



God's Church—1950 to the End

By the Editor

God's church on earth is composed of a people called "out of darkness" to walk in "His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9.)

The qualities of those whom God has adopted into the family of the redeemed are revealed in His Word. They are to be harmless! Christ told His disciples to be "harmless as doves." (Matt. 10:16.)

The apostle Paul told the Philipians that they should be "sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness." Phil. 1:10, 11. Our High Priest, Jesus Christ, who is our exemplar, is represented as being "holy, harmless, undefiled." Heb. 7:26.

What does it mean to be harmless? It means to live without offense so far as possible in all our human relations. Such a person will seek no one's harm. He will not rejoice in trouble that may befall any man. He will rather seek the good of all men. He does not remove himself as an active agent in the world, but is a powerful influence for good in a warring, striving, wrangling, offending world. He does not live a savorless existence; he is the salt of the earth.

God's church must be guileless! The world praises the man who is clever and who can turn a trick to his own advantage, but the Lord rebukes the man "in whose spirit there is no guile." Ps. 32:2. It is recorded of Christ that "neither was guile found in his mouth." 1 Peter

2:22. We must "be imitators of God, as His dear children. And live and act lovingly." Eph. 5:1, 2, Weymouth's translation.

If we are to be translated into the kingdom of Christ, we must remember that "as he is, so are we in this world." 1 John 4:17. The man who is cunning and shrewd in business, and able to get the best of the bargain, is honored by the world, whereas the man who, because of Christian scruples, deals fairly, even to his own disadvantage, is pitied—unmindful of the fact that the one who is willing to sell his soul for a price comes to a sad and bitter end.

The psalmist describes the wicked in prosperity in the following language: "Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish." Ps. 73:7. He adds, "When I thought to know [understand] this, it was too painful for me; until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end." Their end is a sad one. God's church must be blameless. We are exhorted by the voice of inspiration to be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation.

God has set a high standard for His people. If we are willing, God will furnish the power. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God." John 1:12. Yes, the standard is the same for all. None should be satisfied with spiritual immaturity.

The church should not be satisfied with continuous immaturity in its members. There must be a certain amount of spiritual responsibility before one may unite with the church. From that point there should be constant growth. If certain members will not accept their spiritual responsibilities as members of the body of Christ, and thus bring constant disrepute upon the church, it is only right and proper that they be disfellowshipped until they exemplify that Christian experience that will bring honor to God and His people. God's people must be faultless.

Christ desires to have "a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:27.

John in his vision on Patmos sees this church standing before the throne of God "without fault." (Rev. 14:5.)

Jude refers to One who "is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy." Jude 24. This is the apex of Christian experience to which all must advance. It was the goal to which Paul was pressing. (Phil. 3:13, 14.) We cannot afford to be satisfied with anything less than the attainment of this high goal. Like David, our hearts should cry out: "I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness." Ps. 17:15.

Although we cannot boast of hav-

ing attained or of being already perfect (Phil. 3:12), we must never feel free to excuse ourselves because of any sin we may have committed. God has a goal for every Christian. A healthy Christian will grow in grace and will attain to greater spiritual stature from day to day, from year to year. He cannot continually be making excuses for faults that appear in his life. Neither can the church be making excuses for such a one.

As leaders, officers, and members of the church, our endeavor should be to keep the church as God would have it. We must never compromise or lower the standard to accommodate anyone. Let each one, naming the name of Christ, "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:14. G. E. P.

A Glimpse Into Liberia, The Negro Republic

By Mrs. C. Dunbar Henri,
Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa

WHEN my husband and I were doing pastoral work in Gary, Indiana, our rest was broken early one morning in the fall of 1945 by the shrill ringing of the telephone. On answering it, I heard a voice say, "This is E. D. Dick, of the secretarial staff of the General Conference. I am in Chicago, and would like to have a talk with you." Since we were only thirty miles from Chicago, in a few hours we were talking with Pastor Dick.

