

NORTH AMERICAN  
**REGIONAL**

**VOICE**



VOLUME 7

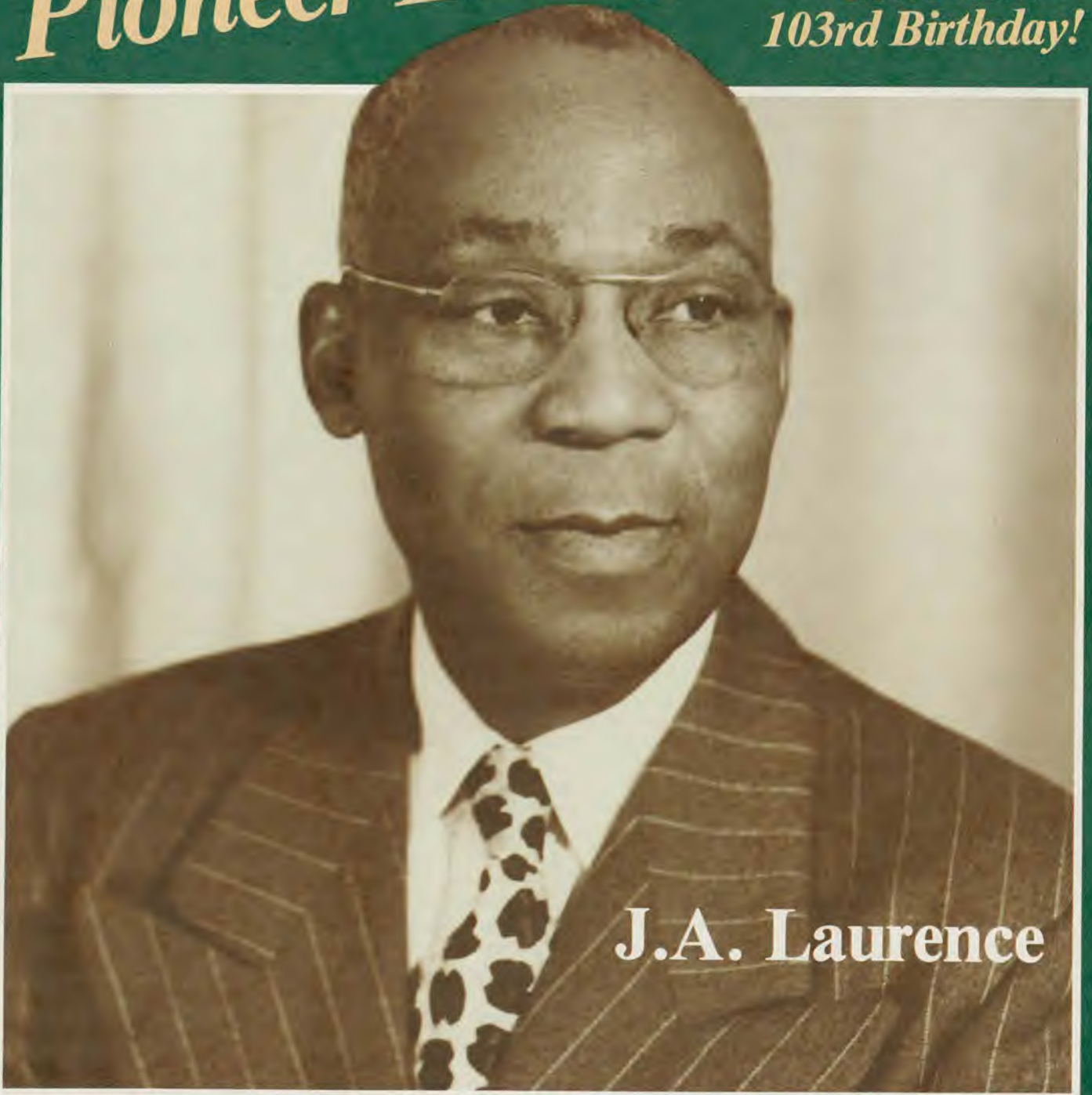
SEPTEMBER

NUMBER 7

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF  
SEVEN DEGREE ADVENTISTS

**Pioneer Evangelist . . .**

*Celebrates  
103rd Birthday!*



**J.A. Laurence**





*J. H. Laurence, pioneer evangelist celebrates 103rd birthday.*

### J.H. LAURENCE: MAN OF GOD

To give an adequate word-picture of a unique servant of God would exhaust one's vocabulary. Such a person is Joseph Hermanus Laurence. Seven words depict Elder J.H. Laurence most aptly: he is, indeed, a man of God!

At the golden age of 102 years, Elder Laurence is remembered by thousands of senior SDAs and their families as their premier pastor and soul-winning evangelist. They have high regard for J.H. Laurence because he baptized so many of them.

When the contemporaries of John the Baptist asked who he was, John replied, simply, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness. Prepare ye the way of the Lord." No more fitting words can be found to describe the life and work of Elder J.H. Laurence.

On the sun-kissed island of St. Kitts, in the town of Basseterre, Joseph Hermanus Warrington Laurence first saw the light of day on Jan. 8, 1885. Years later he became a naturalized citizen of the United States, but still holds fond memories of his birthplace in the Leeward Islands, which were then part of the British West Indies.

His parents, Joseph Daniel and Mary Magdalene Laurence, were members of the Moravian Christian Church. At an early age, the thoughts and interests of their son turned toward God. After his father died, his mother married a Mr. David Samuel Carlisle. Young Joseph's step-father was principal of the Episcopal Intermediate School, where Joseph later served as an instructor.

When he was eight years of age, young Joseph heard for the first time the everlasting gospel proclaimed by the SDA. He was deeply impressed. His mother, however, was bitterly opposed to his acceptance of the message. But his deep convictions were not easily dismissed.

