

NORTH AMERICAN **REGIONAL**

VOICE



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

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1984

*A Banner Year
for Publishing Work*

COVER STORY



Elder J.P. Willis was one of the many ministers and conference administrators who participated in the meeting.



Elder Danny Milton, Publishing Director for Central States addresses the Literature Evangelists. Seated to his right are: Elders Robert Smith, Publishing Director for southeastern and South Atlantic; Robert Lewis, Publishing Director for Allegheny West.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 9th ANNUAL LAY EVANGELISTS RETREAT

Stephanie D. Johnson

The power of the printed pages can never be measured. More than a year ago Naples, Florida was by all accounts a very dark county, the scene of continual vice. Entered, Ivene Davis, a literature evangelist from Southeastern Conference, selling drug magazines.

A transformation occurred, the inebriated became sober, the crap games were broken up. One of many experiencing change was Larry, addicted to drugs for six years.

After reading the magazines, he and his live-in companion were interested in changing their lifestyle. They began taking studies. Several months later they were married and became baptized members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Today Larry is a lay evangelist.

As I sat listening to this thrilling story at the Ninth Annual Literature Evangelist Retreat held in Tampa, Florida, December 27-31st, 1984, more than ever I realized the importance of the literature ministry.

In this time of urbanization, materialism, broken homes, and drug abuse, the masses seem unresponsive to evangelistic crusades or religious broadcasting. Literature evangelism is the answer. It can reach the unreachable.

"In order to reach all classes, we must meet them where they are. They will seldom seek us of their own accord. Not alone from the pulpit are the hearts of men touched by divine truth. There is another field of labor, humbler it may be, but fully as promising. It is found in the home of the



Elder C.A. Richardson, Publishing Director for Northeastern speaks during the Meeting. Seated to his right is Elder Robert Smith, Publishing Director for South Atlantic and Southeastern Conferences.

lowly, and in the mansion of the great." Colporteur Ministry, Pp. 38,39.

A Time For Relaxation and Fellowship

The retreat, sponsored by the publishing department of the Black conferences, is a time of relaxation and fellowship. Tampa offers balmy weather, the sparkling blue water of the Gulf of Mexico, swimming, tennis, golf, and a sightseeing cruise around Tampa Bay. This year the Literature Evangelists from Bermuda were in attendance.

This retreat also offered an impressive array of speakers: Elders W.C. Jones, President of the Southwest Region; Ward Sumpter, Associate Secretary of the Southern Union; M.C. Van Putten, President of the Allegheny East Conference;



Elder T.S. Barber, Publishing Director for the Lake Region Conference interviews two of his student LEs who earned a scholarship.

Sherman Cox, President of the Central States Conference; and Dr. E.E. Cleveland, Chairman of Church Missions, Oakwood College.

Music, Music—solos, trios, instrumental—Maudlyne Wynters, Keith Reid, Gail Murphy, Linda Rivers, and Elder David Willis were among those who shared their gifts.

The grand finale was the Banquet held Sunday night. The Northeastern Ministerial Chorus, under the direction of Elder G. R. Earle, President of the Northeastern Conference rendered several musical selections.

The Publishing Departments presented their reports.

Regional Congerence Reports in Sales and Baptisms

Allegheny East, Noah Beasley, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$845,158.86
 Number of Baptisms 251
 L. E. of the Year
 Mary Flowers \$50,116.90
 Sales from each District
 District I, Beatrice Padron . . \$298,574.45
 District II, Robert Moses 149,016.40
 District III, James Milton 84,737.40
 District IV, Elijah Watson 110,127.80
 District V, Robert Parker 100,000.00
 District VI,
 Genevieve Washington 102,702.51

Allegheny West Robert C. Lewis, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$398,662.36
 Number of Baptisms 33
 L. E. of the Year
 Mary Works 45,909.08
 Sales from each District
 District I, Mary Adams \$240,000.00
 District II, Welton Jones 78,407.68
 District III, Robert Crawford . . . 64,440.45
 District IV, Murial Dailey 15,506.51

Bermuda, Wayne Johnson, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$78,634.16
 Number of Baptisms 37
 L. E. of the Year
 Kenneth Manders \$22,019.00

Central States, Danny Milton, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$200,000.00
 Number of Baptisms 33
 L. E. of the Year
 Eunice Foley \$18,000.00

Lake Region Exceeds Over One Million Dollars in Sales

Lake Region, T.S. Barber, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$1,052,501.81
 Number of Baptisms 200
 L. E. of the Year Willie Mae Cooper

Northeastern Conference

Clarence Richardson, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$604,148.00
 Number of Baptisms 75
 L. E. of the Year
 Louise Lee \$33,696.32

Sales from each District

District I, William Morris \$93,646.55
 District II, Hugh Lee 97,126.47
 District III, Leonard Harris 33,858.86
 District IV, Marvin Goodman . . . 60,027.21
 District V, Keith Reid 142,140.79
 District VI, William Golson 71,585.34
 District VII, Legiea Mack 34,420.08
 District VIII, Anthony Blanc 59,211.68
 Student Literature Evangelist
 Richard Calhoun \$12,131.02

South Atlantic, Robert Smith, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$270,046.29
 Number of Baptisms 104
 L. E. of the Year
 Suk Sim Kang \$45,000.00
 Sales from each District
 District I, \$138,396.12
 District II, Arthur Fairfax 135,650.12

South Central

Stephen P. Ruff, Director

Total Sales for 1984 \$230,952.21
 Number of Baptisms 32
 L. E. of the Year Joe Mitchell
 Sales from each District
 District I, William Smith \$73,535.91
 District II, Benjamin Cone 60,281.67
 District III & IV, 97,134.63

Southeastern Conference

Robert Smith, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$115,055.36
 Number of Baptisms 45
 L. E. of the Year
 H. M. Ramsay \$25,000.00
 Sales from each District
 District I, Luther Fowler \$35,059.36
 District II, John Wells 79,996.00

Southwest Region

James Marshall, Director

Total sales for 1984 \$334,370.53
 Number of Baptisms 100
 L. E. of the Year
 Ezekiel Wilson \$40,000.00
 Sales from each District
 District I, Ben Lewis \$125,000.00
 District II, Nathaniel Jackson . . . 80,000.00
 District III, James Ragnauth . . . 75,000.00
 District IV, Julian Sylvester 34,960.00



Northeastern was ranked number three among the Black conferences in deliveries. Elder Richardson seated fourth to the right and his wife, Ann standing behind him; are with a number of LEs who made it possible.

THE NEW ROLE AND FUNCTION PROPOSAL

The Seventh-day Adventist Denomination had its beginnings with the preaching of 'the great advent message' by William Miller and William Foy (a black man) in 1831. 1844 was the year that it was prophesied that the Lord would return to earth for His waiting church - He did not return at that time, but instead commissioned the small band of hopefuls to tell the message of God's saving love throughout every nation on earth.

In response to this challenge the missionary band went on their mission and the Lord blessed the labors of their hands. By 1863 the number of believers had reached a membership of 3,500 and its leaders felt that it had become necessary to organize into a formal body; thus the General Conference was organized and based in the state of Michigan.

The church was reorganized at the General Conference sessions of 1901 and 1903 with a hope of becoming more effective instrumentally for mission work and the giving of the gospel to all who had not been reached by 'three angels messages' that the church bore.

At that time the Foreign Mission Board was made the major responsibility of the General Conference Executive Committee. **UNION CONFERENCES** were established both in America and overseas to bridge the distance between the General Conference and its farflung mission fields. Communications then did not exist as it does today. Within North America unions were designed to carry the major load of the church, thus freeing the General Conference for overseeing world missions.