He laid before us the needs of the mission fields, and mentioned especially Liberia, a Negro republic on the West Coast of Africa, asking us whether we would be willing to labor there if the call should come.

Really, we had never dreamed that we would ever serve as missionaries. The thought had never occurred to us, especially since it had been more than ten years since Pastor B. W. Abney had returned from service in South Africa, and no other colored missionaries had been sent from North America.

Down in our hearts, as in the

hearts of countless other colored Adventist youth, was an intense desire to have a more definite and a more personal part in the carrying of the third angel's message to the ends of the earth. Then before our eyes rose a mental picture of the seething multitudes of Africa's people lost in the Stygian darkness of ignorance and heathenism, pleading for light and truth; and the words of Isaiah the prophet provided our answer: "Here am I; send me."

The call did come a few months later; and after a great deal of prayer and discussion of the matter with our parents and friends, we, with two other families, were on our way to Liberia. That was almost four years ago. We have never regretted that choice.

This little republic was founded by emancipated colored people from America 103 years ago. The descendants of these pioneers are civilized men and women speaking the English language. From their ranks are usually elected the leaders of this democratic nation. Most of them live in and around the capital city, Monrovia.

Liberia, located on the rocky shores of West Africa, is bounded on the west by Sierra Leone, on the east and north by French West Africa, and on the south by the Atlantic Ocean. Its climate is typically tropical, hot and humid, having two extremes of weather, with approximately six months of rain and six months of dry weather. It is in that portion of Africa known through the years as the white man's grave. This vast area of land, rich beyond imagination, is still very much undeveloped, and is inhabited, aside from the civilized element, by about two million people, divided into twenty-four uncivilized tribes, speaking as many languages and dialects.

Here devil worship, heathenism, and superstition abound. The witch doctor is a man feared and revered because of the supernatural things he is able to do. Just the other day one of these devil men, in order to appease his god, went through this ordeal: He first gath-

ered a huge pile of wood, set fire it, and let it burn to coals. The with his bare hands he scooped up, a handful of the coals and threw them onto the dry thatch roof of his hut. It did not burn. He then sat down on the heap of glowing coals! That too did not burn him, and he walked away satisfied that he still had favor in the sight of his god. This reminds one of the text in Revelation 13:13: "He doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on earth in the sight of men."

This is only one of the countless ways Satan holds the native people of Liberia in utter subjection. The power of the devil is invoked to heal the sick, to discover criminals, to determine the cause of death, and even to get a job or make money. Against this awful horror of worship the gospel of Jesus Christ is effecting transformations so marvelous as to be almost beyond belief.

Jesse was a native boy born amid heathenism and superstition. His parents offered sacrifices to the devil of the bush, and invoked the spirits to protect them from sickness and trouble, and their property from damage and loss. Jesse grew up with the awful fear of the devil influencing his every move in life. He knew many of the secrets of the "Devil Society" and also knew the terrible results of violating those laws.

But since most of the native people wish their children to be civilized and "learn book," Jesse was sent to the mission school.

(Continued next month)

The North American Informant

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CENTRAL STATES MISSION

F. L. Bland, Pres. J. H. Jones, Sec.-Treas.
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An Appeal From a Veteran Worker

To my brethren and sisters of the Central States Mission: I wish to call your attention to the fact that the second coming of Christ is very near. Soon Jesus, who is in the sanctuary in heaven, will receive from His father the promised kingdom in fulfillment of His word. "And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." Dan. 7:14.

My brethren, we should be very happy and expectant, for the "kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him." Verse 27.

Jesus is anxiously waiting for the heirs of the kingdom here in the earth to tell others these joyful tidings of heirship, that they may with us lift up their heads, knowing that redemption draweth nigh.