By age eleven, he had vowed to the Lord to keep all of God's commandments, even though he was vigorously opposed by his mother. At age fifteen, he could no longer be held back. His decision to join the SDA Church was unshakable.

Plans for his baptism were made for Easter weekend, March 1900, but his mother locked up his clothes, so he had to wait until the next baptism. He was baptized by Elder A.J. Haysmer in May of that year.

He was then expelled from the Episcopal Intermediate School and forbidden to teach or talk of the SDA message. He suffered many hardships for his faith but held on firmly.

Elder L.A. Spring, who had come from Grand Junction, Colorado to pastor the St. Kitts Church, learned of Laurence's problems and sought to help him. Elder Spring contacted the Dorcas Society of Grand Junction, and eight dear ladies provided funds for Laurence to come to the Oakwood Training School, Huntsville, Alabama to receive an education. Before he left St. Kitts, Joseph engaged in colporteur work for a while under S.A. Wellman.

Like an unquenchable fire shut up in his bones, young Laurence felt a burning desire to preach the everlasting gospel. On March 17, 1903, he left St. Kitts and arrived in New York City March 25. He spent his first night in the home of Elder S.N. Haskell in Brooklyn, NY. The next day, Mrs. Haskell prepared him a big lunch, gave him \$2.00 and sent him on his journey to Oakwood. After three days of slow travel, he arrived in Huntsville, Alabama at midnight. When he arrived, there was no one to greet him except a party of robbers who promptly relieved him of his two dollars.

J.H. landed at Oakwood, pleased but penniless. He recalls that he was the first

foreign student to apply for entrance at the school, which in time, became Oakwood College. He was able to remain in school because the Dorcas Society of Grand Junction, Colorado sent money monthly to assist him.

In those early days, Oakwood suffered from a teacher shortage, especially in mathematics. There was no one to teach algebra. Since J.H. had the knowledge and skill, he was asked to teach.

His formal training and teaching lasted only briefly, for by August 16, 1904, Elder F.R. Rogers asked him to go to Yazoo City, Mississippi as a teacher and preacher.

