



Informant

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George E. Peters

“He Giveth His Beloved Sleep”

THE passing of Elder Peters brings to a close the life of one who may rightly be listed among the major heralds of the Advent message in North America. The question may well be asked: “Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?” 2 Samuel 3:38.

He was a powerful preacher. He loved his God, he loved his work, he loved his church, and he loved all people. He had a passionate and all-consuming love for his work.

The call to the high office of that of a minister occupied first place in his life and he wore this honor gracefully, and with dignity and becoming behavior.

The obituary as done by the family follows:

Obituary

George Edward Peters, son of the late Henry and Sarah Peters, was born in Antigua, British West Indies. He departed this life January 30, 1965, at Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

His father was a minister of the Moravian Church and also principal of the Moravian Parochial School. George was reared in a religious atmosphere. Before he could read, he was taught a scripture text each morning which he had to recite at family worship.

The family accepted the Seventh-day Adventist message when George was 13 years of age. He and his mother were baptized in the faith at the same time.

After his father's death, George left for Trinidad, remaining there for several years. He then went to Panama where he acquired sufficient funds to take him to Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama. While in Panama, he formed the acquaintance of a young girl, Miss Ethel Espeut, who in about six months became his wife.

He entered denominational work in the South serving in tent efforts. After laboring there for 12 years, he was advanced to the responsibilities of union evangelist. While serving in this capacity, he baptized 245 persons in a single meeting.

He was called to the pastorate of the Chicago church in 1922. God richly blessed his labors there. He held three tent efforts and built a new church edifice, known as the Shiloh SDA Church. There he added 500 members.

In 1929, he was elected to the office of Secretary of the Colored Department of the General Conference. At the General Conference session the following year, he expressed a burden to return to evangelism and asked to be relieved of his responsibility.

He was immediately called to labor

in New York City. There he ministered for 9 years and was responsible for the beginning of the largest Adventist Negro church in America, which he named Ephesus. During his ministry there he added over 800 members.

In 1939, he requested the conference to secure a change of field, as the rebuilding of the work in New York had begun to have its effects on him physically. He was called to Philadelphia where he pastored the Ebenezer Church for two and one half years. At the General Conference session in 1941, he was again elected to the responsibility of Secretary of the Colored Department of the General Conference. He carried this responsibility until 1950, when he was elected to the added responsibility of World Field Secretary of the General Conference. He carried both responsibilities faithfully and untiringly until 1953, when the condition of his health was so grave that of his own volition he requested retirement, after having served the denomination for 45 years.

He was the first editor of the INFORMANT. The INFORMANT as a printed subscription paper had its beginning about the year 1944.

Upon his retirement, he located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Though retired he remained active, giving inspiration and counsel to both ministers and administrators.

He leaves to mourn their loss, his faithful and devoted wife, Ethel, two nephews, four nieces, several grand nieces and nephews, sons and daughters by adoption, other relatives and a host of friends.

The messages of condolence and sympathy and floral pieces sent to Mrs. Peters during her recent bereavement have been too numerous for her to respond to personally. She, therefore, wishes to take this opportunity to thank all persons for their kindnesses and remembrances through the pages of the INFORMANT.

THE EDITOR

SOUTHWEST REGION

New Workers Join Southwest Region Conference Staff

WITHIN the past several months, a number of new workers have joined our staff of ministers. They are: Calvin Robinson, DeWitt Williams, E. W. Shepperd, and R. E. Williams.

Pastor Robinson, a recent graduate of Andrews University, is stationed in Lake Charles, Louisiana. He has worked in several evangelistic campaigns prior to coming to our field, and is off to a good start as the work in the Lake Charles district is on the move under his leadership.

Pastor D. Williams, also a recent graduate of Andrews University, is located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He is married to the former Margaret Norman, of Dallas, Texas. We feel that this fine couple will do an outstanding job in our conference.

Pastor Shepperd served as principal of our New Orleans Junior Academy for two years before entering the ministerial field. He completed his work in Theology at Andrews University during the summer and is now located in Tyler, Texas. He is married and is the father of three sons. We have confidence that his work in the ministry will be just as successful as it was in the classroom.

Elder R. E. Williams came to us from the Central Jamaica Conference and is located in Little Rock, Arkansas. He has been successful as a pastorevangelist for several years. The work in our conference is greatly strengthened with these new men joining our team. The prayers of the constituency are solicited for these workers as they lead out in the work in their areas.

L. A. PASCHAL, *Secretary
Public Relations Department*



Pastor Calvin Robinson, wife, and children, who recently joined the Southwest Region Conference staff of workers.