The return of our elder brother, Jesus Christ, is very near. He says, "Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be." In the light of these promises of God, dear brethren, do our actions show that we believe them? Is there real yearning in our hearts for the coming of Jesus? There were more than Noah and his three sons who started the work of building the ark. But a hundred and twenty years in finishing the work wore away their strength, and they finally joined the rest of the scoffers in heart and action, and when the Flood came, only a very few were saved in the

ark, which some of them had helped to build. Brethren, we should profit by this scripture, "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry." Heb. 10:35-37.

The second coming of Christ is very near, and the greatest sign is found among us. It is our assenting to the truth we have for the world and claiming all the promises to heirship, but doing nothing about it as we should. Are we truly heirs? "If children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Rom. 8:17, 18.

The last generation spoken of by our Lord is not to pass before He appears. This generation is getting hoary with age, but God does not hasten, neither does He delay. His promises are true. Said He, "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things [the darkening of the sun and the moon and the falling of the stars of November 13, 1833], know that it [margin, "he"] is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matt. 24:32-35. "This statement Christ declares to be more certain than the continuance of the heavens and the earth. They will pass away, but his words respecting his coming in this generation shall not fail. . . . The last of these events—the falling of the stars—was fulfilled in 1833. Since this date we have entered upon the last generation, the generation that shall not pass until Christ shall come."—J. N. LOUGH-

BOROUGH, *Last-Day Tokens*, pp. 41, 42.

The second coming of Christ is very near. "All heaven is looking with intense interest upon the church, to see what her individual members are doing to enlighten those who are in darkness." E. G. WHITE in *Christian Service*, p. 89. My brethren, with this thought in mind, let us work as never before and live close to the Master so that He, through us, can do a mighty work in saving souls during this mid-century year.

H. J. MILLER.

"LIFE, for us all, has its set traps with attractive bait; it is only those who can control their human cravings who thoughtfully choose between success and ill-fate."

NORTHEASTERN

L. H. Bland, Pres. L. O. Irons, Sec.-Treas.
560 W. 150th St., New York, N.Y.
MO. 2-9353

More About Brooklyn Effort

OUR effort was held in a canvas tabernacle located on Fulton Street near Grand Avenue. The tabernacle, which had to be shipped to us from Hot Springs, Arkansas, arrived one month late. Opening on Sunday night, we continued nightly (except Saturday nights) in the tabernacle for nine consecutive weeks. Then, because of cool weather, we had to move into the church for the binding off.

Large crowds attended nightly, and we had overflowing crowds on Sunday nights. God richly blessed the work. Our baptisms to the end of November have been as follows: before the special campaign, 20; since the campaign, 53; total 73. A report of the baptisms during the month of December, 1949, will be given later. Continue to pray for us.

H. W. KIBBLE, pastor.

See picture on page 4.



The Above Picture Shows the Baptismal Group in the Background. Seated on Front Row Are B. A. Ellis, Local Elder, and H. W. Kibble, Pastor of the Bethel Church. Following Children in Center Are Mrs. H. W. Kibble, Mrs. Elizabeth Martin, and Miss Elizabeth Simmons, Bible Instructors

Share Your Faith Campaign in Buffalo

A FEW weeks ago the M.V. Society, the Home Missionary Society, and the Light Bearers of the Buffalo East Side S.D.A. church joined forces and went out on a "Share Your Faith" campaign.

Elder Thaddeus Wilson, pastor, gave a challenging message, which added inspiration to the already eager group who had been anxiously awaiting the "big day" of the campaign. Sister Jarreau, the home missionary leader, in cooperation with the Bible instructor, Sister Forde, encouraged them to join our sister churches in this most wonderful work of house-to-house visitation. Twenty teams braved the cold, and with the Master as an unseen guest leading the way, went out to seek lost souls. After an hour all came to the church to report the results. Our hearts thrilled when we heard how the Lord had blessed. Two

hundred and twenty-two contacts were made. Six hundred and seventy-seven pieces of literature were distributed. One hundred and ten enrollments were obtained for the Bible correspondence course. Five wanted studies in the home, and four promised to attend the Bible instructor's community Bible class. Fifty-three prayers were offered in the homes, nine persons were found listening to the Voice of Prophecy, and twenty-six persons promised to listen to the Voice of Prophecy.

