—members of the Los Angeles Church, moved to San Bernardino. They were the catalyst that led to the establishment of the Valley View Church in 1931. Dennis, a backslidden S.D.A., and wife, Alice Black were among the converts. Dennis decided to return to school, he attended La Sierra College and 1939 entered the ministry.

Mr. and Mrs. Omar Stratton, were also converts. They became the inspiration behind the Riverside Church. Upon Mr. Stratton's Conversion, he became a LE and later moved to Riverside.

Through the printed page, Bible studies, meetings and branch Sabbath School, the Emmanuel S.D.A. Church was formed in 1937. The Emmanuel Church became a part of the San Bernardino district.

In the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, Fresno, Ca., by 1930, there were quite a number of Blacks who had moved into the area. Among the migrants were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Blackwood, the first Black believers in the area.

Elder A.E. Lyons, a young minister who had been assisting Elder Rodgers in Los Angeles, was sent to Fresno to hold an evangelistic meeting. Elder Lyons bap-

tized 5 people and a nucleus was formed for a church. The church was organized around 1934 and Elder Nathaniel Banks assumed leadership of the group.

It was under the leadership of Elder Richard Berry that the Westside Church in Fresno was built. Due to circumstances beyond control, it was not until the third attempt that a permanent church was built in 1954.

The Beacon Light Church, Phoenix, Az., was organized in 1937. Elder John F. Street, was its first permanent and full-time pastor, employed by the conference. However, the church had quite a history before Elder Street arrived.

Mamie Harrison, the mother of Dr. Warren Harrison, moved to Phoenix from Omaha, NE. in 1937. An Experienced Bible Instructor, she formed a small company. Douglas Batson, a layman, with the help of wife, Barbara, were assigned by the conference to keep the company together. Later, he enrolled in La Sierra College and served for many years as a pastor in the East and South.

At the close of 1939, there were 11 churches and approximately 1,000 members in the Pacific Union Conferences.

—To be continued—

PUBLISHER'S PAGE



E.E. Cleveland

WHAT A FELLOWSHIP

By E.E. Cleveland

A friend was overheard to say, "I was happy until you convinced me that I should be miserable." Believe it or not—there are well-meaning Christians to whom the "joy of the Lord" is a foreign language. They become so preoccupied with the "hole in the doughnut" they fail to enjoy the "doughnut". These folk live out

their sunless lives in unbroken gloom. "Be of good cheer," the Master said. "The Kingdom of God is joy," wrote the apostle. From the many texts on joy, cheer, and happiness in scripture, it would seem Christians are essentially up-beat. And this is true in fair weather and foul.

In the worst circumstances, this seems to be so. Paul and Silas conducted spirited singspirations in jail. We credit Job with the classic, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him." Martyrs being fed to the wild beast shouted this encouragement to those to follow, "Let's show these pagans how to die." A wise one has said, "One is not a genuine Christian until his love for God exceeds his fear of pain and death."

But what is the basis of this optimism borne of faith?

1. History. The Record of God dealing with His children is found in Scripture. That Record is most reassuring. Beginning with Adam, the Record shows that God does not forsake His children. That He is a "very present help" in time of need. Moses, Joshua, David, Daniel and others so testify. An examination of the Record clearly reveals that the Christian unbounded optimism is justified.

2. The gospel. It is spoken of as "glad tidings of great joy" for all people. (1) It announces a Savior. (2) It promises forgiveness for the repentant. (3) The gospel offers the merits of Christ to every believer. (4) It supplies grace to obey. The above facts should inspire basic optimism in all who accept Christ.

3. The life cycle. This speaks of basic patterns of circumstance, of life patters. It says, "I'm so glad—trouble don't last always." It says, "Weeping may endure for a night. Joy cometh in the morning." It speaks of the transitory nature of suffering. It says—"By and by, when the morning comes." There is no such thing as *unending night*. We will greet daybreak, if we can wait out the night.

4. There is also the "I am with you" promise. Those who practice "the presence of God" experience a mysterious lessening of tensions. They find Christ to be a shock absorber. He is a "mind fixer" and an "emotion stabilizer." "Some joy tinges the outer edges of every sorrow. A sense of well-being based on a sense of His presence is the Anchor that keeps the soul steadfast and sure.

The song from which our subject is taken also speaks of "Joy Divine". It speaks of the origin of joy. Christ is the source of all true joy. Peace of mind and

rest of soul are the blessings most promised in scripture. "My peace I give unto you", Christ said.

The song also speaks of the divine nature of joy. It is an aspect of God's character. Joy is an outreach of love which is the character of God. Joy is divine in nature.

"Learning on the everlasting arms" reveals the secret of joy. A sense of dependency is essential to peace of mind. Beyond that, the knowledge that those "Arms" never fail provides additional assurance. There is in the genuine Christian a sense of security not seen elsewhere. "In Him we live and move and have our being."

The joy described in this article does not relate to superficial effervescence. This plastic performance is witnessed everyday in the hollow laughter of sinners. Their grinning painted faces say nothing of the hidden heartache. Rather, there is in the Christian a sense of well being in the most trying circumstances. A sense that if all is not well, all will be well. And that underneath are the everlasting arms.

DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR—

The tension was great as Washington walked calmly into the office. Everything he cherished was at stake—his family, his work, his life. The lines were clearly drawn, it was either work on the Sabbath or be fired. These were hard choices for a young man and six children.

"So what's your decision, Washington?" asked the supervisor mockingly, "you gonna get back to work and give up this foolish notion about religion or what?"

"Sir," boldly answered the young man, "I cannot violate my conscience. Under no circumstances will I work on the Sabbath."

"Alright, you're fired!" growled the angry man, "but remember the Bible says, a man that doesn't provide for his family is worse than an infidel."

Those words seem to cut across the very core of his heart. Washington was an excellent provider. He woke at the crack of dawn and worked long back breaking hours in the smoldering steelmill. He had suffered several near fatal injuries—his hand was crushed, his back was broken—while at work. He was subjected to many indignities because he was a Black man working in a White world. All of these things he cheerfully endured because he loved his family and wanted the best for them.

The Editor's Desk

STATEMENT OF CLARITY FROM THE EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS—

An article entitled, "Constitutional Reversals?" which appeared in the May, 1987 issue of the North American Regional Voice does not necessarily reflect the opinions, views or sentiments of, nor was endorsed by the editors and publishers of the Voice.

BAPTIST LAYMAN UNDERWRITES \$12,000 BREATH OF LIFE CONTRACT

Late Tuesday, January 13, after a board meeting and office hours the phone rang. On the line with me was Joseph Miller, businessman and resident of Monroe, Louisiana. He wanted to know the procedure for placing breath of Life on television in his town. While detailing the steps the question of his local church membership arose. Mr. Miller identified himself as a Baptist and asked if it was all right for him to sponsor Breath of Life in Monroe (knowing that this is a Seventh-day Adventist telecast).

Following an enthusiastic, positive response, Miller revealed that KARD-TV, channel 14, in Monroe had a 30-minute time slot on Sunday mornings for a cost of \$1,000 per month. I quickly explained our limited resources when he abruptly interrupted stating his purpose to pay for the time himself. His subsequent contacts with Elder W.E. Arties, Executive Producer/Manager, proved fruitful and Mr. Miller signed a contract with the TV station placing Breath of Life on the air. This contract for \$12,000 annually is a very special and unusual contribution to this ministry.

When asked his reasons for doing so, Miller described Monroe as a poor town with very little positive programming for the Black community. He feels that Breath of Life is desperately needed to provide spiritual direction and positive role models for these times. His compliments helped reinforce our commitment to introduce Christ via the media.