Elder Edson White was then in charge of the Southern Missionary Society with F.R. Rogers as secretary. Upon arrival in his field of labor, Frank Warnick, a leading Black minister, welcomed him. Another fellow minister, Elder W.H. Sebastian, served as district advisor to the Black preachers.

As pay for his labors in Yazoo City, J.H. earned the grand sum of \$5.00 a week when he got it. But he was undaunted as he taught school during the week and preached at both Sabbath and Sunday night services.

Laurence remembers that in those trying times even one good meal a week was hard to come by. Lima beans, cornbread and dried apples were among food items sent by northern Adventists, who often supplied foodstuffs and clothing.

Edson White's famous house boat, the "Morning Star", which had been converted into a stationary structure, became for J.H. his school building as well as his church. Thus, began the amazing ministry of J.H. Laurence, one of the most productive pastor-evangelists the SDA church has ever had.

The God-directed exploits of J.H. Laurence in the gospel ministry are too numerous to recount in the limited space at our disposal. The most we can do here is to touch upon certain highlights.

When Laurence left Yazoo City, he returned to Oakwood, where he met and married Miss Bela Brandon, whose brother was a leading builder of the Oakwood school. The night after their marriage the newlyweds left for Jackson, Mississippi, where he preached and taught for a while in a building that was built by Elder Edson White.

Because of his young wife's failing health, he returned to Oakwood, and tried to persuade her to remain with her family while he went back to the field of labor. But she was determined to stay by his side.



"for better or for worse." So the two went next to Birmingham, Alabama. God richly blessed the work there.

Evangelist Laurence erected a giant tent in the city of Mobile, Alabama. He worked with Elder Sidney Scott, who taught him much about tent evangelism. The work was growing rapidly, but working conditions were hard and overtaxing. During the evangelistic series in Mobile, Mrs. Bela Laurence slipped away in death. It was a stunning blow, but Laurence leaned on his Lord for strength. At the close of the meetings, great numbers were baptized in the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

In 1908, he labored in Selma, Alabama. With God's blessing and the assistance of Elder Buckner, a church was raised up there. In 1910, Evangelist J.H. Laurence was ordained to the gospel ministry.

New challenges and rich blessings awaited him as he moved on to Florida. Meanwhile, he met and married the former Geneva Wilson. She gave him great encouragement and support and became an ideal mother for their six children — Hermanus, Genevieve, Jocelyn, Dorothea, Mae and Carty.

During the long years of his fruitful ministry, God used Elder Laurence to raise up a number of churches and to baptize, among hundreds of converts, some who would become prominent leaders in God's church.

Sent to assist Laurence in his Florida crusades was a young man with whom he had worked in the Mobile tent effort. That young man was none other than Elder G.E. Peters, who, for years, was a stalwart leader of God's people.

Among those baptized in Florida was a talented eighteen year old young man and his family. That young man was Frank Loris Peterson, who went on to become a president of Oakwood College and the first Black vice-president of the General Conference of SDA.

During the Florida crusade, O.B. Edwards, former Academic Dean of Oakwood College, heard J.H. Laurence preach and later came into the church.

Leaving the work in Florida in the capable hands of George E. Peters, Elder Laurence went to Louisville, Kentucky, where he housed the congregation in a new church. There he also baptized a Mr. Winston, who became a noted preacher of God's truth and whose son, Elder Joseph Winston, also became a minister and administrator in the church.

Elder Laurence accepted a call to be the Southern Union Evangelist in 1916. During

his crusade in Memphis, Tn., he baptized a young railroad man, Louis Bland. Elder L.H. Bland became first president of the Northeastern Conference. Through Louis, Elder Laurence met Frank, the brother of Louis, whom he also baptized. Frank Bland became an outstanding regional conference president, and later a vice president of the General Conference.

During the course of his ministry in Memphis, Elder Laurence baptized the father of Elder Dunbar Henri, missionary to Africa and subsequently a vice-president of the General Conference.

