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**REGIONAL**

**VOICE**



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

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
REGIONAL VOICE  
4**



## THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

**NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE**  
The official organ of the North American Regional Conferences

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John Bauer

## COVER STORY

### **NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE CELEBRATES ITS FOURTH ANNIVERSARY**

By L. A. Paschal

In June of 1979, when the first copy of the *North American Regional Voice* came off the press, we, the editors, knew that this publication would have a profound effect upon its readers.

Why were we so confident? Simply because we knew God had ordained us to inspire, instruct and challenge our readers. Looking over the past four years, we know that God has richly blessed our ministry.

We do not see ourselves as merely a publication to disseminate information. Instead, we take a loftier view, a higher, holier concept. We feel that we are ministering to our readers through stories, opinions and ideas set forth in the *Voice*.

It's the editorial guideline we constantly keep before us, the precious words of God's servant, Ellen G. White: "Higher than the highest human thought can reach is God's ideal for His children." These words have given us the courage and commitment to go on despite the many obstacles we have had to face.

This year we are celebrating the belated birthday of the *Voice* because we decided to give priority to the proposal to dismember the Northeastern Conference. We are confident that God will continue to lead and bless the black work.

Finally, we would like to publicly thank our readers and conference administrators for their consistent support of the *Voice*. Never forget that the *Voice* is your magazine. Please feel free to suggest stories, ideas and opinions that will continue to aid the *Voice* in its pursuit of excellence. Once again we reaffirm our commitment to a higher standard of excellence.

#### **A Declaration of Principles**

We acknowledge that all wisdom and knowledge comes from God. Therefore, we pledge ourselves to make Him the center of our editorial work.

We are entrusted with a sacred responsibility to educate, inform and uplift our readers, to make them sense the urgency of the times. Therefore, we will continue to let the Holy Spirit lead us in

presenting articles that are transforming, ennobling and elevating.

"We have nothing to fear for the future, except we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history." Therefore, in accordance with this belief, we will continue to write and research our heritage. We know that the very life forces of our church lie with the importance we place on the past.

We are committed to a greater vision, for where there is no vision, the people perish. We will continue to broaden our horizons and take the path where no man has trod.

We, the staff of the *North American Regional Voice*, will not compromise when it comes to principles and standards. We wholeheartedly pledge ourselves to maintain the highest standard of excellence.

## PUBLISHER'S PAGE



E. E. Cleveland

### **CLEVELAND'S COMMENTARY: "CHICKEN LITTLE"**

This not-so-tall tale tells of Chicken Little, who had the unpleasant experience of being hit on the head by a falling apple. Stunned, the little chick concluded, "The sky is falling." She ran in search of someone with whom to share her "head-splitting" secret. She first met Henny Penny, who remarked excitedly, "We must go tell the king." On the way they shared their excitement with Cocky Locky, Ducky Lucky and Turkey Lurkey. Chicken Little's testimony was convincing: "I saw it with my eyes. I heard it with my ears and a piece of it fell on my poor little head." This triggered a mad rush for the king's palace. This attracted the

attention of Hooty the Owl. "Before disturbing the king, let's see the piece of sky that fell on your head," he said. They examined the evidence. Said Hooty the Owl, "That's an apple from the apple tree. If you're smart, you'll eat it," he said. Chicken Little ate his problem and it disappeared.

The tendency to panic or be guilty of judgmental imbalance when in a crisis is a common human failing. Situations are most often exaggerated, especially negative ones. Things are seldom as bad as they seem. A heavy cloud may carry no rain at all but the concern may cost us more than the approaching cloud.

Often heard of late are certain phrases like, "This is going to split the church" or the coming crisis will "tear the church in two." Now folk, the church is not a man-originated institution. "The gates of Hell shall *not* prevail against it." This does not mean that Hell won't try. Indeed, Hell has tried. Take the present theological controversy. Did you know that we have been through all of this before? Sometimes it sounds like a broken record. Canright and Ballenger hit the church with the same charges now being "aired." By the way, I hope the "sessions" are over, for they only serve to popularize the dissenters. The old arguments won't go away. Only the faces change. "Chicken Little, the sky is not falling!"

Or is it? Brothers and sisters, I hold in my hand a document that details a plan to *dismember* the Northeastern Conference. You heard me right—a plan to break up the 26,000-member, \$7,000,000 Northeastern Conference! Because of its authorship, this document must be taken seriously. The plan would farm out all outlying churches to white-controlled conferences in the area, leaving only Brooklyn and Manhattan for the new conference.

Now get this, folk! Under the new plan, Northeastern would have a black president, but a white treasurer is specified. Question: Is this a carry-over from the old superstition that blacks can't handle money, or worse? And further, why attach the numerically strong Northeastern to the numerically weaker conferences? Wouldn't it be wonderful if the white conferences would be attached to the black? Wouldn't it be a wonderful experience for masses of our white believers to labor under black leadership? Where in North America does a white church have a black

pastor? Did I say North America? Where, indeed, in the world do we have this? I do know that Pastor Rudy James, a black, served as pastor of a white congregation in Canada and perhaps he still does. However, with this isolated instance, the experiment begins and possibly ends.

Those who propose this plan should know that we blacks are wondering "out loud" about a lot of things. Is there some fear that a black entity comprising one-half of the union conference membership makes the union leadership uncomfortable? We are aware that blacks, in small numbers, are acceptable to whites, but when we come en masse, whites make Houdini's disappearing act look academic. It should be clear by now that blacks will not forever pay the price for white prejudice. The dismemberment of the Northeastern Conference is too great a price.

Another question: Is this the reward for success? What kind of incentive is this? In effect, by this you say, "Succeed and we will reduce you to peonage." You see, some of us remember our history. We remember well the benediction pronounced at the formation of regional conferences. "Your people will not follow you." "You cannot manage." "You will come crawling back, begging for us to take you in," we were told. Nevertheless, our people have followed us. We have managed and, because we have no need to crawl back, there comes this Atlantic Union proposal to make us crawl! Chicken Little just might be right—about the sky, that is.