—Reginald O. Robinson
Associate director/speaker

SUNSET CALENDAR

	June 26	July 3	10	17
Boston, Mass.	8:25	8:24	8:22	8:18
New York City	8:34	8:34	8:31	8:27
Buffalo, N.Y.	8:58	8:57	8:55	8:51
Atlanta, Ga.	8:51	8:52	8:50	8:48
Miami, Fla.	8:15	8:16	8:16	8:14
Charlotte, N.C.	8:42	8:42	8:41	8:37
Birmingham, Ala.	8:01	8:01	8:00	7:57
Jackson, Miss.	8:11	8:12	8:10	8:08
Memphis, Tenn.	8:18	8:18	8:17	8:14
Louisville, Ky.	9:10	9:10	9:08	9:05
Detroit, Mich.	9:13	9:13	9:12	9:07
Chicago, Ill.	8:29	8:29	8:25	8:22
South Bend, Indiana	8:24	8:23	8:21	8:17
Minneapolis, Minn.	9:08	9:03	9:00	8:56
St. Louis, Mo.	8:29	8:29	8:27	8:24
Kansas City, Mo.	8:48	8:48	8:46	8:43
Denver, Co.	8:32	8:32	8:30	8:26
Little Rock, Ark.	8:26	8:26	8:25	8:22
Dallas, Texas	8:39	8:39	8:38	8:36
New Orleans, La.	8:05	8:05	8:04	8:02
Albuquerque, N.M.	8:24	8:24	8:23	8:21
Oklahoma City, Okla.	8:49	8:49	8:48	8:45

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

"So, so speak up," badgered the supervisor, "are you going to change your mind?"

"No, Sir."

Those words began a time of testing for my father. He would be forced to work as an unskilled laborer. Many times ends would barely meet. He would be ostracized for his beliefs. At all costs he remained true to principle. He would rather chose death before dishonor, suffering rather than violating the commandments of God.

In choosing to obey God rather than man, my father proved his love for us. By precept and example, our values—devotion to duty and loyalty to God—were crystalized at an early age. He gave us a priceless gift that wealth, a position or title could never equal. Later, he was restored to his former position with honor.

We often talk of the far reaching influence of a godly mother, let us not overlook the critical role of a father in a child's character development. A father's love is so important, it effects the child's life in this life and the world to come. Many of the men and women that have blessed the world with genius and truth or led a life of dissipation and crime, can be tracked to the love or lack of a father's love.

E.G. White counsels, "The father should frequently gather his children around him, and lead their minds into channels of moral and religious light. He should study their different tendencies and susceptibilities, and reach them through the plainest avenues. Some may be influenced through veneration and wise providence, calling forth their deep gratitude; others may be more deeply impressed by opening before them the wonders and mysteries of the natural world, with all its delicate harmony and beauty, which speak to their souls of Him who is the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and all the beautiful things therein."—Reflecting Christ, p.175.

"The father's duty to his children should be one of his first interests. It should not be set aside for the sake of acquiring a fortune, or of gaining a high position in the world. In fact, those very conditions of affluence from them more than anything else. If the father would have his children develop harmonious characters, and be an honor to him and a blessing to the world, he has a special work to do."—Ibid., p.174

Remember, father in the great day of reckoning you will be called into account.

God will ask, "Where are the children that I entrusted to your care to educate for Me, that their lips might speak my praise, and their lives be as a diadem of beauty in the world, and they live to honor Me through all eternity?"—Ibid., p.175

—Stephanie D. Johnson

ALLEGHENY EAST

FRANKLIN, VIRGINIA BREAKS GROUND

Sunday, April 12, 1987 was no ordinary Sunday morning for Pastor Gene Donaldson and members of the First S.D.A. Church in Franklin, Virginia. For one thing, the doors of the church were open, not for service, but a ground breaking ceremony.

Pastor Donaldson, church members, conference officials, guest and visiting pastors met at the existing facility on South Street at 10 o'clock and began a rousing song service. Following song service and prayer, all proceeded to the lot on the corner of Thomas and South Streets. The well manicured lawn was soon filled with excited people.

Mr. B.W. Mann, Allegheny East Conference Treasurer, stated emphatically that the conference was proud of the work being done in Franklin and would support the project. Pastor Donaldson spoke about the purpose of the ceremony and read a brief history of the church.

Pastor Oliver Cheatham of Richmond, VA spoke about the beginning days of Franklin and admonished the church to remember fondly the contribution of John

Anderson (presently a student at Andrews University) and others who had a hand in initiating the work there. Pastor Gerald Wells of Newport News, VA. Gave words of encouragement regarding the task about to be undertaken by the church.

Donaldson led the church in a responsive reading of I Chronicles 29:10-18, the contractor, Mr. Bob Turner and his family were introduced, then in groups of three, the men led out in digging up shovels full of dirt to symbolize the actual breaking of the ground. Participating in this ceremony was: Pastor Gene Donaldson, Mr. B.W. Mann, Mr. B.Turner, Pastor O.Cheatham, Pastor G.Wells, Mr. Mack Woods, Mr. George Watson, Mr. Henry Myrick, and Mr. James Byrd.

The pastor then had a prayer of dedication and thanksgiving followed by the singing of the doxology. Benediction was presented by Mr. Woods.

A number of individuals present were noticeably moved by the ceremony. Said Mr. Watson, "I've been asking God to let me see a church in Franklin before I die, and now God is answering my prayer. It's so wonderful!" Ms. Janie Ward added, "Finally, we'll have a church!"

Many pulled Pastor Donaldson aside pledging to increase their financial contributions. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the Martin Luther King Center.

It was no ordinary Sunday in Franklin for the Pastor and members of the First S.D.A. Church, it was one that will never be forgotten.

—Barbara Donaldson
Communication Secretary



B.W. Mann, Allegheny East Conference Treasurer addresses those assembled for Groundbreaking Ceremonies of the First Church of Franklin, Virginia.

CHURCH HOLDS 1ST ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER

Recently, the first S.D.A. Church, Teanck, NJ held its First Annual Recognition Dinner at the Sheraton Hotel, Hasbrouck Heights. Four members were honored for giving unselfishly of their time, talent and money to the church. The honorees were:

Quice M. Bailey, a native of Jamaica, West Indies, has served the church since becoming a member in 1970. Mr. Bailey, head deacon, spends an enormous amount of time keeping the church beautiful. He is a faithful choir member, active participant in Personal Ministries activities. He is a solid financial supporter of the church.

Richard Polak, a native of South America, has been a faithful member in the Teanck church since 1959. Mr. Polak, along with others, took a second mortgage on his home to help purchase the church. Mr. Polak has served as head deacon, treasurer, personal ministry leader, Sabbath School superintendent and participated in the church choir. A humorous story was told about Mr. Polak remodeling the kitchen at the church. He removed the kitchen cabinets from his home and took his wife's pots and pans as well. He also installed a bathroom in the church. Mr. Polak is actively involved as a deacon and in whatever capacity he is asked to serve.

Harry Williams, Sr., born in Washington, D.C. has been a faithful member since 1960. He has demonstrated strong leadership ability as a Sabbath school teacher, Sabbath School superintendent, head deacon, personal ministries leader, pathfinder counselor, and soloist for many tent efforts. Presently, he serves as an elder.

With the skillful hands, Williams remade the front steps and constructed the wall in front of the church. He has been liberal with his time and car. He consistently transported people from Paterson to Englewood church the Paterson church was established.

Mr. Mays is a successful business man. He has excelled as a manager of a lamp factory and owner of a landscaping company. He is president of Wilbert's Enterprise and owner of Tuxedo Enterprise, Inc., a minority excavation and truck brokerage company. He is a minority contractor certified by New Jersey and New York Transit System,

New Jersey and New York Port Authority and Minority Business Entrepreneur of Newark, New Jersey.

Although Mr. Mays is a very busy person, he always has time for church. He has given moral and financial support to hundreds of people. Mr. Mays is a strong supporter of Christian education. He believes that every child should have the opportunity to receive a Christian education.

CENTRAL STATES

PALACE OF PEACE ON THE MOVE

The month of April was full of youth related activity at the Palace of Peace S.D.A. Church in Colorado Springs, CO. It began with a concert with talented young people from the church and featured guests, James and Patricia Taylor, who recently relocated in the area from Minneapolis, MN.