As long as 'evangelism' was the main burden and plan of the leaders of these leaders the work grew and harmony prevailed to a great degree. Institutional and financial growth within the organization has led to the increasing of administrative staffings with which to carry the programs forward. Various and sundry problems have come to the fore in recent years and this has brought great concern to many who sit in the pews as to what the real role and functions are today for those who serve at the union level, the general level and even at the local conference level (in some instances.) A commission to give study to these concerns was established by the General Conference to study the structure of the various levels of church government and to make recommendations to the church leaders when they come together in New Orleans in June of this year.

The Recommendations of Role and Function

The new plan of organization for the church which was voted at the time of the Annual Council offers the following suggestions:

(a) The elimination of duplication among the General Conference departments and services.

(b) The reduction of travel of General Conference

personnel in the departments, services, and administration to other divisions.

(c) The reduction of the number of elective and support personnel in (1) the departments, (2) the services, (3) the treasury, and (4) the executive area.

Organization-wise the following jobs would be need (or) combined, General Conference Level:

(1). Ministerial Association Director

(2). Department of Church Ministries which will include - (a) Lay Activities, (b) Personal Ministries, (c) Sabbath School, (d) Stewardship, (e) Youth Department will all be combined into one department under one head.

(3). Communications Department

(4). Department of Education and Health and Temperance Department will be combined.

(5). Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department will be dissolved at the local conference level.

(6). Publishing Department

(7). Services and agencies which will include, (a) Archives and Statistics, (b) Adventist Development and Relief Agency, (c) ASI, (d) Biblical Research, (e) Home and Family Service (f) Home Study International, (g) Insurance Service, (h) North American Missions, (i) Office of Human Relation, (j) Phil Serv. of Institutions. (k) Trust Services, (l) E.G. White Estate, (m) World Food Service.

Organization-Wise the following would be needed at the Union Level:

1. Officers: President, Secretary, Treasurer (No associate is needed)

2. Department of Church Ministries with one director which will supervise (a) Personal Ministries, (b) Sabbath School, (c) Stewardship and Youth Ministries.

3. Other departmental services as needed.

4. The departments of Communications, Health and Temperance, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty will operate on the Union level rather than at the local conference level.

5. It is the intent of the organization that this plan will reduce the number of jobs in all areas.

Organization-wise the following is recommended at the Local Conference Level:

1. Officers: President, Secretary, Treasurer

2. Department of Church Ministries with one director and an associate as may be needed to care for the work that is presently being cared for by all of the departments.

3. Departments/services as may be needed but not necessarily duplicated at the union level.

Role and Function vs Black Work & Workers

When the regional Union Thrust was at a very high pitch in the late 1960's a counter proposal was made by the church leaders rather than accept the request that was made by the Black leadership at that time. A (16) Sixteen Point plan was offered which included:

Point 8. 'On the Union conference Level positive steps should be taken to open doors in the area of Administration and Departmental Leadership for those who have demonstrated their ability and qualifications to serve all

segments of the church. In unions where there are Regional Conferences or where there is an organized Regional Department, the administrative officer level should include Black leadership.

Point 9. 'Black personnel shall be selected to serve in our Publishing houses, Hospitals, Academies, Colleges, Universities and other Denominational Institutions of the staff and/or Administrative levels. Where it seems advisable, institutions should 'institute training programs' for the development of Black personnel in technical and administrative skills.

With the doors being 'opened' Blacks were 'appointed' to the 'secretarial' post in three unions and to that of treasurer in one union. All other 'appointments' were to the positions of 'assistant' (or) 'associate' for the department. This was true even at the General Level.

Inasmuch as the 'integration storms' and 'affirmative action' pushes are behind us, it appears that we are getting back to business as usual. With so many persons in the 'created jobs' at the various levels, the word now is that 'we are-top-heavy and there needs to be cut backs made to save help balance the budget. All persons in administration and departmental roles are now being called upon to 'justify' their post (jobs) (or) face a phasing out program to balance the over-taxed financial operations of the organization. What will be the need for the assistant, associate or even the entire department? It looks as if the minority worker will catch it again - last hired; first fired.

Blacks who are leaving their posts at certain levels of the church are not being replaced - attrition. Blacks are disappearing from their college campus posts through retrenchment. Institutions are being relocated in areas where Blacks cannot afford or would be uncomfortable living there; thus, these jobs are closing up. Blacks are worse off today job-wise than they were ten years ago. Unemployment in the nation as of April 5, 1985 stood at 6.2% for Whites and 15.2% for Blacks. Church affiliation makes no difference.

Last year the Riverside Hospital was sold; thus 138 people lost their jobs. Regional Conference Sessions continue to be battle grounds where the Black leaders are sometimes left job-less and the system moves slowly in replacement at other responsibilities if any at all. The new Role and Function proposal will eliminate the post where many Blacks have been placed to serve the church. Fewer Blacks will be at the decision-making level of the organization. Talk is abroad in the land that it is time for the Black conferences to be dissolved and return to the 'old' rule of forty years ago. This must never be.

Black Progress and Growth Membership

When Regional Conferences were organized in 1945 the membership stood at 19,008 (or) 8.59% of the total membership of the North American Division. At the end of 1984, the membership in the Black churches in the United States stood at 156,524 (or) approximately 24.00%.

It is interesting to note that the Black churches in the United States had approximately 62% of the membership gain of the North American Division during 1984.

Baptisms

The Pastors and Members of the Black sector of the division were blessed with 9,447 baptisms for church growth during 1984.

Tithe Income

The Black Churches in the United States of the NAD paid 10% of the Total Tithe Income of all of the churches in the entire world during 1984 and this amount - \$43,738,950.00 -amounted to 14.40% of the Total Tithe Income of all of the churches in the North American Division during 1984. It should further be noted that of the total tithe increase of the North American Division (\$10,136,834.92) the Black members in the Regional Churches were blessed by God to contribute 26% of that gain (or) 2,562,858.00.

Black Progress Since G.C. — 1980

During the past five year period (since the last General Conference Session in Dallas, Texas), the Black Churches/Conferences of the North American Division paid \$1,411,670,817.92 (One billion, four hundred eleven million, six hundred seventy thousand, eight hundred seventeen dollars and ninety-two cents in tithe into the world church. This represents more tithe than any five or six divisions combined out side of North America.

The tithe income from the Black churches/conferences during 1980 stood at \$29,355,513.00. In 1984 it had increased to \$43,738,950.00 (or) some \$14,500,000.00 gain in just five years.

During the past five year period the Black churches/-conferences have been blessed to have their membership to increase almost 30,000 members from what it was in 1980. It was 127,541 then; it is 156,524 now.

God is blessing the Black work under the Regional conferences leaderships. To Him be the glory!

During the past five years the Regional Conferences/Churches of North America have paid out of their tithe income the following amounts:

G.C. Missions	\$33,097,206.60
G.C. Retirement	14,948,348.80
G.C. Special Asst. Fd.	1,790,285.30
Oakwood College	5,843,490.00
Union Conf. Operat.	18,548,712.83

Blacks are no longer on the total receiving end, but are giving to help support the work of the church around the world. It would seem that with the coming General Conference Session that is to be held in Dallas, that the church should not overlook the role and support that the Black church and its leaders are giving to help spread the message of God's love. There needs to be more jobs for the Black in North America (meaningful jobs) when the final report is made.

The Editor's Desk



Looking from left to right: Pastor Barry Bonner, Mrs. Leonora Dorson, Bible Instructor, and candidates from effort held in Ft. Pierce, Florida. Not pictured is Mrs. Johnnie Thomas.

Barry K. Bonner, pastor of the Macedonia S.D.A. Church in Ft. Pierce, Florida, held his first evangelistic meeting for four weeks. His efforts were greatly rewarded by 16 precious souls who accepted Jesus. The church members supported and two laypersons served as Bible Instructors; Mrs. Leonora Dor-

son and Mrs. Johnnie Thomas. They are now following up other interested parties.

Plans are now being made for another effort to be held this summer in a nearby community.