Ministerial Retreat

"COME ye yourselves apart . . . and rest awhile" was the admonition of Christ as the disciples were called aside from the work of ministering to men's spiritual needs. It was a period of rejuvenation for the weary disciples whose powers of mind and soul and body were often overtaxed in their ceaseless activity and contact with human needs. A similar summons was given the workers of the Southwest Region Conference for a three-day ministerial retreat at Lake Murray Lodge, Ardmore, Oklahoma. Our workers met together in this lovely spot to study, to pray, and to relax.

We were privileged to have E. E. Cleveland, of the General Conference Ministerial Department, as our devotional speaker and to conduct our

evangelistic institute. Our hearts were made glad as we were told of his recent evangelistic effort in St. Louis, Missouri, where well over a hundred souls were baptized. From our union staff, L. C. Evans, A. R. Mazat, and E. Frank Sherill were a source of inspiration to the workers. Each worker was encouraged by their devotional talks and promotional suggestions.

Each district pastor reported the number of souls won during the summer, and to our delight the total reached 401. W. J. Cleveland, pastor of the New Orleans district, reported 100 baptized; C. M. Bailey, former pastor of the Lake Charles district, reported 80 souls for the summer's harvest.

Subscriptions to the *Message* magazine reached an all time high of 2,150. Twenty-six Vacation Bible Schools were held, with an attendance of more than 1,400 non-Adventist young people. The faithful workers of our Sabbath school reported 148 young people attending Sabbath school since our Bible schools last summer.

Another heart-warming feature was the launching of the Ingathering crusade, with the ministers bringing in nearly \$8,000. It is apparent that the missionary zeal on the part of our church members will make this year's crusade one of the grandest of all.

L. A. Paschal, secretary of the educational and MV departments, presented a glowing report of the progress of our schools and the activities planned for the MV societies. How proud we are of the youth of the Southwest and the wide-awake program geared to their spiritual progress. Let the Lord be praised for the grand reports and the rapid development of God's work in the Southwest.

The organized program at Lake Murray not only considered the mental and the spiritual welfare of the brethren but also the social and physical aspects, as well.

The retreat took forethought and planning on the part of V. L. Roberts and L. D. Henderson, and the workers of the conference are indebted to our leaders for their kind consideration. The spirit of the workers was greatly lifted during this wonderful meeting, and the careful planning of our administrators will reap rich dividends.

W. C. JONES, *Secretary
Home Missionary Department*



Southwest Region Workers' Meeting.

Evangelism in Warsaw, Poland

The preceding issue of the *INFORMANT* carried a letter that had been received from Elder and Mrs. C. E. Moseley when they were in Poland. We are herewith printing Elder Moseley's story of evangelism in Warsaw.

We entered Poland with some apprehension. In the first place, our visas had expired before we entered the country! My wife and I learned of this in the formalities of passport inspection at the Warsaw Air Terminal. How did it happen? We were informed that our stay in Poland had begun on the very date the visas were issued in July. Now it was October 2. Of course, we did not make the discovery, because we could not read Polish. What now must we do?

A brief discussion followed in which the port authorities suggested that we secure an extension of our stay from the front office. For a fee, we were granted a thirty-day extension.

But how much could be accomplished in evangelism in thirty days? Originally, plans were set for three months. We moved in by faith and hoped for a miracle. Our faith was beautifully rewarded.

The entire corps of ministers in the Polish Union assembled in Warsaw for a workers' meeting. Among them were representatives from Czechoslovakia, the first to visit this country in many years. Together we spent a wonderful week reviewing the usages and problems of the ministry. The last three days were spent in preparation for the evangelistic series.

The evening of October 11 saw more than 500 persons, filling the chapel, balcony, and side room to overflowing. The series was begun, and persons from all walks of life attended regularly, including ministers of other persuasions. For two weeks 14 young ministers, half of whom were fresh from the classrooms, joined with church members in a door-to-door canvass, inviting guests to be present at the nightly meetings; and when signs of weariness were observed, the people were assembled four nights a week, instead of the customary six. Yet within the first two weeks 35 persons had accepted Christ as their personal Saviour, even before the more testing truths were presented.

A second extension of twenty days was granted, just four days before the thirty-day period expired. This was the miracle we had hoped and prayed for. We made the most of this exten-

sion by continuing the nightly meetings, and visiting churches in the major cities of Poland.

