

NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL

VOICE

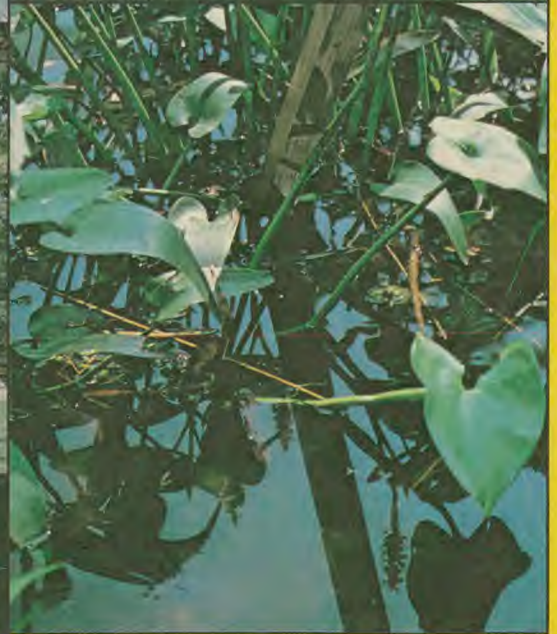


OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCES OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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COVER STORY

JUNIOR CAMPING

"The Junior Summer Training Camp was, and is, in effect the denomination's camp meeting expressed in terms of junior psychology. Too long the active child adolescent had been confined to adult forms of religious expression. Now he was given an interpretation of life in active physical recreation and vocational pursuits, mingled and infused with spiritual objectives and exercises. This made the camp thoroughly spiritual in all its activities and service, and joy in religion was the keynote. No boy or girl will ever lose the sense of the sacredness of the day that began with the Morning Watch on the hilltop and ended at night with the beautiful awe of the campfire, a time of song and storytelling and the orders of the day, with final prayer."—A. W. Spalding

The Junior Camp idea, was begun in Michigan in 1926 by two youth leaders, Gordon Smith and Grover Fattic. Since its inception, camping has developed into one of the most active phases of our youth program. Youth Camps are not as some think, just outings and vacations in nature. They supply invigorating exercise for the body, stimulating activity for the mind, and spiritual motivation for the heart. The Camp program is made up of features that develop Christian character traits. From the Morning Watch down to the Campfire stories at night, every moment contributes something worthwhile to the present and future life of youth.

The Youth Department of the Northeastern Conference sponsors Junior Camp for a six week period, each summer. The attendance averages between 350 and 400.

Trevor Baker, Northeastern Conference Youth Director states, "I have the unique privilege of working with the younger members of our church, and of helping to train youth leaders. I have observed the keen interest and deep concern which many of our youth workers have for those under their leadership, and I can say confidently, that the horizon is not without its rainbow of hope."



Flag raising ceremony at summer camp.



Campers enjoying a hearty meal—



Swimming fun.



Personal inspection.



Tent inspection during camp—

PUBLISHER'S PAGE



*E. E. Cleveland, Director of Church Missions,
Oakwood College*

WE ARE NOT PULLING AWAY

The proposal to organize Regional Union Conferences that has been presented to the General Conference has been distorted by some as a pulling away of the Blacks from the Whites. It is imperative that you understand what the proposal is and why it is being presented.

First of all, what is it that we are asking? The simple request is to be able to organize ourselves into Union Conferences. Union Conferences have been a part of the recognized organizational structure of the Seventh-day Adventist Church since 1903. Union Conferences are legitimate parts of the Adventist structure. Anytime your leaders ask for Union Conferences within the structure, they are not pulling away. They are not trying to split the church. They are asking for something already provided for in the constitution of the Seventh-day Adventist organization.

Why are we requesting to be organized into Regional Unions? In 1944 Regional Conferences were organized. Within this period of 33 years, over 90,000 members have been added in these eight Conferences with more than 28 million dollars income. The pattern the organizational structure follows is when a group of Conferences grow to a certain size in membership and income they be organized into Union Conferences. We have reached that point and this is all we are asking. Let us do what all others have been permitted to do. Regional Unions will enable our work

to continue to expand. We are in a situation similar to a person's feet outgrowing a pair of shoes. We are asking for a new pair of shoes in the form of Regional Unions. Again this is nothing unusual that we are asking. There are Black Union Presidents in Africa, West Indian Presidents in the Caribbean, Indian Presidents in India, European Presidents in Europe, etc. No one is accusing them of having pulled away or divided the church.

Another question, for years all the Union Conferences in America were staffed by our White brethren. Nobody accused them of pulling away from the Black brethren. Why now should we be labeled as pulling away when we want what they have had for years? We have a peculiar situation in America that the church did not create. It was created by the secular society. Within this framework we are trying to plan for church growth by organizing Regional Unions. We are loyal Seventh-day Adventists now and will be loyal Seventh-day Adventists forever.

THE GILDED AGE: A MONUMENT TO SELF

The years 1865-1900 will always stand out as the Gilded Age. This age was characterized by excessive corruption in politics; the rise of big business and the robber baron; the conspicuous consumption of the wealthy; the sweat shop where men, women, and children worked up to eighteen hours a day for a penny; social reformers who advocated populism, women suffrage, and anti-trust laws. The strong and the ruthless

were applauded while the poor and the weak were scorned. Social Darwinism and self-reliance was the doctrine of the Gilded Age. Man was not his brother's keeper.

Recently, I visited a monument to that era, the Vanderbilt Mansion in Hyde Park, New York. There I stood enraptured by the fifty-four room mansion filled with lavish furnishings, gold ceilings, and marble floors. I looked around at my fellow tourists and their response was quite similar to mine. No tear-stained cheeks of old women and young children remembered the self-sacrifices he made. Not even the brochure mentioned his philanthropy, just his wealth. No one came to pay homage to him. His monument seemed to provoke avarice, greed, and curiosity. What a tragedy! Think of the wealth, the talent, and time spent to gratify his own selfish desires.

We, too, are guilty of erecting monuments to ourselves. We purchase expensive European cars and neglect to pay tithe and offerings. We prepare gourmet meals to impress our friends, while the child a block away goes to bed hungry. We fill our closets with designer fashions, while we watch pitifully a tattered child. We invest thousands of dollars in home furnishings, while the church roof leaks, the bathroom needs repairing, and the floors need refurbishing. We give lip service to Christian Education but refuse to donate a book or sponsor a student.

We spend hours discussing politics, memorizing a Nikki Giovanni poem, or reading Shakespeare while we neglect the greatest source of knowledge, the Bible. We spend lavishly on concert tickets, fine restaurants, and cosmetics but complain when the Ingathering appeal is made.

We are the children of the Gilded Age—of crass materialism, self-indulgence, and secularism. We build monuments to ourselves by our choice of association, dress, and status in society. We create images rather than build character.

We spend our time trying to impress the elite and the influential while neglecting our relationship with the King of Kings. We must today decide whether we will become a casualty of the Gilded Age or whether we will seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto us.

Stephanie Johnson

OPINION

THE CHRISTIAN AND ROCK 'N ROLL

It all started back in the fifties with names like Chubby Checker and Elvis Presley, and in the beginning nobody really took it seriously. It was perceived as just another crazy fad that would soon pass away along with swallowing goldfish and crowding into phone booths. But then came the Beatles, the Temptations, the Rolling Stones, and the Supremes. And before long rock groups were popping up faster than anyone could count them. And soon everyone knew this was no passing fancy. Rock 'n roll was here to stay!

The music began to spread like a contagious disease. Black and white performers appeared displaying distinct ethnic differences in style and sound. And yet the differences increased its appeal and gave it a wider acceptance with the public. Under the broad heading of rock 'n roll, there was something for everybody. There were stylish groups who performed with emphasis on close harmony like the "Chi-Lites;" the fun groups who did not seem to take their own music seriously, like "the Animals;" and the utterly ridiculous whose lyrical constructions defied all logic and reason, as the case of one bunch called "Stark Naked and the Bath Towels." But in all of its forms rock 'n roll met with success that resounded all the way to the bank.

And today, it is no less lucrative. On a recent tour of some United States' cities, the Rolling Stones raked in twenty million dollars! And always it seems that just when the public is beginning to get a little bored with this music, some new variation emerges to revitalize it. Witness the case of rocks' latest step-child—disco. What does it all mean? Is there any spiritual significance to the popularity and longevity of rock 'n roll?

Ever since sin was found in the heart of Lucifer his one aim has been to "... be like the most High" (Isa. 14:14). And through six thousand years of existence on this planet Satan's delusions of grandeur have never waned. His great object is still to rule an entire generation. He almost got his wish in the antediluvian era but divine intervention thwarted his success (Gen. 6, 7, 8).