Fruit has already begun to be borne, for two of the persons reached have attended the Bible instructor's class. Sunday night meetings have been so well attended that there is no standing room. The teams had personally invited the people. These were encouraging responses to our "Share Your Faith" campaign.

The Light Bearers are organized and have been engaged in house-to-house visitation for some time. We

are praying that this zeal will continue throughout the new year.

ZILDA C. FORDE, *Bible instructor.*

SOUTH CENTRAL

H. R. Murphy, Pres. V. Lindsay, Sec.-Treas.
Box 936, Nashville, Tenn.

Echoes From Memphis, Tennessee

IN Memphis there is a city ordinance limiting tent meetings to only thirty days. Because of this ordinance, Elder C. Sampson Myles, pastor, has for the past two years conducted tent meetings in Jackson, Tennessee, and Paducah, Kentucky respectively. In his one and on effort held in Memphis forty were baptized.

Since taking up the work in Memphis, the Lord has blessed with seventy-seven baptisms in spite of the ban on tent meetings. At this time a revival is being conducted,

with a very good interest. The first baptism as a result of these meetings was held on Sabbath, January 7, of this year.

Our Dorcas Society reached its full quota in sending aid to Europe.

In addition to this we were able to send to Elder D. B. Simons, a former pastor, now serving in Sierra Leone, West Africa, a sizable box of clothing for distribution in his district. The express charges alone amounted to \$35. A few weeks ago we were host to the societies in the Memphis area for the organization of a Dorcas Federation. We look forward to greater activities this year.

In the early part of the year 1949, our hearts were greatly thrilled when we were visited by Elder and Mrs. Dunbar Henri, on furlough from Liberia, West Africa. They told us many heart-warming experiences, also, of their need of an organ, which would greatly help them in their work. The Memphis church gladly made this organ available.

We are very proud of our church school, which is staffed with two teachers, Miss Elizabeth Carter, principal, who comes to us from Bridgeport, Conn., holding a B.A. degree from Oakwood College, and Mrs. D. M. Ford, who also received her training from Oakwood. Mrs. Ford has served us well for a number of years and has a way peculiar to herself in handling children. The school program is going along in an excellent way.

Recently improvements have been made including an extra exit from the basement, an attractive fence, and playground equipment at a cost of \$800. Plans are now under way for a complete redecoration of the church.

At present we are in the midst of our Ingathering campaign. We hope to reach our goal, and the outlook is very bright. The oldest man in the church, who is over eighty, has raised more than \$100. With the Lord leading, we look forward to the accomplishment of greater things in 1950.

C. SAMPSON MYLES, *pastor*.

MRS. M. F. CLARKE, *secretary*.

SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

W. W. Fordham, Pres. V. Roberts, Sec.-Treas.
P. O. Box 6289, Dallas, Texas

Baton Rouge Church Dedication

SABBATH, November 26, was a high day in the history of the Baton Rouge church. For a number of years, under the leadership of Elders J. G. Dasent, J. H. Williams, and F. J. Bryant, the members have worked faithfully to raise funds for a new church building. These were years of depression, and funds were difficult to secure. The membership numbered about thirty; however, these faithful few continued to labor until enough money was raised to buy a lot, and a few dollars was left on deposit. By the year 1947 this fund had grown to \$1,500.

In the summer of the same year Elder W. W. Fordham, assisted by Lafayette Williams and C. E. Bradford, conducted a city-wide evangelistic campaign resulting in the baptism of some one hundred souls. Immediately plans were laid for a church edifice. In the month of September, 1947, the ground was broken and the building project started. Now the work has been completed, and the new church home is free of debt. It is valued at \$30,000.