Returning to Jackson, Mississippi for a series of meetings, Elder Laurence baptized the parents of Elder Calvin E. Moseley. This was the first Adventist preacher young Moseley had heard. Later, C.E. Moseley came into the church and became a powerful preacher and a premier teacher of a generation of preachers.

In Paducah, Ky., Elder Laurence raised up a church with a mixed congregation of Whites and Blacks—a rarity in those days. Always he fought strongly against all forms of racial prejudice and bigotry. Very often his audiences consisted of a "racial rainbow." One of the White elders of a local Presbyterian church joined God's Remnant Church under his ministry.

In 1921, Elder Laurence accepted Elder S.E. Wight's invitation to go to Omaha, Ne. There he baptized Bernice Reynolds, the wife of Louis B. Reynolds, author and first Black editor of Message Magazine.

In 1924, he built a church in Denver, CO., and invited the governor of the state to lay the cornerstone. Moving to Topeka, Ks., in 1927, Elder Laurence built a church, where it was his privilege to baptize the mother of noted Evangelist and Voice of Prophecy crusader, B.R. Spears. In Kansas City, Ks., he built up the work and paid off the church debt.

Laurence moved to South Bend, In. in 1931, where he baptized young Charles E. Dudley, who has been for years the eminent president of the South Central Conference. He baptized also Elder Dudley's wife, sister, brother and mother. He built churches in South Bend and Elkhart and organized churches in Battle Creek and Cassopolis, Mi.

Elder Laurence went to Detroit in 1933 to pastor and enlarge the work there. In 1935, he moved to Indianapolis where he built a new church and baptized over three hundred in one tent effort. On Christmas Day, 1937, he had the unspeakable joy of baptizing his own mother into the truth as it

is in Jesus Christ—the Truth she had once bitterly opposed!

The rigors of travel and constant stresses of the work took their toll on the vitality of the second Mrs. Laurence, and she passed to her rest in March of 1938. By God's grace, Elder Laurence continued to preach and care for his family. During his travels, he met and married his present wife, Mrs. Cordelia Laurence, on Feb. 29, 1940.

In 1941, Elder Laurence went to Gary, Indiana to build up the work. He was assisted by Dunbar Henri and Fred Crowe.

The next year he moved to Cleveland, Oh., erected the "big blue tent," and baptized hundreds. Among those baptized were Elders Frank Jones of the General Conference and T. Marshall Kelly, the "sweet singer."

Elder Theodore Carcich, president of the Washington Conference, invited Laurence to come to Seattle in 1952. He found about twenty-five members in a rundown building. Within a few weeks, he sold the old church and moved the congregation into ample quarters. Then the Holy Spirit used him again to add hundreds to the membership. In one tent effort, he baptized the Bushnell family—thirteen in all. Three sons of the Bushnells have become prominent leaders in the SDA church.

With evangelistic fervor unabated, Elder Laurence continued to carry a full work load, long after the time for his retirement.

In recent years, Elder Laurence has suffered the encroachments of old age. But his dear wife, Mrs. Cordelia Laurence, has faithfully sustained her husband with tender loving care and beautiful home surroundings. Also, Elder Laurence's daughter, Mrs. Genevieve Richards and his son-in-law, Elder C.T. Richards continually care for him. The writer is indebted to them for more data than could be crammed into this portrayal.

We have told only a small part of the story of J.H. Laurence: Man of God. We have named only a few of those that he led to Christ. Only in God's kingdom will we have the thrill of knowing the whole story.

At 102 years, Elder Laurence's eyes still brighten with heavenly light when he hears news of the triumphs of the everlasting gospel. One of his prayers has been that he might live to see Jesus come. With world conditions as they are, who knows but that his earnest prayer will be answered.

—James E. Dykes,  
free lance writer,

former editor of Message Magazine  
and former professor of communications  
at Oakwood College.



## THE STATE OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN EDUCATION

South Africa, the gateway to Africa partly surrounded by the Indian Ocean, is divided into four provinces or states. The population consists of 30,000,000 Blacks; 4,000,000 Whites; 1,000,000 Coloreds; and about 900,000 Asians.