Pastor Bonner is a 1984 graduate of Oakwood College.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	April 26	May 4	11	18
Boston, Mass.	6:38	7:47	7:54	8:02
New York City	6:48	8:00	8:04	8:11
Buffalo, N.Y.	7:10	8:19	8:27	8:34
Atlanta, Ga.	7:19	8:23	8:28	8:33
Miami, Fla.	6:49	7:53	7:57	8:01
Charlotte, N.C.	7:05	8:12	8:17	8:23
Birmingham, Ala.	6:26	7:32	7:37	7:43
Jackson, Miss.	6:38	7:44	7:49	7:54
Memphis, Tenn.	6:42	7:48	7:54	7:59
Louisville, Ky.	7:29	8:37	8:43	8:49
Detroit, Mich.	7:27	8:36	8:43	8:50
Chicago, Ill.	6:43	7:52	7:59	8:06
South Bend, Indiana	7:38	7:46	7:54	8:01
Minneapolis, Minn.	7:12	8:22	8:30	8:38
St. Louis, Mo.	6:48	7:55	8:02	8:08
Kansas City, Mo.	7:06	8:14	8:21	8:27
Denver, Co.	6:49	7:57	8:04	8:10
Little Rock, Ark.	6:50	7:56	8:02	8:07
Dallas, Texas	7:05	8:11	8:16	8:21
New Orleans, La.	6:34	7:39	7:44	7:48
Albuquerque, N.M.	6:48	7:54	8:00	8:05
Oklahoma City, Okla.	7:12	8:19	8:24	8:30

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

ALLEGHENY EAST

OBITUARY

Willie Dowdell, 23, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, died February 5 in Huntsville, Alabama of an apparent heart attack.

Dowdell became a Seventh-day Adventist while still attending the Larchwood SDA School, Philadelphia. He was invited to attend a Visitor's Day by his third grade teacher and was so impressed with the service, that he began to attend every week.

He became a baptized member of the West Philadelphia Church, a year later his mother, Fannie Dowdell became a member. During that same year his father died.

He was a member of a singing group in the church as well as a soloist. He had an intense interest in soulwinning, which led him to enter Oakwood College as a ministerial student.

During this time he teamed with Joseph Rodriquez and together they worked for four years, evangelizing in New Orleans, Jamestown and Elmira, New York. Just last winter Rodriquez and Dowdell had baptized 35 persons in Miami.

A memorial scholarship is being planned. The scholarship will be maintained through the distribution of a musical tape he recorded.

Mr. Dowdell leaves his mother, Fannie Dowdell of Philadelphia.

CLASSIFIED AD

Loma Linda University is currently accepting applications for the position of Director of Housekeeping. Qualified applicant should have an A.A. degree and/or Certification in Administrative Housekeeping with N.E.H.A. and a minimum of 3-4 years of supervisory experience in the field. If interested, please send resume to:

Loma Linda University
Personnel Department
201 University Arts Building
Loma Linda, CA 92350
Telephone (714) 824-4340

*A liberal man will be enriched,
and one who waters will himself
be watered.*

Prov. 11:25—RSV



Ronald Graybill, Religious Liberty Director for the Columbia Union.

GRAYBILL FOSTERS LIBERTY IN POTTSTOWN

The Pottstown, Pennsylvania Church observed Religious Liberty month by having Ron Graybill, Religious Liberty Director of the Columbia Union Conference as guest speaker on February 9. In his discourse, "Fear of Freedom", Graybill focused on the sad story of a young man who was electrocuted for committing murder. Although he was guilty of the crime, Graybill pointed out that the strongest reason for his execution was that society feared his freedom to the extent that our religious beliefs may appear a threat to them. The congregation was challenged to put forth an effort to enlighten the public through *LIBERTY* subscriptions.

In the afternoon, Graybill presented a slide program as he narrated the engrossing story of J. Edson White's work for blacks in Mississippi. Graybill is the author of two books on black history—*Ellen G. White and Church Race Relations*, which discusses the Historical backgrounds of statements made by Mrs. White and *Mission to Black America*, the Edson White story.

ALLEGHENY EAST GOES SOUTH FOR WORKERS' MEETING

Allegheny East pastors, Bible instructors, administrators, principals and office personnel recently met at Hilton Inn Florida Center, Orlando, Florida for an intensive three day inservice training.



M.C. Van Putten, Conference President (seated, front row), listens as Elder Alfred Johnson presents a report from his breakout group.



Four pastors enjoy a lighter moment in their discussion group. Left to right: Frank Legette III, Augustus O'Giste, Vern Joyner and Stephen Boyce.



Dr. Timothy McDonald explains a planning cycle.

The workshop, "Developing Skills for Church Planning and Problem Solving" was planned and conducted by Columbia Union Conference personnel. Elder Luther R. Palmer, Secretary of the Union served as team leader. Dr. Timothy McDonald, Elders Lynn Martel and Harvey Sauder were the instructors.

The workshop featured leadership styles, goal setting, long range planning, meet objectives, group dynamics and prob-

One man gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.
Prov. 11:24—RSV

lem solving. The format included short lectures, large group discussions and small group breakfast sessions.

Simultaneously, Drs. Rosa Banks and Sandra Price of Oakwood College conducted a workshop for the secretarial staff.

Presentations were also made by Elders Sandy Robinson, Review Herald Association and Myron Widmer of the Adventist Review.

Carol Carter
Director of Education

EDMONDSON HEIGHTS INSTALLS POOL

In 1975 the Edmondson Heights Church was formed from a nucleus of the Berea Temple Church in Baltimore, Maryland. This group purchased a former Methodist sanctuary which had no baptismal pool.

In 1984 under the leadership and guidance of their present pastor, Jasper J. Johnson, a baptismal pool was installed and Edmondson Heights held its first baptismal service on December 22. Four persons were baptized that day.

Cynthia Y. Laney
Communication Secretary

NEWS NOTE

Ladies of the Mt. Calvary Church, Williamsburg, Va. raised \$4,000 towards a fellowship during Ladies Day. This amount added to the previous amount totaled \$7,000 towards this project.

The speaker was Lois Scales, wife of Elder W. C. Scales, Jr. of the Ministerial Department of the General Conference. Mrs. Scales spoke on the virtue of a true Christian woman. On this special day the ladies led out in every facet of the service.



Drs. Rosa Banks (left) and Sandra Price, present instructions for office secretaries.

ALLEGHENY EAST HOLDS OFFICERS' MEETINGS

To begin the year, two Church Officers' meetings were held in the Allegheny East Conference territory to instruct newly elected church officers. The northern section of the conference met at the Church of the Oranges in New Jersey and the southern section met at the Breath of Life Church in Fort Washington, Maryland.

Elder Van Putten challenged the officers to emulate the soul winning activities of the Inter-American believers.

Following his discourse, the officers went to their respective departments.

He who diligently seeks good seeks favor, but evil comes to him who searches for it.

Prov. 11:27—RSV



The Congregation listens attentively during Ladies Day at Mt. Calvary Church.

CLASSIFIED AD

The Eastern and Western Federated King's Daughters
Invite you to their
Annual Scholarship Banquet
Saturday, July 6, 1985
9:00 PM - 1:00 AM
New Orleans Marriott Hotel
Marriott Ball Room
Canal & Chartres Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana

Reservation for Dinner:
\$25.00 per person

Delegates and Friends Invited

Eastern Contact

Mrs. Marian Quisenberry Wood
1300 N.W. 96th St.
Miami, FL 33147

Phone: (305)693-1800

Western Contact

Mrs. Loyce Wood
1543 E. 90th St.
Los Angeles, CA 90002
Phone: (213) 581-8882

CLASSIFIED AD

Health Care at Home, an affiliate of the adventist Health System, is seeking RNs with BS or MS degrees in managerial experience; registered therapists; and managers with a masters degree and health care experience. Submit resume to Health Care at Home, 2620 South Cleveland Avenue, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085.