There is some evidence that this plan has been discussed with a standing committee of the General Conference. When an idea is entertained in Washington, we must take it seriously. Is this the beginning of a move on all regional conferences and black-controlled institutions? We hear rumors of a plan to put a black cover on *These Times* magazine as a substitute for *Message* magazine. We hear rumors that Riverside Hospital is being sold. And now this radical proposal to dissolve Northeastern is being officially entertained. Was the president of the Northeastern Conference consulted on this? I checked with him. His answer was, "No!" In the name of all that is ethical, how then did this get an official hearing at the General Conference level? Seriously, does anyone intend to proceed with this plan without the cooperation of officials and pastors

of the Northeastern Conference? Or will it turn out to be only "an apple" as Hooty the Owl discovered? On the other hand, if Chicken Little is right and the sky really falls, two questions will remain: On whose head? At whose responsibility?

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## ALLEGHENY EAST

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### PASTOR QUIZZES CHURCH

Who would interrupt the worship service to put everyone on the spot with an unannounced test? Who sounded like a Bible school teacher quizzing his students on the time of Christ's return? Who insisted on "true" or "false" written answers for difficult, even multi-part and carefully worded "trick" questions, and then asked that each person sign his or her name (not true or false) and turn all quizzes in?

Pastor Braxton of the West Philadelphia SDA Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, "checked up" on his congregation's Bible studying, knowledge and retention on April 9, when he gave a "pop quiz" to the whole church! All were told to take a card and pencil and start writing! Sheepishly they did so, question by question. He patiently repeated them to give a fair chance to all to do their best. Then the cards were taken up and the scorers went to work.

At the end of the service, the congregation enjoyed hearing the long list of 100 percenters read, including youth, a soon-to-be-married couple who are obviously on the right road, a ministerial student's mother, officers and older members. Highly notable was the apparent superior performance of the students in our schools who, despite their much younger age, did well and even embarrassed a few of their parents!

Some may call Pastor Braxton old-fashioned, but he wants West to know the Bible as well as believe it. To keep his members on their toes, he's even considering Sabbath afternoon lessons for the experienced members.

### WEST PARODIES FAMILY RADIO

Concerned about the possible side-effects of their children listening to Family Radio, WKDN of Camden, New Jersey, the A.Y. Department of the West Philadelphia SDA Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, put on a skit for their

program on April 2. After witnessing and study assignments, the "radio" was turned on.

Aunt "Molland" filled the air with her story entitled "The Saddest Little Girl." This poor little girl was the unwitting victim of a thoughtless vow made by her father, Jephthah the Gileadite. You can read about it in Judges 11:29-40. Then came a lively poem about Daniel with a lion repeatedly roaring "I want him!" Nevertheless, he was disappointed.

In "Unchained," an alcoholic housewife finally found Christ after months of waking up with a bottle. Seeking the attention she could no longer find at home, she started going to a little club to find companionship. Sobriety returned to her with unnatural swiftness one afternoon, when she woke up in a cheap hotel room and went home to an empty house. Of course, that called for a nice drink. The pull of the bottle remained too strong for her until a Christian's witnessing led her to grasp Jesus' hand.

The program was interspersed with live musical selections by several members, including a period of "folk"-style music. These segments were only the lead-in for the best part, which might have been entitled "What Every Adventist Would Like to Tell the World." "Pastor Camper's phone line" for Bible questions and prayer requests rang as the audience sought in vain to hear Bible truths explained.

They learned some interesting tales. He said that, like Peter was told, we should feel free to eat anything, including pork. The rest of the text was conveniently ignored. And like the thief on the cross, one's "soul" will leave this earth at death. Since Christ did not ascend until later, the thief would have had to wait in the "outer part of Heaven."

They were advised that during the "rapture" they might go to work one day and find that a friend was not there because he had been taken. The next caller, who tried to throw some real light on the issue, was cut off. Since the law was "nailed to the cross," the Sabbath no longer existed; it was a shadow of things to come and "I'm sure you don't want to live in a shadow." Instead, we should break bread on "the Lord's day" as did the apostles. Since we were now to "love our neighbors as ourselves" and the Lord above all, some people, fortunately, concluded that they were still obliged to keep the Ten Commandments.

Have your little ones, and your not-so-little ones, possibly been misled by such false doctrines and seemingly Biblical teachings as are heard on Family Radio? If they seem confused at times about the truth, perhaps unscreened listening is contributing to it.

Mark Frog Harris  
Communication Secretary



Colonel Leonard Johnson, Jr.

## HEALTH-TEMPERANCE DAY AT METROPOLITAN CHURCH

Colonel Leonard Johnson, Jr., of the United States Air Force Medical Corps recently accepted the invitation to be guest speaker at the Metropolitan church in Hyattsville, Maryland, for its first Health-Temperance Day.

Colonel Johnson was ably qualified for the occasion. An active Seventh-day Adventist holding membership in the Emmanuel SDA Church in Brinklow, Maryland, he has served his country with merit.

After graduating from the Howard University School of Medicine, he engaged in the private practice of medicine and surgery in San Diego, California, before entering the Air Force in 1958. He has been on continuous active duty since then, serving at home and abroad.

The list of his military awards and decorations includes the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster (the nation's seventh highest military award), the Joint Services Commendation Medal for his aeromedical management of the POW program, and the Meritorious Service Medal. Colonel Johnson holds the Air Force aeronautical rating of chief flight surgeon, the highest flying rating for a physician in the Air Force.

At present Colonel Johnson serves as the associate dean of the School of Medicine of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Washington, D.C., and holds the faculty position of assistant professor of preventive medicine and biometrics at the university. He and his wife are the parents of two children.

In his opening remarks at the Sabbath service, the colonel inspired the youth as he encouraged them to aim for excellence in all their undertakings. As he developed his sermon topic, "Do Christians Die Needlessly?" he referred to some of the delicate and intricate systems of the human body that God has so "fearfully and wonderfully" made and reminded every member that God set the stage for man's health in the Genesis account of creation. God gave us the Ten Commandments, he said, to ensure man's physical, mental and spiritual well-being. Colonel Johnson prescribed the formula A-D-D: We should be **A**ware of our responsibilities, **D**esire to live for our Creator and use **D**iscipline and exercise to maintain good health.

In keeping with this formula, the Health-Temperance Department of the Metropolitan church, under the leadership of Dr. Avis Simms-Kelly, has planned training programs for church members that will begin with courses in basic first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. It is our hope that these courses, as well as the church's annual health screening program, will enhance community relations.

