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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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*1987 Orchid  
Coronation*



**The Concerned  
Committee for  
Christian Education**

## COVER STORY



*Prof. Emerton C. Whidbee.*

### NEW YORK DEBUTANTE CORONATIONS, 1963-1987, VICTORIES FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

In 1963, twenty four years ago, Northeastern Conference Education Department under the direction of the Superintendent of Education, Professor Emerton C. Whidbee, inaugurated the celebration of a "Debutante Coronation". This event was designed to add a bit of beauty, culture, and dignity to the lives of our S.D.A. young people, and to encourage them to pursue higher and nobler endeavors. The undertaking was promoted also to benefit S.D.A. educational institutions and to provide scholarship assistance to our graduating students in

the conference. During the twenty four years since the beginning of this "adventist spectacular", our elementary schools, Northeastern Academy, Oakwood College, and the participants in the coronations have received generous contributions in both money and equipment to foster the cause of Christian education.

Professor Whidbee's Planning Committee for the first coronation included Ms. Valrie Bennet, Mrs. Virginia Green Gibson, Mrs. Eardell B. Rashford, Mrs. Virginia H. Norman, and Mrs. Marjorie Hill. Others who assisted in the original production included Erma Lofton, Journal Chairlady, Edythe Karr and Henrietta Jackson, Program Chairladies, and Mr. Joe Merriweather in charge of Escorts. The debutantes were Adventist young ladies graduating from S.D.A. academies and high schools in the metropolitan area. Escorts, ladies-in-waiting, sub-debs, future debs, heralds, page girls, and flower girls were recruited from among the conference churches.

After this initial successful coronation, the constituency of Northeastern Conference looked forward to this biennial extravaganza and it soon became the "social event" of the conference sponsored by the Education Department with the blessings of the conference administration. The first "charge" to the debutantes was given by Dr. Natelka Burrell, then in the Department of Education of the General Conference of S.D.A. in Washington, D.C. Professor Colin Pitter, the principal of the Northeastern Academy, Miss Dorothy Young, principal of Manhattan Elementary School (now R.T. Hudson Elementary School) and Elder Leon Davis, the Secretary of the Youth Department all assisted in making the production a success. One of our Northeastern Conference attorneys, Miss Eardell J. Rashford, was the first queen... The Pink Coronation, 1963.

Since 1981, when Professor Whidbee transferred to the Education Department of the Atlantic Union Conference in South Lancaster, Massachusetts, the Coronation was continued through the efforts of the Concerned Committee for Christian Education co-chaired by Mr. Wilfred G. Gooden and Ms. Valrie Bennet. The interest and success of the undertaking has grown through the years. The official record of the coronations has increased from a fifty page journal to the 1987 Orchid Coronation Journal of more than four hundred pages. Biennially, the

graduates, young people of the conference, the parents, pastors, and educators look forward with eager anticipation to participating in this featured event. Since the Concerned Committee has directed the Coronation, not only do Northeastern metropolitan schools benefit from the proceeds, but thousands of dollars have been contributed to Oakwood College and West Indies College.

The history of the coronation has been faithfully chronicled in the souvenir journals produced by Edna Lett Williamson, Erma Brooks, and Sybil Gooden.



*Mrs. Edna Lett Williamson.*



*Mrs. Erma Parchment Brooks.*



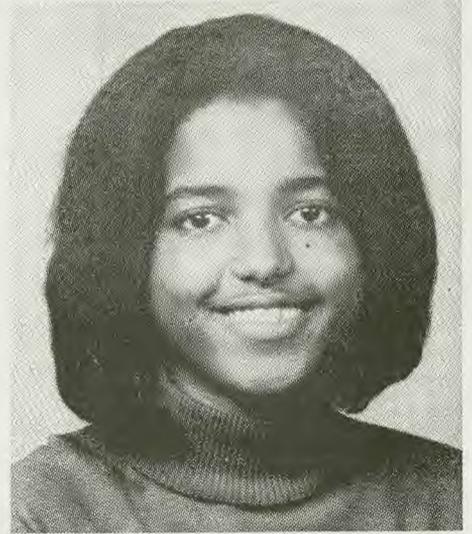
*Standing: Joseph Merriweather, Lloyd Chung, Wilfred Gooden, Homes Wade. Seated: Valrie Bennett, Sybil Gooden, Marjorie Hill. Not in Photo: Everyl Chandler, Elder Roy Ashmeade.*

The meticulous training of the debutantes and sub-debs begins early in January and continues weekly until the day of the big event which is held in the Grand Ballroom of New York's prestigious Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. These celebrations of culture and beauty have included:

- 1963—The Pink Coronation—Queen, Eardell J. Rashford
- 1965—The Crystal Coronation—Queen, Cheryl Lynch
- 1967—The Parasol Coronation—Queen, Ellen Knight
- 1969—The Lantern Coronation—Queen, Stephanie Galloway
- 1971—The Storybook Coronation—Queen, Anna Marie Simpson
- 1975—The Gold & White Coronation—Queen, Yvonne Ruth Williams
- 1977—The New Era Coronation—Queen, Laura Angela Simpson
- 1979—The Rainbow Coronation—Queens Avery Dawson & Anita Garrett
- 1981—The Trans-Caribbean Coronation—Queen, Robyn Wheeler
- 1983—The Rosebud Coronation—Queen, LaVerne Gadsden
- 1985—The Emerald Coronation—Queen, Jennifer Richards
- 1987—The Orchid Coronation—Queen, LaVerda Richards



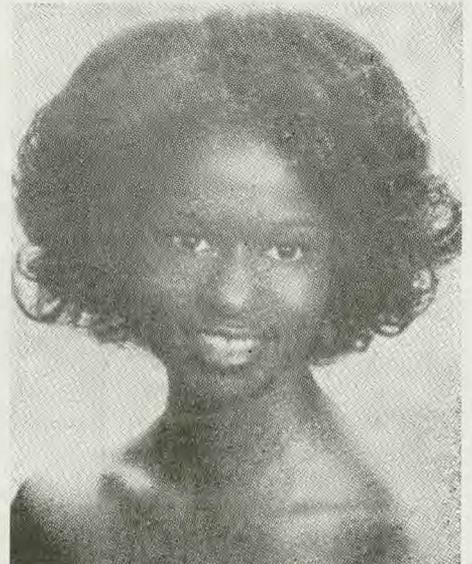
*First Queen, Miss Eardell Rashford, 1963, Attorney, N. Y. C.*



*Miss Anna Marie Simpson, 1971 Storybook Coronation.*



*Miss Cheryl Yvette Lynch, 1965 Coronation Crystal, teacher, Philadelphia, Pa.*



*Miss Yvonne Ruth Williams, 1975 Gold and White Coronation.*



*Miss Eileen Knight, 1967 Parasol Coronation, Nutrition Consultant, California.*



*Stephanie Galloway, 1969 Lantern Coronation, Teacher, Detroit, Michigan.*



*Miss Laura Angela Simpson, 1977 The New Era Coronation.*



*Miss Avery Dawson.*



*LaVerne Renee Gadsden.*



*Miss Anita L. Garrett.*



*Jennifer Richards, 1985 Emerald Coronation Queen.*



*Robin Wheeler, 1981 Queen.*

Attorney Sheila Jackson, Attorney Eardell rashford, Miss Gladys Miller, Dr. Frances Bliss, Mrs. Dorothy Hudson Smith, Mrs. Edith Karr, Mrs. Antoinette Garrett, and others.