There are three schools in South Africa run by the Adventist Church; Helderberg College for White students, Good Hope College for coloreds and Asians, and Bethel College for Blacks. Coloreds, so designated by the White government of South Africa, are light-skinned people who have better opportunities than their Black counterparts. They are usually separated from Blacks.

Bethel College is, in reality, a high school with a two year teaching and ministerial program. It is called a college merely to appease the Blacks.

Founded in 1928, Bethel has not advanced. One of the reasons is that control of the school was given over to South African Whites by the General Conference without the consent of the Blacks. Seventh-day Adventist South African Whites could now decide the future of the college and of Black SDA education. The White leadership decided that Blacks should not come to South Africa as missionaries—only Whites who would conform to the system of apartheid. White missionaries hide themselves under the policies of the South African government.

White leaders also mandated that a Black man should not be educated beyond Standard VIII, which is the equivalent of grade 10. During a meeting held at Sophia Tonen near Johannesburg in 1949, parents were told that as long as Black children could read the Bible that was enough.

White church leaders also decided that Black workers should earn only \$18.00 a month. This meager salary could not be supplemented with any other type of employment. When the General Conference printed Sabbath School lessons for the church, white leaders convinced the South African Division to give the Black constituency edited children's lessons. Also printed was a church manual for South African Blacks only. This was Christian education among

Black Seventh-day Adventists in South Africa.

The South African Division's name was later changed to the Trans-Africa Division—with headquarters in Salisbury, Rhodesia. Black South African representatives are not invited on the executive committee when decisions are made.

The division gives Helderberg College \$175,000 per year; Solusi College for the Black people of Southern Africa located in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe \$17,000 per year; and Bethel College nothing. Black South Africans have to operate the school themselves by charging tuition. They do receive \$20,000 in assistance from the Black union called Southern Union.

What is most distressing is that out of a figure of \$175,000 given to Helderberg, \$50,000 was used to support their academy. The reason given for this assistance was that the money was needed to train White children to work among the heathen, meaning Black people.

### God Opens Doors

Early one morning in a Nairobi hotel, a woman was impressed that she and her husband should fly down to South Africa. After a ten minute debate, the husband finally conceded to his wife's wishes. The man and wife were Dr. and Mrs. C.B. Rock, former president of Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama.

They arrived in South Africa late July of 1979. Unfortunately, they were not afforded the opportunity to meet with the president of Southern Union or the Black constituency for reasons beyond their control. But in 1981, Dr. Rock and his wife returned to South Africa and he spoke at both the Soweto and Pretoria churches.

Dr. Tommie Nkungula, Secretary of Education for the Trans-Africa Division welcomed the opportunity of having Oakwood College assist Bethel, as did former president of Trans-Africa Division Kenneth Mittleider and Southern Union President P.M. Magena.

How did the Trans-African Division know that Dr. Rock was interested in Black South African youth? West of Pretoria there is a Black township called Atteridgeville, which has a small S.D.A. church with 30 baptized members. Mr. Gibson Nkosi, a native South African, was traveling to New York to attend the "Million-Dollar Round Table" and was asked by the church's elder Paul Mokoena to speak with Dr. Rock about helping Bethel College.

June 26, 1981, after the New York meeting, Nkosi attended the Northeastern Conference campmeeting. There he was pleasantly surprised. Before the morning service, a woman introduced as one of the Vice-Presidents of Oakwood College, stirred the congregation telling of the work done by Oakwood. The woman was Dr. Rosa Banks. After meeting Mr. Nkosi, she expressed President Rock's intense interest in Bethel College and arranged for the two gentlemen to meet. On June 28, the meeting took place and in October of the same year Dr. Rock met with the officers of the Southern Union. The outcome was a promise to assist Bethel College in re-establishing their teacher training program which has been closed by former white officers of Southern Union.