Lizette I. Westney  
Communication Secretary

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Allegheny East Health Ministries invites you to enjoy the "Fitness for Life" Conditioning Camp at Pine Forge, Pennsylvania, July 17 to 31. A trained staff will be there to help you successfully change your lifestyle. The program will be beneficial to all interested in general health reconditioning. For additional information, contact the Allegheny East Conference Health Department, P.O. Box 266, Pine Forge, PA 19548. Telephone: (215) 326-4610.

Jayne Darby  
Allegheny East Conference



Former President H. L. Cleveland

## THE CLEVELANDS BID FAREWELL TO ALLEGHENY WEST

On May 22, at the seventh constituency for the Allegheny West Conference, President H. L. Cleveland announced that he would not seek reelection to a fifth term and that he was not available for consideration for president.

We quote from his remarks: "My dear brothers and sisters, it is a pleasure to stand here after 32 years as a minister, eleven of which were spent as your president. I came to this field in December of 1966 to pastor the great Glenville church in Cleveland. That church will always be like home as its members are like family. All of my children were married there and it appears that the last one will be, also.

"The road in these 32 years of ministry has been long and rugged but pleasant. Beginning in 1951 in the South Atlantic Conference, I pastored and held tent efforts in south Georgia, central Florida, Savannah, Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia, and Cleveland, Ohio, baptizing more than 2,700 souls in 21 years of pastoral ministry.

"During that period I built new churches in Savannah and Atlanta, Georgia, and did major construction on Berean Academy and Ramah Academy and major renovation on the Glenville church of Cleveland.

"In 1972 I was elected to the presidency of Allegheny West. I found the conference membership at 5,632 and today it stands at 9,500. The annual tithe in 1972 was \$771,900 and in 1982 it was \$2,139,000.

"Two and one-half years ago we launched the F.L.E.E.T. program, which culminated in our best soul-winning year ever with 1,099 baptisms in 1982, giving us 1,000 souls in a single year for the first time in the history of the conference.

"In addition, two new churches were established in '82, Cincinnati Madisonville and Columbus Central, and at the rate they are tithing they will pay over \$100,000 in new tithe to the conference in 1983 alone.

"Because of the great influx of souls in '82, the tithe gain for '83 is running at a record pace (over \$827,000 total tithe through April) and should give to Allegheny West at year's end its largest tithe ever! God is already rewarding our faith for our all-out investment in souls in '82."

Listed below are some high points which occurred during Cleveland's term in office:

### New Congregations

1. Cleveland Southeast
2. Cleveland East
3. Lima, Ohio
4. Loraine, Ohio
5. Daytonview (Dayton, Ohio)
6. Newark, Ohio
7. South Boston, Virginia
8. Berryville, Virginia
9. Pittsburgh Hillcrest (PA)
10. Cincinnati Madisonville ('82)
11. Columbus Central ('82)

### Worker Growth

Ordained ministers	20
Licensed ministers	13
Interns	4
Credentialed missionaries	4
Bible instructors	3
Credentialed literature evangelists	15
Teachers	15
Other workers	11
Lay pastors	3
Total	88

### Innovative Programs and Organizations

1. Ushers congress
2. Elders and head deacons
3. Tuition assistance for non-constituent schools our students attend
4. Pastors incentive plan
5. Great spirit-filled campmeetings
6. Harvest Celebration
7. Purchase and funding for twenty new tents (value: \$75,000)
8. The F.L.E.E.T. evangelistic laymen and soul-winning plan
9. Conference music ministry
10. Deaf ministry

11. Bible worker guilds
12. Sensational Seniors (elderly)
13. Singles ministry

### Savings Accounts

At the beginning of 1972, the conference had \$87,285.97 in savings (marketable securities). At the end of 1982, the conference owned over \$287,000 in savings (marketable securities).

### New Buildings Built and Purchased (Valued at \$7,000,000)

1. Akron, Ohio
2. Ashtabula, Ohio
3. Canton, Ohio
4. Cincinnati, Ohio (S)
5. Cincinnati, Ohio (M)
6. Cleveland East
7. Cleveland Southeast
8. Delaware, Ohio
9. Germantown School (Funded)
10. Toledo, Ohio
11. Pittsburgh Hillcrest
12. Beckley, West Virginia
13. Charlottesville, Virginia
14. Martinsville, Virginia
15. Columbus, Hilltop
16. Franklin, Pennsylvania
17. Zanesville, Ohio
18. Lima, Ohio
19. Newark, Ohio
20. South Boston, Virginia

### Major and Minor Renovations (Valued at \$1,250,000)

#### Major

1. Cleveland Glenville
2. Cleveland Bethel
3. Dayton, Ohio
4. Youngstown, Ohio
5. Erie, Pennsylvania
6. Pittsburgh (ET)
7. Gordonsville, Virginia
8. Staunton, Virginia
9. Lynchburg, Virginia
10. Warren, Ohio
11. Cincinnati Maranatha
12. Germantown, Ohio
13. Lima, Ohio
14. Akron, Ohio
15. Conference office

#### Minor

1. Hamilton, Ohio
2. Springfield, Ohio
3. Oberlin, Ohio

### Gratitude

"Permit me to express my gratitude to our members, without whom this would have been impossible. Surely every soul baptized, every goal reached, every church built, every building purchased

*Continued on page 6*



The graduating class from the Light Bearer's Training Course with certificates, along with Pastor Hyatt and Elder Carter in Des Moines, Iowa.



Members from the Charleston/Sikeston churches and their Light Bearer's Training Course certificates with Pastor Waters and Elder E. F. Carter.

## NEWS NOTES

In accordance with the conference endeavor to support the 1,000 Days of Reaping program, the Philadelphia SDA Church of Des Moines, Iowa, and the Charleston and Sikeston churches of Missouri concluded a "Light Bearer's Training Course" conducted by pastors E. Hyatt of Des Moines and Bobby Waters of the Charleston/Sikeston district. This course prepares members to go out on the firing line and witness for the Master.

On a recent trip to Davenport, Iowa, Pastor Carter, the personal ministries director of the conference, worshipped with Pastor Webb and his members as they supported the 1,000 Days of Reaping program by baptizing six precious souls into the church. Bernice Jones directed the song service for the baptism.



Oratorical contestants who participated in the temperance contest in Omaha, Nebraska.

## UNITED YOUTH FEDERATION HELD IN OMAHA

It was a lovely, special Sabbath day. Youth gathered from all over the vast Central States Conference, with busloads of Pathfinders from Denver, youth from St. Louis, Topeka, Wichita and both Kansas Cities in Omaha, Nebraska.