Interest increased as the testing truths were presented, and so did the attendance. At the end of three weeks a prayer scroll was introduced, and soon several hundred names were entered upon the scroll. Thereafter hundreds of prayers ascended to God day and night over problems that arise out of the messages that reform careless patterns of life, and especially problems of employment and Sabbath observance. Of the 97 persons grappling in prayer with the work-and-Sabbath problem, 27 had gotten the victory by the fifth week. In time, many more will rejoice in Sabbath victory, for this is what they promised.

Many of these victories were miracles within themselves. In a dream, a woman was told that the Lord would soon come and that she should get ready to meet Him. Next day a worker visited her home and invited her to the meetings. She attended for the first time that night, heard a message on the second coming of Christ, and made her surrender to Him immediately.

Another dreamed of Christ's coming and saw her husband, whom she had driven from their home because of his faith, taken to safety with the redeemed, while she was left. Next evening she came to the meeting and surrendered.

A husband threatened to kill his wife and family whom he had brought to the meetings, because they decided

to join the church. Special prayer changed his mind, and the family is now obedient to the faith.

A back injury, which prevented a woman from bending or stooping, became painless and normal on the evening the church gathered around the scroll to pray for the sick. The woman is now baptized and happy in her faith.

The Polish believers are a warm-hearted, faithful, and cheerful lot, and they are kind in the extreme. They enjoy the blessings of freedom of worship above many others in Europe.

C. E. MOSELEY, JR.

OAKWOOD

News Notes

► A new chapter in the long history of Oakwood College was written during the fall Week of Prayer. On campus was H. M. S. Richards, Del Delker, Brad Braley, and the King's Heralds quartet. It was a thrilling experience. Elder Richards, "The Voice," held his audience with Christian magnetism. The emotional tone was well prepared by solos, both voice and organ, and numbers from the quartet. The faculty and student body gave a response seldom seen "under the oaks." It goes into the record as one of Oakwood's finest hours.

► The student body is looking with anticipation to being host for the East-



Left to right: H. M. S. Richards, Dr. Frank R. Albert, of National Aeronautics and Space Administration, explaining cone to group, Jim McClintock, Jack Veasey, Del Delker, Bob Edwards, John Thurber, and A. V. Pinkney, president of Oakwood College, who arranged the tour of rocket facilities through the kindness of Dr. Albert.

ern Intercollegiate Workshop in April. Delegates from the sister colleges will be on campus for several days.

► The choir gave a one-hour television presentation of the Messiah over channel 19, CBS from station WHNT in Huntsville, Sunday, December 20. A tape of the program was sent to the United Negro College Fund office in New York to be used in their national radio program. Oakwood College becomes the thirty-third institution of learning in this outstanding organization set up to aid predominately Negro colleges. The director of television and radio for the United Negro College Fund was so impressed by the tape sent that he has asked the administration whether the choir might give a concert at the World's Fair, sponsored by the UNCF, next spring.

► Ella May Stoneburner, R.N., of the General Conference Medical Department, was on the campus January 8, 9, and 10 giving health lectures. Mrs. Carl Rogers, R.N., was the sponsor.

► Senator John Sparkman, Democrat from Alabama, a Phi Beta Kappa, University of Alabama, spoke at chapel recently. He was candidate for the vice-presidency of the United States in 1952.

► During January, E. W. Dunbar, of the General Conference Secretarial Department, visited the college, and in February Dr. Richard Hammill, president of Andrews University, and a group of professors interviewed theology and math majors on the campus.

► The spring Week of Prayer will be conducted by Theodore Lucas, secretary of the General Conference Missionary Volunteer Department.

► Dr. Milton K. Cummings, long identified with Oakwood College, gave the school a \$1,000 grant. Dr. Cummings is president of Brown Engineering Company in Huntsville, Alabama.

► Among the new additions to the faculty, all of whom are making outstanding contributions, are Prof. and Mrs. Oliver Davis. Professor Davis is directing the academy choir, preparing for the music festival to be held in Florida. Mrs. Davis is in the home economics department, working with Mrs. Dorothy Christensen.

CENTRAL STATES

Central States Ministers' Meeting

THE Central States Conference held an enthusiastic workers' meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, January 10 and 11. The first session was in the form of an Ingathering victory banquet. At this session every church in the conference was reported over its goal for 1965. The total raised was \$38,000, which is the largest amount ever reached.

Evangelism was emphasized in the next day's meetings. Two hundred-eighty nine souls had been baptized during 1965, and goals were set by the ministers for more than 600 baptisms during 1965. After determining that approximately 500 members in the conference do not attend Sabbath school, it was proposed and planned to carry out Operation Search, during the early months of 1965, with the view toward enrolling the missing members in Sabbath school and finding many backsliders who might have their faith revived through the Sabbath school.