Dedicatory services began on Friday night, when Elder J. H. Williams delivered the consecration sermon. On Sabbath morning visitors and friends filled the auditorium to capacity, and there were scores standing outside. Elder W. W. Fordham, conference president, preached the dedicatory sermon. Elder J. H. Williams offered the dedicatory prayer, and C. E. Bradford, pastor of the church, led out in the response. Miss Adell Feltus, a charter member, read the historical sketch.

Visitors from the Hammond, Shreveport, Alexandria, Lake Charles, Dallas, and New Orleans churches were present, in addition to the entire office staff of the Southwestern Mission Conference. From Oakwood College there were

Dean O. B. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. E. I. Cunningham, Mr. E. Cooper, and several students.

The day was climaxed with an afternoon baptismal service, at which time Elder V. L. Roberts, secretary-treasurer of the Southwestern Mission, was the principal speaker. Elder W. W. Fordham and Pastor C. E. Bradford buried eleven candidates in baptism, nine uniting with the Baton Rouge church and two with the church at Hammond.

As one mingled with the dispersing crowd these words were heard on many lips, "It was good to have been in the house of the Lord today."

C. E. BRADFORD, *pastor*,
Baton Rouge S.D.A. Church.

Visitors in the Field

SPENDING a few days in Dallas after Fall Council, were Elder J. H. Wagner, president of the Allegheny Conference, and Elder and Mrs. O. A. Troy. Elder Troy is departmental secretary in the Pacific Union Conference. Elder Wagner was present during our recent workers meeting and gave valuable help to the workers.

Dallas and the surrounding areas are happy to have Mrs. M. M. Fitch, formerly a Bible worker in the Central States Mission, to assist in its evangelistic program. The effort conducted this summer is still yielding fruit, and upon completion of the tabernacle now being erected, the program is expected to expand greatly.

CORA E. ISABEL, *reporter*.

News From Bakersfield, California

ONE Sabbath afternoon last month the members of the Bakersfield Berean church were happy to witness the baptism of six souls at the "E" and Truxton Street church. This sacred rite was performed by our pastor, Elder Victor A. Joseph. Two other candidates await baptism in the near future. Pray that the Lord will continue to richly bless the work here in Bakersfield.

MRS. HELEN WILLIAMS, *Clerk*.

Oakwood College

F. L. Peterson, Pres.
Huntsville, Ala.

Oakwood's President Visits Jamaica

RESPONDING to an invitation from the Inter-American Division to visit the West Jamaica Conference and deliver the commencement address at the West Indian Training College, Mandeville, Jamaica, B.W.I., President F. L. Peterson and his wife, of Oakwood College, arrived in Jamaica by air December 15, 1949.

President and Mrs. Peterson were the guests of President B. G. Buterus, of the West Indian Training College. Reports have just reached our office that the commencement exercises there were wonderful. Writing from Jamaica President Peterson states, "The climate at Mandeville is more like that of Northern California. We are having a wonderful time. I have given four talks to the colporteurs of the West Jamaica Conference in their institute which began Monday night (December 19). Everyone seems happy to have us here, and they are doing everything to make our stay pleasant. We are now moving to the home of Elder and Mrs. Walters, and they have planned to take us to places of interest."

We rejoice with President and Mrs. Peterson for their opportunity to visit outside the United States. We are looking forward to the time when other invitations will be extended to other Negro American workers to visit the Inter-American field, where there are many countries with population and church membership largely Negro.

G.E.P.

"TREATING people roughly and giving them a hard way to go, may sometimes hasten victims to their graves, but it is a sequence almost certain that the end of such persons is very hard and slow."