At the most recent Coronation staged May 24, 1987 at the Waldorf, the winner, Queen LaVerda Richards brought in over \$9,000.00; half of which (\$4,500.00) she will receive to assist her in her educational pursuits. Other debutantes among the high ranking winners included: Germaine Penn, Uwada Murray, Andrea Williams, Jewel Bell, Shirley Falconer. Thirteen individual participants will be recipients of cash awards and trophies from the Concerned Committee as a result of their efforts in the Orchid Coronation. The audience was delighted as the beautifully gowned debutantes stepped through the Orchid Door on stage to be presented and received by their parents and pastors. The sophistication and refinement of their appearance was climaxed only by the perfection of their curtsy to the Court of Honor and the audience. Directed by Mrs. Marjorie Hill, the sub-debs attired in delicate orchid dresses and in ballet slippers skillfully crowned each "deb". Repeated applause of jubilation arouse at the entrance of each escort who in his own way unique saluted the Court and the audience. The ladies-in-waiting were elegant in their individually styled gowns of various shades of lavender circling the ballroom floor.

Attorney Rashford recalled her day of delight 24 years ago when she stood in the same place hoping to be crowned. She ably challenged the 1987 debutantes to aspire and attain their goals. The poise of the "debs", the charm of the sub-debs, the elegance of the ladies-in-waiting, the skill of the Escorts, and the potential exhibited by the Future debs reflected the diligent hours of training given each group by directors of the Orchid Coronation.

Mr. Gooden, Mrs. Sybil Gooden, Mrs. Marjorie Hill, Mr. Joseph Merriweather, Mrs. Antoinette Garrett, Mr. Larry Larson, Mrs. Joyce McGlory, and the musicians did another outstanding job for Christian education and the youth of Northeastern Conference. The lives of more than 75 young people were made richer by the Orchid Coronation experience of 1987.

—Edna Lett Williamson  
Journal Chairlady

—Lee A. Paschal  
Photographer

The debutantes and other participants receive a generous portion of the proceeds for their own personal advancement. Many of them have completed college, graduate school, and are now successful in the fields of Law, Medicine, Nursing, Education, Business, etc. They have been "charged" and "challenged" by successful persons in their respective fields: Dr. Frank W. Hale, Dr. Jessie Bradley, Mrs. Edna Lett Williamson, Dr. Susan Willoughby, Mrs. Helen Griffith,



*La Verda Richards, 1987 Orchid Coronation Queen.*



*Orchid Coronation Queen La Verda Richards, holds a plaque for the Ephesus church. Pastor Clement Marray looks on.*



*Germaine Penn, first runner-up.*



*Uwada Murray, 2nd runner-up.*



*Jewel Bell, 3rd runner-up.*



*Attorney Eardell Rashford, speaker for the 1987 Orchid Coronation.*



*Future Debs. Attend the 1987 Orchid Coronation.*

## PUBLISHER'S PAGE



E.E. Cleveland

### "SINKING SAND"

*"Bring ye all the tithe into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house..." Malachi 3:10.*

In the early years of the Advent Movement, there was little question as to *where* tithe was to be paid. It was to be brought to the church and deposited there. What else could "the storehouse" and "mine house" mean? Were there not other supportive texts? "It is written, My house is the house for all people." Isaiah 56:7 "Let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them." Exodus 25:8. The church is God's designated sanctuary, a building consecrated to Jehovah's service and praise. To this holy place, the saints gather periodically for this purpose. "Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name. Bring an offering, and come unto His courts." Psalms 95:8. It seems to be that the storehouse is the church, and that it alone is God's designated bank of deposit for the funding of the gospel commission. This is the rule—with *rare exceptions*. The diversion of tithe to independent ministries is therefore highly improper. Monies other than the tithe must be deposited to these causes, but the tithe must be deposited at the storehouse—the church!

Several things commend this principle:

1. Church leaders have a wider view of the needs of the world church, and the resource available to meet those needs. The intelligence gathering facilities of the world church are enormous. This planet-

wide network is in constant contact with headquarters in Washington, so that the world needs are known.

2. As in the physical anatomy—health is sustained by balanced blood circulation to the whole body; so with world church. The resources of all must flow to all. Phlebitis in any part effects the whole. I was sitting in Sabbath School under a tree in Zaire, Africa. The young lady giving the mission story concluded with these words, "And let us give liberally for the sake of the poor heathen overseas." I chuckled. Could she have been thinking about us?

3. The interlocking business system justifies our confidence. The world-wide church is organized on strict business lines. Its business checks and balances are recognized by secular business management. A look at P.T.L. and other religious movements has heightened my appreciation for the Adventist business system. Our problems are "molehills" compared with their "mountains".

4. To get a proper "feel" of the Adventist "pulse beat", one has to witness the movement at work at the street level. Far from the seminaries, headquarters, and centers of control and influence, there is a spirit of sharing and conquest that warms the heart. The fire does burn, and baptismal waters are being troubled all over. The reports of conversion in our union papers are fact, not fiction. The "latter rain" is falling and some don't know it. This mighty missionary effort cries out for our support. "Bring ye all the tithe into "the storehouse."

Regional conferences cannot afford independent ministries that solicit the tithe dollar. Our economy is based on a poverty-level constituency at best. This means that other ministries that create a drain on the tithe dollar jeopardize the economic welfare of the whole. If worth, they must look elsewhere for their support.

In these days when some threaten death in "prayer towers" if offerings don't come in, and raise millions—and cannot account for it (P.T.L.), isn't it comforting to belong to a church so well ordered? Of course, we lay no claim to perfection, but we're probably as problem free as a world organization can be. There is a place for independent ministries in Black Adventism if it is self-supporting. "All other ground is 'sinking sand'".

—E.E. Cleveland

## THE LIGHT RISES IN THE WEST THE STORY OF THE BLACK MEN AND WOMEN IN THE WEST, Part 2

1940-1950  
THE COMING OF AGE

In the 40s, the believers came of age in the Pacific Union. After 17 years, as pastor of the Los Angeles Church, then known as the Wadsworth Church, conference administrators came and announced the retirement of P.G. Rodgers. He was replaced by F.L. Peterson, who came in 1940, and remained for 3 years.



Elder F. L. Peterson.

The work continued to progress in Northern California. The leadership of Market Street Church changed hands from Elder Dobbins who had served since 1936, to Elder Fitzgerald Jenkins, who remained for 2 years.

In 1942, the Philadelphian church welcomed Elder J.E. Cox, as their new pastor, he was assisted in his labors by Marion Warrington, an able Bible Instructor. Under his stewardship, a new church was built and San Francisco was further evangelized.

In Southern California, the center of activity, was focused on the Sunset Avenue Church, Pasadena. Elder Troy, hosted a weekly radio program, "The Sweet Chariot Hour," the broadcast was heard throughout the Los Angeles area.

In Tucson, Az., a new church was organized in 1945. The Compton Avenue Church, Watts, Ca., was dedicated in



*F. L. Peterson left, chats with R. W. Nelson on Oakwood College campus.*

The Berean Church came out of the ashes of their past experience and was organized in 1943 by F.L. Peterson. In the same year, the Bakersfield Church was organized. The Allensworth Church, Alamo Church near Chowchilla, and Tucson Church was established in 1945. The work in Tuscon began in 1933, when Mr. & Mrs. Eli Lane, were asked to become self-supporting workers by the Southeastern Conference. They accepted the challenge. The Lanes teamed their efforts with Ms. Emma Woods who had been sharing her faith before their arrival.

#### 1950-1960 A TIME TO ACT

By 1942, the Pacific Union Conference had established the Negro Department in their territory for the 1500 believers. Elder F.L. Peterson, then pastor of Wadsworth Church, was appointed head of the department. He remained at this post for three years, before being called to serve as President of Oakwood. He was followed by Elder Troy, who began to serve in January 1946 and remained until 1955. During this time Black conferences were being established in the East. The Pacific Union did not follow the pattern, they decided to remain within the existing

White conferences. The principle reasons were: Blacks in the Pacific Union Conference were optimistic that full integration was right around the corner. Secondly, there was not enough interest on the part of the pastors and members to implement the change.