Strong plans were promoted for youth and literature evangelism.

Assisting W. W. Fordham and the staff of Central States Conference were: from the General Conference, H. D. Singleton; from the Central Union, R. H. Nightingale, E. E. Hagen and P. M. DeBooy; and from the Pacific Press, W. P. Turpel.

News Note

► The Central Union went all out for Brotherhood Week during February this year with pulpit exchanges in practically all areas where Regional churches are located. R. H. Nightingale, the union president, led out in fostering this move for better understanding and communication.

SOUTH CENTRAL

South Central Moves Forward

► THE South Central Conference almost reached the 5,000 mark in membership during 1964. This represents more than twice the membership it had when organized.

► As a result of a recent visit to the Loma Linda campus by Drs. W. E. Coopwood and L. B. Hundley, along with C. E. Dudley, several medical students are planning to begin their

practice in the Southern Union area. Dr. Richard Neil will be coming to our field in June of this year.

► The literature evangelists delivered \$224,000 worth of literature in 1964.

► Four new churches were organized in South Central Conference during 1964, bringing our total number of churches to 60.

► F. H. Jenkins, who served as MV and educational secretary for more than 18 years in the South Atlantic and South Central conferences, for health reasons is having to relinquish his responsibilities in this area and go on temporary retirement. We solicit your prayers in his behalf that God will give him a speedy recovery. R. P. Peay, pastor of the Memphis, Tennessee, district, has been invited to serve as MV and educational secretary for the conference to succeed Elder Jenkins.

► At the Fellowship Banquet held during our workers' meeting, plaques were presented to the ministers who had done outstanding service in the various areas of the over-all conference program. Those receiving the awards were: E. T. Mimms for evangelism; C. R. Graham for stewardship promotion; L. W. Williams for building beautification; E. L. Howard for literature promotion; N. A. Lindsay for book purchases; J. E. Cox for Christian education promotion; C. D. Joseph for lay evangelism; S. H. Cox for Sabbath school promotion; R. P. Peay was voted by his fellow workers as pastor of the year for 1964.

In attendance at the banquet were Theodore Carcich, vice-president of the North American Division; F. L. Bland, associate secretary, North American Regional Department; L. J.

The North American Informant

Representing the colored work of the Seventh-day Adventist Denomination

Editor - - - - - H. D. Singleton
Managing Editor - - - - - F. L. Bland
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Leiske, president of the Southern Union; M. G. Cato, associate secretary of the Southern Union publishing department; and W. S. Banfield, president of the South Atlantic Conference.

► C. E. Moseley was guest speaker at the Kentucky-Tennessee officers' meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, on January 9.

► The Columbus, Mississippi, church had its official opening on January 16.

► Recent changes in our field—R. C. Brown accepted a call to pastor the East St. Louis, Illinois, church. C. D. Joseph is moving to the Jackson, Mississippi, district. S. H. Cox will be the pastor of the Sylacauga, Bessemer and Gadsden, Alabama, churches. G. I. Pearson has been requested to locate in the Hattiesburg, Mississippi, district. M. E. Joiner, recent graduate of Andrews University, has been asked to pastor the Greenwood, Mississippi, district.

NORTHEASTERN

A Million Dollars in Tithes

NINETEEN-HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR was the year that Northeastern Conference celebrated its twentieth anniversary.

At the beginning of the year a goal was set for each church that would reach a million dollars in tithes for the conference. We are happy to report that as 1964 closed we not only reached the mark but went beyond. As far as we know, this was the first year any Regional conference in North America went past the million-dollar mark in tithes reception. We thank God for His marvelous leadership and also for the dedication and sacrifice of each member. This million-dollar goal reached represents an increase of more than \$80,000 in tithes reception over 1963, with a per capita of approximately \$115 per baptized member.

Indeed, 1964 has been a remarkable year in the growth of the conference statistically, as well as financially. All of the clerks' reports have not been received as of this date, but we are assured by reports from the ministers that we will very nearly reach 700 baptisms for the year. Final word has not been received from D. B. Reid, who recently came to us from St. Louis, concerning his last baptism. By November he had baptized 90. We are hoping he has passed the cen-

tury mark, so that he can join this exclusive club of 1964.