SOUTH ATLANTIC

H. D. Singleton, Pres. L. S. Follette, Sec.-Treas.
Box 4027, Atlanta, Ga.

Berean Dedicatory Service

ON Sabbath morning, November 26, the doors of the Berean Seventh-day Adventist church in Atlanta, Georgia, opened as usual, and the members and friends of the church began to trickle in for the Sabbath school and church service. It was a crisp, clear day, and the members had looked forward to this day for a long time. Ever since they returned from camp meeting, just about a year and a half ago, and found their church almost completely torn down, the faithful members had hoped that the day would soon come when the walls would be rebuilt and they would worship God in their own temple. This was the day, and as one walked through the doors of the church, he would almost turn around, retrace his steps to the vestibule, and take a look at the street signs, to see whether this were the right corner and the right church. The main floor was hardly recognizable as the same one that was vacated several months before. The auditorium was now large and spacious, and one could easily tell at a glance that many more worshippers could be seated. Instead of the old, worn runners that were in the aisles, one's feet found themselves on a beautiful maroon rug that literally gave way with the touch of the foot. Instead of squarelike, opaque glass windows with drab-looking, worn-out sills, one could see the magnificent stained-glass, arched windows, each one containing a beautiful scene depicting some phase of Biblical life. Each window contains the name of the person who made it possible; and, at the proper time, the windows were unveiled, revealing their full brilliance and beauty.

Special mention should be made of the large window which faces Ashby Street. This one was made possible by the Rainbow Choral Club, and cost \$700. This too

had been veiled, and during the dedicatory services Sister Martha Howard and Sister Sallie Thomas pulled back the veil, revealing the picture of Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane. Sister Katie Settler very appropriately sang, "Bless T House," and Elder L. S. Follette offered the dedicatory prayer. Elder F. A. Osterman gave a brief review of the work in Atlanta, and Elder H. D. Singleton preached the sermon of the morning. The afternoon sermon was delivered by Elder V. G. Anderson, president of the Southern Union.

On Saturday evening the young people's choir, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Follette, presented the cantata, *David the Shepherd Boy*.

During the week special meetings were held in the evenings, and the new oak pews were well filled for each service. On the following Sunday night a large attentive audience heard a stirring appeal by Elder F. L. Peterson, president of Oakwood College.

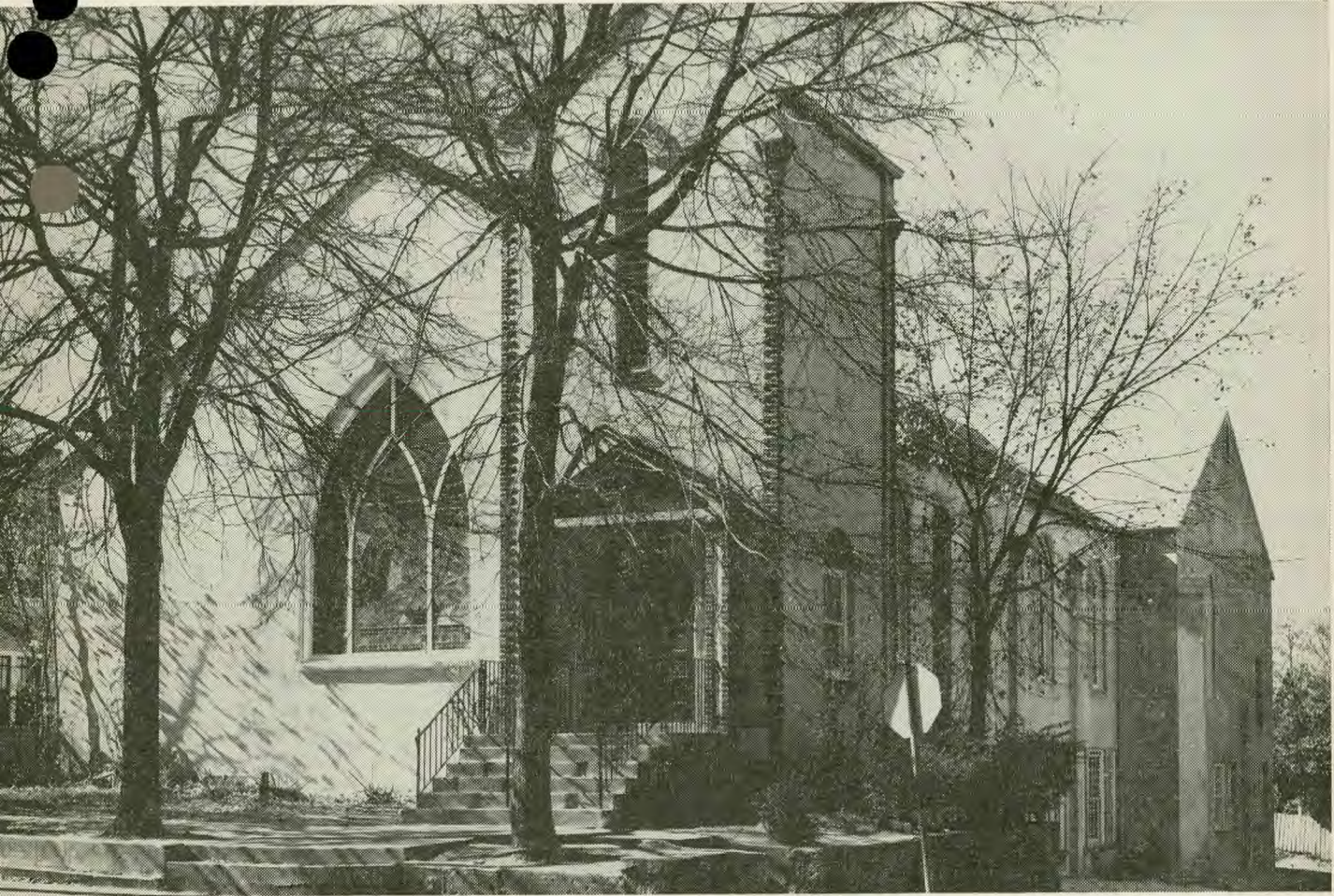
Elder M. K. Eckenroth was the special speaker on Wednesday night. The choir of the Bethel A. M. E. church was the special feature on Thursday night, and an interesting and helpful sermon was given by Dr. Frank Cunningham, substituting for the A. M. E. pastor, who could not be present.