During mid-April, youth from other churches were invited to participate on the AY program. A group known as the "Silouetts" were especially enjoyed by the church. On Apr. 25, Dr. & Mrs. Roger Marqueta and friends, the Nelsons from Littleton, KS, were guests of the AY society. Dr. Marqueta spoke on the importance of hygiene. He also spoke on temperance. A question and answer period followed his presentation. Some of the

other topics of discussion were weight control and nourishment.

—Roy Morgan
Communication Secretary

HIGHLAND CREST GOES WITNESSING

The pastor and members of the Highland Crest Church, Topeka, KS, have become very important witnessing "tools" in their community. Pastor Larry Williams was invited to the St. Mark AME Church in Topeka, to open their Spring Revival. He delivered a very timeless message entitled, "That They May Believe." The Highland Crest Choir, also present, rendered three musical selections.

CHURCH HOLDS SOUL WINNING WORKSHOP

The members of the Highland Crest S.D.A. Church in Topeka, KS, enjoyed a special soul winning workshop conducted by Pastor Larry Williams. It was sponsored by the Personal Ministries department of the church. The workshop sessions were held on Friday evenings, during the first quarter of this year.

The workshop consisted of the "Win Arn" film series, supplied by the Ministerial Department of Mid-America Union. The members of the church look forward to putting what they've learned to practical use.

—Dorcelyn Bailey
Communication Secretary



Elder J. Paul Monk, Central States Conference President, speaks at Awards Banquet.



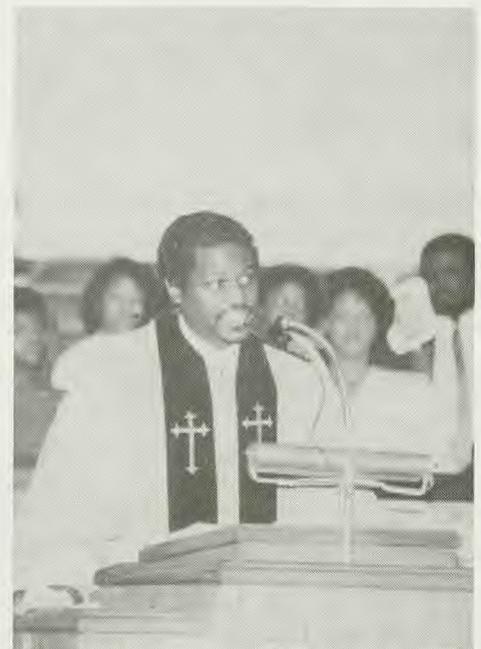
Pastor Larry Williams conducts Soul Winning Workshop.



Central States Youth Director, Dr. Nathaniel Miller, (extreme right), introduces Youth Congress presenters: (from left) Mr. Joe Anderson, Elder L. Bulter, Ms. Jacci Davis, and Mr. Stanley Gellineau.



The official delegates to the Central States Youth Caongress.



Elder Joe Grider from the South Central

LAKE REGION

NEWS NOTES

The annual youth day, at the Fairhaven Church in Flint, MI was filled with joy. One reason for rejoicing was the members were pleased to see one of the "sons" of the church present the Sabbath sermon. Dexter Clarke, director of the Voices of Harmony Choir, presented the youth day sermon. Dexter, who grew up in the Fairhaven Church, also serves as a local elder.

Norma Caldwell
Communications Secretary

ORDINATION SERVICES AT BEACON OF JOY

Ordination services were conducted by Pastor Robert F. Tolson on Sabbath March 15, 1987 at Beacon of Joy S.D.A. Church in Chicago, IL for Deacon Wilford D. Dyson.

Mr. Dyson began attending the Adventist church in May 1985. He received Bible studies from Ms. Shirley Daniels, a Bible Instructor with the Lake Region Conference. He was in training for one year prior to ordination.

Mr. Dyson is married to Thelma Dyson, now serving as Head Deaconess, Investment Leader and Beacon of Joy Bible worker.

Other deacons at the Beacon of Joy church, include Jose Leon—Head Deacon, Derrick Scott, James Strong, Sr., Jimmie Strong, Clarence Taylor, Nate Williams and Calvin Banks (honorary deacon).

Tanya Williams
Communications Secretary

N.D. SIMONS SPEAKS AT FAIRHAVEN CHURCH

Elder Norman D. Simon, Nashville, Tennessee was guest speaker for the divine worship service in February at the Fairhaven Church, Flint, MI. During the A.Y. service, Elder Simon brought an unforgettable Black History program. His presentation was enhanced with displays of posters, sketches, and documents from years ago. Elder Simon stated he has been doing research on Black History for 30 years and he shared an abundance of information with the members and guests at Fairhaven.

Norma Caldwell
Communications Secretary

16 PROMOTED IN SABBATH SCHOOL

Promotion services were held on Sabbath Jan. 30 at the Beacon of Joy Church, Chicago.

Ellen Tolson, Superintendent for the lower division, promoted 16 children. Those promoted were: Anthony Strong, Toccara Strong and Heather Williams from Cradle to Kindergarten. Angell Adams, Shannon Sarpy, Marshall Shelly, Linda Strong and Oscar Strong from Kindergarten to Primary. Angel Harris, James Jenkins, Lolita Sykes, Diana Taylor and Janelle Strong from Primary to Junior and Elliott Harris, Michael Hart and Tamika Scott from Junior to Earliteen.



Beacon of Joy Sabbath School students receive certificates.

SHARON CHURCH HOLDS YOUTH WEEK OF PRAYER

Did you know that sheep cannot sleep if they are hungry? That when sheep are lacking adequate food they will take dangerous risks to satisfy their hunger, for example, they often plunge to their death by reaching too far over the edge of a cliff for a single blade of grass or leaf.

That's what Pastor James R. Doggette said to the congregation during the Adventist Youth week of prayer services at Sharon S.D.A. Church.

James Doggette is pastor of the Pine Bluff, Arkansas S.D.A. Church and is the brother of Elder Jackson M. Doggette, minister of the Sharon Church.

Pastor Doggette preached all week on the 23rd Psalm, and each night he emphasized various characteristics of sheep and shepherds. He related these animal habits to human behavior.

Thirsty sheep will drink any kind of water because they cannot distinguish between pure and polluted water. It is the responsibility of the shepherd to lead his sheep to only good streams of water. Christ is the Good Shepherd and seeks to lead his sheep (Christians) to the living waters of his unpolluted word, the Bible,

where the thirsty soul of man is satisfied with the waters of truth and righteousness.

The youth week of prayer began Sunday, March 22. Pastor Doggette preached each night and concluded his series on Sabbath morning, March 28. In his final sermon the speaker stressed how God is our good shepherd and we need not fear what life may bring upon us. He will see that our cup of grace is full and will work all things out for good if we can trust Him.

He illustrated this fact by recounting the experiences of the Negro slaves. They were often regarded as too dumb to understand the Christian religion, but God led the slaves to outsmart the master by using folk ways and means to express and sustain their faith through worship and music.

Warner M. Rice

MINNIETTE TURNER HONORED ON 93rd BIRTHDAY

Irene Minniette Noland was born on Mar. 2, 1894 in Tallulah, Louisiana. She accepted the Lord at a very young age, and in 1949 she became a member of the S.D.A. Church. Most of her Adventist life has been spent in service at the Independence Boulevard S.D.A. Church on the Chicago's west side. There she was a charter member. At the Independence Boulevard church she had served as a deaconess, sabbath school teacher and community service leader.

On Jan. 31, 1987, she became a member of the New Life S.D.A. church.

A few weeks ago the members of the New Life Church, Chicago, IL paid a special tribute to Mrs. Minniette Turner on her 93rd birthday.

Mrs. Turner also received a letter of congratulations from Ronald Reagan, President of the United States.

Mrs. Irene Turner is a widow. She is the mother of three lovely daughters, Latearace Hunter, Labatrice Collins and Evelyn Blakely. She has two sons-in-law, Rufus Collins and Eric Blakely, six grandchildren, ten great grandchildren and seven great, great grandchildren.