### O.C. Reaches Out to Help

In March 1982, Dr. Rosa Banks came to Bethel. She inspired both the people and officials of the Trans-African Government. They could hardly believe she would start a teacher training program at Bethel. Dr. Banks further promised to send more Black American teachers. Asked to put it in writing, she and Pastor Joseph Mdakana did just that.

Dr. Paul Brantley was sent from Oakwood to lay the foundation for the organization. He drew up a plan of operation. Dr. Garland Millet, a man of experience started training the first students in the program. Then came Ms. Carol Brooks, a business instructor and Mr. Ray Orr a student missionary. Later, Elder J. Beale, much loved by South Africans, reopened the Theology Department. He conducted evangelistic efforts from which about 100 persons were baptized. Mr. and Mrs. E.D. Brantley also accompanied the other instructors from Oakwood College.

Special tribute should also be given to the General Conference President, Elder Neal Wilson. After seeing the good work done by Oakwood College, he also assisted in the upgrading of Bethel College. Dr. Millet told Elder Wilson that Bethel had no water. Can you imagine a school in a modern country like South Africa without water? The General Conference donated \$5,000 for a library and \$75,000 for a plumbing system to be installed at the college. If it were not for the interest shown by Oakwood College, these things would not have taken place.

There is not an educated ministry among the Black South African constituency. White teachers often quoted



*Testimonies to South Africa p. 97*, under the heading 'Students Going to America', where Mrs. E.G. White said students should not be sent to America. They consciously omitted the part which said, "The very best teachers should be sent from America to foreign countries to educate the youth".

In 1984 Bethel had the privilege of having Dr. Benjamin F. Reaves address them at graduation. South Africans desire that Oakwood College accept them and take Bethel College under its wing.

## REGIONAL CONFERENCES/ CHURCHES MEMBERSHIPS

### 1986

Northeastern Conference	29,992
South Atlantic Conference	19,366
Lake Region Conference	19,264
South Central Conference	18,344
Alleghany East Conference	18,036
Pacific Union Conference (Regional)	18,036
	(Prox.)
Southeastern Conference	13,025
Southwest Region Conference	12,288
Alleghany West Conference	9,790
Central States conference	7,495
Bermuda Conference	2,324
Pacific Northwest Union (Regional)	1,200
	(Prox.)

\* \* \*

Total Memberships—1986 169,160

## HISTORY AND IMPORTANCE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

—"The pen is mightier than the sword"

When the General Conference leadership dissolved the Office of Regional Affairs (formerly the Regional Department) in 1978, the leaders also closed the North American Informat, the official journal of the Black constituency in North America. During the Paper's existence, articles had to be approved by a special committee at the General Conference before publication. The same was true of MESSAGE Magazine. It was very difficult to communicate to the North American Black Church what they really need to know regarding the work.

Perhaps the shutting down of the Informat was a blessing in disguise. It enabled the Black leadership to come together and discuss the need for an instrument with which to communicate to the membership of Black churches across the United States. Thus the concept of the North American Regional Voice was born.

Initially, three conferences—North-eastern, Central States and Northeastern—published several of the issues without much difficulty.

All conference leaders did not become a part of the venture; they waited to see how it would fair. Some in high places called it a 'Mickey Mouse' paper and others referred to it as 'that Black paper'. Some even felt that it would disappear after a few issues. The journal is presently

celebrating its eighth year of publication with an approximate circulation of 40,000. Several conferences have withdrawn from the venture however, Northeastern, Southeastern, South Central, Alleghany East and Central States Conferences still stand together to help this project succeed.