CENTRAL STATES

LINWOOD CHOIR PURCHASES NEW ROBES

The choir robes worn by the members of the Linwood Boulevard Church, Kansas City, Missouri, came as a result of spirit enterprise. In April, 1983, each choir member pledged to purchase one robe and donate it to the church. Two thirds of the money was raised to purchase the robes. In order to get the balance, the choir decided to sponsor a concert. They had a two-fold purpose in mind: to raise the balance needed to purchase the robes, and to fellowship with the church proper, and also those not of the demonination.

The concert featured the Bethel Youth Choir, Kansas City, Kansas, The Topeka, Kansas Choir, The Cleveland Avenue Baptist Choir, Earlene Wells, Leroy and Geno-ice Hampton, Beacon Light, Kansas City, Missouri, Roosevelt Williams, Greenwood Baptist Church Choir, and the Ebony Singers.

The concert realized its purpose, over \$400.00 were raised towards the purchase of new robes. The choir has grown from 12 to 40 members. They are scheduled to sing at the 1985 General Conference Session in New Orleans. Ron Garnett serves as the director.

Willa Mae Mosley
Communication Secretary



Linwood Blvd. choir members in their new robes.

INVESTMENT PROJECT YIELDS 1,041.98

Ernest Williams, Investment Superintendent of Community S.D.A. Church, Denver, Colorado, reported that \$1,041.98 was raised for Investment. The church went over its goal which was set for \$900.00.

After the Investment Leader gave the grand total and explained its purpose, a visitor contributed \$25.00. Later during the divine service, the same visitor accepted Christ as his personal Savior.

Etta Collins
Communications Secretary

NEWS NOTES

Several members of the Linwood Boulevard Church, Kansas City, Missouri, who attend Cedarvale S.D.A. School, Raytown, Missouri, are honor students. Cedarvale has two scholastic standings—The Faculty List and The Honor Roll. The Faculty List is comprised of those who make straight A's in all subjects. For the first quarter of 1984-1985 school year, Eric Taylor was on the Faculty List.

The Honor Roll is made up of those students who maintain a B average. Linwood's first quarter Honor Roll students were: Regina Clark, George Clay, Evelyn Fordham, Furman Fordham, Shareese Green, Mari McRoy and Walter Fordham, III.

Willa Mae Mosley
Communication Secretary

SENIOR CITIZENS' DAY AT LINWOOD

On December 1, 1984, Senior Citizens' Day was held at the Linwood Boulevard S.D.A. Church, Kansas City, Missouri. The Senior Citizens talents were displayed throughout the day.

The Sabbath School program began with prayer by Clyde Johnson. Louise Miller, who served as the Secretary, gave an update on Sabbath School activities.

Sylvia Tyson presented the Mission Story in the form of a personal testimony. She related how God had blessed her to have the sabbath off as well as a job promotion. Cecil Johnson offered the teacher's prayer and Elder Vivian Roofe taught the Sabbath School as a whole. The Sabbath School Superintendent was Daisy Timmons.

Elder W. S. Lee was the speaker for the Divine Hour. Following the service, dinner was served for all senior citizens.

Willa Mae Mosley
Communication Secretary

COMMUNITY SEARCHERS INDUCTS 12

While it was snowing and the temperature had fallen to four below zero, hearts were warmed as the church members witnessed the candlelight induction of twelve members into the Community Searchers "Andaliwa" (Be Ready) Pathfinder Club, at the Community Church, Denver, Colorado.

Before the lighting of the colored candles, Pathfinder leader Vina Cole, and Assistant Norvall Stovall, explained the meaning of the various colors.

Each candidate was presented a candle and inducted into their perspective division. They were welcomed with the right hand of fellowship by the leaders and pathfinders. Afterwards they were presented to the church.

Etta R. Collins
Communication Secretary

Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.

Prov. 17:1—RSV

MARANATHA ORDAINS FIRST LADY ELDER

Gladys Gay, member of Maranatha S.D.A. Church, Kansas City, Kansas, was ordained as Local Elder on January 9th. She was ordained by Elder H. Pettway, pastor of the Beacon Light S.D.A. Church, Kansas City, Missouri, and former pastor of the Maranatha Church.

Elder Gay made history in Central States as the first lady Elder of Maranatha. She is the wife of Elder Ernest Gay, Literature Evangelist, the mother of seven children, one of whom is Toni Brown, A.Y. Leader for the church, and the grandmother of twelve; two who recently took their stand for baptism. Elder Gay has also served as a deconness and Sabbath School Superintendent.

Anna M. Slaughter
Communication Secretary

LAKE REGION

BETHLEHEM FRENCH CHURCH CELEBRATES PATHFINDER DAY

Recently the Pathfinder Club of the Bethlehem French Church had its first Friday evening investiture ceremony.

The leaders of youth activities Maurice Gauthier, Margareth Douyon, Anne Alexis and Kethlie Joseph saw the fulfillment of their efforts on this special Pathfinder day. As Helping Hands, Sunbeams, Busy Bees, the youths received their investiture from Conrad Gill, director of Adventist Youth in the Lake Region Conference. Elder Gill also challenged the youth in his sermon to achieve higher goals.

The special guest speaker for the Sabbath divine worship service was Charles D. Joseph, president of Lake Region. He was accompanied by his wife, Vivian.

In his message Dr. Joseph invited the congregation to trust the Lord; remembering how in the past God had watched over his people and directed them through difficult circumstances.

After the Sabbath worship service a dinner was served in honor of Dr. and Mrs. C.D. Joseph. A large number of visitors and church members stayed for the dinner.

In the afternoon, during the AY hour, Elder Joseph led out in a question and answer period. His topic dealt with the many problems that are facing the church.

The AY department of the Bethlehem French Church look forward to a second Pathfinder Day when more of the youth in the church are participating in the Pathfinder Club.

NEW CHURCH ESTABLISHED IN SOUTHFIELD

A new Seventh-day Adventist church was established in Southfield, Michigan on September 29, 1984 by Richard C. Brown, Sr., conference secretary and Charles D. Joseph, president, of Lake Region Conference. Three months later the congregation welcomed its first pastor, Lester Parkinson. The establishment of this church makes a total of seventy-two (72) organized churches in the Lake Region Conference.

The forty-two member congregation is a group of people with a mission and a missionary zeal. They are looking forward to a major out-reach program in this virgin ter-

ritory where they are the only Adventist Church in the township. Already the 1985 officers of the Southfield Church are implementing witnessing and visitation programs.

Personal ministries leader, Jessie Sims, has asked for and received pledges from the members that they will knock on the doors in their neighborhood to establish a personal contact with their neighbors.

The Sabbath School superintendent, Frances Edwards, has outlined a program whereby all visitors to the Sabbath School will be visited in their homes by a Southfield member during the very next week following their visit to the church.

Early in this year Pastor Parkinson conducted services for three days of spiritual emphasis. The members of the Southfield Church participated in these services after a full day of fasting and prayer.

In addition to missionary zeal, the Southfield congregation is grateful for the talent and abilities that are evident among its members, and for the leadership qualities that are so beneficial to a new church body. But most of all, the church is grateful for the sweet, sweet spirit that continues to diffuse love and unity.

The Southfield Church worships in the Emmanuel Lutheran Church located at Lahser and Nine Mile Road in Southfield, Michigan. This will be their church home until the congregation acquires a permanent structure.

The church members invite your prayers and support. They also invite you to worship with them whenever you are in the area.

BAPTISED FROM REVELATION SEMINAR

Two ordained ministers from Mount Clemens, Michigan joined with five other converts and were baptised into the Southside Church in Pontiac, Michigan. Later however a church was organized in Mount Clemens.

Madie Street, an ordained minister of the Apostolic Church, was awarded first prize for attaining the highest marks of all the Revelation Seminar students on the twenty-four lesson course.