The occasion was the United Youth Federation, with more than 1,300 in attendance, that was held on April 16. It was a day planned by the youth for the youth, and it was exciting to see them orchestrate such a meaningful program.

The United Youth Federation began on Friday night at the Sharon SDA Church in Omaha. Ron Cooper of the Berean church in St. Louis, Missouri, preached a lovely sermon inspiring the youth to serve God.

Sabbath services were held at St. John's A.M.E. Church of Omaha, with Pastor V. J. Mendinghall, youth/education director of South Atlantic Conference, delivering a sermon to be remembered: "Runaway Child, Running Wild." His message touched the hearts and lives of all in attendance.

The Youth for Better Living parade was held Sabbath afternoon and featured hundreds of youth with posters, cars and demonstrations united in a parade throughout the city.

After the A.Y. meeting, the basketball and volleyball tournaments were held. The Community team won the volleyball tournament and Linwood won the basketball tournament.

The United Youth Federation was a great success and the youth of Central States are on the move. We are proud of them.

## TEMPERANCE RALLY DRAWS YOUTH

In March the Central States Conference Youth/Temperance Department held a temperance rally. Youth from all over the conference participated in this program.

Pastor Raymond Baker of the South Atlantic Conference was the morning speaker and gave a stirring challenge to the youth.

Many singing groups participated throughout the day. The afternoon program was highlighted by the annual temperance contest. The winners were: essay—Michael Washington from the Bethesda SDA Church in Omaha, Ne-

braska; oration—Theresa Blakely from the Sharon SDA Church in Omaha, Nebraska; jingle—David Arnold from the Shiloh SDA Church in Leavenworth, Kansas; poster—Beth Knight from the Community SDA Church in Denver, Colorado; and cartoon—Robert Anderson from the Bethesda church.

Pastor Miller, youth director for Central States, presented the participants and winners with awards and certificates.

## CLEVELAND FAREWELL

*Continued from page 5*

and every successful program run is a testimony to the spiritual quality of our Allegheny West laity. You have responded to the leadership of administrators and pastors and, because of your marvelous spirit, we have witnessed an explosion of faith in Allegheny West Conference.

"I am grateful to our ministers, their wives and families, our colporteurs and teachers, our office secretaries and workers for the way you have responded to Heaven's leadership.

"I have challenged you to believe that 'nothing is impossible' and you have believed. You have performed exploits for God and together we have seen many mountains move.

"I am proud of the team we are building in Allegheny West: dedicated, alert, hard-working men of vision, men of honor, men who dare dream impossible dreams—men of God. Yours is the new spirit of this great field.

"I wish to thank my wife, who interrupted 21 years of her teaching career to serve as my secretary and administrative assistant. For over 32 years she has stood by my side as an effective, faithful supporter of my ministry.

"I am grateful to God for sustaining me through some trying experiences and painful decisions. I am grateful to Him for the privilege of serving His people and His church. I am grateful to Him for the many evidences of His abiding presence and divine favor upon us during the past eleven years."

On Friday, May 20, Pastor Cleveland announced to his office staff and again to the constituents on Sunday, May 22, that he would not seek reelection to the presidency. The Clevelands will always have a warm spot in their hearts for Allegheny West.

Let us remember to pray for him as he makes the transition into his new field of service and challenge for the church.



Lottye Norman recently celebrated her 100th birthday during the divine worship service at Shiloh.

## LOTTYE NORMAN CELEBRATES HER HUNDREDDTH BIRTHDAY

Lottye Norman was honored on Sabbath, April 21, during the divine worship service by the Shiloh church in Chicago on her hundredth birthday.

She was escorted to the rostrum by Herman Clayton, historian for the Year of Jubilee celebration at Shiloh. She was sung to by Aimee and Brandon Washington during the children's chapel. Special words were sung to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me."

Words of endearment were spoken to her by the president of the Social Service and Study Club, of which she is a former president and now a charter member.

She has served as church clerk, home missionary leader and Sabbath school teacher. She has labored in the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 53 years and is still functioning as honorary deaconess.

Members of Lottye Norman's family were at the church to celebrate with her on this special day. Norman's family has a history of long life. She has a sister, Sadie Hilliard, who is 102 years old. Her nephew, William Hilliard, a local elder at Shiloh, is 82.

Norman was given an album filled with dollar bills to represent each birthday she has celebrated. This was a gift from the Shiloh church.

The Lord has blessed Lottye Norman with a quick step and a sharp mind. God bless her and her family.

## BEACON OF JOY CHURCH SPONSORS BENEFIT CONCERT

The building fund committee and Douglas Taylor, chairman, sponsored a benefit concert for the Beacon of Joy

church in Chicago. The program was held in the Straford Memorial church, which is also in Chicago.

Special guests were the members of Just a Portion, a singing group from Denver, Colorado. The manager for the group, Terri A. Williams, is a former member of the Beacon of Joy church and is the daughter of Marceline and Jose Leon, members of Beacon.

The group is composed of 23 college and high-school-age youths. Soloists include Tonya Graham, Matthew Paris, Rachel Paris, Regina Wilkinson, Gwen Walker, Adrienne Wyatt and Deborah Gellineau.

This group was superb in their ministry of music. Coordinator for this special benefit program was Noelette Leader.

Members are thankful for the support they realized from this program. They look forward to the day when they shall have a beautiful tabernacle to worship in.

Clora Warren  
Communication Secretary



Vern Joyner, pastor of the Fairhaven church in Flint, baptizes eighty-eight-year-old Lewis Harris.

## EIGHT AND EIGHTY-EIGHT

The Fairhaven church in Flint, Michigan, had a baptism of two candidates whose ages covered a span of eight decades. Pastor Vern Joyner baptized Tyrone Hicks, an eight-year-old student at the Fairhaven church school, and Lewis Harris, who is 88 years old.

Harris moved to Flint to live near his daughter, Gussie Greshman, who is the church's stewardship secretary.

He was baptized into the Baptist church when he was twelve years old and had been a faithful member all his life. After 76 years in the Baptist church, Harris took a full look at Christ's principles and laws of living a Christian life

and decided to claim all the promises of the Bible and follow Jesus all the way.