We were happy to have had G. H. Rainey, associate secretary of the ministerial department of the Atlantic Union, spend the entire year in our field. He and F. H. Fletcher, of White Plains, New York, district, raised up a mission in February of last year at Peekskill, New York. He held a major spring effort in Hartford, Connecticut, where approximately 59 persons were baptized, and is now closing a meeting in New Haven, Connecticut. Thirty-six have already been baptized with definite plans to pass the 50 mark in baptisms before the meeting is closed. So far Elder Rainey has baptized nearly 100 for 1964. We are thankful for his untiring effort and for the union's permitting him to spend the year in Northeastern Conference.

In 1964 we were able to burn the mortgage papers on three churches: Albany, with J. A. Brummell as pastor; Bethel, with G. R. Earle as pastor; and Brooklyn Temple, with T. X. Perry as pastor.

Construction was begun on two lovely new churches: Amityville, New York, under A. R. Haig, and Bridgeport, Connecticut, under W. H. Kibble. Linden Boulevard church, in St. Albans, New York, is adding a new wing, which will seat 500. E. A. Lockett is the pastor. Extensive repairs were finished in Ephesus under R. H. Carter's leadership. City Tabernacle finished a portion of its renovation, under H. R. Murphy.

Over all we can look back with satisfaction that God's hand has been working with us in the upbuilding of the conference. We will close the year with a membership of 9,000. This represents an increase of nearly 7,000 in 20 years.

Plans for 1965 are already in motion. The watchword is EVANGELISM. A full-scale evangelistic meeting is being brought to New York City. E. E. Cleveland will be director of this meeting. This is a meeting that has been planned for five years, and we are very happy that the General Conference is permitting Elder Cleveland to conduct this crusade here. We are also planning that G. H. Rainey will conduct a major evangelistic meeting in Buffalo, New York. Many of the conference ministers will also conduct summer meetings. The goal for 1965 is to baptize no less than 1,000 new members. When, under the

blessing of the Lord, this goal is realized Northeastern Conference will cross that coveted mark of 10,000 baptized members.

We look forward in faith knowing that God will work marvelously as we unite our efforts with His strength.

F. L. JONES

Investment Day at City Tabernacle

THE Investment Day program at City Tabernacle, New York City, was held on December 5, 1964. The Sabbath school is under the capable leadership of Mrs. Nina Addison, and the Investment secretary is Norel James. Approximately \$4,000 was raised by the loyal members of the church. These Investment Day funds will help the General Conference to open new work in many areas of the world where millions are sitting in darkness.

H. R. Murphy, pastor of City Tabernacle, led out in the Investment Day program. Jabez Leslie gave the invocation, F. L. Jones the Scripture reading, and S. J. Hooper the morning prayer. V. H. McEchrane welcomed a host of visiting guests. The morning anthem was rendered by the Interboro Choir under the direction of Yolanda Clark. This group is composed of members from many of the Seventh-day Adventist churches across the city, and a number of outstanding singers from the community. The meditation, "Let Us Break Bread Together," was rendered by Maisie Ephraim.

C. E. Bradford, speaker for the day, entitled his message "The Ten Virgins," taken from Matthew 25:1-13. The message was most timely and well received by the large and enthusiastic congregation. Bradford's appeal was most appropriate as he urged each member to reach out and touch Christ and receive that spark of life so that each will be able to shine as lights in a dark world. We must invest not only our means but our time and our talents, that we might be ready when the Bridegroom comes.

When the report was taken of money received, J. Marshall had raised \$130.20, the largest amount among the men. For some months he gathered old electric wire and took the tape off and sold the copper. Sylvia Murphy, daughter of the pastor, raised \$205 by making ornamental dolls. Mrs. Myrtle Janes raised \$175 by making cro-



Mrs. Myrtle Janes (left) and Miss Sylvia Murphy were among the leaders in fund raising for the Investment Day program at City Tabernacle.

cheted hats for ladies, but the top single raiser of funds was Mrs. Bainco Smith, who raised \$294.65 by making aprons for ladies.

We were more than happy to note that even the children engaged in this important Investment work. The cradle roll class reported \$140.20, kindergarten \$91.25, primary \$154.79, junior \$192.70, and youth \$133.50, making a total of \$712.44 for the young people alone.

Mrs. Anita Irons, who was the originator of the program, took a rest for the year 1964; however, she was present at this program and was invited to stand, for she is known in City Tabernacle as Mrs. Investment.

Thanks go to Mrs. Edna Lett-Williamson who led out in the preparations for the decoration, and as usual gave untiring service.

City Tabernacle is to be commended for this marvelous program that aids many who would never hear this gospel if such programs were not sponsored.

F. L. JONES

News Note

► Recently the Dorcas Society of the Bethel church, of Brooklyn, New York, dedicated a new Chevrolet station wagon. The Dorcas Society worked hard for twenty months, and God blessed their efforts; and the station wagon dream became a reality.