Later, God's tactic in confounding the languages at the tower (Gen. 11) divided humanity, and further hampered the devil's plan. But no sooner had the people dispersed from Babel than the evil one, undaunted, started over anew. He had a new barrier to overcome but the enemy of righteousness was not discouraged. He was in pursuit of human souls and he was determined not to be denied. He needed a fresh angle to attack from so he revised his battle plan. He decided to evolve a music form that could convey his message across all linguistic and cultural lines. He finally hit upon the right formula in the fifties, and after centuries of untiring labor, he proudly unwrapped his masterpiece of satanic communication—rock 'n roll! It is fast conquering all cultural barriers and surmounting every social blockade.

A New York television station recently reported the latest in some metropolitan nursing homes—disco dancing! The T.V. cameras zeroed in on a group of senior citizens scattered across a recreation room floor, dancing to the music. Some who were confined to wheelchairs were seen with their hands on the wheels, rocking back and forth as best they could. There used to be a time when rock music was considered to be only for "those crazy teenagers," but not anymore. Its bewitching appeal is now reaching the very old, and even more sadly, the very young. One of the more recently opened dance halls in NYC is the Little People's Disco. Rock 'n roll especially for children. It features a bar where popcorn and other refreshments are sold so that the child can begin early the practice of visiting bars. One of the rules of the disco is that no adults are admitted unless accompanied by a child under age thirteen.

Rock is reaching Black and White, rich and poor, and every nation and culture on earth. And as if that were not enough, it has now invaded the outer limits. Recently, a recording of a rock hit entitled "Johnny B. Goode" by Chuck Berry was sent by this country into outer space as part of an attempt to communicate with whatever intelligent life might be out there (Reader's Digest, February, 1979).

The devil has surrounded us and his music to a great degree is shaping the

thought patterns and values of our generation. Rock 'n roll today is more than just fun, it is a tool of Satanic persuasion. Every song carries a message, not only in its lyrics but in its beat and its influence. Satan is an evangelist and rock is his sermon. Having once been leader of heaven's angelic choir (Story of Redemption, p. 25) he knows music and its power to persuade. And while the world is mindlessly gyrating to his tempo, he is subtly planting seeds of deceit and immorality. He is aware of the pride we as Black people take in our inborn inclination to rhythm and he is determined to use this against us, to his advantage. Tragically, many who call themselves by the name of Christ are fully cooperating with his program. To their own destruction they are lending their minds to the manipulations of the enemy.

And yet anyone who objectively observes the makeup of rock 'n roll today cannot help but see satanic influences through and through. In the total immorality and sometimes blatant blasphemy of the lyrics; in the gestures and movements of the performers and some of the props used on stage; in the costumes and makeup worn by some musicians which remind one of paganism and its rituals.

But more convincing than the observations of an onlooker, are the revelations of one former rock singer turned preacher named Bob Larson. In various publications and in public speaking he has been a one-man army in exposing the sordid details of the world which he left. In one of his books entitled *Rock 'n Roll: The Devil's Diversion*, he describes the on-stage act of one of rock 'n roll's brightest stars who kills a live chicken as part of his performance. He is an apparent man who calls himself by a woman's name—Alice Cooper. He also decapitates a life-like baby doll in his concerts, and a fluid resembling blood spurts from its neck. In a grand finale he ascends to a gallows and, placing the noose around his neck, hangs himself as the stage lights go dim. After a few silent moments the lights are raised and Alice Cooper, in a symbol of resurrection from the dead, reappears, to the frenzied cheers of an ecstatic audience! Who can deny that such a presentation, built on a

foundation of rock 'n roll, owes its origin to the satanic mind?

Should rock 'n roll be found in the Christian's album rack? For 135 years now, the investigative judgment has been going on. The final review of the life records of earth's inhabitants is now being conducted. In such sobering days as these, not one who claims fellowship with Jesus Christ can afford to expose himself to the negative influence of rock 'n roll. There is no time for tampering with Satan's toys. God commissions His people to keep themselves unspotted from the world. The religion of Jesus Christ transforms every aspect of our lives. Just as our dress and deportment and conversations are distinct and different, so ought also our music be different—in its content and in its purpose.

"And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord." (Ps. 40:3) May God help us to sing this song.

John S. Nixon
Pastor

Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Philippians 4:4

**SUPPORT
THE
EVANGELISTIC
CRUSADE
IN YOUR
AREA**

**EVERY MEMBER
WIN A MEMBER
IN 1979**

THE EDITOR'S DESK

NEW WORKER: STEPHANIE JOHNSON

Those whom God calls He qualifies. The past eight years of my life has been spent in preparation of my duties as Associate Editor of the *North American Regional Voice*. During those years I worked as a columnist under the guiding hand of the late Emery O. Jackson, Editor of the *Birmingham World* and continued my association with its present editor, Marcel Hopson.

I attended Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama and received a B.A. in History from Columbia Union College, Takoma Park, Maryland. My extracurricular activities always consisted of some association with the college newspaper—reporter, cultural editor, and contributing editor. In addition to other cultural and political organizations, I was actively involved with the National Black Media Coalition. I held various positions in communications: assistant to Public Relations Director, Production Assistant for a college television station, and a Research Assistant for the National Institutes of Health.

Upon completion of college, I entered Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan and received a M.A. in Religious Communications.

Throughout those years my parents along with my uncle, Robert E. Johnson, Executive Editor of JET, and Associate Publisher of JET/EBONY did much to influence my life's ambition.

Born and reared in Birmingham, Alabama. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Washington Johnson and the third oldest of six children.

CORRECTIONS

Statement: We often refer to a statement made by Ellen White to the effect that the "Adventist church as enfeebled and defective as it is, is the one object of *Satan's* supreme regard. Racism, inequality, discrimination most certainly do not come from heaven."

Correction: We often refer to a statement made by Ellen White to the effect that the "Adventist church as enfeebled and defective as it is, is the one object of *God's* supreme regard. Racism, inequality, discrimination most certainly do not come from heaven."

NORTHEASTERN

Statement: Dr. Taylor's congregation numbers approximately 1,000.

Correction: Dr. Taylor's congregation numbers approximately 10,000.

ELDER S. D. MEYERS

Statement: Elder Meyers is already at the office and in full swing of the work here.

Additional Information: Elder Meyers is already at the office in the General Conference in Washington, D.C. and is serving in full swing of the work as associate director of the Stewardship Department.

THE CONFERENCES IN ACTION

GROVE HEIGHTS HONORS PIONEERS

The last Sabbath in April, tribute was paid to the senior members at Grove Heights Seventh-day Adventist Church, Wichita, Kansas, for their many years of dedicated service to the Lord.

Special guest, Elder Vongoethe Lindsay of Kansas City, Kansas (Maranatha), delivered a most inspirational sermon to the congregation, in general, and to the seniors, in particular. Dinner, honoring the senior members, was followed by a panel discussion that provided a vehicle for the younger members to gain a better understanding of the seniors while at the same time allowing the seniors the opportunity to impart some knowledge and information that could only be gained through years of dedication to our special message.

Sister Ollie Powell and Lucille Henderson (94 and 93 years respectively) received special recognition as the two oldest (and wisest) members.

It was a day that will long be remembered at Grove Heights, especially by its "Pioneers." In the words of



Elder Von Gothe Lindsay addressing congregation during "Pioneer Day" celebration at Grove Heights SDA Church in Wichita, Kansas.



Elder J. E. White giving baptismal vows

Sister Alean Fray, "it was really nice and should be repeated every year."

In these days when neglect of our senior citizens is becoming "acceptable," let us not forget the commandment God gave us to "honor thy father and thy mother."

In conjunction with Pioneer Day and the Sabbath preceding Pioneer Day, six precious souls were added to the church family.

EDUCATION YOUTH DIRECTOR APPOINTED

William R. Wright, Jr., has accepted the call to the Central States Conference to serve as Education and Youth Director. Mr. Wright will also carry the responsibilities for Temperance and Communication. He took office July 2 and is currently involved in setting up the Conference Board of Education.

Mr. Wright was called from the principalship of Golden Gate Academy in Oakland, California where he served for three years. While in California, he was completing work on the Education Specialist Degree at Loma Linda University. Bill is a native of Ohio. He graduated from Oakwood College in 1964, with a degree in Religion and minors in English, History, and Secondary Education. He earned his Master of Arts Degree from Azusa Pacific in Southern California in 1973.

Mr. Wright began his denominational service as a teacher in the Allegheny West Conference in 1964. He taught for five years in the Allegheny West and

Southern California Conference. He became principal of the Los Angeles Union School in 1969. After four years in Los Angeles, his administrative experience took him to Oakwood College Academy in Huntsville, Alabama and then to Golden Gate Academy in Oakland, California. Bill devoted 15 years to Christian education before coming to the Central States Conference.

Mr. Wright's administrative responsibilities will cover six states, 30 churches with almost 6,000 members. He has accepted the challenge of the last triennial to advance the work of Christian education in this midwest territory.