Mrs. Turner has dedicated and committed her life totally to the Lord and has responded to the poor and needy for many, many years.

If we were to give a theme to her life, it would be: "If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain."

Dollie May Williams
Correspondent

METROPOLITAN-EVANVILLE INSTALLS 1987 OFFICERS

An impressive ceremony by Pastor B.P. Bernard, inducted 1987 officers for the Metropolitan S.D.A. Church, Evansville, Indiana.

During the ceremony, Pastor Bernard stressed the need for officers to cooperate with the membership to effect a change within the community. Bernard passed a lighted candle to first elder, Michael Taylor; to other officers along the line, to Alice Martin, local elder to Sister M.J. Chandler, who represented the church laymen.

Ms. Chandler, representing the membership was stationed at the door to receive the lighted candle from the officers. She took the candle outside before extinguishing it, showing that the spiritual light must be taken to the community by the entire church—pastor, officers and each member.

Maria Person
Communication Secretary

"PACK THE PEWS" DAY HELD AT BEACON OF JOY

"Pack the Pews day" was held Feb. 14 at Beacon of Joy Church, Chicago. The theme, "Love is Sharing", was exhibited throughout the day.

Beacon of Joy's choirs formed a mass choir and Pastor Robert F. Tolson gave an inspirational sermon on love. Beacon's guests were the Sharon and Racine Churches, Milwaukee, WI, and many other visitors and friends.

Immediately following the sermon, a delicious dinner was served in the church's annex. The Adventist Youth Program was a concert given by the Milwaukee guests.

A basketball game completed a beautiful day.

Tanya Williams
Communication Secretary

NORTHEASTERN

SINGLE ADOPTIVE PARENTING - THE CHOICE OF A NEW GENERATION

Sandra Wilson

"I had to tell you dearest heart, that you are not my own: for fear some meddler would impart that knowledge which is known—that I adopted you to start a home for us alone.

I tried to make it plain to you, I hope you understood: My friends all had one child or two, their lives seemed full and good; and there was nothing else to do but find you if I could.

You see, God did not grant my prayer and let me bear a child, and so I sought you everywhere until the day you smiled and snuggled as I stroked your hair, and you became my child.

No natural mother has a voice in choosing what she gets—a boy, a girl; she has no choice of blond or deep brunettes. Therefore my chosen child, rejoice and have no vain regrets, Remember, that first day you smiled I claimed you for my own. I hope that you are reconciled to have the secret known; that you are mothers chosen child, mine and mine alone." J-Mar

After I read the poem on the card, I tossed it in my box of keepsakes and smiled, for it expressed the feelings I cherished for my daughter. Not all the reasons I harbored for adopting were totally unselfish, but it was because of an unexplainable bond of love at first sight that I chose her.

The whole process of viewing children had become frustrating, I had prayed about it constantly but the children I had seen did not touch me and I believed that not one I had seen was to be my chosen child. The five months since my application was filled, and the home study by a case worker went quickly. Then came the prayerful waiting period.

It was worth the wait and the discouragement from the other agencies. Rejection ranged from being single and under thirty, to being a church worker and having too low an income. I was introduced to a single adoptive parent who recommended me to this agency where I would find success. I held out for a baby boy at first, but not many boys were being given up for adoption at that time, so when the caseworker called me to come see this four and a half week old baby girl, I had already hardened my heart not to love this child, but wonder of wonders!! I can still recall the tremendous surge of joy and love I felt on meeting this child that was to be my daughter.

A friend loaned me a bassinet and I prepared a corner of my bedroom for her, I could see in my mind's eye how perfect everything was, and how well she would fit into my life. She was about 7 pounds, small but not meager, she was dressed in the cutest frilly pink dress with pink and white booties and a pink barett in the

middle of her curly black afro.

As I reached for her, it seemed to me, that she reached out to me, yes this is the one God intended me to have. All the maternal talents that had lain dormant, now awoke and total love took over. She smiled a toothless smile and my heart broke. It was amazing, but I felt her biological mother was somehow my surrogate. This child was mine! As I held her I looked down the road of life and saw what she might become, by the grace of God.

I did not have her quite one month, but I had her dedicated to Lord in my church—a promise I made to the Lord. When the ladies in my church gave me a baby shower, I believed it was a sign of wonderful things to come. The beginning of God opening heaven's storehouse of blessings. Waiting for the courts to make the proceedings legal was only a formality. This child was mine!

There are many single individuals who are desirous of adopting children but feel they are not able to, for one reason or another. Well, there's hope. Babies are available for adoption, especially black babies who are the least adoptable. The key to having your chosen child is finding the right adoption agency.

The trend today in many agencies is to consider single adults as prospective parents. In the past only couples were considered and they waited an innumerable amount of time for newborns, and frequently by the time they approved the babies were either gone or grown. Successfully completing various tests administered by a case worker, is evidence that stable single adults can now adopt children, even newborns.

It is God's plan, within the greater plan of salvation that Christian men and women single or married share this burden, care for the fatherless and motherless—for many children this is the only way they will know of Jesus: Isa. 1:17 and James 1:27 gives counsel on caring for the neglected, rejected, and homeless.

Opening your homes to the needy will put a strain on the purse strings, but looking at mere finances will take away the joy of nurturing a child. The Author of Child Guidance says: "The first and constant care of parents should be to see that their children have firm constitution, that they may be sound men and women." The gift you give be nought compared to that which our heavenly father will return. The God of heaven who gave the child

will not let her be destitute. Matt 6:25-34 confirms this. He has many ways of opening closed doors that no one else can open. So another mouth to feed becomes another open window in heaven out of which God will pour your blessings.

If you are seriously contemplating adoption, ask yourself, "Why do I want to adopt?" and honestly answer that question. Are you adopting because you are lonely? needing companionship? If this is the only reason, then reconsider. Loneliness creates a void in one's life that a tiny baby cannot fill. A child deserves to be part of a well ordered well adjusted life, not to make order out of chaos. Love should be the prime motivator. Pray that God will give you the right heart and attitude to make you the perfect parent for his jewel.

Unlike the biological parents who must prepare and educate the child even before conception and throughout gestation, the adoptive parent has the challenge of modifying behavior; so the child will be the best citizen in this world and the world to come. This is not an easy task; but taking God into partnership and following his guidelines makes the task easier and the burden light.

In contemplating adoption here are some suggestions:

1. Pray. Prov. 3:5,6—Ask God for his will to be done.

2. Most agencies have screening interviews—basically these are to insure that the adoptive person is mature and will provide a stable and happy home for the child. Verification is made with federal authorities to confirm that the adoptive



Sandra Kay Wilson.

parent does not have criminal record or a history of child abuse or molestation. Your Pastor or Bible Instructor may vouch for your character and will be asked about recommending you, but its always good for community members to know you. Join a local group and become more community minded. The Urban League, NAACP, or a local hospital may be in need of volunteers.

3. For a variety of reasons the law in certain states requires that an adopted child have her own room or bed. Because of the lack of funds I created my own nursery in my bedroom—be imaginative you'll be surprised at what can be done with the little you already have.

4. If you plan to be a single parent who works or attends school, most adoptive agencies will be concerned about the child's care while you are away from home. It would be wise to begin interviewing prospective babysitters. This can be very difficult; but good judgement and much prayer are the keys. Start looking first, in your local congregation, your search might end there as it did for me at a Wednesday night prayer meeting.

5. Talk to someone whose advice you value. It is always good to talk, you hear about what you are thinking, make practical plans for you and the child, start an activity calendar. This will impress the adoptive worker, that you are serious about parenting and will help you in making the transition in your life.

6. Within the screening interview at least two home visits by the case worker are usually required. At this time you are asked various questions about yourself, eg. type of person you are: church affiliation, your family background, future plans for marriage, etc. Its good to prepare ahead of time by doing some self exploration. Re-examine the need to adopt on a larger scale. Also at this time your home will be inspected to ascertain that the child will be in a clean wholesome environment.