By 1950 most of the local conferences in the Pacific Union Conference had a Black pastor on the Executive Committee. These pastors along with the Secretary of the Negro Department were the only Black ministers who had extra-pastoral assignments. It became more and more evident that integration was still a long way off.

In 1953, a group of prominent laymen met with conference administrators to express their concerns. This meeting triggered some significant events that there were to follow. Two years later, 1955, Black pastors in the Pacific union met with local, union, and General Conference administrators at Wadsworth Church to discuss the problem. There were two options: full integration or separation.

The minister voted for full integration. Within a few weeks after this action was taken, Elder Troy was appointed Associate Director of Sabbath School for the Pacific Union conference. He was the first Black to hold this post.

1946. In the same year, the Market Street Church was assigned a new minister, Elder R.W. Nelson. The following year, he conducted, "Time of the End Crusade," and Beacon Light Church was organized in Richmond, CA. Due to his influence many of the members moved to rural areas—Vallejo, Pittsburg, Stockton, Sacramento and San Jose—and opened new territory.

Elder William Galbreth became a minister in 1946 and was instrumental in reestablishing the work in Blythe, Ca. IN 1948, Galbreth conducted a crusade assisted by his wife, Margaret, and Bible Instructors, Emma Burnett and Justine Reed, 20 people were baptized.

The work in Blythe had started many years ago, but it had slowly died out, because both Black and White members had moved from the town. By 1930, only 1 believer, Pauline Burgess, remained in town. She conducted Sabbath School for the youth in the community. Ms. Burgess prayed and waited for the conference to send a minister. Her pray was answered with the arrival of Elder Galbreth in 1948. The Church was back on the map. Later, it merged with another S.D.A. Church.

The work continued to grow. In 1940, the Monrovia Church was organized by Elder J.W. Allison, Sr. The Delaware Avenue Church, Santa Monica was established by Garland Millet.



*Elder and Mrs. J. E. Cox Sr.*



W. S. Lee.

Elder W.S. Lee replaced Troy as Secretary of the Regional Department. Lee worked hard to bring about integration. In 1958, an Interracial Committee, composed of the conference president, union officers, a Black person from each local conference and Secretary of the Regional Department, was appointed to study ways and means to bring about further integration. The walls began to tumble down, several secretarial and a teaching post became available.

*A distinct work is assigned to every Christian.—Southern Watchman, Aug. 2, 1904.*

In their struggle for equality, the minister did not forget their mission. Elder Dennis Black completed the building of the San Diego 31st Street Church. Elder Garland Millet spearheaded the construction of the new Santa Monica Church. The Tucson Church was built under the leadership of Elder James Middleton. The Perris Church was built in 1955, Elder Earl Canson was the pastor.

The Beacon Light Church, Richmond, Ca., was built under the direction of Elder Major White. The San Francisco Philadelphian Church and Berea Church in Vallejo, Ca., purchased existing buildings.

Elder Byron R. Spears was called to work as an evangelist. He conducted crusades and established congregations in Stockton, Sacramento, Pittsburg and East Oakland.

The laymen played a crucial role in building the work. In Southern California, 6 churches—Long Beach Philadelphian, Holmes, Tamarind, Sun Village, Pacoima

and Mid City—were established over a period of 33 years, 1943 to 1976. Charles & Sue Carter, laymen, were the driving force behind 3 of the 6 churches.

Five of the six churches mentioned were the work of the laymen. Wilbur Fletcher, a layman, was the key figure that organized the Mid City Church. Charles C. Arburthnot, another layman, was instrumental in organizing the Sun Village Church. Arburthnot, was also responsible, for establishing a company in Elsinore and setting them on their own property in Perris, Ca. Next, he focused his energies on the Little Rock-Palmdale area. With the help of other laymen and the encouragement of Pastor W.C. Webb, a church was organized in 1952.

Charles Arburthnot, also worked in San Francisco. He played a premiere role in establishing the San Jose Church in 1958. In Southeastern California Conference, Theodore Dawson & his family pioneered the work in Fontana. The North Fontana Church was organized in 1951.

In 1952, the Yosemite Nature Camp was inaugurated. Each summer, as many as 300 youths, ages 15-35, attend. By the close of the decade there were 30 churches and 4,900 members.

#### 1960-1970 YEARS OF CHALLENGE

In the 60s, the Civil Rights movement was in full sway. The movement has a profound effect on the church. Blacks were saying, "Make room for us in your offices and institutions." Elder W.S. Lee, Secretary of the Regional Department, at times became frustrated because of the slow turn of events, but he kept working.

The church continued its growth, seven more churches were organized during the 60s, the East Palo Alto Church in 1961, the Santa Ana Shelton Street Church in 1963, the Allison Village Church in 1966, the Seaside Church in 1968 and the Highland Church in Las Vegas, Nevada.

This was a time of building and acquisition of suitable church edifices. The Los Angeles' Berean Church dedicated the largest structure built by Black in the Pacific Union in 1967.

After guiding the work for nearly 10 years, W.S. Lee, accepted an invitation to head the Temperance Department in the Pacific Union. Elder Nathaniel Banks, former missionary to Africa, was called to fill the vacant post.

At the close of 1969, there were 36 churches and 9,375 members.

#### 1970-1980 YEARS OF PROGRESS

It has been said, the darkest hour is just before the dawn. If the 60s were the decade of challenge, the 70s were the decades of progress. 8,633 converts were baptized between Jan. 1, 1970-Dec. 31, 1979. Nine new churches were organized. The evangelistic spark was further ignited when Elder George Rainey was called by the Southern California Conference to serve first as a pastor and later as an evangelist.

Church administration, reached a milestone, Elder Major White was elected Associate Secretary of the Union, 1971. Eight years later, he was appointed Executive Secretary.



Pastor Lorenzo Patee.

Doors opened in the union departments. Elder John Collins was appointed Associate Director of Personal Ministries. Elder Joseph Hutchinson joined the Publishing Department. Phyllis Paytee became Associate Director of Education and Ron Lindsey served the Union Association as Trust Auditor, later he became treasurer of the corporate arm of the union.

On the conference level, Blacks held positions in Education, Youth, Inner City, Community Services and of course, the Black Ministries Departments. On the administrative level—Elders E.C. Ward, R.W. Nelson, E.A. Canson, Lorenzo Paytee and Richard Simons—made their mark.

In an effort to foster greater unity and cohesion among the membership, during the mid 70s, annual Black Convocations

were inaugurated, similar to a weekend campmeeting, in all the California and Arizona conferences.

In light of the gains that were achieved, at the Black workers meeting at Pine Springs Ranch, 1975, it was voted, to continue to push for full integration. The following year, Elder Banks retired after skillfully guiding the Black work for 11 years. The mantle was placed on Elder Earl Canson. By Dec. 31, 1979, there were 45 churches and 13,859 members.

**THE 1980s  
TIME TO MARCH ON**

The Black Church in the West has steadily grown in the 80s. By the end of 1986, membership had climbed over 18,000 and there were 56 congregation. For one year, \$6 million were given in tithe.

Two Blacks were elected President of the Southern California Conference, due to illness, his term was brief. He elected to return to his former post, Secretary of the conference.

Elder Richard Simons was elected to the presidency of the Northern California conference. He remains at the post of duty.

One of the key factors, Christian education, has played a pivotal role in the growth of the work. Early in the History of the Black Church, a number of schools were established. The first church school was connected with the Watts Church.