Mr. Wright is married to the former Judi Simons. She has assumed temporary secretarial responsibilities at the Central States Conference Office. The Wrights have two children: William, III, eleven years old and Brian Todd, eight years old.

NEWS NOTES

● "Every member an Investing Member" was the challenge issued by Mary Thomas, investment secretary of the Kirkwood, Missouri Sabbath School. This challenge struck a responsive chord among its members, resulting in 100 percent participation. Many projects were used: literature evangelism, the collection and sale of aluminum, some shoveled snow and mowed grass, and others saved unexpected money. As a result, \$350 was raised.

On Sunday, June 24, the Pathfinder Club represented the Mid-Western Conference Kansas Division Elks Lodge and won first and second place trophies with 175 points in drilling (75) and overall appearance (100-perfect score). They were chosen to represent the Kansas Division in Canada in 1980.



S. H. Cox, President

CENTRAL STATES SET PRIORITIES

The recently-elected President of Central States (Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Wyoming), Elder S. H. Cox set forth the conference's seven major concerns: The involvement of the laity in active witnessing programs which would "move them from the comfortable pew to the avenues of action." Secondly, the promotion of Christian education by fortifying the present schools and establishing new ones.

Presently, over two-thirds of all Central States churches have less than one hundred members. A constructive plan must be implemented to identify the problems that keep churches small and to find ways to increase the membership. Another primary concern is the development of Camp Shady Hill to landscape and beautify the campgrounds. One thousand members around the conference will be asked to give fifty dollars or more a year for the next five years to Camp Shady Hill development.

Of paramount concern is that all members pay a faithful tithe and offering. In support of Oakwood College building of a new science complex a conference-wide offering will be solicited. Finally, "Operation Faith," a

program designed to strengthen the family life and to firmly establish the family altar in the home of all Central States members will advance the gospel commission.

BETHEL CHURCH CELEBRATES "GALA AFFAIR"

The occasion which took place in the beautifully decorated lower auditorium of the Bethel Church of Kansas City, Kansas, celebrated the going away of the Gabe Taylor family.

Mrs. Mazie Mitchell presided over the festivities which included speeches by those who told of the accomplishments of Elder Taylor and his family during their four years at Bethel.

Poems were recited, and special music which included vocal and instrumental numbers. Elder Taylor responded by expressing his pleasure of being able to serve with the cooperation of the officers and members.

Individual members presented gifts along with the monetary purse from the church. Four long-stem yellow roses were presented to the girls.

Brother A. C. Humphrey was responsible for the tasty repast and candlelabrum surrounded by luscious fruit as a table decoration.

The semi-formal affair was well attended and enjoyed by all.

We will miss our first family, but we wish them continued success as they move to another field.

**YOUR CHILD
DESERVES
A CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

ENROLL HIM
THIS FALL**

LAKE REGION

MAYWOOD RECEIVES A NEW CHURCH HOME

On June 19, 1979 at 4:30 p.m. the dream of a new church home was realized when the last transaction was signed and the keys to the new church was turned over to Pastor Ronald Bell at the Maywood Proviso State Bank.

For seven years the Maywood Community Seventh-day Adventist Church hoped and prayed for this day which finally was realized.

The church was formerly owned by another congregation and came fully furnished with a seating capacity of approximately 350.

The new church home will be officially opened at a future date.

Betty M. James
Communication Secretary



Elder R. C. Brown and Elijah B. Kelly, attorney signing papers for the new Maywood Church.



Pastor Ronald Bell, far right, looking on as the papers are signed for the new Maywood Church.



Hyde Park Church — Chicago, Illinois

HYDE PARK'S CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

On the corner of 46th Street, overlooking busy Drexel Boulevard, is this beautiful octagon-shaped church made of burnt orange stone with tall, peaked skylights to usher in the rays of the summer's sun and the warmth of the winter's sun. Inside the lovely colored blue, gold, orange, amber, and white design of the center skylight reflects light in all its majesty, with the glow of the rust-toned carpet and rust-cushioned pews being caught up to meet it. At the front is an altar adorned with bouquets of flowers sent by well-wishing sister churches and businesses. Over the baptistry, in the front, is a simple rubber plant stretching its arms to accept the light of God sent by means of a yet smaller skylight.

The rust of the stone walls, the furniture, and the light gleaming from the skylights provide much inspiration for the Hyde Park Church in Chicago as they enter into their new church home in their "celebration of light." They remind us that there are two things which any of us may do with the stones which loom in our way. The light bids us to stop to ask whether we keep our own rocky boulders as something over which others might be apt to stumble, or whether we try to turn these stones into light by which others are guided into service.

From its inception as a Company in 1949, the Hyde Park Church family has had a dream—a dream of one day worshipping in an edifice in the "beauty of Holiness."

On Sabbath, July 14, 1979 we viewed

this great accomplishment in human dignity knowing that it could be accomplished only by the grace of God. But we must not forget that He, in His infinite wisdom, also provided a man through which to work His miracle of light.

Edgar A. Guest wrote long ago:
 Men call the church the house
 of God
 Toward which the toil-stained
 pilgrims trod
 In search of strength and rest
 and hope,
 As blindly through life's mists
 they grope.
 And there God dwells, but it is man
 Who builds that house and draws
 the plan;
 Pays for mortar and the stone
 That none need seek for God alone.

And so, while the Hyde Park Company was in its infancy, God raised up a child—a child who would one day be the instrument through which God would erect the beautiful building now standing. In June of 1975, Elder J. R. Wagner sent a call to Elder James C. Wray of the Southwest Region Conference, placing upon him the burden of the congregation in Hyde Park. Elder Wray heard that call, and ever since the day he and Muriel arrived, they have had one goal—again in the words of Edgar A. Guest: "God sends no churches from the skies; Out of our hearts they must arise."

The opening day began with Sabbath School one block away in the church being rented at that time. Then, with conference officials, leaders in the state and local government, and more than 600 well-wishers and members, we walked

that one block to our new home, praising God for His goodness to us.

Platform guests included our conference president, Elder C. D. Joseph, conference treasurer, Elder I. R. Palmer, State Senator, Richard Newhouse, City Alderman, Timothy Evans, Elder Earl Moore, former pastor, now Circulation Director of the Southern Publishing Association, Elder Edward Avinger, Elder Samuel Flagg, Elder Robert Connor, Union Evangelist, and guest speaker for the Divine Worship Service, Elder R. P. Stafford, pastor of the City Temple Church in Detroit, Michigan. Also present were builder, Thomas Maycock of Inkster, Michigan, and architect, James Swann, Swann & Weiskopf. Guest choirs included the Ebony Singers and God's Echo of Detroit, Michigan, and duet from Raleigh, North Carolina, and the Wray Sisters. Of course, the Hyde Park Concert Choir, known all over the globe as singers extraordinare, sang in splendid form to match the splendor of the church.

Each night beginning with Sunday, July 15, former pastors of the church—Elders E. W. Moore, C. R. Graham, B. Reaves, O. Gordon, and C. J. Barnes. On Sabbath, July 21, Elder E. E. Cleveland was the Divine Worship speaker in our special Consecration Service. The Straford Memorial Choir of Chicago, and the Echoes of Faith of Indianapolis, Indiana were our guest choirs.

"And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, And let them make Me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them" and so it was.



Pastor James C. Wray

BIRTH OF A NEW CHURCH

The fourth Seventh-day Adventist Church, but one with a profound concept has come into existence in the village of Berrien Springs and located at 310 W. Mars Street.

The name "All Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church" has been chosen by its members as an indication of their hope to recapture the spirit of unity, fellowship and love that permeated the early church.

The church is now in its sixth week and from the start it has exceeded its seating capacity by members who are leaving the neighboring Seventh-day Adventist conference and churches. These members who are transferring from other churches into this new congregation, seem to be persuaded by the concern and concept of the new pastor.

Caleb Rosado, the pastor, feels that there is a great need for the church at large to be mindful regarding its role within society and the kind of emphasis given to the quality of worship and fellowship. Too often the spiritual and social needs of people are not taken into consideration primarily because the trend and prescribed forms of church worship does not address itself to the needs and problems of people that are related to spiritual, cultural, social, and environmental backgrounds.

The pastor indicated that there are many occasions where people have attended churches and rather than experiencing any joy from worship and fellowship, they become apprehended by indifference. The church is to be a place where God and people meet, where fellowship with others can be uplifting, where concern for others can be expressed and where people from all nations can give an expression of faith and relationship to God.

Rosado hopes to affect change for the better by allowing his members to spend time after mid-day worship and greet others rather than being ushered out immediately. By so doing, he said, the spirit of fellowship will grow stronger among members.

The members will be given every opportunity to become active participants at various phases of service, participation will not be based upon persons' social or ethnical background.