Elder W. S. Lee delivered a remarkable sermon on Friday night, and Elder G. E. Peters climaxed the week with a heart-searching message on Sabbath morning, December 3.

Berean's own choir gave a thrilling concert on the second Sunday night, and as usual, the numbers were well rendered, and a large offering was received.

The pastor, Elder J. E. Cox, is to be highly commended for his strong leadership during the remodeling program. The complete job has cost \$36,000. As we think of the entire undertaking, our hearts respond to the words of the psalmist, "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad."

F. H. JENKINS, Ed. and M. V. leader, South Atlantic Conf.



Berean S.D.A. Church, Atlanta, Georgia



Rainbow Choral Club, Berean Church, That Donated \$700 for Large Church Window

News Notes Central States

WORD comes from the Bible correspondence school of the Central States Mission that seven persons have been baptized as a direct result of studying the Bible course; 14 have accepted the truth through the combined efforts of the correspondence school and various workers.

Lake Region

THOSE who attended the special rally at Gary, Indiana, which was sponsored by the home missionary and Sabbath school departments of the Lake Region Conference, felt that they had gained a real spiritual refreshing. Excellent instruction was given by H. K. Halladay, from the Lake Union office, and T. M. Fountain and L. B. Baker of the Lake Region office.

Seattle

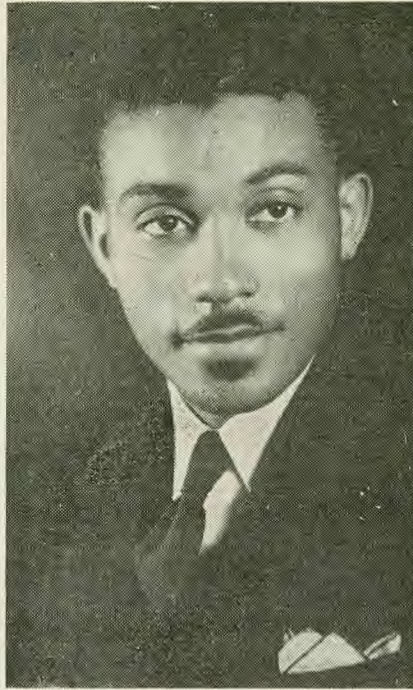
W. J. CLEVELAND has begun a series of evangelistic meetings at the Shiloh church in Seattle, Washington. They will be held each Sunday and Tuesday night for 12 weeks.