Next there was the Los Angeles Academy. Joseph Dent, Sr., a graduate of Pacific Union College and former Oakwood professor, served as principal. In 1936, land was purchased and the Los Angeles Union Academy was built. For several years, L.A. Union was a 12th grade academy but it reverted to an 8 grades elementary school. Today, the enrollment stands at approximately 350 students.

The Sunset Avenue Church in Pasadena operated a church school. There was once a small school connected with the Monrovia Ivy Avenue Church. In Phoenix, Arizona, Beacon Light Church once sponsored a school. Today, young men and women are still being trained in S.D.A. schools, from elementary to professional schools.

In 1987, with the membership nearly 19,000, one reviews the past and realizes, except God build the house, they labor in vain.

—Elder Earl Canson

# The Editor's Desk



*Elder and Mrs. Vincent L. Roberts.*

**ALGA BLAND WEDS ELDER V.L. ROBERTS**

Alga Bailey Bland and Elder Vincent L. Roberts were married May 3, in Marietta, Ga. Elder V.L. Roberts has

served the Church for many years as minister, evangelist and administrator. Before retirement he served as treasurer of the Southwestern Union. The couple will reside in Cleburne, Texas.

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	July 31	Aug. 7	14	21
Boston, Mass.	8:05	7:57	7:47	7:37
New York City	8:15	8:06	7:57	7:45
Buffalo, N.Y.	8:37	8:29	8:19	8:08
Atlanta, Ga.	8:39	8:33	8:25	8:17
Miami, Fla.	8:07	8:03	7:57	7:51
Charlotte, N.C.	8:28	8:21	8:14	8:05
Birmingham, Ala.	7:48	7:42	7:35	7:27
Jackson, Miss.	7:59	7:53	7:47	7:39
Memphis, Tenn.	8:04	7:58	7:50	7:42
Louisville, Ky.	8:54	8:46	8:38	8:29
Detroit, Mich.	8:54	8:46	8:36	8:26
Chicago, Ill.	8:10	8:02	7:52	7:42
South Bend, Indiana	8:05	7:56	7:47	7:37
Minneapolis, Minn.	8:41	8:32	8:22	8:10
St. Louis, Mo.	8:13	8:05	7:57	7:47
Kansas City, Mo.	8:31	8:24	8:15	8:06
Denver, Co.	8:14	8:07	7:58	7:48
Little Rock, Ark.	8:12	8:06	7:58	7:50
Dallas, Texas	8:27	8:21	8:14	8:06
New Orleans, La.	7:54	7:49	7:43	7:35
Albuquerque, N.M.	8:10	8:04	7:56	7:48
Oklahoma City, Okla.	8:35	8:29	8:21	8:12

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

## ALLEGHENY EAST

### PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OPENS NEW CREDIT UNION

Serving Philadelphia Adventist financially is the purpose of the Philadelphia S.D.A. Church Federal Credit Union, a federally chartered savings organization. It operates two hours a week, offering low interest rates and loans to members who do not have established credit histories.

The Philadelphia S.D.A. Church Federal Credit Union was founded in 1978, as a result of the enthusiasm of Elder George L. Braxton. Mr. Harold Butler, who came to the Credit Union in 1978 and found it on the brink of foreclosure, made changes and set up reserve funds in order to put the Credit Union back on its feet.

Seeking to offer more than savings accounts and loans, Christmas and vacation clubs were started. Other services planned include: tuition clubs, money orders, and possible money markets. The officers are: Lorraine Stoddart, treasurer; Blane Stoddard, business manager; Otto Edwards, Credit Committee Chairman; Leonard Reynolds, loan officer; and Leonie Corrodus, Supervisory Committee Chairman.

Membership is presently opened to West and Southwest Philadelphians. Volunteers are needed to expand the services to other areas.



*Margaret de Seignoria (left) feels at home with new faith and friend, Amelia Patterson.*

### NEW LIFE COMES TO PHILADELPHIA

Margaret de Seignoria is a seeker. She had accepted Christ as her Saviour at an early age. She joined various churches trying to understand God's complete will for her life. Her search led her from Baptist to Holiness to Jehovah's Witness and back to Baptist again.

An Adventist uncle invited her to attend a Revelation Seminar being conducted by Allegheny East Bible Instructor Charlie Jenkins. She liked what she heard, for many of her questions were being answered. She next attended the special reaping effort conducted by Elder John Trusty.

Margaret is now a member of the New Life Church and says, "My searching days are over. Now I am at home."



*Members makes a deposit at Credit Union.*

The New Life church is the outgrowth of a church planting venture conducted by the Delaware Valley Ministerium of the Allegheny East Conference. The locale for the new church was carefully and prayerfully chosen under the leadership of Elder Charles L. Cheatham. The ministerium is composed of ministers from the seven churches in Philadelphia: Ebenezer, Germantown, Mizpah, North Philadelphia, West Philadelphia, Southwest Philadelphia, and Jerusalem French plus the churches in Chester and Willow Grove.

Since no Adventist church existed in the area north of Erie Avenue and East of Broad Street, this was chosen as the ideal location. Using demographics compiled by Andrews University and comparing them with previous Philadelphia outreach, it was determined that the dense population was heavily Black and Hispanic in ethnic makeup.

The pastors and Bible Instructors involved, convened for a brain storming session early in 1986 to establish consensus and recommendations. Participants included: C.L. Cheatham, George Jackson, William Linthicum, Alfred Johnson, George Braxton, Carl Hinds, John Wright, Leslie Moise, John Trusty, Kirk Thompson, Charlie Jenkins and Ms. Linda Walker in addition to social workers, literature evangelists and lay thought leaders.

On Sabbath, March 14, 1986, the above named churches convened at the Philadelphia Center, for a joint rally and worship service.

Preparation included surveys for the physical and spiritual needs of the community. Seminars on drug and alcohol abuse and family life concerns served as methods of introduction to the residents of the new community. Bible studies were also held in homes by Bible Instructors, literature evangelists and individual church members.

Prior to this historic meeting, the pastors involved had actively surveyed their prospective memberships for those with missionary gifts. These members would pledge one year of missionary service to the church-to-be forming a nucleus by being officers and trainees for the infant congregation.

Linda Brooks and her husband, Elliot are lifelong Adventists. From childhood, Linda held a membership in large churches having grown up in the DuPont Park Church of Washington, D.C. and later having become a member of the



*Linda Brooks (right) and daughter Erinn enjoy ministering to new members like Kyle Gaines.*

North Philadelphia Church. Both churches have a membership of over 1,000.

When members were invited to serve as nucleus for the New Life Church, Elliott volunteered. Linda and their two children followed.

Says Linda, "I'll never again belong to a large congregation. There is so much more service to be done in this small congregation." Here they are finding missionary fulfillment.

The New Life Church was officially organized June 14, 1986 with 33 members.

The reaping meeting was held in the selected community during August with John Trusty as the featured speaker. Members of the area churches brought visitors with them.

Rebecca Epperson first joined the S.D.A. church in the 1960s following an effort by Elder C.D. Brooks. Since her father belonged to the Ebenezer Church, her membership was placed there also.

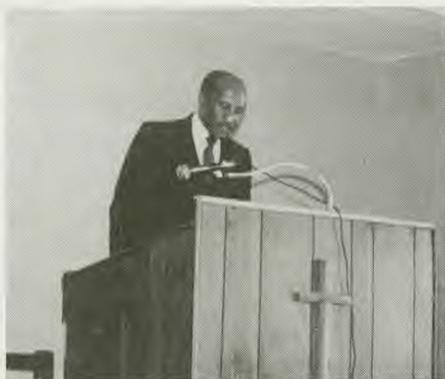
Shortly thereafter, Rebecca became a student at Penn State. In an effort to express her independence, she strayed from the teaching of the church. Although outwardly giving the appearance of being a worldlying, Rebecca still felt that the Adventist way was the only correct path. Whenever her father would visit Philadelphia from his new home in California, she would visit Ebenezer with him although well adorned with jewelry.