## FROM TRAGEDY TO BLESSING

It was early on January 18, one of Chicago's typical winter mornings. However, one family in Chicago was about to face a devastating tragedy. The family: the Campbells. The tragedy: fire.

At 10:30 a.m. Cleo Campbell was on his way to the hospital to receive care for an ailing foot. An hour later, Lillie Campbell had to leave home to help other members of her family prepare for a funeral. The children, ranging in age from three to fourteen, were left at home alone.

One of the appliances in the home had a short circuit and, as often happens, was ignored and put on the "things to do" list. The rest is history. The fire did irreparable damage to the home but, thank God, all the children were saved with no injuries.

Since the members of the Campbell family attend the Straford Memorial church in Chicago, they were certainly not alone in this tragedy. The church pulled together in this crisis and presented in concert some of the most gifted artists in Chicago.

There is much truth to the text found in Acts 20:35, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." On the night of the program, Alderman Frost of the 34th Ward presented the family with a check for \$200. The church was able to raise approximately \$3,000 for the Campbell family. In addition to the money raised, guests at the program were blessed.

Messages of love came from the master of ceremonies, Leroy Logan. Songs and presentations came from sister churches Beacon of Joy, Hyde Park, Independence Boulevard, Shiloh and host choir Straford Memorial, under the direction of Helen Essex. Music of encouragement was also brought by Cloie Logan.

All of the love shown that evening assured those who were present that truly "God is not Dead." This song was beautifully performed by the Straford Memorial Choir with guest soloist Noelette Leader.

Let us ever remember that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord.

Eloise Wagner  
Communication Secretary



*Nana Boakyewee, queen mother of the Ashanti, welcomes guests at the Hanson Place church, where Ghanians in the New York area celebrated the 26th anniversary of Ghana's independence.*

## INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION AT HANSON PLACE

On March 6 the Ga-Adange Kpee, a non-profit organization operated by Ghanians in the New York area, marked the 26th anniversary of Ghana's independence with a memorial and prayer service for about a million of their countrymen recently deported by the government of Nigeria. "Ga and Adange" are tribes in Ghana and "Kpee" means society.

Pastor Daniel Corbblah, who with Pastor Frank Commey moderated the program, said Hanson Place was chosen for the service because he always feels welcome at services there.

The congregation of about 200, with a substantial Hanson Place representation, participated enthusiastically in the program, which included singing hymns in four Ghanaian tribal tongues. The program, however, was conducted mainly in English, although there were some scripture readings which had to be translated into English after having been read in Ghanaian tongues.

Adding variety to the program were the Hanson Place Pathfinders, who, at a signal from Corbblah, made an impressive entry into the sanctuary with a parade of flags to the beat of their drum corps.

Musical enhancement was provided by the Calvary Pentecostal Choir, the Gospel Tones and Evelyn Vanderpuije. Edward "Dutchy" Daniel of Hanson Place played the organ and the piano.

Ghana's Charge' d'Affaires Patrick Hayford brought greetings from Ghana's U.N. ambassador, Victor Gbeho, who was out of town on business. Hayford told the gathering that "This service is an occasion for great reflection for all Ghanians." He said that Ghana had already completed the massive task of

resettling about 800,000 to 1.2-million Ghanians deported from Nigeria, but the additional problem of reintegration remained to be accomplished. He added, however, that "with the help of people of good will everywhere, this problem will also be solved."

Nana Boakyewee, queen mother of the Ashanti, resplendent in her kente (a hand-woven costume used on special occasions) formally welcomed all guests and expressed pleasure at having been invited.

Accompanying the queen mother was Adum Bawuah, her uncle and head of the family, dressed in a gorgeous adinkra or ceremonial attire. Bawuah said that the title "queen mother" does not imply "the mother of a queen," but is used in the sense of "queen of all her people wherever she goes." The Ashanti consist of many tribes living in central Ghana. They use the Niger-Congo language, and each tribe has its own chief.

Speaking on behalf of the Hanson Place church, Pastor Rupert W. Young said that his congregation had made a contribution of \$700 for relief in Ghana as soon as they learned of the hardship caused by the deportation. The funds were sent to local radio station WLIB, which had organized the fund in collaboration with the Seventh-day Adventist World Service (SAWS).

Following an impassioned plea by Pastor Robert E. Gann that "we should be our brothers' keepers," a special offering was collected by Commey for suffering deportees.

After singing Ghana's national anthem (in English), the celebrants were served light refreshments in the church's lower auditorium.

Lloyd Goodridge  
Communication Secretary

## WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN

The Brooklyn/Staten Island Adventist Youth Federation began the year with a great kickoff. On February 25 the Federation conducted a youth forum at the Goshen Temple in Brooklyn, New York, with approximately 75 attending.

The main feature of the forum was a panel discussion entitled, "Everybody Does It! So What?" dealing with peer pressure. Panel members did quite a splendid job, even to the point of showing some positive aspects of peer pressure.

This marks the first of four forums for the year and the first activity on a packed calendar to unite youth in the area.

## THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME

For the youth of Lighthouse Tabernacle, a treat was in store during their youth week of prayer, March 19-26. C. E. Mosely, preacher, teacher and evangelist, came to Brooklyn with a reservoir of experience and candor as night after night droves of people came out to hear this "simply beautiful messenger."

As Mosely brought the realities of the gospel home, one got the impression that he was in the presence of a man taught by the Saviour Himself. Under the influence of the Holy Ghost, Pastor Mosely brought conviction and decision to hearts in the congregation. Speaking on the sin problem in clear words, he brought out that the gospel grants to every believer the chance of a lifetime to walk with God, hear God's voice and see ourselves as God sees us.

Many illustrations were given during this revival week. "God brings revival to the heart just as He calls forth the plant from the seedling." Many people were touched and pricked in their hearts. One memorable night's offering: an illustration through apples—first class (red, ripe and juicy), regular (average-sized and tasty), culls (almost rejects, not really appealing to look at) and rotten (no explanation necessary)—depicted the kinds of Christians God sees when he looks at us. Also pointed out were "seven snares of Satan."

By the end of the week Mosely had instructed each person how to be sure of eternal salvation. Each listener had heard the voice of God as Pastor Mosely had promised. Each person had been taught how to pray the "prayer of forgiveness and the prayer of repentance." Lighthouse also saw the influx of many visiting ministers and laymen during the week.

Concluding the week's blessings to a full house on the closing Sabbath, an ordination service for three deacons and one elder was held, along with the baptism of three new believers into the fold of God.