Allegheny

ELDER W. R. ROBINSON, radio secretary of the Allegheny Conference, and Elder M. S. Banfield, conference secretary-treasurer, initiated their first broadcast on Sunday, November 27, 1949, over station WCOJ in the heart of Chester County, Pennsylvania. This program, the Words of Life, is heard every Sunday morning at nine-thirty.

THE comrade service group of Berea Temple, Baltimore, Maryland, recently mailed 60 pounds of canned and dried foods to Elders Banks, Giddings, and Henri, our workers in Liberia, West Africa.

"THE real measure of a man's resources, the true test of one's genuine worth, is not in the fact that he can be fair and square with those who trust him, but that he can be big enough to rise above those who are unfair to him."



J. E. Cox, Jr., Pastor, Berean Church, Atlanta, Georgia (See pages 6, 7)

"This Year," Your Ship

God built and launched "This Year"
for you;

Upon the bridge you stand.
It is your ship, aye, your own ship,
And you are in command.

Just what the twelve months' trip
will do

Rests wholly, solely, friend, with you.

* * * * *

Contrary winds may oft beset,
Mountainous seas may press,
Fierce storms prevail and false lights
lure,

You e'en may know real stress.
Yet the helm God's hand does
steady;

There's naught can e'er your ship
o'erwhelm.

For weal or woe, this year is yours.

Your ship is on life's sea;
Your acts as captain must decide
Whichever it shall be.

So now in starting on your trip,
Ask God to help you sail your ship.

—Selected.

Wedding Bells

The marriage of Geraldine S. Poole, of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, to Warren S. Banfield, formerly of Camden, New Jersey, was solemnized in Uniontown at the A.M.E. Zion church, Sunday afternoon, January 1, 1950. Elder M. S. Banfield, father of the groom officiated.

The bride was given in marriage to her father, Mr. Nelson Poole.

Attending the bride as maid of honor was Helen Wagner, of Pine Forge, Pennsylvania. The bridesmaids were Dorothy Whitehead, of Washington, D.C.; Florine La Ford, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Gustavia Raymond, of Los Angeles, California; Muriel Lantz, of Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Gloria Banfield, now attending Emmanuel Missionary College, also sister of the groom; and Jean Poole, sister of the bride. Little four-year-old Cynthia Ann Poole was flower girl, and little Delbert Powell, of Uniontown, carried the bride's train.

The groom was attended by Edisson Banfield as best man. The ushers were Michael Banfield, of Washington, D.C.; Frazier Davis, of Camden, New Jersey; Eddie Powell, of Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Eric Goulbourne, of Atlantic Union College; Pastor Alonzo Wagner, of Danville, Virginia; and Prof. Theodore Cantrell, of Oakwood College.

Both mothers, of the bride and the groom, wore blue gowns with corsages of red roses.

Preceding the ceremony Miss Carol Lynn Upshur, of Washington, D.C., sang "I Love You Truly" and "Because," accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Frances Burns, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The bride and groom knelt in prayer as God's blessing was invoked by the officiating minister. A reception was held at the home of the bride, where refreshments were served. The groom is completing work on his Master's degree at the Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. The bride, who has been employed in the General Conference as stenographer of the Colored Department, also as editorial secretary of the INFORMANT, will continue her responsibilities for the present. Later the young couple will fill an appointment in the South Atlantic Conference, where the groom served as pastor-evangelist before taking advanced work at the Seminary.

We wish the happy couple God's blessing as they labor together in His vineyard.

G.E.P.