The pastor's concept is founded upon



Pastor Caleb Rosado

the fact that the early Christian church was established by the amalgamation of people from different social, ethnic and political backgrounds without losing their identity. He will also endeavor to show the relevancy of the gospel to people's spiritual, social, cultural and political environments during the span of his ministry. When these ideas are applied he said, in areas where the need exist, then the preaching of the gospel will become more meaningful to people.

The "All Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church" has been tremendously successful inasmuch that well over one hundred people have been standing on many occasions throughout the entire service that the foremost matter for immediate consideration is expansion of space. In fact, many have had to be turned away due to the excessive numbers, often exceeding six hundred, in a sanctuary with a seating capacity of only three hundred and fifty.

This church lies under the administration of the Lake Region Conference which spreads throughout the territories of five states and its headquarters is situated in Chicago, Illinois.

The pastor, Caleb Rosado and wife Ronnie live in Berrien Springs, Michigan, with their three children, two girls and a boy. He is a graduate of Andrews Theological Seminary and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. He has pastored several churches prior to coming to Berrien Springs and he extends an open invitation to all.

GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

Sunday, May 6, 1979, was an exciting and grand day for the members, friends and well-wishers of the First Evanston S.D.A. Church as the ground breaking ceremony took place. This was half of a dream come true. The other half is to see the completion of the church.

The members have decided that with God's help they will take up the task of seeing a suitable building built to shine as a beacon in the city of Evanston.

Dr. C. D. Joseph, President; R. C. Brown, Sr., Secretary; Don March, former pastor; O. Martin, local elder and Ronald Bell, pastor took part in the ceremony.

W. S. Watson
Communication Secretary



Left to right: Ronald Bell, pastor, R. C. Brown, Sr., Secretary and C. D. Joseph, President at the ground breaking ceremony.

NEWS NOTES

● The Adventist Singles Klub (A.S.K.) sponsored an all-day program at Beacon of Joy recently.

The theme for the day was "The Psychology of Being Single" and the speaker was Dr. Ivan Warden.

Dr. Edwin Nebblett of Hinsdale Hospital and Sanitarium spoke on health.

At the day's end everyone was more aware of the way God would have us live.



Pastor H. Brewer, guest speaker.

NEW BELIEVERS' WEEKEND

New Believers' Weekend was one of the most unique and inspiring events held recently at the Ephesus Church in New York City. New Believers were completely in charge and participated in every phase of the program which included the Friday evening vespers, all-day Sabbath services, and the Sunday night meeting.

Outstanding among those who expressed their sentiments about the blessings of their new-found faith were Ms. Burley and Mr. Bagby. Ms. Burley had always been an active Christian, but since attending Pastor Brewer's crusade last summer and joining the Adventist Church, she has been happier than ever and has been enjoying increased blessings from God.

Mr. Bagby, a capable hair-stylist, received a very negative response when he informed his shop proprietor of his decision to serve God on Sabbath rather than work in the shop. Still Brother Bagby stood on the promises of God and determined to keep all God's commandments. Today, he is his own proprietor, for God has blessed him with his own shop on 125th Street between 5th and Lenox Avenues which he consistently closes on Sabbath and with a steady, strong clientele. While caring for his customers' hair, he shares his faith and church publications, constantly pointing his patrons to his Faithful Friend, Jesus Christ.

How thrilling it was to welcome back to Ephesus, Pastor Harold C. Brewer, speaker, and Pastor David Willis, soloist, of last summer's crusade! It was the ministry of these ministers, combined

with hard-working, dedicated efforts of the entire evangelistic team which made possible a large number of baptisms. Pastor Willis' singing of "It Is Well" and "The King Is Coming" brought back vivid memories. All New Believers were dressed in white and seated in the front center section of the main auditorium. Pastor Brewer's Sabbath morning sermon was entitled, "Stick to It."

In his sermon, he reminded listeners of Paul's experience in Acts 22. Ellen G. White envisioned the Old Ship of Zion passing through a fierce storm on a collision course with a formidable iceberg. Don't abandon ship! Don't leave the ship! Stay on board, was the cry. A relentless storm ensued; some wanted to abandon ship. What a great, terrible, shaking time! The Good Ship Zion plowed ahead and met the iceberg head-on. Zion shuddered, was shaken to and fro, top to bottom, front to back, and some fell overboard. The ship remained; instead the iceberg split in two, and the Old Ship of Zion plowed ahead.

Pastor Brewer concluded with these words: "So stick to it, stick to the church, meet obstacles head-on, but stick to it, God will bring you through. If sometimes your cup feels dry, sometimes goes empty, goes barren, you need to get alone with God and pray, 'Fill My Cup, Lord,' but STICK TO IT. He ended this dynamic sermon with a strong appeal as Pastor Willis in his soul-stirring way sang "Fill My Cup, Lord," Surely, every heart was touched.

The afternoon activities and Sunday night meeting were equally inspirational to the extent that everyone agreed that God himself had blessed the Ephesus Church with a beautiful, distinctive



Mrs. Myrtle Smith gives words of encouragement to New Believers.

weekend that everyone would remember for weeks to come.

A special thanks is due Ms. Myrtle Smith, coordinator and all who cooperated so fully in the planning of such an event!

Muriel Hutchins
Reporter



Pastor Roy Brown — Speaker, Youth Week of Prayer.

YOUTH WEEK OF PRAYER AT HANSON PLACE

More than one hundred persons attended nightly the annual Youth Week of Prayer at Brooklyn's Hanson Place Church. Elder Roy Brown of New Jersey's East Orange Church was the guest speaker. He sought to impress the youth with the need for and the value of steadfastness to the principles of Christ.

Lloyd G. S. Goodridge
Communications Secretary

CHILDREN'S DAY AT EBENEZER CHURCH

June 9, 1979 will always be remembered by the members of the Ebenezer Church in Freeport, New York, as Children's Day. The children were in charge of the church from Sabbath School to the social activities of the evening. During divine workshop service the only adult participants were Elder David Willis, Sr., who preached the sermon and Elder Clement Murray who gave the closing prayer.

The evening program was given by the children from the Cradle Roll Division to Earliteens. A visiting children's group from Bethany in Westbury, New York, gave several musical selections.

After the program the children's drawings were exhibited. Games and books to help children develop were on sale.

Children's Day at Ebenezer was skillfully assisted by Deborah Walker, Glenda Willis, Ina Richards, Elizabeth Burke and Josephine Asher who worked untiringly to make this day a success.

TRACK STAR WITNESS FOR JESUS

Ms. Halcyon McKnight, better known as "Tudie" to her friends and family, is a member of the Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church in New York City. She is also a member of the Police Athletic League's Track Team and the Women's Track Team of John F. Kennedy High School. Most recently her high school team entered the New York State Public High School Athletic League Championship Games, and scored number one for Sprint Medley and 800 Meter Relay for the state and for the overall high school competition in the United States. Halcyon also entered the Individual Long Jump Competition for New York State and came in second! (Just a quarter of an inch off.) She was named the Most Valuable Player for John F. Kennedy High School and was also the winner of the Long Jump Women's Trophy for 1979.

What are the steps toward becoming a professional runner? Does the profession conflict with the teachings of the Adventist Church? In a most interesting and informative telephone interview with Ms. McKnight, I received the answers to the above questions and to several others. Come with me as we visit with Halcyon.

Q: How does your involvement in track affect your spiritual life?

A: Socially, I get to meet a lot of people while traveling. Although running is a major part of my life, I enjoy doing lots of other things like roller skating, bicycle riding, playing softball, volleyball, singing in the Ephesus Youth Choir and just having a wonderful time with friends. Spiritually, when traveling with the team, I get to witness about the Sabbath. Sometimes my team members call me the "righteous one" but they respect me and help to keep me on my P's and Q's. One time the whole team decided not to run on Sabbath because I couldn't run! However, sometimes I do get lonely and wish I were back home in Ephesus Church.

Q: What advice would you give to a young person who is interested in running track?

A: It is a very disciplined profession.

You must abide by the rules in order to be successful. Right now, it is not really a career for you to make a lot of money, so you should plan to have another career. If you're really interested, get involved on school teams. Once you reach high school, your coach will be able to tell you if you have the talent.

Q: Is there one goal as it relates to track that you would like to achieve?

A: Yes. I would like to make the Olympics either in 1980 or 1984.

Q: How are your chances?

A: Things are looking pretty good. I hope to be a part of the Pan-American Games this July (1979) in Puerto Rico. I would be going with the P.A.L. Team to represent the United States.

Q: As you make plans to reach your goal, is it necessary for you to follow a strict diet/exercise plan to keep in "tip-top" shape?

A: Yes, especially during training and just before a meet. If the game is early, then all I eat is toast and juice, then run until about 6:30 p.m. Must be in bed by 11:30 p.m.