LAKE REGION

Lake Region 1964 Teachers' Convention

THE 1964 teachers' convention of the Lake Region Conference began Sabbath, December 19, in the Detroit,

Michigan, area with ministers speaking on Christian education in every church of the area. Our conference president, C. E. Bradford, presented the challenge to the London church, of Milan, Michigan; M. C. Van Putten, conference treasurer, gave impetus to the education work at the City Temple church in Detroit; Dr. W. A. Howe, of the General Conference Department of Education, spoke at the Burns Avenue church, in Detroit; J. M. Phipps, conference evangelist, presented the needs of our youth at the Belleville, Michigan, church; Hunter Crigler, publishing department secretary, aroused the congregation of Flint, Michigan, to greater heights in Christian education; J. H. Jones, Jr., MV secretary, stirred the members of the Ypsilanti, Michigan, church as he presented to them the challenge of our youth; G. E. Hutches, union conference educational secretary, held forth at the Sharon church, of Inkster, Michigan; and J. P. Winston, union conference temperance secretary, carried the torch at Ecorse, Michigan.

In keeping with our convention theme, "Quality Christian Education for Our Youth," on Sabbath afternoon, December 19, at the City Temple church, all ministers and teachers of the convention gathered to help give momentum to the carrying out of the theme with an interesting panel presentation.

Among the novel presentations was a Negro history exhibit of the Regional conference leaders of the local and General conferences who responded to our request for pictures. We are asking our teachers to magnify the contributions of our Regional leaders in the cause of our church, which we hope will give encouragement and status to our youth as they recognize that they too are contributors to the cause of Christ. Along with this exhibit was another, showing Negro leaders of the United States and the world.

Among the contributors to the success of the teachers' convention other than our conference personnel were: Dr. W. A. Howe, of the General Conference Department of Education, who gave outstanding help and counsel; Dr. G. E. Hutches and J. P. Winston, of the Lake Union Conference; Dr. Ruth Murdoch and Robert Moore, of Andrews University; Dr. C. J. Cooper, dentist of Detroit; F. D. Chandler, of

Detroit public schools; Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Polite, of Chicago public schools; and Jo Ann Bigelow, of the Scott, Foresman and Company.

Our meetings, which closed Tuesday, December 22, were held at the newly erected Peterson School in Inkster, Michigan. Many teachers commented that this was our best convention to date. The teaching staff of the Lake Region Conference has now increased to forty full-time teachers with several part-time teachers to help strengthen the educational links.

Please pray that God will continue to lead, guide, and bless as we project an expanded program of quality education for all the youth of our conference.

J. E. ROACHE

Superintendent of Education

Record Baptisms in the Lake Region

FOR the first time in the history of the Lake Region Conference the 700 mark has been exceeded in baptisms during one year.

On January 4, 1965, at our annual workers' meeting we were thrilled and inspired as we listened to the enthusiastic baptismal reports from the district leaders. When the reports were all tallied we realized that a milestone had been reached in this conference, with 710 having experienced the sacred rite of baptism. C. B. Rock, pastor of the City Temple church, of Detroit, Michigan, topped the list with 186 baptisms.

Seven evangelistic campaigns were conducted in Lake Region during 1964, resulting in more than half of the total baptisms for the conference.

We rejoice over the progress this conference has made under the guiding hand of God, and as a result of the faithful members and dedicated workers.

Pray with us that during 1965 we will be able to see 1,000 souls baptized into the fellowship of the remnant church in the Lake Region Conference.

J. MALCOLM PHIPPS

Secretary for Evangelism

Lake Region Achieves Large Ingathering Goal

ON JANUARY 3, the workers of the conference gathered to celebrate the attainment of a record conference Ingathering goal of \$70,000. One by one,

the workers reported the completion of their goals ranging from \$100 to \$16,450. It soon became apparent that the amounts being reported would exceed any achievement made previously in the Ingathering campaign.

C. E. Moseley, field secretary of the General Conference, was the guest speaker. He shared with the workers the high lights of his recent trip to Poland. Vernon Flory, of the Lake Union, expressed his appreciation to the workers for their outstanding success.

Everyone enjoyed the tastefully prepared and artfully served menu. Also adding to the enjoyment of the occasion were solos by Mrs. Alynne Dumas Lee, internationally known soprano; R. W. Bates; and T. M. Kelly. We appreciate the faithfulness of our church members in making this attainment possible. To God be the glory!