A second ordained minister, John Rogers, formerly of the Full Gospel Church in Mount Clemens, received the second prize for his outstanding attendance. He missed only one night during the entire seminar.

Both ministers have made requests to conduct their own Revelation Seminar. Royce Mentor, the pastor and instructor, has already secured the instructor's manuals for them and is assisting them as they go through the materials. The other five students who were baptised plan to support Mad Street and John Rogers in their new venture. These new converts are Anna Reno, Soundra Gibson Sr., Soundra Gibson Jr., Deloris Lane, and Cheryl Jessie.

This seminar was historic in several ways. The minister preached about the Seven Churches; The Seven Golden Candlesticks; the seven-day week; the Seven Seals; the Seven Trumpets, and the Seven Last Plagues, and amazingly the Lord gave to the Southside Church seven new



The recently organized Southfield Church worships in the Emmanuel Lutheran Church until the congregation acquires a permanent church home.

souls. A perfect number, all baptised into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The members of the church were saddened by the illness and death of the head elder, Cornelius Crawford Sr., of the Southside Church in Pontiac. Brother Crawford died shortly after the Revelation Seminar ended. However, God allowed him the joy of knowing that his dream had come true—people in the Mount Clemens area had joined the church through the Revelation Seminar and that a new church had been established.

Mr Crawford had labored over twenty years for a church in his community. Several evangelistic meetings were held during those years but no new members were ever baptised. He and his family had to travel for almost an hour to Pontiac to attend church.

Mr. Crawford failed to give up on his dream. So he continued to give Bible studies in the Mount Clemens area, averaging about three studies per week. Converts were baptised from these studies but they all attended church in Pontiac. He often would say, "I long to see a bunch of souls join from the Mount Clemens area at one time."

God answered Crawford's prayer when he led seven new converts to join the church at one time. At this writing the members of the new Mount Clemens Church, along with visiting friends and relatives, meet each Sabbath with an attendance of about twentyfive.

Brother Crawford smiled on his death bed as Pastor Mentor told him that his dream had come true and a church for God had been founded in Mount Clemens. His last words to his pastor were: "Praise God; pray for me; I am praying for the church. Have courage."

Crawford's wife, and his son, Cornelius Crawford Jr., have taken on the burden of leading the new church to victory. They are determined to keep Brother Crawford's dream alive and growing.

The Revelation Seminar's nightly attendance averaged about 78. However, 84 students were graduated from the course. Charles Joseph, president of Lake Region, was the guest speaker for the graduation exercise.

Bible workers for the seminar were Frances Foust and Georgia McMillen. Both are Bible workers for Lake Region.

CAPITOL CITY HOSTS ILLIANA AY FEDERATION

The theme for the Illiana AY Federation was: Coping As Youth In The 80's.

Capitol City in Indianapolis was the host church for the weekend of services. The first meeting was held on Friday evening when Richard Washington, pastor of the Eastside Church in Indianapolis was the keynote speaker. On Sabbath, Anthony Lewis, pastor of Reid Memorial Church in East St. Louis, delivered the divine worship message titled "Gone With The Wind." The hymn of meditation and the appeal song was sung by Paula Irby a member of the Bible Chapel in Springfield.

After lunch, in Fellowship Hall, a Bible Prophecy Workshop was held featuring Karen Black, a Ph.D. candidate at Notre Dame University.

The final Sabbath activities included a mini-concert and AY Bible-bowl.

Charli Cartwright

ACHIEVEMENT '84 — PERSONAL MINISTRIES

Joseph Robinson, personal ministries director for the Capital City Church in Indianapolis, along with members from his department, recently reflected on their accomplishments for 1984.

December 8, 1984, was designated as Achievement '84 Day. The purpose of this day was to demonstrate to the congregation that major feats can be accomplished. Robinson hastened to give thanks and praise to God as he reviewed the activities of the Personal Ministries Department for 1984.

Some of the activities which were spearheaded by the personal ministries department in '84 were:

1. The establishment of husband and wife teams to serve as Ingathering band captains.
2. Resurgence of the old time practice of conducting a Spring Ingathering campaign.
3. The personal ministry department started a Youth In Training program. Giving the youth of the church opportunity to participate in the church at work.
4. Twenty-five kits were purchased and presented to the participants of the Revelation Seminar. The kits contained Steps to Christ, Bible Readings for the Home, Desire of Ages, and the Great Controversy.
5. The Message Magazine Subscription campaign was revitalized. During the '84 campaign the Capitol City Church realized a great improvement in their number of subscriptions over previous years.

6. The youth in the church participated in continuing paper drive which was established. Proceeds from this drive will be used to open and operate a mini-health food and book and Bible store.

7. The personal ministries department also established a cooking class for the "new believers."

Joseph Robinson looks to the future with great plans. He plans to purchase a van which can benefit the Capitol City Day Care Center; transportation for the senior citizens, church school students and the pathfinders.

Other plans include the organizing of a Prayer Line. This service would be established especially for non-Adventist who are experiencing family problems or some other crisis that could be helped by talking to someone on the Emergency Prayer Line.

Finally, Robinson and his group of workers, are looking forward to setting up a clothing center to provide free clothing for the needy in the Indianapolis community. The plans include making available tracts and applications for free Bible courses.

Brother Robinson believes there is a great and important work to be accomplished in a very short time. He solicits your prayers as he moves to accomplish even more in '85.

GRAND RAPIDS BETHEL CHURCH CANCELS MORTGAGE

Thirty years ago, a few faithful members started a branch Sabbath School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This group was the nucleus for the Bethel Church. The group continued to grow and later purchased their present church home. Burning in the hearts of the Pastor and members of the Bethel Church was the desire to burn the mortgage on their church. This desire became a reality a few months ago when members, former members, pastors, and friends gathered for the festive weekend.

The weekend of celebration began on Friday evening with a concert presented by Whintley Phipps a **professional concert artist**.

The Sabbath School lesson was taught by a former pastor, Robert L. Jones, under whose leadership the building was purchased. The speaker for the divine worship service was Dr. Charles Joseph, Lake Region Conference President. Sabbath afternoon the church choir presented a concert and the dedicatory message was presented by our Lake Union Conference President, Robert Carter.

SOUTH CENTRAL

During the dedicatory service a Cornerplate was unveiled by the Church Pastor, Charles R. Graham, Sr. Elder Graham also presented the canceled mortgage to Dennis C. Keith, Sr., Lake Region Conference Treasurer.

Other guests present for the memorable occasion were former pastors John Grier, from Ecorse, Michigan; L.O. Anderson and J.H. Jones from California; Pastors Don Williams and Bruce Fox of the Michigan Conference; and Elder Reginald Barnes, Educational Superintendent of Lake Region Conference.

The final event for this weekend of celebration was a reception.

EPHESUS CHURCH HOLDS COMMUNITY GUEST DAY

The Ephesus Church in Hopkins Park, Illinois recently held it's annual Community Guest Day services. The speaker for the divine worship service was the pastor, James Humphreys. His topic was "Who is thy Neighbor?"

Special music was rendered by Elder Frank McGee, pastor of the Macedonia Baptist Church, and Brother Don McNeal, member of the SDA Church of Kankakee, Illinois.

A presentation of the Community Service Award was given to Dwayne Purnell, a member of the Hopkins Park community, for his heroic service in the community.

Certificates were also given to the following church members for their faithfulness in Community Services: Auguata and Anna Charleston, L.C. and Helen Fleming, Velma Hughes, Victoria Jimerson, and Mose and Bernice Marshall. These certificates were presented by Dollie Williams, president of the Chicagoland Federation.



The personal ministries department at the Capitol City Church in Indianapolis has organized a youth group in the church known as youth in training. This group of young people recently collected newspapers for a newspaper sale. They are seated on the pile of papers they collected. Pictured from lower front to the top of the pile are Todd Chapman, Jeffrey Campbell, left; Winfred Davis, right; Pasha Robinson and Kirk Chapman.