As a result of the reaping meetings, Rebecca answered the Holy Spirit's call and is now a member of New Life.

The present membership of New Life stands at 65 and is still growing. Recently it was placed in a district with the Ebenezer Church with Timothy Henderson as the district pastor. Charlie Jenkins serves as his assistant with special assignment to the New Life congregation.

The new congregation is renting the third floor auditorium of the Shalom Baptist Church while they make plans for permanent housing.

Elder J. Alfred Johnson, North Philadelphia pastor, now serves as leader for the Delaware Valley Ministerium and is planning another church planting project in 1987.



*Pastor Charlie Jenkins delivers message in rented quarters as local elder Elliott Brooks looks on.*



*Two New Life members enter their rented church early Sabbath morning.*



*Rebecca Epperson.*



*Mrs. Mildred Bailey, formerly of North Philadelphia Church uses garden object lesson in her role of Sabbath School Superintendent.*

## CENTRAL STATES

### LITERATURE EVANGELISM DAY AT GROVE HEIGHTS

April 18 was Literature Evangelism Day at the Grove Heights S.D.A. church, Wichita, KS. Pastor Danny Milton, conference Publishing Director, was present along with Associate Director Eunice Foley, St. Louis district Literature Evangelist Supervisor. Wanda Sims, Literature Evangelist Supervisor for the Wichita area served as coordinator for the day.

The entire day was well planned from Sabbath School to AYS. Wanda Sims preached an electrified message, "Holy Ghost Revival at Grove Heights."

—Louis Starks

Communication Secretary  
(and Literature Evangelist)



Wanda Sims, literature evangelist supervisor, speaker for divine hour.

### STUDY TO SHOW THY SELF APPROVED

Every Sabbath School is special in its own way and the Sharon Chapel Sabbath School, Sedalia, MO, is no exception. The Childrens Division has been complimented many times (by visitors from far and near) for its uniqueness. The Primary Division has varied activities during class separation. First, their teacher drills them extensively over the week's Sabbath School lesson. When the classes re-assemble, members of the Children's Division stand before the congregation, review their lesson and answer questions from the teacher. It is always a challenge as each child is eager to tell the story for the week and to answer all of the questions put before them. They end the discussion by reciting in unison the memory verse.

### DOLEA FULLWOOD'S GRADUATION

On May 23, the members of Sharon and Bethesda Temple S.D.A. Churches, Omaha, NE, came together to support their student's graduation exercises from the Dolea Fullwood Elementary School. The eighth grade class's aim was "Getting ready today, Being ready tomorrow, Staying ready till Jesus comes." Their motto was "Walking by faith with Jesus."

Elder Clifton Jessup presented the baccalaureate address entitled "What is in Your hands?" challenging the students to use their talents to serve God. Mrs. Genoice Hampton, secretary to the Education Superintendent of Central States Conference, presented the commencement address. The soul-stirring message, "Choose Ye This Day," emphasized the importance of acquiring and utilizing knowledge in the manner that God desires. She pointed out that as the students cooperate with the will of God, His power becomes theirs and whatever is undertaken at His command, may be accomplished in His strength. The class president was Swehla Davis and the valedictorian was Steven Sims.

—Gordon B. Sims  
Communications Secretary

### AND A CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM

Alicia Poole attends the Arlington S.D.A. Church in TX, but frequently visits her grandparents in Sedalia, MO. She is a very active 2-year old and is showing talent for singing. In fact, the best part of Sabbath School for Alicia is singing songs about Jesus. The "action" songs are her favorite. While visiting recently, Alicia eagerly agreed to sing "Jesus Loves the little Ones Like Me" (as a solo) to close out the Sabbath School. She did an exceptional job which shows she is being trained to love Jesus at an early age. Alicia is the oldest of two daughters of Calvin and Brenda Curd-Poole.



Study to show thyself approved unto God. The children division of Sharon Chapel review their Sabbath School lesson.



Elder Clifton Jessup gives baccalaureate address.



Commencement address delivered by Mrs. Genoice Hampton.



Valedictorian address given by Mr. Steven Sims.



Class president, Ms. Swehla Davis, foreground and Fred Dixon in the background.

## NORTHEASTERN

### "EDUCATION, ETERNITY AND YOU"

Education Day, celebrated Sabbath, Apr. 25, 1987 at the Hanson Place S.D.A. Church, Brooklyn, NY, was outstanding—thanks to the fine leadership of Elder B.G.O. French, chairperson of the church's education committee. The theme for the special day was, "Education, Eternity and You." The day's activities commenced with the Sabbath School program, which was presented by teachers and students of the Hanson Place Elementary School. During the divine worship service, 16 Hanson Place School children were baptized by Pastors John Nixon and Charles Tapp.

Dr. George H. Akers, Director of Education, for the General Conference was guest speaker for the divine service. His discourse, "Lessons My Students Taught Me," highlighted the importance of Christian education, and explained that Christian education differs significantly from secular education in that it emphasizes the acquisition of knowledge and the development of character. Secular education merely stresses the acquisition of knowledge. He also noted that students are instructed by dedicated Christian teachers, who try to ensure that students grow mentally, physically and spiritually. Therefore, students are inspired and determined to achieve despite obstacles.

Other participants in the divine worship service included Dr. Lionel Williams, Hanson Place Principal; Miss Ardis Pascall, Hanson Place School student; Mrs. Ruby Williams, Home and School Leader, who invited the congregation to come forward, reach out and touch the hand of a child by giving \$10 to financially support the school; Mrs. Januwoina Nison, wife of Pastor Nixon; and Mrs. Peline Higgins, who presented awards to nine students for writing the best essays on the significance of Christian education.

The topic for the afternoon panel discussion was "The Relevancy of Seventh-day Adventist Philosophy in Present Day Reality," moderated by Dr. Lionel Williams. Dr. Akers, Dr. Rupert Young, Pastor of Mt. of Olives S.D.A. Church, Brooklyn; Mr. McDonald, a public school teacher; Ms. J. Ollivierre, a parent; and Elder Doris T. Williams, Hanson

Place School teacher served as panelist. During the discussion the following pints were made: (1) the Holy Spirit should be present in every classroom setting; (2) Adventist education should prepare students to live in this world as well as in the world to come; (3) training of teachers is of utmost importance since they serve as examples to their students.

Robyn Victoria Allen  
Correspondent

### MT. OF OLIVES CHURCH CELEBRATES MOTHER'S/LADIES' DAY

The Mount of Olives S.D.A. Church, Brooklyn, NY under the leadership of Pastor Rupert Young celebrated Mother's/Ladies' Day, May 9, 1987. The entire day was dedicated to the mothers and ladies of the church. The program was under the direction of Agnes E. Jeffers, who coordinated the entire day. Special awards ere presented during the 11 o'clock hour to: Wilfred Moncriffee, Son of the Year; Carrie Grant, Lady of the Year; and Ruth Jackson, Mother of the Year. Dorlessa Lee, Pauline Shaw, Adassa Brooks, and Lyra Frett received awards for outstanding dedication and service.

A special Outreach Friendship '87 Honorary award was presented by Pastor Rupert Young to Josephine English, M.D. for over 30 years of outstanding service to the Bushwick and Evergreen communities in Brooklyn.

Pastor Stafford Byers, of the New Rochelle S.D.A. Church, New Rochelle, NY, delivered the sermon following the day's theme, "It's almost midnight, where have all the mothers and ladies gone?" Gifts of flowers were presented to Dr. Josephine English and Hope Young, wife of Pastor Young, by Stephanie Small and Lloyd Shand, Jr. Music for the day's program was rendered by the Ladies' Chorale under the direction of Agnes E. Jeffers. Winnifred Rivers Allen accompanied the chorale on the piano.