'Tudie' McKnight — Track Star

If the game is late in the day, then I can have a full breakfast. We are encouraged to avoid fatty foods such as pizza and potato chips. It is very important to maintain a good running weight. Mine is 124 lbs., makes me feel clumsy. My exercise plan involves training everyday except Sabbath and Sunday. Training includes weight lifting. Emphasis is placed in strength of legs and stomach plus the arms. If your arms don't go anywhere, your legs won't go anywhere. My daily workout looks something like this:

Jog 6 laps to warm up
Walk 1 lap
Do 45 minutes of stretching exercises
Practice running
End with "cool down" of 3 jogging.

After all this, just before going to bed I exercise for a few minutes.

Q: What are your career plans?

A: I plan to study Developmental Child Psychology, but running will be my second career, because that's me!

After our conversation, I am convinced that Halcyon McKnight is a very versatile and serious young lady whose primary goal is not just to enter the Olympics, but to enter Heaven!

Caroline Jones
Communications Secretary

MEDICAL DAY AT BRONX CHURCH

Dr. William Coopwood, of the Department of Psychiatry, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee, was the guest speaker for "Medical Day," which was recently held at the Bronx, N.Y. Church. The importance of becoming a "fit vessel" for God, was the theme of his topic.

The program was directed by Myrtle Pickett, Medical Secretary, and Joyce Williams, Director of Nurses Corps. Present were visitors from various churches in the Metropolitan area, benefiting from the efforts to being the ministry of healing into sharp and realistic focus.

J. B. Brown
Communications Secretary
Washington Avenue Church



Hanson Place Church, Brooklyn, N.Y.

HANSON PLACE MORTGAGE BURNING

On Saturday, May 26, 1979, while thousands of motorists inched gasoline-thirsty automobiles toward scores of Brooklyn service pumps, hundreds of Hanson Place Church members and guests made their way to the church at 88 Hanson Place to seek spiritual edification and to witness a mortgage burning ceremony and the dedication of the venerable building and its new Cassavant pipe organ.

Highlighting the midday hour, was a powerful message from God, delivered by Elder Charles E. Bradford, vice president North America Division of General Conference.

At 4 p.m., Pastor Samuel W. Stovall, Northeastern Conference secretary, conducted the dedicatory ceremony for the new organ. This organ replaced an antique instrument built early in this century by Mr. Robert Hope Jones who came here from England and revolutionized the organ industry.

Following this ceremony, a match was lit to a facsimile of the church's mortgage contract.

Prior to the dedication of the church, Elder A. N. Brogden, secretary of the Atlantic Union Conference, delivered an inspiring sermon on "A Changeless Christ in a Changing World." And after this, Pastor Earle, president of Northeastern Conference, intoned the Litany of Dedication with responses given by the congregation.

These ceremonies culminated an ambitious 3-year renovation project, on the

century-old Baptist-built edifice, done in consultation with the New York City Landmarks Commission which designated the building a city landmark in 1970. We commend our pastor, John Glen Roberts, for a job well done.

Lloyd G. S. Goodridge
Public Relations Secretary

HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM GOES TO JAPAN

Phillip and Margaret Nixon will serve for one year as student missionaries in Osaka, Japan, where they will teach conversational English and Bible. Phillip Nixon is a second year Religion and Secondary Education major at Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama. His wife, Margaret is a receptionist and media assistant at the college library. The couple resides in New York.

Kenneth Lai Hing
Communications Secretary



Margaret and Phillip Nixon — Student missionaries to Japan.

KEEP THAT MOMENT ALIVE

In the spirit of the Advent Youth and Family Year, the Northeastern Conference has established a Family Life Committee. The Committee is made up of Elder Trevor H. C. Baker, director of Youth Activities, Northeastern Conference; Elder Harold Baptiste, Executive Secretary, Northeastern Conference; Pastor W. S. Lee, Jr., pastor of the Corona Church, Queens, NYC. Pastor Lee is assisted by his wife, Wilma Lee, in the presentations, and she also assists in the coordination of activities of the Family Life Committee.

Thus far this year, Family Life has been given rapt attention by a wide and varied audience. The conference wide Youth Congress in Puoghkeepsie, NY was the debut for the conference program. Elder and Mrs. Lee made a presentation on family communication skills. All the delegates to the Congress received a handout on how to take these things home and make use of them. Memorial Day weekend, found the team of Pastor Baptiste, and Pastor and Mrs. Lee at the Family and Senior Camp at Victory Lake. Since communication is at the basis of any good relationship, the Sabbath afternoon discussion began with how do you respond with "warm fuzzies" or "cold pricklies." Everyone wore a bright orange fuzzy as a reminder of a Christian's communication. Throughout the entire week-end, there were sessions that encouraged dialogue on communication, pre-marriage, marriage, and family worship. One of the features of that weekend was the theme song used, "Keep That Moment Alive," a lovely song that exemplifies what Family Life Seminars are about—starting what will be a continuing experience to the kingdom.

Campmeeting 1979 gave the Family Life team an opportunity to run a week-long Seminar during the 9 day session. The Lord blessed once again as the session began with the theme song, "Keep That Moment Alive." An opportunity to dialogue with those who attended the seminar was one of the high points of the daily meetings. By the final day of the meetings, over 50 people had registered and participated.

—Wilma Lee



Elder C. D. Henri, Vice President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was the guest speaker at the Kinston Church dedication.

KINSTON CHURCH DEDICATED

On May 12 the 120-member congregation at Kinston, North Carolina burned the mortgage and dedicated the present 250-seating capacity purchased in 1973.

It was in 1927 that Elder N. B. Smith heard that there was a black person in this little Northeastern town of North Carolina who kept Saturday for Sunday. He talked to her about her faith and inspired him to hold a meeting there. He searched until he found a little hall on Bright Street. The attendance was good. Four of the leading members who were baptized at that meeting were Mr. and Mrs. C. V. (Bunk) Olds (who received the Souvenir Book in dedication for their untiring service), Mrs. M. B. Fuller and Mrs. Estelle Brown.

FEDERATION MEETS

More than 1000 young people and adults were present at Elim Seventh-day Adventist Church in St. Petersburg, Florida, Sabbath, May 5 for the first M. C. Strachan Chapter of the Florida Federation of Seventh-day Adventists in seven years.

Guest speaker for the eleven o'clock service was U.S. Navy Chaplain Barry Black. Black is the first Seventh-day Adventist minister to serve as Chaplain at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. A graduate of Oakwood College, Huntsville, Alabama, he received a Masters of Divinity from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Photo by Alphonso Mitchell

CENTER GETS PRESS COVERAGE

The Gainesville's *Florida Sun* in a full-page news feature reported the activities of the Bethel Church Community Center. The community center has been in operation since November. The center had previously been involved in a food and clothing distribution program. The center offers a wide variety of classes in sewing, nutrition, reading, pre-nurses training, and Bible studies. Referral services are being offered in vocational rehabilitation and mental health. The programs are designed to meet the needs of the total person.

Local businesses have contributed clothing, money, or pledged continuing financial support. The center's director, Rosa Gaffney, a trained professional, helped to start a similar program five years ago in Lakeland, Florida. The center is open every day except Saturday.

CRUSADE FOR BETTER LIVING

The Shepherd Drive, Columbus, Georgia church held a one-day crusade for Better Living, under the theme "Bet-

ter Living Jesus Way." The foyer of the church presented displays showing the harmful effects of alcohol, cigarettes, drug abuse, and bad eating habits.

Herschel Hensley, of *Listen* magazine was guest speaker. This was the culmination of the *Listen* Magazine Drive to place subscriptions to *Listen* into more than forty schools and drug-related agencies.

Wesley B. Jones
Temperance Leader

WELFARE CENTER HAS GRAND OPENING

The Ephesus Church of West Palm Beach, Florida recently celebrated the opening of its new Community Welfare Service Center. The center had been housed in the church. The news media was present as Elder Joseph Hinson, Inner-City Director of South Atlantic Conference gave the dedicatory address.

The center distributes food and clothing throughout the community and assists in times of disaster and emergencies. The center is opened three days a week, but services are offered daily by appointment.



Alberta Edwards, wife of the pastor (seated) demonstrates the proper way to sew a garment.



Crusade for Better Living workers.

BETHANY'S YOUTH ON THE MOVE

The Bethany Church of Miami, Florida hosted a film and musical program by Faith for Today. Elder C. D. Brooks, of the Breath of Life television series conducted a week's revival.

Shortly thereafter, the Adventist Youth Association of Bethany invited Elder Peay, Associate Youth Director of the Southern Union, to demonstrate "Mechanical Smoking Sam" at the Northside Shopping Center which attracted the attention of more than 2,000 people. Members of the association passed out pamphlets and buttons on the dangers of smoking. Free blood pressure tests were given.

These activities were followed by Elder Dick Barron, of the General Conference, who spoke about the home and preparation to meet the coming Saviour.