7. As a rule, the adoptive parent is required to submit a report from a physician as to his/her health etc. reasons here are obvious and will prove wise. Now is the time to make adjustments in your health care, eating habits etc. You will find it easier to teach good health care when you are a practitioner.

Having your chosen child, there are many things you will be learning, and known things you will put into effect, but remember:

1. Never doubt that you made the right choice in adopting. All things work together for good for those that love the Lord—Romans 8:28. You asked God's direction, now accept it.

2. Babies take a lot of time and patience to care for and to adjust to. If at all possible plan to be at home for the first one or two weeks after receiving her. You will learn her feeding and sleeping habits and be able to give instructions to a baby sitter. The parent bonding is remarkable at this time, you will feel that you actually gave birth.

3. This child is yours, make every effort to train her up in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Read, sing, and pray with the child. The results in later years will be dramatic. Ellen White in *Child Guidance* assures us that this is a wonderful way of bringing children to the Lord. God instructed Israel of old that from babyhood children should learn of Him. As spiritual Israel we are given the same admonition. By fulfilling this commission, God's image will be traced on mind and soul.

4. By the grace of God, do all you can to live in harmony with God's will. Children learn what they see by example. They are never too young to understand some things, you will be rewarded as they grow and they will call you blessed.

Parents Prayer

They are little only once Lord,
Grant me the wisdom and the patience
to teach them to follow in your footsteps
and prepare them for what is to come

They are little only once Lord
Make me take the time to play pretend
to read or tell a story; to cuddle.

Don't let me for minute think
anything is more important than the
school play, the recital, the big game,
fishing, or just the walk hand in hand.
All too soon Lord they will grow away
and there is no turning back.

Let me have my memories with no
regrets.

Please help me to be a good parent Lord
When I must discipline—let me do it in
love,

Let me be firm, but fair; Let me correct
with patience.

They are growing away Lord
While I have the chance, let me do my
best for them

For the rest of our lives, please Lord
Let me be their very best friend.

—Mary L. Robbins

Now that you have your chosen child, be the best parent you can be, this is only the beginning. The whole process of child rearing is a challenge of great measure. But in partnership with God, the single parent will be successful and will be pleased for being courageous in accepting the challenge. On that wonderful day when the great family of God reunites around his throne, we will, by his grace, hold hands, as Jesus gathering his jewels around him, makes the glorious pronouncement to his stewards "As you have done it unto the least of these my children you have done it unto me enter into life eternal!"

Sandra Wilson is a Bible instructor for the Jefferson Avenue Church, Rochester, NY.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS HELD AT CITY TABERNACLE

During the month of February, the City Tabernacle Church of New York City held two workshops. Guest lecturers were Dr. Ivan Warden, pastor of the Berea S.D.A. Church in Los Angeles, CA; and Dr. Caleb Rosado, pastor of the All Nations S.D.A. Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Dr. warden entitled his workshop, 'Concepts of the Black Family'. He pointed out that concepts affect behavior. "Until we can fully understand who we are as a people", he explained, "we cannot behave according to our high calling."

The closing Sabbath of the workshop, Elder Warden's message, "Keepers of the Culture", he admonished the congregation to "Keep the culture given by our heavenly Father, from generation to generation, that men may be born to the Kingdom".

Dr. Rosado, in his workshop, emphasized ethnic relations—interaction of groups of different backgrounds working to keep the culture of the Kingdom. Rosado placed much emphasis on the fact that while God's people are different, there must be in that diversity, unity. His key thought was, "In Christ, the competition is over." Elaborating, he continued, "Whatever may be one's background, if one is committed to Christ,

there is no difference; there is no competition.

—Joan Marsh

Communication Secretary

DEACON AND DEACONESS DAY HELD AT BRONX TEMPLE

Deacon and Deaconess Day was held at Bronx Temple S.D.A. Church, Bronx, NY, April 25. The speaker for the day was Elder Stennet Brooks, Treasurer of the Northeastern Conference.



Elder Stennet Brooks, Northeastern Conference treasurer, addresses the congregation of Bronx Temple.

Brooks' sermon, "The story of Saul to Paul," was based on text, Acts 9:1-6. In the afternoon a program of sacred music and poems were presented. To climax the program, Mrs. Mavis Gayle, head deaconess and Ms. Dorothy Buxton, assistant deaconess, organized a choral group consistent of the church's deacons and deaconesses. The group sang, "Gladly toiling for Jesus."

Closing remarks and prayer was given by Pastor George St. John, who challenged the audience to dedicate their lives to serve the sick and the less fortunate.

—Kathleen Hughes

Communication Secretary



Deacons and Deaconesses of Bronx Temple SDA Church.



Dr. Caleb Rosado lectures on Ethnic Relations at the City Tabernacle Church.

COMMUNITY GUEST DAY AT CITY TABERNACLE

The City Tabernacle S.D.A. Church of New York City celebrated their Community Guest Day on February 28. Sabbath School, under the direction of Dr. Marcianne Harriot-Harris, introduced the theme, 'Come with Us Through the Heavenly Gates'. Mrs. Joyce McGlory sang, "Oh What A Beautiful City!"

Over one hundred guests joined the members including the Honorable Mr. Lorrell Bruce, Consul General of Jamaica, W.I. Edwina Humphrey, Darlene Simmonds, and Annette Wilson performed "Come Unto Me". Dr. Jonathan Thompson, pastor of the church, entitled his sermon, "Stir what ya got". he explained, "Whatever you have is a mighty tool placed in the Master's hand."

The Mahalia Jackson Children's Choir, provided music for the afternoon program which was given by Public School 123 in Manhattan. Mrs. Constance Wingate, principal; Mrs. Mildred Johnson, choir director; and her assistant Ms. Crosby were the staff members present. The Children's Choir, organized several years ago, has sung before the Mayor of New York City, the Governor of New York State, and at state and city functions.

Mr. Archibald Jones, former principal of the school, was the keynote speaker. He praised the members of his former staff for the work they are doing with the children; the interest they have shown and commended them for the exposure the children have received through the choir. Also involved in the program was Mrs. Pansy Sleem of the Calvary Evangelical Church, Jamaica, W.I.

—Joan Marsh
Communications Secretary

Z.C. FORDE CONDUCTS TRAINING CLASS

Zilda C. Forde, the daughter of Elder D.W. Forde, a former Shiloh pastor, directed a Training Light Bearers class under the auspices of the Shiloh church Personal Ministries department.

Mrs. Forde, upon issuing a charge to her students, presented them with certificates for their participation in the class. Mrs. Forde was selected to teach the class because of her reputation of turning out leaders in the area of Bible studies.

Delores Ricks
Personal Ministries Secretary

STEWARDSHIP REVIVAL IN THE HUDSON VALLEY

During the week of Apr. 25-May 2, a Stewardship Revival was held for the Ellenville, Kingston, and Poughkeepsie, New York S.D.A. Churches, pastored by Timothy P. Nixon. Guest speaker for this event was Elder Hector Mouzon, Stewardship Director for the Conference. The Sabbath meetings were held at Trinity Temple S.D.A. Church in Poughkeepsie, New York and during the week at the Kingston S.D.A Church Kingston, New York.

Elder Mouzon gave inspiring messages at each meeting, discussing the many aspects of stewardship. He stressed the need to make a written covenant with God. A highlight of the revival was the testimony of Elder George Oates from the Ellenville Church, who was richly blessed as a result of his faithfulness to God in returning a double tithe even though he was unable to pay his mortgage for one year. The bank did not know why it didn't foreclose but the Oates family did. There were blessed financially and were able to pay all they owed.

At the close of the meeting, Elder Mouzon presented figures on the three churches offerings for tithe and combined budget. He was pleased with the overall reports. Mouzon was especially elated with one church, for doing something he had never encountered in his ministry. The members of the Kingston Church has paid more combined budget than tithe for 1986, and there was no building drive in progress. Members gave because of their love for Christ and His church. It was noted that almost all of the members of the congregation were paying double tithe or more. Elder Mouzon stated, "If all the churches in the Northeastern Conference would do this, he would be out of a job."