At the close of the mid-day service, flowers were taken to the sick and shut-in ladies of the church. Lunch was served to all present by the men of the church.

—David E. Henry  
Public Relations Secretary

### NORTHEASTERN ACADEMY STUDENT RECEIVES TOP PRIZE

The 1986-87 Science program presented large numbers of superb exhibits at The Northeastern Conference Science Fair held March 29, 1987 but of extra-

ordinary import was the First Prize Video Journalism award received by Lennox Parris for production of a video—"To Touch the Future".



Lennox Parris, junior at Northeastern Academy received first prize, Video Journalism Award.

The video was shown with many other projects on May 30-31 at the Intrepid-Air, Sea and Space Museum in New York City. This was followed by an awards ceremony. Lennox and his team: Shane Johnson, host; Monica Joseph, reporter and assistant Producer; Denair Felder, co-writer; and Lyndell Parris, narrator, worked untiringly to create unique space animation, original background, music, historical facts and provocative interviews. This video will be aired on a local network station. It was said, that the entire presentation left the audience breathless. Paul Dennis and Orley Anderson were also recognized at the Award Ceremony and received certificates for their outstanding work in the areas of Performing Arts, Poetry, and Essays. The Fair is opened to all schools throughout the City of New York for grades K through 12 and intended to educate and encourage students to investigate the influence space will have on the future human race.

—Claudette Giscombe



Claudette Giscombe, science instructor at Northeastern Academy, supervised student's projects.

## SOUTH CENTRAL

### SOUTHERN UNION AND SOUTH CENTRAL HOLD RECRUITMENT FOR MEHARRY STUDENTS

For the past 15 or 20 years, an average of 5 to 15 S.D.A. students attend Meharry Medical and Dental College every year. For a number of years it seemed that the students that attend Meharry and Howard University were not part of the recruitment program sponsored by the church. Times have changed, the Southern Union, Adventist Health Systems and Sunbelt are actively recruiting these students. The recruitment program designed to link health care professionals with the gospel ministry has paid off in big dividends for South Central Conference, a strong supporter of the students. Presently, approximately, fifty to sixty physicians and dentists are practicing in the conference. Graduates of the school can be found witnessing around the world. Many patients have accepted the teachings of the Adventist Church after receiving medical care from Meharry and Howard trained dentists and doctors.

At a luncheon recently held at Meharry College, Elder H.F. Roll of the Southern Union presented the Dean of Meharry Medical College with S.D.A. books. Womack Rucker, former administrator of the now defunct Riverside Hospital, served as chairman of the luncheon. Presently, he is the administrator of Hubbard Hospital, teaching hospital for Meharry.



*Recruiters at Meharry Medical College.*

### GRADUATION ENDS SCHOOL YEAR!

Twelve students received their diplomas from the Alcy S.D.A. Junior Academy, Memphis, TN. The weekend graduation exercises were held at three of five

constituent churches. The class, "To rise above the ordinary", was reemphasized throughout each speakers address along with the class motto "The race is not always swift, but to those who keep on running!"

Friday evening's Consecration Service was held at the Breath of Life Church. Chaplain J. Douglass Simons, Chaplain at The Med, as well as a parent of one of the graduates was the Consecration speaker. Special music featured the class of 1987.

The Baccalaureate Service was held at the Overton Park Church in conjunction with the morning Divine Worship hour. Pastor Dana Edmond of the Breath of Life Church was the speaker. Special music featured the Robinson Trio, 7th & 8th Grade Recorder Ensemble and the 5th-8th Grade Chorus.

On Sabbath evening, the Commencement service was held at the Longview Heights Church. Robert Woodard, former principal of Alcy was the speaker. The 7th & 8th Grade Recorder Ensemble, the Alcy Choir and Class of 1987 provided the special music. Following the awarding of diplomas, two students for the Breath of Life Church—Christopher Mobley, Grade 2, and Leah Simons, Grade 6, were awarded scholarships for the coming school term. Pin Forge academy Leadership Scholarships were awarded to three graduates—Dawn Simons, Class Valedictorian, Tara Ransfer, Class Salutatorian, and Lagenia Medlock, Class President. The Kang Khree Institute of Self Defense also awarded a six-weeks course to two graduates—James Hollingshed and Mario Wooten.

Michael Tompkins serves as eighth grade teacher and class sponsor.

"God, Creation and Me" was the theme for the kindergarten graduation exercises that ended the weekend activities at Alcy. Fifteen students received certificates for successfully completing the kindergarten program. Myrtharyn Powell, Jill Edmond and Brenda Renfroe led out in this program.

We wish our eighth grade graduates continued success as they continue their education in institutes of higher learning in the years ahead and we express our encouragement to kindergarten students as they enter first grade this coming term.

—Charles C. Battles  
PRINCIPAL

### WORK IN OWENSBORO STRENGTHENED

Since the arrival of Pastor Ray Carter and family to Owensboro, Ky., the work has been growing by leaps and bounds. A small house, where the congregation worships, is filled to capacity. In fact, the divine worship speaker stands in the kitchen to address the members who are seated in the living room. Pastor Carter has also been instrumental in establishing a new congregation in Campbellsville, Ky. Pastor Gary Wayne Foster has played an important role in aiding the work in this town. Approximately 16 to 20 persons attend services every week. Michael Holland, a recent graduate of Oakwood College, will be coming to the area to help strengthen the work.



*Alcy Class of 1987. Michael Tompkins, platform teacher and class sponsor.*



Elder F. N. Crowe (second on left), conference treasurer, stand with Oakwood students prepared to audit books.

### AUDIT PROGRAM INSTITUTED FOR OAKWOOD BUSINESS STUDENTS

Dr. N. Higgs and Dr. A. Cargill of the Business Department of Oakwood College have set in motion a program to have students audit the church books of the conference during the summer. This new venture has been accepted by the South Central Conference. Elder F.N. Crowe, treasurer of the conference and Seth Bardu, accountant and auditor, (once and intern in a similar program), are overseeing the students. The conference administrators welcome the students assistance, with 126 churches and 13 schools audit annually, their work will go a long way.

### SOUTH CENTRAL EMPLOYS EIGHT OAKWOOD GRADUATES

Many students who complete their college education these days are rudely awakened to the fact that their is no job in the marketplace for them. This job crunch is especially true of young men and women who seek denominational employment. This year South Central Conference voted to hire eight of these students—Dwight E. Haynes, Edwin F. Brown, Barbara Brown, Raynard Allen, Alonzo S. Wagner, Jr., Timothy Lewis, Michael Holland, Carnell A. Oakman. Miss P. Monk, president of the graduating class, succinctly expressed the mission

of the graduates, "... You need us, in this day and time . . . and we ready to take our places in service."



C. E. Bradford stands with Delbert Baker, Editor of "Message" and H. Otis, President of the Review and Herald Publishing Assn., as they launch a new program to 400,000 Black professional through "Message".

### MESSAGE BEGINS PROGRAM TO REACH 400,000 BLACK PROFESSIONALS

Elder C.E. Bradford challenged the editorial staff of MESSAGE to set in motion a plan to reach Black professionals in the North American Division. Delbert Baker, editor and Harold Otis, general manager of the Review and Herald Publishing Association, accepted the challenge. They have implemented a program to send thousands of flyers to Black professionals offering a one year free subscription to the magazine.

### STUDENT RECEIVES FULL SCHOLARSHIP

Ronald Smith, member of the First S.D.A. Church, Bessemer, Al., was awarded a full scholarship to attend Ephesus Jr. Academy, Birmingham, Al., for the coming school year. Smith scored highest in scholarship and attendance among his peers. The award was made at school closing excercises.