1984 A YEAR OF PROGRESS IN SOUTH CENTRAL

When the Executive Committee of the conference met for its Annual Statistical and Audit Review meeting in March, it was learned that many blessings had been realized. Here is the report:

Church Growth: The number of churches increased by six during the year. New congregations were organized at Clarksville, Tennessee, Leeds, McCalla and Union Springs, Alabama, Batesville, Mississippi and Owensboro, Kentucky. There are still six new congregations to be organized at Brent, Moulton, Hartselle, Stevenson, Scottsboro and Athens Alabama. These are being shepherded by Milton Johnson, J.W. Jones, F.S. Hill and E.C. Ward.

Conference Membership/Baptisms: The membership at the beginning of the year stood at 16,659. The year closed with a membership of 17,235 (or) an increase of 576 members net growth. There were 1,170 baptisms by the pastors and laity during 1984.

Educational Programs: there are fourteen elementary schools being operated throughout the conference with 952 students enrolled in the elementary division and 150 plus in the academy.

YOUTH CONGRESS HELD

Those persons who attended the Youth Congress in Montgomery, Alabama are still sharing their blessings that were received from the messages, the workshops and the fellowship. The speakers and presenters were, Elder LeCount Butler of Washington, D.C., Mrs. Pamela Patterson, of Nashville, Tennessee, Elder Robert L. Smith of Atlanta, Georgia, Elder Joseph I. Grider of Jackson, Mississippi and Pastor G. Russell Seay of Phenix City, Alabama.

FULL SCHOLARSHIP VOTED

A full scholarship has been voted to be given to a student from the South Central conference who attends Oakwood College this fall. This is the second year that such has been provided. In an effort to help its students to receive a Christian Education in this day of economic struggle the conference seeks to help. Any student from the conference may apply by contacting the Office of Education (or) Professor N.G. Higgs. In addition to this scholarship, the conference gives a one hundred dollar

scholarship to each of its students who graduates from the college each year. Forty-four matching scholarships were granted during January of this year. In addition to these monies, the conference will give \$169,000.00 for the operation of the college, \$60,000.00 for the operation of the elementary school at Huntsville and another \$30,000.00 for the operation of the academy in Huntsville.



Bethany Church Choir, Montgomery, Alabama



Soloist in Bethany Church Choir, Montgomery, Alabama



Director, Bethany Church Choir, Mrs. Abernathy, Montgomery, Alabama



Elder Joseph McCoy, South Central Conference



Mt. Calvary Trio, Huntsville, Alabama



Elder Robert Smith, Jr., Atlanta, Georgia

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CAMPMEETING TO BE HELD

Although this is the year of the General Conference, it is felt by the Executive of the Committee conference that spiritual blessings come to our people when they come together at the time of the campmeeting from year to year. The conference will hold a weekend campmeeting this year at Oakwood College. The dates will be June 14 and 15. Those persons who are planning to attend should send their applications to the conference office today. The space will be limited.

OFFERINGS TO BE TAKEN

There are three major offerings that we have been called upon to lift in our churches at this time. There are: a). The Conference Evangelism in May, b). the Oakwood College Special Offering in April, and the General Conference Offering for the Guam Radio Station in March. We are mindful that many calls for help continue to be made, but it is the only means whereby we can meet these growing needs to finish the work that has been assigned to the church by God.

CLEAN UP PAINT UP, FIX UP

It is Spring time once again and every congregation should plan to clean, paint and fix the properties of the Lord. Fix the leaks in the roof; replace all broken windows, mow the lawn; replace the dead shrubery; paint the buildings inside and outside. Make the places acceptable to the Lord and His angels.

MESSAGE MAGAZINE

The Message Magazine is our journal has been given to us by God to help us to reach thousands of people that we would not otherwise be able to reach. Send a missionary subscription to your friends this year.

Elder J. Paul Monk, the former editor of the journal has accepted an invitation to become the president of the Central States Conference. A search committee is seeking another editor to fill this post.

DUDLEY SPEAKS FOR B.A.L.L.

C.E. Dudley, the president of the South Central Conference was the guest speaker for the Black Alumni of Loma Linda University at its second annual meeting at Riverside, California. His theme was centered around 'getting the Advent Message to every nation, kindred, tongue and people.' Dudley stated that one of the reasons that the Lord failed to return for the church in 1844 was because Blacks were still in slavery and the message had not been given to them. 'The Lord recessed the court in heaven until every enslaved person could be set free.' We must get onward with the commission that has been given to us! he stated. 'Jesus will never come anywhere until the message has gone everywhere.'

In his lectures during the week-end, he stressed that there must be a working for (1) excellence and (2) togetherness during the 1980's if the job is to be done. Graduates from around the world were in attendance. Dr. Earle Richards was honored as the Alumnus of the Year by his colleagues.

DISTRICT MOVES

S.J. Jackson has accepted a call to the pastorate of the church in Orlando, Florida; W.O. Freeman is to begin working with the supervision of church development in the conference; thus, the following district moves have been voted:

- G.I. Pearson
New Life-Nashville and Springfield
- M.E. Patterson
New Life-Huntsville and Harvest
- J.L. Green
Meridian, Soso, Sylverina, Miss.
- R.S. Norman
Hattiesburg, Laurel and Columbia, Miss.
- R.E. Gaiter
Leland, Shaw, Cleveland, Clarksedale
- W.A. Bussey
Hazlehurst, Brookhave, and McComb
- G. Powell
Selma, Greenville and Thomasville, Ala.

NORTHEASTERN

NORTHEASTERN'S LEs—MEETING NEW CHALLENGES

The day had left Issac Edmond exhausted. He had knocked on door after door in Brooklyn's "Little Haiti." Discouraged he was ready to go home. When a voice said, "go next door."

Faithfully he went and knocked on the door. A tall, distinguished man in his 60's wearing a clerical collar answered the door. Edmond was invited in and preceded with his canvass. He took out his Black Heritage Bible and without warning the man began to cry. He wept uncontrollably.

"Why? Why are you crying?" asked a puzzled Issac. "As a boy in Haiti," he explained, "my mother would make me read a portion of Scripture everyday." But as he developed into manhood he forgot his training. "I was looking for a Bible like that," he exclaimed.

Before Edmond left the man purchased a Bible and three volumes of the *Conflict of the Ages Series*. On his second visit Edmond was greeted by the man's son. "Go right into the room," the boy said. "My father is waiting."

Edmond was ushered into a room filled with items used for witchcraft. The man was sitting at the table. He was embarrassed when he recognized Edmond. Hurriedly, he ushered him out. He was a high priest of devil worship.

Although surrounded by utter darkness, God had not forsaken him. He sent a LE to bring hope and light. Such is the work of the LEs in Northeastern Conference. The East represents a diversity of languages, culture, origins and beliefs.

Through prayer, study and hard work Elder C.A. Richardson and members of his staff have implemented a number of programs to meet the needs of the people. Listed is a brief description of two programs:

Book Party Featuring "To Have and To Hold"—This program is designed by Ann Richardson, Marketing and Advertising Coordinator for the Publishing Department. The program is patterned after Amway and McKay products. A hostess invites friends into her home where games are played and refreshments served.

The books are displayed which includes book by the Van Pelts, dealing with marriage and the family. Mrs. Richardson,

a counselor and educator by training is extremely interested in developing and maintaining good marriages and families.

She sees it "as an additional way to reach into the community." The parties offers "fun and fellowship as well as providing a personal ministry to people."

Mrs. Richardson will offer her services in homes, schools, churches and bridal boutiques, wherever there is a need.

Listen Magazine Program—Richard Calhoun visits elementary and high schools in New York to acquaint administrators, teachers and students with the harmful effects of drugs.

He contacts school administrators and inform them of Listen's drug prevention program. If the school is interested but lacks the funds, Calhoun contacts corporations and ask them to defray the cost of the program.