The meeting ended with a social at Victory Lake Camp, Hyde Park, New York. Pastor and Mrs. Timothy Nixon were given gifts from the three churches in appreciation for their leadership and love.

It was a week of love and fellowship; a week where many made a new covenant to invest more into Master's plan.

Gerald Miller
Communication Secretary

HEALTH LECTURES AT BRONX TEMPLE

Dr. Jephtha Nwakanma, a lecturer and health educator, presented a series of lectures on "The Use of Herbs in Healing Arts," at the Bronx Temple Church, Bronx, NY. He explained that herbs have been used as healing agents since the beginning of time by every race. Primitive people from every corner of the globe possess a remarkable knowledge of the medicinal properties of certain roots, bark, seeds, leaves, and flowers growing in their surroundings.

Dr. Nwakanma reminded his audience that the health message covered a broader spectrum than just not eating meat, but eating the right things. He also stressed the importance of exercise.

CONCERT HELD TO BENEFIT MISSION

The committee for the South Bronx Mission, chaired by Mrs. Lillian Dawson, sponsored a benefit concert on April 25. Mr Willie Bethea, of Ephesus S.D.A. Church in New York, served as master of ceremonies. Participants included: The Ephesus Youth Choir, Orion, Margaret Richardson, Deborah Wilson, Anchored In Christ, The Ecstatistics, and many more.

The concert, held at Bronx Temple, Bronx, NY, the mother church, had standing room only. Proceeds went towards the mission's building fund.

—Kathleen Hughes
Communications Secretary

FLATBUSH DOES IT AGAIN

For three consecutive years, the Flatbush Elementary School in Brooklyn, NY, has walked away with the Spelling Bee championship. May 7, was a repeat of previous years. Wendy Macleish, an eighth grade student from Flatbush Elementary School grabbed the top spot, winning \$500.00 worth of equipment for her school. Dwight Frances, a fifth grade student from the Linden Elementary school in Laurelton, NY, came in second, winning \$300.00 in equipment for his school. Seventh gader Erroll Fraser of the Hanson Place Elementary School, Brooklyn, NY, placed third, winning for his school, \$200.00 in equipment. The students also recieved personal monetary awards.

The Spelling Bee, held at the Flatbush S.D.A. Church, is sponsored by the

Semper Paratus Club; a social and education oriented club, based in New York City. Approximately 40 students from 10 elementary schools around North-eastern Conference were involved in the

Bee. Mr. Louis Matthews, of the Brooklyn Temple Elementary School, served as the proctor. Judging the event was: Elder Trevor Baker, Elder L.A. Paschal, Mrs. Kenneth Doswell, and Mrs. Ora Newton.

SOUTH CENTRAL

NEWS NOTES

"Women Expressing God's Radiant Perfection"—this was the theme for the Annual Eastern Division Federated S.D.A. King's Daughters Clubs. The conference took place in Miami, Florida. What Miami saw, however, was more than a group of women coming together for fun and relaxation. Miami saw Christian women, arriving from as far west as California and as far east as New York to pray, share and plan for the future together.

The opening ceremonies took place on Thursday evening in the beautiful Marriott Biscayne Hotel. After the opening devotional exercises, Marian Quisenberry, Division President, welcomed all to the convention and called the meeting to order for a business session. A workshop, "New Ideas for Fundraisers" was conducted following the business session.

An awards luncheon followed and was hosted by Veronica Davis. After a delicious meal awards were presented to several King's Daughters from their club presidents. An outstanding award was given to Marian Quisenberry for seven years of dedicated service as the federation president.

The Sabbath was ushered in with a beautiful candlelight service at the Miami Northside Church. All King's Daughters were present, filling the church and looking lovely in their white. Pastor W. Lester Taylor spoke to the congregation on the virtues of Christian womanhood. He reminded all women of their responsibilities and privileges of being Christian women.

The King's Daughters departed by bus to the Bethany S.D.A. church for Sabbath services. The Sabbath School program was presented by members of the various clubs.

Calvin Rock, General Conference Vice President, challenged the King's Daughters and the entire congregation in his sermon at the eleven o'clock hour. His concern was for the youth of our churches, and he pointed out that much could be done by all King's Daughters to help young people to know the joy of Christian living.

A special dinner cruise on the Florida Keys was the exciting climax of the convention. A tour of Miami on Sunday morning wrapped up the convention.



Mr. Stevel Beckford, principal of the Flatbush Elementary School, accepts championship trophy from Mrs. Iva Harrel, president of Semper Paratus, and Mrs. Juanita Hamilton, corresponding secretary for Semper Paratus.



Spelling Bee Champions: (l to r), Wendy MacCleish, Dwight Frances, and Erroll Fraser.

Not only was this convention spiritually rewarding for all who attended, but during the four-day stay in Miami, many lives were touched by King's Daughters. Many saw that the Eastern Division of Federated King's Daughters really are "Women Expressing God's Radiant Perfection."

Lloyetta Warren
PR Dir—Eastern Division Federation
King's Daughters



Mrs. Queen E. Robinson.

EDUCATOR FEATURED ON TV

Queen E. Robinson, 5th & 6th grade teacher at the Alcy Junior Academy in Memphis, Tennessee was featured recently on "Parents Want To Know" a television program that highlighted four private/parochial schools in the city of Memphis. This segment explained the CAI (Computer Assisted Instruction) Program that has been implemented in various non-public schools throughout the city which Alcy became a part of this fall. The program aired two times so far over cable channel 12 in the greater Memphis area and will be aired periodically throughout the remainder of the current year.

Alcy has six students presently enrolled in the CAI Program which provides remedial assistance to students in the areas of math, language arts and reading. As the program expands over the years more students that may be eligible will be able to participate. Mrs. Robinson has been commended highly by Mrs.

Shirley Graham, Computer instructor and Mr. Steve Wiggly Computer Technician both of the Memphis city schools—Chapter I program, for the job she is doing along with her current teaching responsibilities.

—Charles D. Battles
Principal



Robert Buckingham, Grade 4 presents his speech "Growing Up Free."

ALCY'S STUDENTS PRESENT BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM

"Growing Up Free" was the theme for the annual Afro-American history program presented by the students of the Alcy Junior Academy at the Overton Park S.D.A. Church, Tennessee. Queen Robinson, teacher for grades 5 & 6 and Michael Tompkins teacher for grades 7 & 8 coordinated the program.

The theme song "Growing Up Free" was intertwined throughout the program. "The Creation" by James Weldon Johnson was dramatically presented by grades 3 & 4. The poem "Harriet Tubman" by Margaret Walker featured Tara Ranser and James Hollingshed both students in grade 8.

Various Negro Spirituals that relived the experience of our forefathers were sung by the 5-8 chorus and played by the Recorder Ensemble grades 7 & 8.

A student from each class shared with the audience their original speech what it meant to be "Growing Up Free" in America today. To end the program the Alcy students sang a traditional/contemporary song written by a former student Gale Jones Murphy "We Can Share." This program ended a month long celebration of Afro-American history at Alcy.

—Charles D. Battles
PRINCIPAL

PASTOR ROY L. PATTERSON HONORED

Members of the Bethany and First Troy churches, Montgomery and Troy Alabama respectively, honored their pastor, Roy L. Patterson and his family during a surprise 'Appreciation Program' on February 11.

What was originally announced as a church fellowship dinner, turned into a surprise for the Pattersons as they were officially welcomed to their appreciation program by Mrs. Addie Myrick. The highlights included musical selection from the Symphonettes, Mrs. Ezetta Horace, Ms. Carolyn Myrick, and Mr. Al Baker.

The combined Choirs of Bethany sang a medley of the pastor's favorite selections. Elder T.M. Fountain, a retired minister, presented a special tribute to Pastor Patterson, congratulating and charging him to accomplish even greater things in the future. The crowning event of the evening was the appreciation address by Milton Johnson, pastor of the Brent, Prattville, and Wetumpka, Alabama district.