Dr. Benjamin Reeves, Chairman of the Department of Religion at Oakwood, conducted a Christian Living Workshop from Wednesday night to Sabbath afternoon.



Entire family baptized in Logansville, Georgia.

FAMILY OF SIX BAPTIZED

Elder Mendinghall recently baptized Mrs. Geneva Stready of Logansville, Georgia, and five members of her family along with a friend, Selisa Durden. Now all the Streadys are Seventh-day Adventists except a daughter, Tracy Stready who is scheduled for the next baptism along with her schoolmate, Marilyn Durden.

In the picture left to right front: Selisa Durden, Tymiko Stready, Robert Stready, Hiram Stready; Rear: Harriett Stready, Geneva Stready, and Teresa Stready.



Navy Chaplain Barry Black preaches word to South Atlantic congregation.



Blood Pressure Center at Northside Shopping Center. Hundreds were taken on Sabbath, March 17, 1979.



From left to right: Bobby Wells, Florida State Federation President, contest winners of the Temperance Oratorical Contest: Weldrena Jones, 1st prize, Ricky Martin, 3rd place, and Andrea Jenkins, 2nd place, all from Mt. Calvary S.D.A. in Tampa, Florida; and Diane Moore, M.C. Strachan Federation President, Tampa, Florida.



Youth for Christ Rally Elder Dick Barron



Smoking demonstration at the North Side Shopping Center in Miami, Florida.



Christian Living Workshop conducted by Dr. Benjamin Reeves.



Mohamed M. Turay, Ambassador from Sierra-Leone, West Africa (center) with V. L. Brooks, J. A. Jones, pastors in Memphis; Ambassador, third from right, poses with other local and national dignitaries.



Mrs. Nannie Joiner, wife of M. E. Joiner chats with Benjamin L. Hooks at NAACP convention.

V. L. BROOKS HOSTS AFRICAN AMBASSADOR

On the seventh of April, the Governor of Tennessee, Lamar Alexander, proclaimed "Mohammed M. Turay Day." The city and county officials proclaimed "Sierra Leone Day." The occasion occurred when Miss Edith Adkins, member of the Breath of Life Church in Memphis, Tennessee accepted a position at the Yele (Seventh-day Adventist) Secondary School in Sierra Leone, Africa as Dean of Girls and Head of the Home Economic Department.

With that in mind, Pastor V. L. Brooks, of the Breath of Life Church, invited Mohammed M. Turay, Ambassador to the United States from Sierra Leone, to be the guest of honor at "International Day." Congressman Harold Ford honored the Ambassador with a reception given at his home. A local Lincoln dealer made three limousines available during the weekend.

After the Ambassador returned home, he invited Miss Adkins and Elder and Mrs. V. L. Brooks to be his guest in Washington, D.C. at the "Republic Day of Sierra Leone." Present were ambassadors from all over the world and United States governmental officials. Following the occasion, Miss Adkins and Elder and Mrs. Brooks were guests at the Ambassador's home. The next day the Ambassador visited the General Conference with Elder Brooks.

On April 7 and 8, newspapers in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, carried headlines of Miss Adkins and the Ambassador's visit to Memphis. As a result of the Ambassador's visit he

donated a quarter of a million dollars to Yele Secondary School.

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE TERRITORY HOSTS NATIONAL NAACP CONVENTION

The seventieth annual convention of the NAACP convened in Louisville, KY, June 25-29, 1979 at the beautiful Commonwealth Convention Center.

Executive Director, B. L. Hooks, recent successor to Roy Wilkins, lead out with dynamic fervor and brilliant oratory in the business of the convention.

Notable items on the huge agenda were these: Voter registration and "Get out and vote" campaigns; Influencing legislative decisions; U.S. Trade and minority business investment; The Military Justice System and Minorities; The challenge of Housing and Community Development; Harrassment of Black elected officials and civil rights leadership.

Outstanding features on the program were the keynote address by Mrs. Margaret Bush Wilson, Chairperson, NAACP Board of Directors. The Vice President of the United States of America, Walter F. Mondale presented an effective polemic for the Carter administration on the involvement of blacks in the federal governmental hierarchy and on the general progress of Blacks in the American scene today. Mondale pledged that more will be done in behalf of minorities in the country.

Mrs. Rosa Parks, whose refusal to surrender her seat in Montgomery, Ala., 25 years ago, thereby precipitating the

modern civil rights movement, was signally honored by being awarded the famous NAACP Spingarn medal for 1979.

The South Central Conference Inner City Department, under direction of M. E. Joiner, set up exhibition booths in cooperation with the General Conference Inner City and Temperance Departments. The purpose was to represent the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Hundreds of people from nearly every state in the United States filed through the South Central medical unit and received free blood pressure readings, health counseling and free literature. Some 350 persons enrolled in Bible Study Courses.

Our special thanks to Elder J. H. Wagner and his efficient staff of nurses at our Magazine St. S.D.A. Church in Louisville, Ken., who conducted our screening program in the medical unit.

M.E. Joiner, Director
Inner Cities Ministries
South Central Conference

SCHOOL NAMED FOR MRS. DICKERSON

Mrs. Lucille N. Dickerson, public school teacher and member of the S.D.A. Church in Greenwood, Mississippi for over 50 years was honored by the Board of Trustees for the city school board of that city when they conducted a dedication service in memory of her by naming one of the public schools in honor of her years of service to humanity and the training of youth. Mrs. Dickerson passed away last year.

HARRIS HOMES FOR ORPHANS GETS NEW DORM

Many of the outstanding civic and religious leaders from the city of Huntsville and the state of Alabama and the South Central Conference joined with Mr. and Mrs. Chester Harris of Huntsville in a ground-breaking service for the new dormitory that will house some fifty to one hundred children from across the state and other sections of the country. These children have been coming to the Harris Home for children for more than twenty years.

Brother and Sister Chester Harris opened their doors to many homeless through the years. This is the only home for black orphan children to be found in the entire United States that is sponsored by Seventh-day Adventists. From this home have gone many young people who have not only become servants of God, but leaders in religious, social and civic affairs.

The Harris Home for Children is a member of the Association of Self-supporting Institutions and receives much of its operating funds from donations. Your gifts are appreciated.

On hand for the ground breaking were, Mayor Joe Davis, County Commissioner James Record, Senator Albert McDonald, Representative Richard Gregg, State Commissioner Gary Cooper, Dr. C. E. Dudley, Elder C. T. Richards, Professor Joseph Dent along with many other friends and supporters.



Pastor J. A. Jones, of Memphis, Tennessee and Mrs. Juanita Jenkins, Bible Instructor welcome Pastor I. Herrin to the faith.

BAPTIST LEADER JOINS THE SDA CHURCH

Over twenty years ago while pastoring the Mississippi Boulevard S.D.A. Church in Memphis, Tennessee Elder C. R. Graham, pastor in Gary, Indiana, presently, spoke to Pastor R. Herrin these words: "Before the Lord Jesus returns to His church, you will be a Seventh-day Adventist church. Rev. Herrin was studying the 'Twentieth Century Bible Lessons' at the time.

The prophecy came true when Elder Joseph A. Jones and Mrs. Juanita Jenkins launched a Bible School Crusade in Memphis last summer and Reverend Herrin pledged himself to accept all of the teachings that he had learned from the Bible Lessons. He had served as a pastor for more than thir-

teen years in the Baptist faith, had taught at the seminary. He is a graduate of Wilberforce University.

SOUTH CENTRAL MAKES PROGRESS

The South Central Conference passed the 12,000 membership mark during 1978. Already the membership moves toward 13,000. The tithe income for the first four months of 1979 shows an increase of \$155,000.

Each pastor should preach a sermon at least once each quarter on the blessings of tithe paying. Each worker should be faithful in paying his/her tithe. God requires it.

EADS, TENNESSEE BURNS MORTGAGE

Brother and Sister Otis Wilson of Eads, Tennessee rejoice with their pastor Sargent Simms and Elder C. E. Dudley, conference president as they watch the mortgage (paid in full) going up in flames. Brother Steven Ruff looks on.

A small group of members erected and paid for this building in a brief four years. The congregation was started with Sister Wilson's finding a Bible school enrollment card on the street over twenty years ago. She filled it out and sent it into the Voice of Prophecy. Later she, her husband and many of the friends of the community became Seventh-day Adventists. The South Central Conference also helped with the funds for the project.



Harris Home has ground breaking for new building. Huntsville, Alabama.



Eads, Tennessee burns mortgage on building.



C. D. Brooks and Breath of Life Crusade Quartet were guests the first weekend. Campers journeyed as far away as the state of Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Cantrell of Detroit, Michigan. Mrs. Lois J. Miller, Bible Instructor of Northeastern Conference in New York City conducted a Lay Bible Instructors class daily with over 150 in attendance.



After being absent for three years E. E. Cleveland thrilled our souls the last Sabbath with his dynamic presentation.