He avails himself to speak at school assemblies, civic associations and churches to let them know help is available.

"There are many places in which the voice of the minister cannot be heard, places which cannot be reached only by our publications,—the books, papers, and tracts filled with the Bible truths that the people need. Our literature is to be distributed everywhere.

"The truth is to be sown beside all waters; for we know not which will prosper, this, or that. In our erring judgment we may think it unwise to give literature to the very ones who would accept the truth most readily. We know not what may be the results of giving away a leaflet containing present truth."—Colporteur Ministry, p.4,5.

Stephanie D. Johnson



Lois Wesley

LOIS WESLEY: PROFILE OF AN ELDER

"The primary key to a joyous and peaceful life is to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ." Lois Wesley, ordained elder of New York City's Ephesus Church, lives by this principle. Anyone who meets her, even for a short time, will come away knowing that she loves the Lord! Ms. Wesley has served for three years as a local church elder of New York's Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church. In 1984 she became the first woman in Ephesus to be ordained! Who is this lady? What are her counsels to other women who wish to be elders? What special experiences has she had serving in this capacity? Here in her own words are the answers to these questions and others.

Q: When your brother, Pastor Philip Wesley, was being ordained as a pastor, did you ever think that you would be ordained as a local elder?

A: Not ever, that was the furthest thought from my mind. The first time I ever considered the possibility was when the Ephesus youth church nominated me for elder a few years ago. However, at that time it was recommended that the church was not ready for a woman elder.

Q: Now that you are an elder, do you feel more responsible for soul-winning than you did as a lay member?

A: No, not really. I have always felt a strong responsibility for soul-winning.

Q: How has your role as an elder affected the attitudes of the women and the men in the church towards ladies serving as elders?

A: To my very pleasant surprise, the majority of the women, especially the older women have graciously accepted me as an elder. Women are very pleased to see a woman on the rostrum. In the beginning, there were a few men who were not for it. However, through the years, the attitudes of the men toward a woman elder has become very positive.

Q: Since you have been an elder, are there any events that hold a special significance for you?

A: Participation in ordination and communion was extremely meaningful to me. Both of these services were so very serious and sacred!

Q: What special words of counsel do you have for other Adventist women who may aspire to be elders?

A: A prospective elder must think of this office as a highly responsible position.



Elder Lois Wesley presents Ingathering Award to Mauver Tobias.

It takes a lot of unselfishness. One must be dedicated and truly surrendered to the Lord, and not to self, or aiming to glorify self. It is the emptying of self and being filled with the Holy Spirit that is a basic requirement. Above all, it is most important to have a personal relationship with Christ

- Q: There are some who feel that serving as an elder takes away from a woman's femininity, what is your response?
- A: Quite the contrary, it seems to add grace to one's femininity. I believe that femininity and a woman elder go hand in hand. I am not an elder because of a Feminist Movement, but because I was chosen by the church to serve in this capacity.
- Q: Now that there are women elders in the Adventist church, do you foresee women serving in the role of pastor in black Adventist churches?
- A: Yes, definitely. When the Bible spoke about apostles, prophets and teachers, it did not distinguish between male and female. I have nothing against a woman who might serve as a pastor, if the need should arise.
- Q: There is an old African proverb that says, "When a child walks in the path of his father, he learns to walk like him." Did your father serve in leadership positions in the church and do you feel that his service influenced you in accepting this position?

- A: Yes, I have always admired my father in his role as an elder, especially his humility. I feel like I am walking in his footsteps. Daddy sort of set the stage for this phase of my life. I believe that he would be very pleased, if he were alive. He loved me dearly!
- Q: What is your mother's response toward your new role in the church?
- A: My mother is one of my ace supporters. She is in my "Amen Corner." We always talk about the Lord!
- Q: You seem to be always on the go, always active. Can you name just some of the areas that you have been involved with both in the church and in the community?
- A: That is very true, I can never remember not working in the church, always doing something for the Lord. From the time I came to Ephesus from Spanish Honduras, I got involved. Even though Ephesus is a big church, I have never found it to be a cold church. Most of the members were always very warm and friendly. Through the years I have had the privilege to serve in the Sabbath school department as secretary, teacher, and kindergarten superintendent. Music gives me special joy and singing in the Collegiate Choir under the direction of Homer Wade has been a real source of spiritual inspiration for me. Currently, I am the personal ministries leader and work closely with the Adventist youth society. Concern for the many New Yorkers who are in need of a better education led me to join the Literacy Volunteers Program of New York City and to accept membership on the Board of Harlem Trailblazers, Inc. I certainly enjoy doing all of the above, but I must emphasize that it is not so important to hold an office in the church as it is to be willing to do what is necessary to keep God's program moving forward. My motto: Lord take me and use me wherever you can!

Caroline Jones
Communication Secretary

NEWS NOTES

"Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

The sweet influence of this scriptural admonition could be felt within the assembly of Sharon S.D.A. church, White Plains Road, Bronx, New York when on Sabbath, March 7, 1985 it held a welcome service for Pastor and Mrs. S. W. Stovall.

NEWS NOTES

Personal Ministries Day was held March 2, at the Bethany S.D.A. Church, Westbury, New York. The speaker was Elder L. Phillips, Vice President of the Queens/Long Island Personal Ministries Federation.



Lois Wesley greets church members after divine worship.

R. T. Hudson School Witnesses to Heart Assn.

The R. T. Hudson School was asked by the New York Heart Association to participate in a program on health education for the young. This program was to last for a month, and its goal was to find out if good health habits were practiced by children at an early age, would this insure better health during adulthood.

R. T. Hudson accepted this invitation gladly, and developed a program entitled, "What we are to be, we are now becoming." The program for the month included special chapel programs, various classroom activities, slogans, jingles, displays, special speakers, films, video tapes of various programs and visits from parents and friends who supported the programs.

A representative from the heart association came in to visit and to see some of the activities that took place during the month. She was very impressed with the activities and programs. We were very happy to receive a monetary award for the school. Christ was truly honored when the young people showed that our bodies are temples of God and that we are to preserve them.

On November 9, 1984 during the Ephesus Adventist youth meeting, R. T. Hudson school presented one of the programs that was video taped and sent to the New York City Heart Association.

Claudette Phipps



Elder Ralph Williams, first Elder at North Orlando SDA Church, presents plaque to Dr. Alzo Reddick.

COMMUNITY LEADER HONORED

The North Orlando S.D.A. Church, Orlando, Florida honored one of their outstanding community leaders. Dr. Alzo Reddick, a Florida State Representative, has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the community. He has worked ex-

remely hard to enhance education especially as it affects minorities. Another area of considerable interest to Dr. Reddick is health care, the providing of quality health care to the elderly and the medically indigents. He is a faculty member of the Valencia Community College and serves on

several Boards including the Brookwood Community Hospital and the Guardian Care Convalescent Center.

He has won great respect and admiration from his fellow legislators as being an aggressive and highly motivated legislator.



Mr. Sevell Brown, Executive Director of SCLC in St. Petersburg, Florida.

S.D.A. MINISTER SPEAKS AT S.C.L.C. MEETING

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference SCLC held its annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Ecumenical Services January 13 at the Elim S.D.A. Church in St. Petersburg. The worship services commemorated the birthday of the late civil rights leader.

For the second consecutive year, an Adventist minister has delivered the keynote address for the SCLC Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Ecumenical Services. This year Elder Walter L. Pearson, Pastor of the North Philadelphia S.D.A. Church in Pennsylvania, was selected as guest speaker. Mr. Sevell Brown, Executive Director of the SCLC in St. Petersburg, Florida said: "We managed to get one of the top ten preachers in America today as our guest speaker".



Pictured from right to left: J.E. Harris, Pastor of Elim SDA Church in St. Petersburg, Florida. Also pictured third from Pastor Harris is Mrs. Vernell Barton, Southeastern's Ingathering Queen. Standing with her are her grandchildren & family.