FINANCES have been a challenge for the life of the Voice. At its inception, the General Conference was still placing

# The Editor's Desk

## TITHE INCOME: REGIONAL CONFERENCES/CHURCHES vs DIVISIONS OF WORLD FIELD

REGIONAL CONFERENCES/CHURCHES NAD	\$ 50,590,000
Euro-Africa Division	\$ 34,683,170
Inter-American Division	\$ 33,025,736
South American Division	\$ 22,043,777
South Pacific Division	\$ 21,110,918
Far East Division	\$ 19,264,021
Attached Fields-Africa/south	\$ 4,703,817
Africa-Indian Ocean Division	\$ 3,833,061
East African Division	\$ 3,323,703
Southern Asia Division	\$ 706,555
General Conference-Miscellaneous	\$ 411,966
North American Division	\$287,163,420
	(Less Regional Work)
North American Division Total**	\$337,753,429**

## SUNSET CALENDAR

	Sept. 25	Oct. 2	9	16
Boston, Mass.	6:34	6:25	6:13	6:01
New York City	6:47	6:35	6:23	6:12
Buffalo, N.Y.	7:07	6:55	6:41	6:31
Atlanta, Ga.	7:31	7:21	7:12	7:03
Miami, Fla.	7:14	7:07	6:58	6:52
Charlotte, N.C.	7:17	7:07	6:57	6:48
Birmingham, Ala.	6:40	6:30	6:21	6:12
Jackson, Miss.	6:54	6:45	6:36	6:27
Memphis, Tenn.	6:53	6:43	6:33	6:24
Louisville, Ky.	7:36	7:25	7:14	7:04
Detroit, Mich.	7:26	7:14	7:02	6:50
Chicago, Ill.	6:43	6:31	6:19	6:08
South Bend, Indiana	6:38	6:26	6:14	6:03
Minneapolis, Minn.	7:06	6:52	6:40	6:27
St. Louis, Mo.	6:54	6:43	6:32	6:28
Kansas City, Mo.	7:11	7:00	6:49	6:39
Denver, Co.	6:53	6:41	6:32	6:20
Little Rock, Ark.	7:00	6:52	6:44	6:33
Dallas, Texas	7:20	7:11	7:02	6:53
New Orleans, La.	6:53	6:45	6:37	6:24
Albuquerque, N.M.	6:59	6:50	6:41	6:31
Oklahoma City, Okla.	7:23	7:13	7:04	6:54

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



\$5,000 into its operating budget each year for publication of the Informat. This was continued until the total set aside was \$45,000.00. When asked that these funds be given to help with publication of the Voice, the request was denied.

The original printing of the Regional Voice was done at the University Press at Andrews University. It was soon discovered that the Voice was being overcharged and in some instances a clarity of billings could not be given. This arrangement became strained and another publishing company in Indiana was engaged. The cost have been reduced and the Regional Voice is going to make it!

Today, the journal is being circulated across the nation and to several foreign countries. It is hoped that the Allegheny West, South Atlantic, Southwest Region and Lake Region Conferences will once again join the ranks of the Voice in keeping Black members informed as to what is taking place in the regional church circles of this organization. Bermuda, the Pacific Union, and the Pacific Northwest Union should make this a special promotional project in their churches.

Just a few months ago, Elder W.G. Johnson, editor of the Adventist Review expressed his concerns about the 2% of Black membership in the North American Division subscribing to the official church paper. When told that the journal had failed to inform the NAD Black membership of events taking place in their churches through the years, changes in the practice were instituted. He is to be commended for this courageous step.

Among the union monthlies, news from the regional conferences was also scarce although each conference was assessed an annual fee for publication of their news items. It costs more for some conferences to contribute to their union monthlies than it does to support the Voice, and it should be noted that the majority of those currently supporting the Voice are also supporting their union journals.

The North American Regional Voice must continue to keep the Black membership informed as to what is taking place in these sectors of the church. Issues are being addressed that have to do with their very existence as a people.

There are some frustrating months when the persons responsible for getting the news to the editors failed to meet the deadline. It then becomes a challenge to

get news from some areas to give their conference a good representation in the journal for that month. It is requested that the leadership encourage those persons who have been assigned this tremendous responsibility to see that the information is in on time.

The Regional Voice staff is desirous that those organizations not currently in the Voice consider making it a priority item during budget discussions for the coming year. The people want the Voice, and the cost of sending the journal to each home could be done at minimal cost. One dollar per member of the total conference membership could pay the yearly assessment; however, the cost is greater when just a few participate.