Clearly men of the caliber of Pastor C. E. Mosely are needed in the field to give the unbeliever a look at the gospel. Hearing Pastor Mosely was truly the chance of a lifetime.





*The Florence-Oakland Avenue church burnt its mortgage and dedicated the church on March 12. Left to right at the ceremony are: Pastor O. J. McKinney of the Southern Union; Jack Hanna, head elder of Oakland Avenue; Harold Gaskins, pastor of Oakland Avenue; Pastor R. B. Hairston, president of the South Atlantic Conference; Pastor J. A. Simons, treasurer of the South Atlantic Conference; J. L. Follette, former pastor of Oakland Avenue; and Pastor Joe Hinson of the South Atlantic Conference.*

## OAKLAND AVENUE CHURCH DEDICATED

The third angel's message, the first ray of the light of present truth, was presented to the black community of Florence, South Carolina, in 1888 by a literature evangelist. The history of the church has shown that wherever the light goes, the Lord has always prepared someone to receive it.

Leonard Mullins was the one who not only opened his door and his heart, but also, shortly after learning the urgency of the message, went from one street corner to another preaching it and giving Bible studies in homes. This resulted in a few people accepting the message and starting the church in Florence.

The seven members, under Mullins' leadership, who was a bulder by trade, undertook to build a place of worship on a lot donated by M. Eagleston adjacent to her home on South Griffin Street. The church began to grow.

In 1943 Pastor Wilmont Fordham and his associate, Pastor J. B. E. Williams, held an evangelistic meeting in Florence. This lent a boost to the little flock because a goodly number of souls was added to the church. Since then an array of fourteen ministers pastored that church. Among them are: R. B. Hairston, currently president of the conference; O. J. McKinney, the present associate ministerial secretary of the Southern Union; and Harold Gaskins, the present pastor.

The property on which the church stands at 803 Oakland Avenue was acquired in 1961 by J. L. Follette, now pastoring in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. In 1963 he spearheaded the build-

ing of the educational wing and laid the foundation for the sanctuary. In 1971 O. J. McKinney led out in raising up the superstructure, which was dedicated free of debt on February 12, 1983.

In his remarks, the mayor of Florence, Cooper Tedder, said: "God forbid that I would utter any election rhetoric when I say to you this morning that there is no other place outside of heaven that I would rather be this morning than at this church on Oakland Avenue." Pastor Follette preached for the divine worship at eleven o'clock, McKinney preached the dedicatory message and Hairston led out in the church dedication.

## ADVENTISTS FEATURED ON TV PROGRAM

To the casual onlooker, these ladies might seem quite relaxed, as if they were just baking a cake in the kitchen at home. It could be that they are, but who can tell how fast the adrenalin is flowing when one, for the first time, faces a television camera?

This was the situation of Ora Wisdom and Adrean Lawrence, members of the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. They were the guests of Shirley Shealey, producer of the TV program "Issue of Concern." This program was on cable on Tuesday evening, March 1.

Wisdom explained by demonstration from start to finish how to make a very nutritious whole wheat bread. Lawrence demonstrated as she explained how to make your own granola with far more nutritional value at a price less than in a store. Both of these ladies are young mothers who are trying to help people to feed their families for less.

## NEWS NOTE

On Sabbath, February 12, following vespers, the Shiloh SDA Church in Charleston, South Carolina, was signally blessed with a concert by the Floyd and Boulevard Four of the Maranatha church in Atlanta, Georgia.

This spirit-filled group with a wide-range repertoire of songs, starting with "Come Along Children" and including such favorites as "Just A Closer Walk With Thee," "It's Gonna Rain" and "Amazing Grace," set the church on fire for the Lord.

The 200 in attendance at this small

church included the new pastor, T. A. McNealy.

Thought is already being given to acquiring the services of other young vocal groups who are interested in praising the Lord and witnessing through singing.

## 1982 IN RETROSPECT

The Lord, who is the real leader and holds Himself responsible for the success of His work, knows no failure. Therefore, the human instruments in the South Atlantic Conference whom He chose to work with Him in 1982 can feel good knowing that by depending upon God, success was assured from the start.

April 25, 1982, will be a historic date for Pastor R. B. Hairston because that was when the South Atlantic constituency in session first placed the stamp of approval upon him as the human instrument to lead them as president for the next three years. He started out like a champion and already has tasted some of the fruits of success.

For 36 years since the birth of the conference in 1946 and under four past presidents, leaders have agonized with the idea of establishing a senior academy like all sister conferences in the Southern Union. After all, to own and operate a senior academy is a fitting standard of proof that a conference has achieved maturity. However, the result of such anguish has always been the same—not ready. The first significant move of President Hairston was to give a positive response to the plea of the constituency for a day academy in Atlanta, Georgia. It is safe to say that venturing out into deep and uncharted waters holds no fear for him.

Dozens of young men graduate from Oakwood College's theology department each year with no official call. Hairston called eight of these prospective champions of the Word to work as what he calls "special interns." They are assigned as district pastors, assistant pastors and teachers. Their performances seem to be at a highly acceptable level.

Evangelism has always been the hallmark of the South Atlantic Conference. There has been no relaxing in efforts of the working force in this area. At the close of the third quarter, pastors reported 1,054 baptisms. By December 31 there will be an estimated 1,100.



Mr. and Mrs. Otis Rupright.

### TRIANA CONGREGATION GETS NEW BUILDING

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Rupright, friends of the Lord and the South Central Conference, have just completed another lovely church building for the congregation at Triana, Alabama. Pastor and Mrs. Roy Rugless, along with other members, joined in the construction of this new facility.

The Ruprights construct the basic structure of the building and the local congregation is responsible for its completion. Having raised funds for the building with a few donations, Pastor Rugless feels confident that the total structure will be finished during the next few weeks.



The Triana, Alabama, church building. R. I. Rugless is the pastor.

### OAKWOOD COLLEGE CHURCH BURNS MORTGAGE

On Sabbath, May 7, Pastor E. C. Ward led his congregation in a joyous mortgage-burning service for the Oakwood College church building.

This marks a beautiful milestone in the history of the school. Through the years the college family has worshiped in dormitories, assembly halls and basketball buildings since the establishment of the school in 1896.

Principal S. M. Jacobs was appointed elder of the congregation in 1896, and this pattern was followed through the years with the Bible teacher serving as pastor.