Student receives scholarship.

### TRACTS AVAILABLE

We have seven thousand sets of E.C. Ward tracts that have just been delivered to the conference office. If you are interested in using these tracts in you evangelism, contact Elder H.L. Cleveland, the ministerial secretary of the conference, right away. The supply is limited! . . . Hurry!!

### MESSAGE MAGAZINE PROMOTION—1987

It is not too early to begin laying your plans for the current Message Magazine Drive. The goal is one per member. The journal is an excellent tool that can be used in soul-winning.

### LAY ADVISORY TO REFURBISH AN O. C. DORMS ROOM

Elder J. Milner of the S. C. C. Lay Advisory Council has informed us that this group has accepted the responsibility of furnishing a room in Edwards Hall. This is in harmony with the project that the conference engaged in during the year 1986.

## MISSIONARIES TO RETURN HOME

Dr. and Mrs. Carl A. Dent, missionaries to Kenya have returned to Nashville after having spent three years in Mission Service in Africa. The Dents accepted the invitation to serve as missionaries to that country after the Riverside Hospital was sold a few years ago. They had given over forty years of their lives in service to people across this land serving at Riverside. We welcome them on their return home.

We have heard that Elder and Mrs. R.P. Stafford, missionaries to the East African Division will be returning to the states on a Permanent Return status before the end of the summer. Stafford, who began his ministry in the South Central Conference, has been used by God to baptise thousands of souls into the church in that division.

Elder K.L. Bushnell, the communications director for the Eastern African Division will be returning to the states on a permanent return basis before the end of the summer months. The Bushnells are returning to place their children in academies and colleges for their educational preparations. Such schools are not available in the part of the world where they are serving.

## DISTRICT CHANGES

Here is a list of the 'District Changes'

that were made in the conference during the past few weeks:

C.E. Monroe to Pensacola/Atmore; Aaron Thompkins to Greenwood/Grenada/Belzoni/Indianoli; A.S. Wagner, Jr. to Frankfort/Covington; R.S. Norman, Jr. to Nashville (New Life)/Springfield; Marion Johnson to Hattiesburg/Laurel/Columbia; Carnell A. Oakman to Fayetteville/Decherd/Pulaski; Douglas D. Johnson to Kingsport/Greeneville; Raynard Allen to Hopkinsville/Paducah; Timothy Lewis to Knoxville (Trinity)/Morristown; Edwin F. Brown to Clarksville (he also serves as the assistant for the Book Center); Sargent Simms to Huntsville (New Life); James Young to Yazoo City/Vicksburg/Port Gibson; R. Broussard to Dothan/Ozark/Panama City and Vincent Perry to Eutaw/Thomasville.

J.L. Follette, Jr. will serve in Memphis this summer with Dennis Ross Evangelistic crusade before entering the seminary this fall. Dwight E. Haynes has also been voted an internship for the conference and will be entering the seminary this fall.

## BAPTISMS TOTAL 483 FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS

The official report of baptisms for the first quarter of 1987 registered 247. This was the clerks' reports. When the pastors

came together at the time of campmeeting 236 was the number of baptisms that was reported for the second quarter. The total for the first six months of 1987—483!! We praise God!!

These were the reports for the first six months of the year—

J.R. Bell	48	R.L. Mann	2
T.L. Blevins	8	A. Maycock	2
R. Broussard	1	C. Monroe	2
J.M. Brown	2	F. Murray	4
W.A. Bussey	1	G. Pearson	3
X. Butler	6	R. Patterson	24
G.L. Byars	8	G. Powell	9
T. Carter	2	W. Rose	6
D. Edmond	131	O. Rudley	9
A. Frazier	3	R. Rugless	9
J. Grider	10	D. Reid	2
A. Hill	2	L. Shepherd	15
F.S. Hill	4	S. Simms	10
R. Hill	4	P. Smith	4
D. Johnson	4	P. Sorrells	8
W. Johnson	2	P. Vincent	10
B.E. Jones	39	E. Ward	21
J.A. Jones	39	V. White	1
J.W. Jones	7	J. Wilson	6
I. Lester	8	E. Rogers	10
D.L. Lynes	3	J. Young	4

## TWENTY-TWO CRUSADES SET FOR THIS SUMMER

Twenty-two evangelistic crusades are to be conducted in the South Central Conference during the summer months. All of these meetings will be under tents. Let us ask the Lord to bless each meeting with a good harvest of souls. Meeting will be held in the following places:

Dennis Ross	Memphis, TN
E. Cleveland	Montgomery, AL
M.A. Mounter	Opelike, AL
L. Shepherd	Athens, AL
Garfield Powell	Selma, AL
R. Gaitor	Adamsville, AL
A. Frazier	Columbus, MS
D.L. Lynes	Natchez, MS
O.E. Rudley	Lexington, KY
P.N. Smith	Franklin, TN
E.C. Ward	Guntersville, AL
Reginald Robinson	Birmingham, AL
G.L. Byars	Birmingham, AL
B.E. Jones	Birmingham, AL
Washington Johnson	Gadsden, AL
R.I. Rugless	Bessemer, AL
M. Martin	Alton, AL
J.M. Brown	Greenville, MS
T.L. Blevins	Jackson, MS
A. Maycock	Chattanooga, TN
E.C. Ward	Gurley, AL
A.C. Jenkins	McCalla, AL



Carl Dent.

## OAKWOOD COLLEGE

### OAKWOOD COLLEGE OFFERING

August 8, 1987

Sabbath, Aug. 8, 1987, is the date for the Annual Oakwood College Offering to be received in all S.D.A. churches in the North American Division.

The General Conference, Oakwood Board of Trustees, administration, faculty and students join together in expressing profound appreciation for the generous support received in past years and appeal to all church members to give a liberal offering on August 8, or at a time that is most convenient for you.

Oakwood, the only predominantly Black college operated by the church, is an accredited coeducational liberal arts college. It was established in 1896 to train Adventist young people and prepare them for life and participation in the church's mission of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. Since its

establishment 91 years ago, the college has kept in sharp focus its raison d'être—reason for being. It is reported that approximately 80-90 percent of the Black denominational workers are graduates of Oakwood or received much of their training at Oakwood College.

The 1986-87 school year closed with a little short of 1,000 students. Oakwood is proud of its graduates who number approximately 200 annually. While the majority are employed in industry, business and government, a number are called by the church and related institutions.

We are pleased to report that many of Oakwood's graduates go on to graduate schools and rank high scholastically among graduates of other colleges. The college has a strong academic program and provides a wholesome atmosphere for the development of all the powers of the student. A case in point, of the pre-med students who are accepted in the prestigious medical schools of the country, Oakwood holds the distinction of being No. 6 in the nation in terms of

students being accepted by medical schools.

Currently Oakwood College offers 36 baccalaureate degree programs and numerous two-year and one-year certificate programs. The college has a full-time faculty of 81, 47 percent of whom hold the doctorate degree.

Oakwood receives substantial financial appropriations from the General Conference and all of the regional conferences in North America. It could not exist without these, but the appropriations do not meet all of the needs. Perhaps the most urgent need of the college today is a program of consistent financial support from its alumni and the S.D.A. membership around the country. In addition to your generous gift on Sabbath, August 8, we invite you to become a frequent giver. Consistency is the key. A monthly giving program even in moderate amounts given on a regular basis would be far more beneficial than an occasional gift.