Before coming to the Montgomery, Troy district, Elder Patterson pastored in Vickburg, Port Gibson, Natchez, Woodville, Belzoni, Greenwood, Yazoo City, and Indianola, Mississippi and Memphis, TN. Three churches were established as a result of his ministry.

The Pattersons are the parents of three children; Morris, Esther, and Andrew.

After showering the first family with 'tokens of love', the evening ended with refreshments served in the fellowship hall. Mrs. Patricia Brown served as mistress of ceremonies and Mrs. Missouri Milton and the hospitality committee as hosts.



Pastor and Mrs. Roy Patterson and family.

THEOLOGY SENIOR RECEIVES UNCF SCHOLARSHIP

Dwight Eric Haynes, formerly of Providence Missionary Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, Texas; a graduating theology student at Oakwood College, the 1987 fellowship recipient of the United Negro College Fund's (UNCF) 21st Century Scholars Program. Haynes, formerly of San Francisco, CA, was selected over a field of forty-three applicants nationwide, one from each UNCF college and university. He will receive a \$7,000.00 fellowship each year while he is completing his Master of Divinity, M.A. Biblical Languages, and

Ph.D. New Testament Theology degrees at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

He is married to the former Eve Estelle White of Wichita Falls, TX who holds a B.S. in Elementary ED/Music from Mid-Western State University in Wichita Falls. She plans to complete a Masters of Education at Andrews University as well. They have three children, Demetra, 11; Samuel, 4; and Candace, 1.

Haynes is also under consideration for a pastor internship with South Central conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

DAWN LEWIS CAPTURES UNCF CROWN

With over 1000 people watching Dawn Valencia Lewis of Memphis, Tennessee, the crown of UNCF 1987 was placed upon her head at the Ninth Annual United Negro College Fund Banquet, held at the Von Braun Civic Center, Huntsville, AL.

Lewis, a junior biology student at Oakwood college, raised over \$24,000 during the campaign. "The first thing I thought was I must be dreaming", said Lewis as she was announced the winner. "I had not expected to win, but the Lord knew I needed the money for school next year and I thank him."

The daughter of Melvin, Jr. and Phyllis Lewis, Dawn Lewis attended the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga before attending Oakwood College. She was baptized a S.D.A. August 1985. Miss received one tuition free quarter at Oakwood College and other prizes for top spot.

SOUTHEASTERN

LOCKETTES CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Elder and Mrs. E.A. Lockett, retired S.D.A. workers, who served the church for 41 years, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Elder Lockett worked for the Southwest Region Conference in the states of Texas and Oklahoma, and for the Northeast Conference in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York. He also served as Personal Ministries Director for the Northeastern Conference for a number of years.

The Locketts reside in Altamonte Springs, Florida and are still active in the work of the church.

SPANISH CONGRESS HELD IN MIAMI

"Dare to be Different" was the theme of the Spanish Congress held in Miami, Florida April 10, 11.

The color, Pageantry, music, worship, fellowship, and the rich Spiritual encounter resided in the almost indescribable.



Elder and Mrs. E.A. Lockett retirees living in Altamonte Springs, Florida.

This was the fourth such event held in the Southeastern Conference.

Israel Leito, newly elected General Conference Youth Director gave the Sabbath message. Moises Parker from Cologne, Germany, gifted opera singer who sings all over Europe with various Philharmonic Ochestras, brought the house down with his renditions. He also performed a concert to close the Congress. Mrs. Olive Fletcher of the Inter-American Division accompanied him on the piano.

Rolando de los Rios, speaker for "Ayer, Hoy, y Manana (Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow), a television ministry which originates in New York and is shown in major U.S. cities, gave the keynote address.

"Your Story Hour" a self-supporting institution which records children stories (Fred Messerole, manager) accounted for one of the most engaging moments of the Congress. They performed a puppet show for the children during Sabbath School.

This giant undertaking was spear-headed by Pastor Charles Vento and Pastor Raul Cruz, assistant; Suzanne Arteaga; Esmeralda Guzman, and a host of church officers.

Friends, guest and retired workers from Florida, New York, New Jersey, and Puerto Rico came and gave support to one of the highlights of the conference year.



Spanish believers enjoy the spoken word during their Spanish Coangress held in Miami, Florida.

PROGRESS VILLAGE BURNS MORTGAGE

In December 1981, some members of the Mt. Calvary Church, Tampa, FL were organized as the Progress Village S.D.A. Church by Elder J.A. Edgecombe, conference president.

For nearly two years, the small group worshipped under strained conditions on 79th Street and Flower Avenue. It was during their second year that the St. James AME Church granted them permission to use their facilities. Mr. and Mrs. Al Jackson opened their doors for prayer meeting on Tuesday nights and business meetings whenever necessary.

The company was fortunate to have a dynamic leader, Ms. Odessa Smith, who died March of 1983. After her passing, members of her family, her son Thom in particular, gave liberally to see the dream of his mother come true.

There are three other important dates in the history of the Progress Village Congregation. September 1984, the groundbreaking service took place. Mar. 15, 1986 the members worshipped for the first time in their completely furnished edifice. Mar. 21, 1987, one year later mortgage burning service.

J.A. edgecombe, President; R.R.Brown, Executive Secretary; and D.A. Walker, Treasurer; were all present for each of the above occasions. elder Edgecombe was the keynote speaker for each. During the Sabbath of the mortgage burning, Pastor Astacion taught the Sabbath School lesson and a musical program was held in the afternoon.

Alongside their building project, the Progress Village Church has supported every conference obligation and kept evangelistic outreach, education, and all church and community projects alive.

The pastor of the church from the rime of the land purchase until 1984 was Pastor Herman Davis. Pastor Theus Young carried them through the building project and mortgage burning.

These events were historical for the Southeastern Conference. It is a first. The church's doors were opened March 1986 and exactly one year later, March 1987, the mortgage was burned.

OVER 2,000 ATTEND YOUTH FEDERATION

The M.C. Strachan Chapter Youth Federation held their 1987 celebration May 1 and 2 at the Bethune—Cookman

College and the Peabody Auditorium in Daytona Beach, FL. The theme of the Federation was "Striving for Heaven in '87", and the theme song, "Living for Jesus".

From the central and northern parts of the Southeastern Conference, over 2,000 members representing the 42 churches in the Federation were present. The Sabbath School superintendent, Larry Richardson chaired the program and Ron Williams from the Patmos Chapel S.D.A. Church, Winter Park, FL taught the Sabbath School lesson.

Pastor Donald McPhaul, from the Central States Conference was the speaker for the Divine Worship hour. Music was provided by the Excelsiors of Tampa, FL, under the direction of Lisa Hall. During the morning introductions, a plaque and long-stemmed rose were presented to Dr. Betty Stewart, Federation President, for outstanding leadership. The presentation was made by Elder Keith Dennis, Southeastern Conference Youth Director.

The events of the afternoon were varied, beginning with an oratorical contest coordinated by Linda Samuel from St. Petersburg, FL. In the senior division, Samantha Barclay of Mt. Sinai Church, Orlando, FL, took first place; LaShawn Travick of Mt. Sinai Church received second place; and Charmaine Purchase of Elim Church St. Petersburg, FL, received third place. In the junior division, first place went to Kimberly Francis of Mt. Olive Church, Apopka, FL; second place to Madine Henry of St. Sinai Church; and third place to Bron Jacobs of Marantha Church, Tallahassee, FL.

The Youth of the Year representatives were: Lamar Pearson, Mt. Olive Church, and Yvette Davis, Patmos Chapel Church. The musical Extravaganza, coordinated by Ms. Carol Hope and Mr. Roger Mike, featured youth and children's choirs, groups, and duets.

Elder R.R. Brown, conference secretary, welcomed the pastors and their families and brought greetings on behalf of the conference office and staff. Other program participants were: Pastor Roy Parham, host pastor; Pastors W. Bruce and J. Harris, Pasoral advisors; and Denton Hamilton, Southeastern Conference Federation President.

The strains of "Living for Jesus" filled the auditorium at the close of vesper service by Antwoyn Mells.