One man gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.

Prov. 11:24—RSV



The Garland, Texas Church pastored by C.M. Bailey is a new addition to Southwest Region.

GARLAND CHURCH ORGANIZED

The Garland S.D.A. Church, Garland, Texas was recently organized on January 12, 1985. Elder W. C. Jones, President of Southwest Region; Mrs. Helen Turner, Conference Treasurer and Elder B. E. Wright, Conference Youth Director were present for the occasion. For 3½ years, the church has worked untiringly in the community distributing literature, food and clothings.

The church had its beginnings in June 1979. H. Artwell, W. Eversley began going door to door in East Dallas, Texas passing out literature. Soon they were joined by S. Duncan. Their efforts were rewarded, they organized a Branch Sabbath School.

In an effort to broaden their missionary appeal, they contacted a Pentecostal minister who allowed them to hold a meeting in his church. They discovered a large Black population in Garland, Texas, and set out to distribute literature in the area.

Artwell, Eversley and Duncan teamed with Pastor J. W. Thomas, B. Swan, Hylton to establish a Mission. They founded a building, renovated and solicited furnishings.

In July 1984, the Oak Cliff Spanish Church used the building to hold a Revelation Seminar. As a result of the seminar, a new Spanish Church was established.

Presently, they are laying plans raising funds to purchase property to erect a church. The former pastors are: J. W. Thomas, J. R. Ellis, L. D. Henderson. The present pastor is C. M. Bailey.

SOUTHWEST REACHES A MILESTONE

The year 1984 marks a milestone in the history of Southwest Region Conference. The membership now stands at 10,000.

As a crowning act, for the first time in its 38 year history, 1,252 were baptized for 1984. The fourth quarter closed with membership 10,768.

Presently there are 81 churches in the conference. Listed are several newly organized churches: Athens, Texas; Killeen, Texas; Lawton, Oklahoma; Scotlandville, Louisiana and West Memphis, Arkansas.



Ordination service held at Nacogdoches, Texas Church on Community Guest Day. (L to R Sampson Witaker, Pastor H.J. Small, Elder L.W. Draggon, Robert Crawford and Vernon Austin, lower level-Arthur Weaver and C.L. Simon.

COMMUNITY GUEST DAY AT CARIKER CHURCH

C. L. Simon, Assistant Superintendent for Nacogdoches Public Schools: Arthur Weaver, Community leader and NAACP President were honored during Community Guest Day at the Cariker Street Church, Nacogdoches, Texas, January 26.

In all there were 86 visitors including: city government representative and a representative of U.S. Congressman Charles Wilson. H. J. Small, district pastor was the guest speaker.



Elder Billy Wright, Youth Director for the Southwest Region Conference.

HUNDREDS ATTEND YOUTH RETREAT

B. E. Wright, Conference Youth Director, reports that the 10th Annual Youth Retreat, November 21-25, 1984, held at Lone Star Camp was the best ever. More than 300 campers were in attendance.

Winter Camp held January 26, 27 for Pathfinders, offered basic and advanced training for survival. The 80 campers took advantage of activities offered in the following areas:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1) Bookkeeping | 9) Foreign Language |
| 2) Campcraft | 10) Hiking |
| 3) Camp Cookery(17) | 11) Horse Husbandry |
| 4) Cats | 12) Indian Lore (17) |
| 5) Chemistry | 13) Music |
| 6) Cycling | 14) Pioneering |
| 7) Dogs | 15) Sign Language |
| 8) Fire Building(17) | 16) Winter Camp |

As a special highlight, the Dallas, Texas Trailblazers, built winter shelters with sticks and pine needles. The 13 clubs represented returned to their respective homes better qualified to survive during inclement weather.

FOURSTATE COMMUNITY SERVICES WORKSHOP HELD

Community Service workers from Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas attend a workshop held October 4, 1984 in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. C. R. Prichett and F. Mur-

ray were the featured speakers. Soulwinning, union participation and dental care were among the subjects discussed.

Dr. English and her corp of workers presented a banquet. During this time a number of people were given accolades for their volunteer assistance. Dr. English and her co-workers serve senior citizens two hot meals a day and five days a week they supply the community needs.

Doris Jones
Reporter



Members of the recently organized Athen, Texas Church. E.C. Polite is the pastor.



Dr. Mildred English, Community Services Director for Okmulgee, Oklahoma.



Members of the Lawton, Oklahoma Church are all smiles as they were recently organized into a church. T.S. Bryant is the Pastor.

PICTORIAL STORIES



Members of the newly organized West Memphis, Arkansas Church. C.E. Sanders is the Pastor.



Joseph L. Correa and wife, Lindy, presented a multi-media seminar on the subliminal messages in rock music and its corrupting influence on the mind at City Temple, Dallas, Texas, January 11-12. Correa is a noted lecturer. He and his wife resides in Magnolia, Arkansas.

SOUTHEASTERN'S INGATHERING QUEEN

Vernell Barton and her grandchildren solicited \$2500.00 from street corners, neighborhood shopping centers, friends and neighbors. She was crowned Southeastern's Ingathering Queen by the conference at their annual Workers' Meeting Banquet. She was awarded 2 large trophies: one by the Conference and the other by the Elim S.D.A. Church in St. Petersburg, Florida where she holds membership.

Pastor J.E. Harris presented other certificates, plaques, trophies, and ribbons at Elim's Annual Awards Banquet.

NEW YEARS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE

While the secular world celebrated the New Year at the stroke of midnight with cheers and champagne toast, members of the Community S.D.A. Church, Denver, Colorado, celebrated it at sunset with a communion service.

Elder G. A. Bryant expounded on the purpose of Communion, "as Christ has humbled Himself before us," he said, "we must humble ourselves before each other."

Unity, love, faithfulness, and an evangelistic spirit were the four points he admonished the church to grow in.

Etta R. Collins
Communication Secretary

NEWS NOTE

Pastor Stovall has been assigned to the Sharon Church as interim pastor at a perilous time in its history and God has used him in a notable manner to restore confidence and guidance. The church has already benefited greatly under his inspirational leadership. Officers and members are with all sincerity praying for divine wisdom as he faithfully ministers to God's people.

Samuel Trotman
Communications Secretary

OAKWOOD RECEIVES \$500,000

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded \$500,000 to Oakwood College's Title III program to address the special needs of the institution in fiscal year 1984-85.

The Title III program at Oakwood has for the past eleven years had a fundamental role in upgrading and strengthening the institution with positive effects being realized in student services, faculty development, general administration and academic areas.

Over \$1.2 million was awarded for the grant period 1979-82, followed by a non-renewable grant under the Title III Institutional Aid Programs for a five-year period that began in September 1982.

The current grant is divided among the seven activities that address special needs of the institution and are listed with each director below:

Program Administration (Dr. Rose M. Yates), to coordinate internal monitoring, reporting and evaluation of all activities for fiscal accountability within the Title III program.

Strengthening Educational and Academic Development (Dr. M.A. Warren), to increase the number of doctoral degrees by more than eight percent of the total faculty; to help instructional departments obtain national accreditation.

Developmental Learning Resource Center (Linda Webb), to improve the basic developmental skills of students who demonstrate these needs upon admission to the institution.

Strengthening Teacher Education Program (Dr. Paul Brantley), to improve teacher education, bringing this function into the mainstream of quality programs throughout the nation.

Information Systems Management Major (Dr. Sandra Price), to increase office productivity by educating future secretaries, office administrators/managers and teachers in the concepts of the automated office.

Social Work Improvement Program (Juliaette Phillips), to meet the Council on Social Work Education standards for accreditation.

Strengthening Natural Sciences and Mathematics (Dr. John Blake), to raise the performance level of entering students in the sciences with the use of computer-assisted instruction.

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