Later, when academic departments were established, the head of the Bible department customarily became pastor until the strong development of regional conferences, when a full-time pastor was assigned by the South Central Conference under the dynamic leadership of C. E. Dudley.

Pastors who served the church were S. M. Jacobs, W. J. Blake, W. L. Bird, W. H. L. Baker and I. V. Counsell (1896-1931). The first black pastor was Calvin E. Moseley (1932-1941). Pastors in later years were R. L. Woodfork, C. T. Richards, J. R. Wagner, J. T. Stafford and J. J. Beale (1951-1961).

In 1962 the church building program was initiated and during the next decade some \$30,000 was raised. These pastors were V. Lindsay, N. A. Lindsay, R. E. Tottress and W. L. DeShay. Pastor E. C. Ward has served as the spiritual leader of the congregation since 1973 and under his leadership the building program was started, completed and paid for.

The total cost of the church building was \$1,367,720. The building has a current value of \$2,350,000. The project was completed and paid for 65 months, 23 days after moving into the structure.



E. C. Ward, pastor of the Oakwood College church.



The mortgage-burning ceremony at the Oakwood College church building.



Dr. Amos Jones, NAACP director for the Nashville area, and Dr. C. E. Dudley, president of the South Central Conference.

### COMMUNITY JOINS IN HELPING TO SAVE RIVERSIDE

Pastor Amos Jones, director of the Nashville chapter of the NAACP, called for the citizens of the Nashville community to help keep the doors open at the struggling black institution being offered for sale by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the Adventist Sunbelt Hospital Corporation.

On a television news conference, Jones shared the plight with the city of Nashville and then made a passionate plea to raise \$250,000 to help with the project.

The General Conference has stated that it will not operate the hospital facility, nor does it wish for any other body under its structure to assume the project that will bring any responsibility back to the parent body.

Because Riverside has its uniqueness in the roots of black Adventism, the South Central Conference, under the leadership of C. E. Dudley, is still seeking to salvage the institution and help it continue to function in the capacity for which it was established.

A strong fund-raising campaign is presently underway. Dudley states that "I feel if we can get between 2,000 and 3,000 members of the 141,000-member population in the black sector of the denomination in America to give at least \$1,000, we can see our hopes fulfilled. Others can give as much as possible—every penny will help."

Already funds have begun to be received from interested persons across the country. Send your contribution today to: Riverside Hospital Fund, c/o South Central Conference of SDA, Post Office Box 24936, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

# The Editor's Desk

## OBITUARY

March 3, 1909, was a very significant date for the late Oliver and Marrietta Dobbins, who were living in Waynesville, North Carolina, for a baby girl, Willsie LaRue, was born, the tenth of ten children.

At eighteen she yielded to the warming touch of the Holy Spirit by surrendering her life fully to her Saviour. She was baptized by Pastor Holloway on the campus of Oakwood College in 1920, thus becoming a devoted and loyal Adventist.

In 1925, while attending Oakwood, Willsie met Luther R. Palmer of Jacksonville, Florida. This friendship reached full bloom on September 5, 1927, when she and Luther began a life journey of devotion together. Through 54 years of mari-

tal bliss, their love and caring for God and each other flowered and strengthened.

To this union four loving children were born: Luther, Jr., Bettye, Oliver and Isaac.

At peace with her Lord, Willsie contentedly went to sleep in Jesus to await the glad reunion.

She leaves to mourn her husband, Luther; her children and their families, Luther, Katherine and Michele; Bettye, Robert, Denise, Donna, Leslie and Lizette; Oliver, Mignon, Oliver II and Michael; Isaac, Jacquelyn, Eleanor, Isaac and Luther; a brother, Harry, and his family; two sisters, Bonnie Steward and Claudia Jimerson, and her family; and a host of other relatives and friends.

## NEWS NOTE

The 1,000 Days of Reaping is being carried forward in various ways. In Jacksonville, Florida, W. J. Ervin, personal ministries director, and his group leaders distribute literature throughout the city on the first Sabbath of each month. J. Brooks, director of A.Y.S., and the youth are also involved in this monthly missionary exercise.

## OBITUARY

David Constantine Williams, age 78, was born in Jamaica, West Indies, on July 25, 1905. He migrated to Panama and finally to the United States.

He passed away in Florida Adventist Hospital on January 29, 1983. His bout with illness began in 1978.

David Williams served the church in a number of leadership roles on the local level during his 40 years of dedication to God.

He is survived by: his wife, Mabel Hibbert; two sons, Arturo and Roy; one daughter-in-law, seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	July 29	Aug. 5	12	19
Boston, Mass.	8:07	7:59	7:50	7:17
New York City	8:17	8:09	8:00	7:45
Buffalo, N.Y.	8:40	8:31	8:22	8:11
Atlanta, Ga.	8:40	8:34	8:28	8:20
Miami, Fla.	8:09	8:04	7:59	7:53
Charlotte, N.C.	8:29	8:23	8:16	8:08
Birmingham, Ala.	7:50	7:44	7:37	7:29
Jackson, Miss.	8:01	7:55	7:49	7:41
Memphis, Tenn.	8:06	8:00	7:53	7:44
Louisville, Ky.	8:56	8:49	8:41	8:32
Detroit, Mich.	8:56	8:48	8:39	8:29
Chicago, Ill.	8:12	8:04	7:55	7:45
South Bend, Indiana	8:07	7:59	7:50	7:40
Minneapolis, Minn.	8:44	8:35	8:25	8:14
St. Louis, Mo.	8:15	8:07	7:59	7:50
Kansas City, Mo.	8:33	8:26	8:18	8:04
Denver, Co.	8:16	8:09	8:01	7:51
Little Rock, Ark.	8:14	8:08	8:01	7:53
Dallas, Texas	8:28	8:23	8:16	8:08
New Orleans, La.	7:56	7:51	7:44	7:38
Albuquerque, N.M.	8:12	8:06	7:59	7:51
Oklahoma City, Okla.	8:38	8:31	8:23	8:15

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

## NEWS NOTE

Eugene G. Armstead, Sr., pastor of the Winter Park, Florida, district in the Southeastern Conference, conducted a youth leadership workshop for the Lake Region Conference Laymen's Convention in Detroit, Michigan, on March 18-20.