Southwest Region Conference Held Its 33rd Annual Camp Meeting

2,500 GATHER for the Southwest Region Conference 33rd year at the newly acquired camp at Athens, Texas. This beautiful 268 acre campsite with a 25 acre lake was purchased in March, 1979 for \$450,000. It is interesting to note that one-half of the total purchase price has been liquidated and with the sacrificial giving of the constituents—the Southwest Region Conference will care for the balance in the next three year period. The following were the main features of the convocation:



14 Pioneers of the Southwest Region Conference honored and received awards.



The ministers wives served as the attendants to our grand senior citizens. They also have a special project to purchase a Go Cart to transport the elderly around the campground.

Southwestern Region Conference Campmeeting (cont.)



J. M. Phipps conducted a baptismal service where eleven (11) precious entered into a covenant relationship with Christ.



G. R. Earle, President of Northeastern Conference addressed the ministers at workers meeting and was guest speaker for the ordination service.



Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Cantrell of Detroit, Michigan.



Mrs. Mable Sterling, Home Economics Instructor from Baton Rouge, Louisiana conducted a sewing workshop stressing the latest techniques in sewing. It was gratifying to witness the new creations exhibited Thursday evening. R. P. Peay, Associate Youth Director from Southern Union in Decatur, Georgia conducted a Temperance, Pathfinder and Adventist Youth Seminar.

THE PRESIDENT stated, "if you are late for Sabbath School you will miss a seat for Divine Worship." Professor James Ford, Sabbath School Director for the conference had a well planned program for both weekends. Among his guest participants were: Elder Frampton of the General Conference Sabbath School Department and Elder James Melancon of the Religion Department of Oakwood College. Elder Jones jublized over the success of the spiritual convocation; six thousand Message Magazine subscriptions; over \$30,000 for evangelism offering; and the untiring workers who made this possible with L. Battle, conference builder and G. N. Wells, camp superintendent.

Doris Jones
Reporter



Enter to learn;

depart to serve.

The pride and joy of Black Adventism is Oakwood College, the place where "loveliness keeps house." Since 1896 Oakwood has served as the matrix of the culture and development of our work around the country. Today, however, Oakwood occupies not only a unique place in the Regional Work, but a place of high respect and considerable stature throughout the field of Higher Education. Its reputation both within and beyond the border of the church is that of a first-rate qualitative institution.

The interview which follows is a look at Oakwood College today, in terms of its special function and seeks to add glimpses of human interest as seen in the lives of its present leadership, Dr. and Mrs. C. B. Rock. Dr. Rock has served as president of Oakwood College since June of 1971.

Interviewing the Rocks about the college and their experience as workers there, is Mr. Stanley Ware, recently appointed manager of WOCG-FM, newly created campus radio station.



INTERVIEWER: Professor Stanley Ware (W)

INTERVIEWEE: President C. B. Rock (R)

W: For some time now pollsters and others who observe and influence trends have said that because of integration Black institutions of higher learning are no longer needed. As president of Oakwood, a Black institution of higher learning, how do you answer these allegations?

R: Integration has not substantially changed the basic psychology and needs of Black America. In fact, what America is experiencing today is modified desegregation. As the Kerner Report stated we do have two distinctive and substantially different cultures in the land. Black institutions provide particular services for the Black minority culture. To be specific, Black colleges provide among other things special tutorial programming and counseling, an increased visibility of successful role models, a greater opportunity for leadership development, a more

realistic social outlook, and an important vehicle for the preservation of Black traditions and heritage.

W: But aren't Black colleges and other Black institutions really a type of segregation in reverse?

R: No. Black colleges are open to all races. In fact, while Oakwood College has not historically carried a large number of white students we have always had a healthy mix of ethnic representation in our faculty and administrative staff.

W: Is it true that the Seventh-day Adventist Board of Higher Education plans to consolidate Adventist colleges and universities?

R: No. The Board of Higher Education is seeking to eliminate waste and unnecessary duplication or proliferation in our system of higher education. Frankly, I think it is a good idea that we have such a board to study the programs of all our schools and I think that the result is that we are all becoming more cost efficient conscious and management conscious.

W: I have often heard it said that every Black collegian ought to attend Oakwood for at least one year. Isn't that somewhat of a negative attitude?

R: Well, I suppose in some instances it is. What they are saying is Oakwood may not be good enough for four years of study but you ought to try it for one year anyway in order to have "the Oakwood experience." But on the other hand, two things must be kept in mind. First, ninety per cent of our students come from long distances (we annually have in our student body individuals from at least forty states and twenty-one countries) and there are times that it is difficult for these students to maintain all four years this far from home. The second thing is that most of the students who come the first year for the so called "Oakwood experience" fall in love with the spiritual, academic, and social excellence of life at Oakwood and choose to remain throughout their college career.

W: How do you rate the educational program in the Black conferences and how is that program affecting enrollment at Oakwood College?

- R:** To be truthful I think that the elementary and secondary programming in our conferences is in need of accelerated influx of funds and facilities. A peculiarity of our operation here is that over eighty per cent of each freshmen class comes from non-Adventist high schools. The percentage in our sister colleges (SDA) is more like forty per cent. I think this demonstrates clearly the dire need for more academies and day schools within the framework of the Black church. It is true that all academies within the church are open, but for various reasons the bulk of our high school students are not going there.
- W:** What percentage of Black Seventh-day Adventists who attend Adventist colleges enroll at Oakwood College?
- R:** Approximately fifty per cent attend Oakwood College. The rest are scattered throughout the other twelve schools in our sisterhood.
- W:** Is it true that tuition and fees are rising at the rate of ten per cent per year at Oakwood College? If so, what can be done to stop it?
- R:** You are asking what might be called the "burning" question. Yes, it is necessary to experience an annual rate increase. This is the case with all of the colleges and universities in the land. What can be done to stop it? Well, we would have to deny raises to our employees, curtail all expansion of staff and facilities, convince the utilities company, (and all other suppliers of goods and services) to stabilize their prices; in short, to stop inflation and I doubt seriously that any of this is possible and predict that the cost of education like the cost of everything else in America will continue to rise.



INTERVIEWER: Professor Stanley Ware, Director of Radio Station WOCG-FM (W)

INTERVIEWEE: Mrs. Clara P. Rock (R)

- W:** What is it like to be the wife of a busy college president?
- R:** People assume my present life to be very busy as well as difficult. However, we have always lived according to the roles in which my husband has served. Perhaps, this does structure me, somewhat; but a faithful, loyal worker's wife in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination must be willing to live a structured life. I have been living it since I was born, Stanley! Here at Oakwood it is necessary for me to provide the gracious southern hospitality very often expected of the president and his

family. Because of the rapid growth and expansion of this college, his present position certainly produces many responsibilities that I never met while Calvin served during his several years as a pastor and as a departmental worker. Nevertheless, I try to remember the importance of relaxation—mental and physical.

- W:** What is your particular role at Oakwood College? Do you find the fulfillment in your work which allows you to have your own identity, or does your work engender competition between what your husband does and what you do?
- R:** Specifically, I am the college Archivist. Being employed as the college archivist—a position which is investigative, much time is spent in supplying research information requested by students, faculty, administrators, church laity, conference personnel, et cetera. In some respects my work is a natural outgrowth of what my husband is doing.

As you know, the State of Alabama projected an idea which led to the establishment of archival "banks" on Alabama black college campuses where historical data could be researched and preserved. Since Oakwood is unique in being the only predominately Black Seventh-day Adventist owned and operated college in the North American Division, memorabilia, artifacts, pictures, and documents pertaining to Black Seventh-day Adventism are housed in the archives (my office) as well as in the Museum of Black Seventh-day Adventist History. Both areas are located in the Eva B. Dykes Library. The President sends to my office available current records to be historically preserved. There are occasions when he will request certain items such as slides, alumni identification, administrative reports and the like. I enjoy preserving and cataloging what he sends to my office. I am gratified as I find myself supplying him with materials which he requests.



- W:** Mr. President, during the 1970's we've seen several new buildings go up on our campus, the library, the natatorium, the academy building, the religion-education complex, and now the science building. How do you do it?
- R:** All this is the result of the combined energies and generosity of both the General Conference Administration and the leadership of our eight Black conferences and the Black work of the Pacific Union. I know of no Black church-related college in America that receives the level of financial support that our parent body gives to us.