OAKWOOD COLLEGE



Journalist, Tony Brown.

TONY BROWN ELECTRIFIES ENTREPRENEURS AT MINORITY BUSINESS EXPO

"Black Americans earned \$200 billion last year," reported television talk show host, Tony Brown, producer of Public Television's "Tony Brown Journal." That's the good news, the bad news, according to Brown, is that only 6.6% of that total was spent within the Black community. Only 6.6% was used to purchase goods and services from Black owned businesses.

Brown cited two particularly alarming facts, the first that the \$200 billion dollar figure would rank Black Americans, if they were a nation, as the ninth leading economic power in the world. This ties Blacks in the U.S. with Canada and Australia in economic strength.

Secondly, he noted that money stays in the Black community an average of only four hours before it returns to Whites or other racial groups. Brown noted during his address to guests at the First Annual Minority Business Expo held Saturday, Apr. 18, at the Von Braun Civic Center in Huntsville, Alabama, that it is this inability of Black Americans to keep money in their community that strips them of political power.

He drew the analogy of what would happen if two men had \$100 each and one should give \$95 to the other. One man would have \$195 and the other \$5. Even if they both started equally the current state of affairs would leave the man having \$5.00 dependent on the one with

\$195, and being dependent he can have no say in how things are done. This, Brown feels, is the plight of Black Americans today, having given 93.4% of all their income to Whites and other ethnic groups. Blacks have divested themselves of political and social power.

Brown joined forces for the evening with a Black-owned organization called Business Associates of America, headed by Ray Orr, Tim Clay, and Preston Foster. These three have dedicated themselves to promoting the networking of Black entrepreneurs across the nations through seminars, expos and other means.

Following the meeting, the guests engaged in a networking hour. During this period attendees were invited to exchange business cards and information, visit booths, and sample wares from exhibitors. They also had the opportunity to become freedom businesses by purchasing the freedom seal developed by Tony Brown Enterprises, which graphically promotes the belief that true freedom is economic freedom. Freedom business must meet strict criteria which helps to promote quality business practices and a commitment to circulating money among Black-owned businesses and businesses with a demonstrated commitment to the Black community.

BAKERY RE-OPENS

The Oakwood College Bakery had its grand re-opening on Friday, Apr. 17, 1987, under the management of the Business & Information Systems Department. One of the unique features of this re-opening was that the bakery is managed and operated by students and faculty of the Business department. The bakery is located on the Oakwood College Campus, next to the college market.

14,000 ATTEND OAKWOOD'S ALUMNI WEEKEND

An estimated 14,000 people attended Homecoming at Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL, during the Easter Holiday. This year's honor classes were the 7s. Mrs. Margaret Earle of Rochester, NY, class of '27, was recipient of the President's Award. Dr. Frank Hale, former President of Oakwood, now provost Marshall at Ohio State University, was also honored.

Dr. David Taylor, class of '57, coordinator of Black affairs for the Central California Conference was the speaker for the divine hour. The class of '47, were reunited for the first time in 40 years and

made a sizable contribution to the school. They discussed plans to make contributions on a continuous basis.

Among the thousands in attendance was Mrs. J. Bookhart, a student in 1913. J.H. Lawrence, a student in 1904 now more than 100 years old resides in Huntsville was unable to attend.

OAKWOOD ALUMNI RECEIVE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION CITATIONS

Three Oakwood College alumni were chosen to receive one of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education's (NAFEO) 1987 Distinguished Alumni Citation of the Year awards following nomination by Oakwood College. They are:

Dr. Henry E. Felder
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, D.C. 20410

Dr. David Grandison
Associate Director of Cardiovascular Research
Warner-Lambert Company,
Pharmaceutical Research
2800 Plymouth Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48015

Dr. Mervyn A. Warren
Executive Assistant to the President, and
Chairman of the Department of Religion
and Theology
Oakwood College
Huntsville, AL 33896

These individuals are among the approximately 300 alumni who represent nearly one million graduates of historically Black institutions.

Presentation of the NAFEO Citation shows that historically Black colleges and universities continue to produce many high quality individuals who enter the American mainstream and make significant contributions. These institutions continue as viable centers, producing 50% of Black executives, 50% of Black engineers, 75% of Black military officers, 80% of Black federal judges, and 85% of Black physicians.

When NAFEO honors these alumni and others as distinguished alumni, it documents this quality and hopefully encourages others to consider a Black institution.

During the opening ceremony, Dr. C.E. Dudley, President, South Central Conference gave the invocation, while Dr. Roy Malcolm, Vice President for Academic

Instruction at Oakwood College welcomed the guests. Dr. Rosa Banks, Vice President for development gave the Occasion, while Elder Lee A. Pascal, President, Oakwood College National Alumni Association presided over the bread cutting ceremony. Elder James Melancon, Acting Head, Oakwood College Religion department gave the benediction while Dr. Leon Higgs, Head of the Business & Information Systems department at Oakwood College, and unit head for the IABBE project, gave vote of thanks and special acknowledgement. During his acknowledgement, Dr. Higgs made special mention of the men from the College Physical Plant, for their dedication and untiring efforts in getting the facility ready. Special mention was also made of the students including Samuel Robinson who is responsible for the running of the bakery.

During the bread cutting ceremony, special guests were invited to cut a slice of a 9-foot loaf of bread that was prepared by the Bakery staff. At the end of the ceremony, guests—some of whom were board members—were treated to a reception consisting of various kinds of pastries prepared by the bakery staff.

Two years ago, under the sponsorship of the International Association of Black Business Educators, the Business & Information Systems department opened a snack bar on campus. As a result of the successes of this venture, the department decided to take on the bakery project.

Dr. Leon Higgs, head of the Business & Information Systems department, stated that the department feels that it is very important that students be allowed to test some of the theories they learn in the classroom in a practical work setting. He feels that by students running these businesses, some will be inspired to become entrepreneurs and start their own businesses. Furthermore, Dr. Higgs sees these projects as good vehicles for training minority students to become participants as well as contributors to the American Economic system.

Apart from providing students with jobs and giving them practical experiences, the bakery will also be providing the Huntsville Community with high quality, healthful and nutritious products. For example, all breads are made from whole wheat flour. No additives or artificial preservatives are used.

Currently, the bakery is operating from an outlet in The Mall. However, by moving most of its operations on campus, the bakery will be able to produce on a larger

scale. For the convenience of its customers, the bakery will still maintain its location at the mall as an outlet store.

The bakery is open from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. on Friday.

ED BRADLEY AND CLIFTON DAVIS, GUESTS AT UNCF BANQUET

The old joke declares "You know you're going to have a bad week when, on Monday morning, you arrive at work and find someone from *60 Minutes* waiting to talk to you."

But having someone from *60 Minutes* in town proved to be the highlight of the week. Oakwood College and the United Negro College Fund hosted the Ninth Annual UNCF fundraising banquet, Thurs-



day, Apr. 16, with special guest Ed Bradley, award-winning television journalist and co-editor of CBS-TV's *60 Minutes*. Bradley who was victimized by four airline delays, (including two flight cancellations) arrived at the banquet later than scheduled. But, cool and unruffled by the day's turn-about, the salt-and-pepper-haired reporter asked if he could take a moment to do what reporters rarely have a chance to do; share his views and opinions about the issue of Apartheid and South Africa. Bradley spoke of the senseless and irrational cruelty based on skin color that he had observed in his recent travels to that troubled nation. It was a classic *60 Minutes* segment, but more personal. After the address Bradley consented to give local newsmen a private press conference. The conference was arranged by Oakwood Publications Director, Don Wood. Bradley was also interviewed by WOCG FM's Hallerin Hill and Linda Anderson Bennett. This interview was aired the following day.

Master of Ceremonies for the banquet was Oakwood College graduate and co-star of the NBC hit series "Amen", Clifton Davis. Davis has appeared on several talk programs and on the covers of *TV Guide*, *Ebony*, *Essence*, *Ebony Man*, *MESSAGE*, and *Jet* magazines.



Mr. Dwight Haynes.

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