This laymen's training institute is especially designed to produce more competency and effectiveness on the local level. Pastor Armstead's contribution to the youth was a highlight of the session.

# HAPPY FOURTH BIRTHDAY, REGIONAL VOICE!



Participants in the Baton Rouge health fair.

### HEALTH FAIR IN BATON ROUGE

The Berean church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, pastored by M. V. Singleton, recently experienced a rather eventful day as the health professionals of the church offered free professional services to the community for two hours in a busy downtown shopping mall.

The team consisted of eight LPN's, two RN's, one dentist, one medical technologist, one physical therapist, one music therapist and a community nutritionist. Audio-visuals were provided by a media specialist. All members of the team wore appropriate uniforms, complete with badges and professional pins.

Services included registration, a community survey, blood pressure screening, health counseling, diet and dental counseling, temperance and vegetarian food samples.

In two hours 48 persons had registered for the services and many more who did not register simply had a blood pressure check. At least 38 of these received health counseling from the professional staff. Twelve persons left their names and addresses, requesting copies of the Rediburger casserole they had sampled.

This fair was so well received that plans are in the making for another very soon. Follow-up will include personal contacts and visitations to those registered, vegetarian cooking schools, blood pressure clinics, sickle cell screening, computer health analysis and five-day plans to stop smoking.

Rufus Morton  
Reporter



Pictured are Pastors C. Williams and R. E. Brown being interviewed in Oklahoma.



Naomi Jackson, office secretary.



Mr. and Mrs. Olice Brown and family.

### TENTH STREET HOSTS AWARENESS LUNCHEON

The Tenth Street Community Service Center held an awareness luncheon on March 15 at the Stewart Community Center. Many guests were invited from the city and 30 prominent citizens in state government and the business community, including two bankers.

Pastor C. Williams gave the objectives and Pastor R. E. Brown, conference personal ministries director, presented the world-wide scope of Community Services and how this outreach program of the church serves the community in Oklahoma City.

A report was given by Juanita Davis, Community Services director, on "Meals on Wheels" and other social programs geared for the citizens of Oklahoma City.

The main highlight of the affair was the unveiling of a plan for a larger Community Services facility.

Rose Hawkins  
Reporter



Some of the guests who shared with Tenth Street the ideas and objectives of the church welfare program.

### THREE WORKERS JOIN SOUTHWEST REGION

We extend a cordial welcome to the Adventist Book Center manager, Olice Brown. A native of the Southwestern Union and his home state of Oklahoma, he graduated from Oakwood College in 1964 with a degree in business administration. He did further study at the University of Tulsa.

Brown served as an accountant for the Southwest Region academy and in the conference office before departing to labor in New York at the Northeastern Conference as manager.

In 1977 he answered a call to South Atlantic Conference to serve the South Atlantic and Southeastern conferences' Adventist Book Center. He has returned to manage the re-establishment of the Adventist Book Center for the Southwest Region.

He is married to the former Joyce Phillips. They have three children: Shelby Ryan, 12; Olice Nikkia, 7; and Joyce Murjani, 2.

A Texas-size welcome to Naomi Jackson, a native of Millsboro, Delaware. She has answered a call to join the secretarial staff in the conference office. She serves as receptionist and secretary to M. M. Young, conference secretary.

Naomi received her secretarial training at Oakwood College and Tulsa Junior College. She has used her secretarial skills in both Davenport, Iowa, and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Pastor David Coleman hails from New York City. He served in the Air Force for three years before attending Atlantic Union College and graduating from Oakwood College *summa cum laude*.

Upon his graduation from Andrews University, he pastored in the Northeastern Conference in Rhode Island, Connecticut and finally Bronx, New York. Presently, he labors as pastor of the Caffin Avenue church in New Orleans, Louisiana.

He is married to the former Paulette Brummell. They have two daughters.



Pastor and Mrs. David Coleman.

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## PASSIVE SMOKING: AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM

By Courtney B. Wood, M.D., M.P.H.

*Editor's note: From time to time the V.L.N.C. page will focus on health-related topics. This is the first of a continuing series. Dr. Woods is a member of the V.L.N.C. board and practices medicine in Bronx, New York.*

Hazards to the health of the active smoker of tobacco have been adequately documented in medical literature, but many questions have been raised about the possible detrimental effects of tobacco smoke to the passive smoker—the non-smoker breathing in a setting where smokers are polluting the atmosphere.

Public concern over this problem first arose when the Surgeon General's report of 1972 included some data on second-hand smoking. As a result of this report, several states enacted laws limiting public smoking.

For thousands of people who have allergies or heart and lung difficulties, smoke-filled rooms can aggravate their health problems.

The level of carbon monoxide and other respiratory pollutants in such

rooms may be as high or higher than levels which occur during air pollution emergencies. For people suffering with chronic bronchitis and emphysema, such environmental settings can aggravate their conditions severely.

Healthy people can also be affected by passive smoking. It has been scientifically documented that the heart rate, blood pressure and levels of carbon monoxide in the blood increase when people are exposed to air permeated with tobacco smoke. These high levels of carbon monoxide in the blood can remain in excess quantities for several hours after the non-smoker has left the smokey environment.

There are recent reports coming from the National Center for Atmospheric Research indicating the fact that cigarette smoke in the air concentrates radiation that is present naturally in the atmosphere, thus giving the smoker and the passive non-smoker in close proximity high doses of alpha radiation in lung tissue.

Over time, these high doses of radiation to lung tissue are the possible causes of increasing lung cancer in such populations.

There are many deaths, injuries and

losses of property resulting from fires started by smokers who carelessly allow lighted cigarette butts to ignite flammable materials, particularly in residential locations. Thirty-nine percent of all the deaths and injuries resulting from such fires affect non-smokers.

Environmental pollution is a high-priority concern in society today due to the increasing contaminants that are being discovered as risky to the preservation of life.

The right to a clean and healthy environment is one of the most important rights enumerated in the Declaration of Independence. Because a clean environment is free of tobacco smoke, the right to smoke is a lesser right, especially since it benefits no one, not even the person who smokes.

The appeal is therefore made to the smoker that, if all the evidence associating increasing chronic disease and earlier death does not convince you to stop smoking, then you should add to your concern the additional risks that you are imposing on non-smokers in your immediate environment. Maybe this added burden on your conscience will be the factor that tips the balance in favor of discontinuing a hazardous habit.

*pick up the*

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