- W:** There is much talk today about the merits or demerits of Black unions. Would the creation of Black unions have a negative effect upon Oakwood College?
- R:** The creation of Black unions might call for a restructuring of the process whereby Oakwood receives its funding. But any lessening of support from traditional channels would have to be compensated for by an increase of support from other guaranteed sources.
- W:** It is sometimes alleged that Oakwood has strayed from the blue-print in terms of a lack of industrial education, et cetera. How do you respond?
- R:** Of course we have room for improvement in this area and would welcome all contributions of money or/and manpower that would help us build up this important aspect of education. The truth is, however, it takes all of the funds that we can generate to operate the high demand courses of our liberal arts program. And we do not have the luxury or privilege of structuring other programs which would be nice or in fact helpful but which are not critical to accreditation or graduate school preparation.
- W:** What about government influence? Is your level of government funding increasing government control on campus?
- R:** Absolutely not! We do not accept money for brick and mortar (buildings); therefore Uncle Sam cannot lay claim on any of our physical facilities. We do occasionally run into problematic regulations involving general operations but as all private colleges we express our individual rights by waivers or statements of exception. To date we have had no crisis or problem.
- W:** The ultimate test of any institution is its product. How is Oakwood doing in terms of its quantity and quality of graduates?
- R:** Well, sir, I thought you'd never ask! The fact is we have, during the seventies, graduated approximately 1300 from sixteen different areas of academic study. These graduates are not only finding their way into the highest universities in the land, but they are also occupying jobs of prestige and great responsibility in every area of government, the church, and the private sector.
- W:** Now let's turn the spotlight from Oakwood as such and talk about the presidency for a moment. How does it feel after eight years? What do you think the future holds? Are you happy with your job?
- R:** Having lasted all of eight years when the average tenure for college presidents in America is four years is a source of tremendous gratification. I have always resonated with academia and find it quite natural and most satisfying. I have always enjoyed association with young people and the opportunities to help build young lives here at Oakwood is the most challenging responsibility I've ever had. I know of nothing I would rather be doing at this time in my career. As for the future, it would be thrilling to stay here long enough to accomplish some of the other goals that are now on the drawing board. But meanwhile as a servant of the church, I plan always to be prepared to respond to change as may be dictated by the brethren and the Voice of the Holy Spirit. And may I say especially—the Latter!



- W:** How do you compare the present Oakwood with the Oakwood you knew when your father was president?
- R:** There are certain similarities in the two eras. Time will not permit; therefore, I'll briefly answer. During my parents' administrative years there was a need for accreditation. President Moran had worked untiringly to raise the academic level of the Junior College to the Senior College status. When I read the financial reports both he and my father accepted, I have to praise them for standing by this place! Though this college is a General Conference institution, it has not received the proper funding at all times from the church fathers. Much time and money was spent in repairing and makeshifting, so I have to praise the faculty and staff that were dedicated enough to stand by them! My husband's administrative service is that of maintaining the accreditation of this college. And I pray that this faculty and staff will continue to stand by him.



- W:** One final question, please. To what do you attribute the unusual increase in enrollment during the last several years and can we expect this trend to continue?
- R:** Our growth is resulting from a number of factors: increased pride in Black institutions, more attractive facilities, greater support from our parent bodies, a wider curriculum; and most significantly, the rapidly growing clientele produced by strong evangelism in the Black Adventist sector. Of course, much credit should be given to our outstanding faculty for their excellence of instruction and to our vast alumni for their strong support.

BLACK ADVENTIST BUSINESSES — IN ACTION

SDA FLORIST: ONE OF THE LARGEST IN N.Y. STATE

Success, it has been said, is filled with many hardships and discouragements. For the Berrys of Berry Florist, the road to becoming the largest black florist in the state of New York hasn't been filled with the proverbial pitfalls and discouragement. Theirs is a story of triumph, success at the early stages.

Mrs. Melissa Berry recalls her early childhood in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It seemed that she always had the gift of making things grow. For thirty years of her life Mrs. Berry has been in the florist business. First, as a florist designer and then as a buyer for a floral chain in New York City. By 1971, she began freelancing which led her three years later to open Berry Florist.

Likewise, her husband, Mr. Willie Berry, has had some experience in the floral business. He was a construction worker for twenty-five years in addition to having previously worked with a florist shop. It was Mr. Berry who encouraged Mrs. Berry to open her shop. He supplied both moral and financial support.

Their daughter Amy also works in the florist shop as a floral designer, book-keeper, and assistant manager. She studied Horticulture at the State University of New York in Farmingdale. Once an aspirant musician, she views the florist business as "something I must do."

To many of their business associates, the Berrys appear strange. Mrs. Berry recalls an incident which the wholesaler questioned their sanity. During a holiday they bought so many flowers to sell on Sunday. Undaunted, they opened their shop on sunset Sabbath and remained open Sunday evening, as people stood in line outside of their shop to buy flowers.

It seems as if the Berrys are in the business of giving. Recently, on a Sabbath evening "St. Albans Day" was celebrated. All of the merchants set up their booths to sell their wares. The Berrys followed their business associates and set up a booth. Rather than selling, they gave away two hundred free plants, five hundred tracts, and enrolled one hundred and ninety persons in Bible studies.



Mr. and Mrs. Willie Berry and daughter Amy on left.



Every fresh flower arrangement they sell is accompanied by a small tract. Copies of the New Testament are given to their customers. They donate Bibles to the Sabbath School Department to give on Visitors' Day.

Freely you receive, freely you give, is a philosophy they live by. Pauline Crosby, an employee at Berry Florist, would frequently come to the shop to admire the flowers. Her interest prompted Mrs. Berry to offer her a job.

Patricia Holiness, a student at Oakwood College, was attending an M.V. program at Linden Boulevard S.D.A. Church where Mrs. Berry was giving a floral demonstration. After her demonstration, Patricia asked if she had any openings. She responded in the affirmative. Since October she has earned enough money to return to

Oakwood for the fall quarter to continue her education. Besides Pauline and Patricia there are three other employees and several high school students from the local SDA academy. During holidays there are at least fourteen other persons employed.

Their awards and letters of commendation are too numerous to mention. Recently, they received an award from the Queens Commerce Overall Economic Corporation for "investing both time and money toward the

economic growth" of the community. State Senator Carol Berman presented them with a citation for being an outstanding business. Mrs. Berry was named "Businesswoman of the Year" by The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women.

Their expertise has been the subject of two, thirty minute segments of "Listen Here", an educational program on Channel 12, cable television. Being a Christian has a definite impact on their business. For the employers and customers of Berry Florist shop it may well be one of the last businesses that "deals justly and never deceitfully."

Send your success story through your conference communication director

IN THE NEWS

MISS BESSIE RATLIFF WEDS

● On Saturday night May 19, Miss Bessie Ratliff become Mrs. Lacey White when the two of them exchanged vows before Elders D. B. Reid and E. E. Cleveland in a simple ceremony at the Huntsville First Church.

ANDREWS U. TEAM VISITS WITH LEADERS

● On May 24 seven professors from Andrews University met with the Black leaders of the Regional Conferences to discuss the Regional Union concept and the rejection of the concept by the Annual Council last fall. These leaders exchanged ideas on the importance of the church's addressing itself to its mission of soul-winning and a finished work before the Lord's return.

WORKERS IN TRANSITION

● Elder James Parham has been called to take up pastoral duties in Kinston, North Carolina district. He is presently ministering in Daytona Beach, Florida.

RETIRED MINISTER DIES IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

● Monroe A. Burgess, Jr., departed this life at 5:15 a.m. Monday, July 2, 1979. Retired from active ministry since 1969, Elder Burgess had been a capable and successful pastor and diligent student of the Bible.

His first work was as a teacher in Washington, D.C., then on to the ministry in Newport News, Virginia where he met and married Willa Mae Herbin. This union was blessed with two sons, Monroe A. Burgess, III, and Robin E. Burgess. The remainder of Elder Burgess' life was spent in the ministry and in civic work of his church and community.

While living in Kansas City, Elder Burgess was president of the Interdenominational Alliance for three-and-a-half years. He also worked with the NAACP, the Urban League, CORE, The Citizens Coordinating Committee and the Committee on Religion and Race.

Further work included aiding Voter Registration, working for Public Accommodations, and helping to send five bus loads of people to Washington, D.C. for the march on Washington.

He leaves to mourn his wife, Willa Mae Burgess, his children Monroe and Robin, a brother, Albert A. Burgess of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a sister, Lillian B. Ashby of Orange County, Virginia, six grandchildren and a host of friends who will honor him in their memories always.



Dr. and Mrs. E. E. Rogers

DR. AND MRS. E. E. ROGERS JOIN THE SOUTH CENTRAL TEAM

● When Dr. E. E. Rogers completed his work of over forty-three years of denominational service for the Seventh-day Adventist church—most of the years were spent at Oakwood College in Huntsville—he and his lovely wife Millie accepted an invitation from the South Central Conference to serve as the pastor of the Berean S.D.A. Church in Jackson, Mississippi. They have already begun their work there.

Dr. Rogers was an instructor in Biblical languages at the Oakwood College for more than thirty-five years before retiring from this phase of the work. We welcome the Rogers to the conference family. Dr. Rogers is interested in putting into practice some of the things that he has taught his students through the years. Already the work has begun to move under his dynamic leadership.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

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