In 1986 Oakwood College launched a campaign of renewing and refurbishing the dormitories. There are over 500

## HUDSON VALLEY - NEW ENGLAND USHERS FEDERATION



**COME!**

**THE HOUR IS LATE  
THE TIME IS AT HAND**

**3rd ANNUAL**

***"Spiritual Retreat"***

**Sabbath September 19, 1987  
VICTORY LAKE CAMP**

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: ELDER HENRY W. WRIGHT**  
President of the Allegheny West Conference — Columbus, Ohio

*For More Information*

*Write To*

**Mrs. Missouri Weaver  
President-New England  
(203) 233-1629**

**— DONATIONS —**

**\$10, \$20, \$30, — \$50, \$100, others.**

dormitory rooms. Many of these have been renovated, but there are hundreds more that need the same attention. Beautiful and well-equipped dormitories enhance student life. Painting, carpeting and plumbing work are all aspects of the massive home renovation program which has been initiated. The college is attempting more and more to make Oakwood the "place where loveliness keeps house."

Another important objective is to develop a scholarship endowment program to assist worthy students with sizable scholarships.

The mission of the college is to train young people to serve the church so that the church can serve the world. Oakwood is committed to the accomplishment of this objective. Your generous offering on Sabbath, Aug. 8, or whenever possible will be most appreciated and will aid substantially in the realization of this endeavor.

—R L Woodfork  
Vice-Chairman

## IN THE NEWS

### OBITUARY

Thelma Gerldine Tate was born in Knoxville, Tennessee to the union of Knute and Minnie Smith. Her early years were spent in Knoxville where she attended public school through the completion of high school. Her parents moved to Atlanta, Georgia where she completed her college work at Atlanta University. She also attended Knoxville College in Knoxville Tennessee.

She began her life's work in elementary education in the Knoxville, Tennessee public school system. After several successful years in the field of education, she was extended an invitation from the Atlanta Life Insurance Company of Atlanta, Georgia to become the cashier and associate manager of the company's division office in Knoxville, Tennessee which covered the area of eastern Tennessee. This position she faithfully held for forty years and retired several years ago with distinction.

In June of 1925, Thelma was married to Leroy A. Tate. They had a very happy marriage until his death in 1981. To this union was born their daughter, Gwendolyn, who preceded her parents in death.

Thelma was brought up in a religious home. She became a member of Shiloh Presbyterian Church in her early years. In later life she attended and joined the University Avenue Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

Thelma was quite active in civic and community affairs and was responsible in bringing about progressive legislation and innovations in many ways for the benefit of the community. She was one of the founders of the Beck Cultural Center of Knoxville.

She is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Rita Chandler and Mrs. Lewis Murphy; a granddaughter, Miss Donita Howes; a son-in-law, George Howes; two brothers-in-law, Bruce Chandler and Elder Herman Murphy; three sisters-in-law, Mrs. Muriel Johnson, Mrs. Leola A. Murphy and Mrs. Eliza Smith; one niece, Sylvia Bryan; one nephew, Alfred Smith, Jr.; one nephew-in-law, Earl Bryan; and other relatives and friends.

### GALBRETH DIES

Elder William Galbreth, retired minister of the church who lived on the West Coast passed away on Sabbath, June 6 in the hospital in San Jose, Ca., Pray for the family of our dear friend.

### DEATHS

One by one, our brothers and sisters are going to sleep in the Lord. We have received word that Elder O.W. Mackey, our former publishing secretary, passed away on July 1, 1987 in Birmingham, Alabama. The Husband of Mrs Jesse J. Bentley, one of our veteran Bible Instructors, passed away in Atlanta, Ga. the day just before Elder Mackey's passing. Mrs. Grace McLeod, the wife of Elder N.S. McLeod passed away at the Memorial hospital yesterday. Pray for these bereaved families.

### CLASSIFIED AD

#### BLACK HISTORY TRIVIA GAME

Play the Black history trivia challenge for a fun, learning experience in your home, school or socials. A new game—HIGH ACHIEVER. Introductory price is only \$22.95. California residents only add sales tax of \$1.38. On all orders add \$3.25 shipping and handling charges. MAIL ORDER to: EN-LITE ENTERPRISE, P.O. Box 392-V, Newbury Park, CA 91320.

### ANNUAL WEEK OF SACRIFICE OFFERING

November 1987

What does it mean to sacrifice? We use and hear the term in so many different settings. There is the sacrifice of money, even the sacrifice of life.

Sometimes we consider it a sacrifice to do something like giving up ice cream, but such thoughts are trivial when placed in context of the sacrifice of great treasure or the sacrifice of years given to humanitarian service.

What is sacrifice? Our church founders initiated the week of Sacrifice Offering in the context of giving one week's pay in order to sustain and expand the work of the church. And the context of their sacrifices compared to the living standard and privileges we enjoy today gives us a context by which we determine what a sacrifice is for us.

When God Calls for sacrifice, sometimes it is only of our abundance, sometimes it is our all. As this week of Sacrifice Offering comes again, we have the opportunity once more to sacrifice for the work of God.

### ADVENTIST FAMILY CREATES BLACK HISTORY TRIVIA GAME

Have you thought how you might make Black History Month a little more meaningful within your home and among friends?

Here's one way you might do it. Play *High Achiever*.

You've never heard of it?

You haven't been reading the weekly edition of USA Weekend or a story carried nationwide by newspapers which use International News Service or other major newspapers which featured this new game.

*High Achiever* was developed by John E. Collins, the Pacific Union Conferences Associate Director for Personal Ministries, and his son and daughter-in-law, Jonathan E. and Sharon Collins. It is a trivia game about Black Americans who gave a significant place in history.

Although created by an Adventist family, the game is aimed at the public at large to create a greater awareness of how Black people have contributed to many areas of American life and history, Pastor Collins says.

Church members and the church do figure in a few of the questions asked, although they cannot be identified as Adventist-related, Collins notes.



*The Collins' enjoying a game of High Achiever.*

For instance, who was the first Black woman to earn a Ph.D. in America? Answer, Eva B. Dykes. The late Dr. Dykes was a faculty member at Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama.

Question: What was the first Black religious magazine? Answer: Message, first published as the Gospel Herald by James Edson White in 1898.

"The game has a lot of well-known names, but the people are not generally known as being Black," Collins notes. "For instance, it is not generally known or stated in most history books that 'Little Stephen' Estavancias, the man who discovered New Mexico and Arizona, was Black.

"Our research goes all the way back to the 15th century," Collins explains. "A lot of material we used came from my library, books by Black authors which were required reading when I was in school."

A goal the Collins family set for themselves in creating the game was to dispel the widespread ignorance among both Blacks and Whites about achievements by Black people.

Jonathan, who is in charge of marketing the game, says he is interested in targeting schools and colleges.

If students read and remembered the answers to more than 2,500 questions in the game, they would have a broad knowledge of Black people's contribution to America in a wide spectrum of society, Collins said.

Gathering the material for the game took the family about two years of concentrated research for the first edition.

The game is broken down into 12 categories of questions such as "History," "Old West," "Military," "Literature," "Sports," "True and False," "Pioneers," "Inventors," "Entertainers," "Firsts," and "Famous Names."

Jonathan is a chemical compounder at Exhibition Laboratories and Colorful Products in Newberry Park, CA. His wife Sharon is a mail cashier and terminal operator at the Voice of Prophecy radio broadcast headquarters.

In their spare time Jonathan and Sharon handle orders for the game which are coming throughout America. To market the game they have formed a company named **Enlite Enterprise** in Newberry Park. (See classified advertisement for more information.)

"We thank God for the news coverage this game has received nationwide," Jonathan than says. "It seems to have captured the interest of people at a time when the need is high on Black awareness."

*High Achiever* has just begun, Jonathan says. As further research is completed, additions to the game will be available. For the Collins family *High Achiever* is no trivial pursuit.

*This article originally appeared in February 16, 1987 issue of RECORDER.*

## THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

### NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

The official organ of the North American Regional Conferences

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L. A. PASCHAL, Editor

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