XAVIER BUTLER, *Secretary*
Home Missionary Department

The Christian Benefit Association Is Concerned

FOR the past eighteen years there has operated for the benefit of Seventh-day Adventists and their families in North America an organization known as the Christian Benefit Association, a benevolent society.

This association was organized to serve as a helping hand for families of average income in meeting burial expenses when the "Grim Reaper" strikes, to prevent members from being exploited by paying too much for coverage, and to assist worthy students seeking a Christian education. There are very SPECIAL low rates for those in school through college.

The association is a nonprofit organization and operates without a paid board of directors. It has been chartered with and operates under the laws of the State of Ohio.

In July, 1962, CBA members under fifty-five were underwritten by one of America's largest financial organizations. This underwriting assures *full and immediate payment of claims*. The association can now accept ages up to sixty-four and one half.

As a result of being underwritten, the association is now able to offer both low-cost individual and family coverage with \$1,000 coverage per

member and a *double payment* in cases of accidental death.

If you are in need of a low-cost burial coverage and have not investigated the benefits of the Christian Benefit Association lately, you should write for further information to the following address:

The Christian Benefit Association
1432 Hildreth Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43203

Mrs. J. ESTELLE BARNETT

ALLEGHENY

Leaders Attend Council

W. L. CHEATHAM, president, W. A. Thompson, secretary-treasurer, officers of the Allegheny Conference, and the entire departmental staff were participants in the combined departmental and administrative council of the Columbia Union held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on January 4-9, 1965.

Meetings were under the general direction of Neal C. Wilson, president of the Columbia Union. The Union departmental staff led out in separate meetings for the various departments. A general assembly of the entire group was convened once each day.

L. E. Froom conducted a series of lectures entitled "From Whisper to Loud Cry." These devotionals traced the history of the Advent Movement from its inception, through the struggles of its formative years, past the consolidation and unity of the 1888 conference, to the challenge of a finished work on earth. Workers were strengthened and inspired to greater conquest.

A spirit of unity and brotherhood characterized the association of workers during the week together. Especially was this evident at the Friday night communion services. Elder Wilson's spirit-filled message was deliberate, and afforded opportunity to meditate on the love and mercy of God and our privilege to be co-workers with Him.

After a Testimony period the ordinance of humility was conducted. Holy communion was significant and heartfelt as workers mentally visualized the atonement and the second coming of Christ.

Sabbath morning C. C. Weis, union Sabbath school secretary, directed the Sabbath school service. C. D. Brooks, union revivalist, taught the Sabbath

school lesson, and G. R. Nash, General Conference Sabbath School secretary, presented the mission appeal.

The meetings climaxed Sabbath morning with a mighty message by North American Division president, Theodore Carcich, as he challenged workers to discipline and prepare themselves and others for association in "God's Great Society." He appealed that we "exercise ourselves unto godliness."

Sabbath afternoon the Ebenezer church choir, of Philadelphia, under the capable direction of Mrs. Gwendolyn Winston-Foster, stirred the assembly with a concert of moving musical renditions.

As the meetings closed, Elder Carcich's parting words were heard at the Sabbath evening vesper service, and workers reluctantly parted, but with renewed enthusiasm to live and labor to hasten our Lord's return.

D. B. SIMONS
Public Relations Director
Allegheny Conference



D. B. Simons, Allegheny home missionary secretary, receives victory check of \$3,800 from Alonzo Ivory, church Ingathering leader, at Dayton, Ohio, as Daniel Davis, pastor, smiles approval.

Allegheny's Outstanding Ingathering

ALLEGHENY CONFERENCE has rocketed to an all-time high in its recent 1964 Ingathering performance, accumulating a total of \$138,430 before the close of 1964!

Allegheny became the first conference in Columbia Union history to exceed \$100,000 on the first report, then became the first victory conference as it raced through to the \$125,000 goal on the third week's report. Thirty-one

churches, including our largest churches, registered victory on the first report, and eleven more joined the victory parade on the second report. By the sixth week's report, the total stood at \$138,430—a gain of \$13,430 over the same period a year ago.

It is inspirational to note that in its twenty-one Ingathering campaigns conducted since its organization in 1945, Allegheny Conference has raised a grand Ingathering total of \$1,709,108 or a yearly average of \$81,389.

A combination of good weather, an early start, strong and determined pastoral leadership, a loyal hard-working team of church officers and members in our churches, and the mighty blessings of God has resulted in Allegheny's greatest and shortest Ingathering year. It is truly cause for thanksgiving and renewed courage and confidence in the work of God. This performance also suggests the growing spiritual tone of our church members as they apply their energies for a finished world work.

DONALD B. SIMONS
Home Missionary Secretary

"Christ crucified—talk it, pray it, sing it, and it will break and win hearts."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 67.

Come Aside and Rest Awhile

IF YOU have ever visited the beautiful Longwood Gardens in southeastern Pennsylvania, then you will understand that the natural beauty of our setting was exceeded only by the "beauty of holiness" that seemed to envelop us and to supercharge the peaceful summer air, so fragrant with the varied perfumes of myriad flowers, shrubs, and trees. The date was July 25, 1964, and we had just completed the first week of an intense summer evangelistic campaign in the crowded, busy city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The pressure of such combat with principalities and powers makes one eager to retire from the conflict—to regroup, to meditate, to receive further orders, to contemplate this blessed privilege of working with God, to drink deeply from the fountains of divine inspiration—then to return to battle refreshed and healed. This was Christ's "battle strategy" as He

said to His disciples, "Come aside and rest awhile." Some of our most glorious hours last summer were spent in these retreats with our staff of conscientious and devoted workers who shared the real burden of soul winning with us. Each Sabbath we looked forward to our little *special time* with God, and each week as we toiled in the heat of the day, in wicked places against almost depressing indifference and callousness, we felt convinced that without these periods the temptation to discouragement would have been overwhelming. They were the oases in our desert; the cool stream in our crucible of fire; the singing of the birds after a storm; the breath of fresh, sweet air amidst the stifling heat.

Inasmuch as our entire staff fasted and prayed together each Sabbath during the entire campaign, there was no time lost at dinner gatherings. Immediately after the great feast in the house of the Lord we assembled and then set out to find that lonely spot beside a river, on the wood of Fairmont Park or along the "Avenue of Statues," where we could sing and pray. Our workers were athirst, and it was our blessed experience to feel the very presence of the Lord in our midst each week, descending with refreshing, vivifying effect upon each who was present, pressing his petition.

On the Sabbath of July 25 we had driven to the Longwood Gardens, where the overmastering natural beauty, the relaxing play of the cooling fountains, and the quiet dignity of all the visitors seemed to smite one with the realization that he could get very close to God in such a place. We walked at first along the trails where men have arranged in marvelous display the flowers and shrubs and pools. Spread out before us was a veritable wonderland, and indeed in each delicate flower and leaf and blade we could perceive the love of God. We walked until we were not tired any more, until we were filled with joy and inspiration, until we were full of this beauty, until we were calm, until we were ready. Then we gathered on a green slope overlooking a lovely pond, where we hoped the blossomless azaleas and magnolia trees would hide us from the others so that we would not disturb them.

Our service began with singing. The sun was now westering and giving a pink glow to our little world.

We sat in a huge circle on the grass. Our group probably exceeded twenty for there were always friends who wanted to come along. Our favorite song seemed to have been "Oh, How I Love Jesus." We sang of His love, His power, His abiding presence, and His promises.

As we were singing on this Sabbath we noticed a group passing who must have heard our voices. We had hoped not to disturb anyone, but these seemed attracted. They paused, listened for a while, then moved on, paused again near our little congregation—listening in silence about seventy yards away. As they turned to walk away the older lady of the group turned impulsively toward us with quickened pace. She was joined by a teen-age boy. When she reached our circle she found a place and sat on the grass, and the lad took a seat beside me. We kept singing. Then all the others came—one of the husbands pushing an infant in a stroller. When there was time the lady stranger spoke. "I just had to come," she said apologetically. "I've got a feeling heaven is going to be like this."

There we sat in worship together. The rich rewards of heaven seemed to come pouring in on the gentle breeze. Eyes were moist as we talked and sang together. Finally, upon learning that one of the men was a retired minister of our *own* church, I called on him to pray. Such a prayer of love and brotherhood and power! It blessed us all. When we were finally through, the evening shadows were bending hard toward the east. The crimson sky foretold the fast fading of the Sabbath time. God and angels seemed to hover over us there. Men with firm handshakes expressed hope of reunion in the sky—women locked shamelessly in embrace. There we were, white and Negro, against the background of social revolution, suspicion, hatreds, and fears—proving that Christ in the heart causes the surrendered Christian to rise above this despicable, soul-warping sin.

We walked down from our "mountaintop" prepared by the grace of God to press the battle again, assured of success.

As we look back on 1964, these hours stand out in our memories with great joy. If this all sounds "too good to be real," why don't you try it?

C. D. BROOKS, *Revivalist*
Columbia Union Conference