Every effort should be made to get the journal into each home in the regional conferences during the coming year.

## ALLEGHENY EAST

### 40TH CLASS LARGEST IN PINE FORGE HISTORY

With Headmaster Conrad Gill officiating, Pine Forge Academy celebrated its 40th Commencement Exercise by awarding diplomas to 78 seniors; the largest number ever to graduate from the academy since the school opened in 1946.

The class of 1987 was not only the largest in the school's history, but also had the distinction of having the largest percentage of students graduate with honors. More than one-third of the class were honor students.

Brian Johnson of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was the class valedictorian. Kevin Cox of Richmond, Virginia was the salutatorian.

Nearly \$300,000 in college scholarships

were awarded during the 90 minute ceremony.

One of the most moving events of the ceremony was the Pine Forge Academy Choir rendition of "We Shall Behold Him", featuring for the last time Nathaleen McMillian of Washington, D.C. as soloist. McMillian was a three-year student of the academy and was often a featured soloist with the nationally recognized choir. Miss McMillian studied in Germany during her 10th grade year. She ended the song with tears streaming down her cheeks as the more than 1,200 person audience joined in a standing ovation.

Headmaster Gill talked about the excellence of Pine Forge Academy and how it seeks to bring out of each student the good, sincere qualities that have been instilled over many years of parental love, teacher patience and God given attributes. Gill also expressed appreciation for those who during the summer of 1986 gave of themselves and their means to help make the Pine Forge campus comfortable for the students. He expressed a desire to continue the same type of constituency involvement for 1987.

The Pine Forge Academy student enrollment represented students from 36 states including Alaska and two foreign countries including Switzerland.

—Robert L. Booker,  
Correspondent

### STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Charlyce Wallington and David Doggette, members of Emmanuel SDA Church, Md., are recipients of scholarship awards from Oakwood College

David Doggette, for maintaining a 3.85 Grade Point Average over the last 4 years while attending Oakland Mills High School



*The 1987 graduating class of Pine Forge Academy.*



in Columbia, MD., received a four year academic scholarship totaling \$5,000; a Student Leadership Award for \$1,000; for Vice President of Student Body and as Sophomore Class President \$1,000; and a four-year Work Study program scholarship of \$1,200 per year for four years—totaling \$4,800. David will be attending Oakwood College.

Charlyce Wallington received an Outstanding Academic Achievement Scholarship for maintaining a 4.0 GPA for the past four years while attending Takoma Academy, totaling \$21,500 per year for four years; for High Honor Graduate a \$1,500 scholarship; and a four year Work Study Program Scholarship for \$1,200 per year for the next four years. Charlyce will also be attending Oakwood College.

—Ella L. Murphy  
Communication Secretary

### ELDERS' RETREAT HELD AT PINE FORGE

The annual Allegheny East Conference Elders' Retreat was held on the campus of Pine Forge Academy June 5 - 7.

The Elders' Retreat is a time dedicated to local elders from Allegheny East Conference churches. The weekend activities feature seminars, sermons, and workshops.

Retreat 1987 featured Dr. Hans K. Larondelle, Professor of Theology from Andrews University Theological Seminary. He presented a series of discourses on the unique and inspirational quality of the Psalms.

Mrs. Betty Lou Hartlein, also of Andrews University conducted a seminar on "When the Going Gets Tough: the Coping Christian", dealing with stress producing situations that the average Christian goes through and methods of dealing with it as found in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.

The Sabbath School program provided a special challenge as Geraldine Handy, a retired conference worker talked about "morbus sabbaticus" or Sabbathitis. Mrs. Gwendolyn Norwood challenged the elders to be missionaries at home and at the work place. Elder Robert Booker, conference Communication Director, presented the Sabbath School lesson in a very unique way. He confronted each person with their participation in the crucifixion of Christ.

The Elders' Retreat was planned and coordinated by the conference president, M.C. Van Putten.

—Robert L. Booker,  
Correspondent

## CENTRAL STATES



*Pastor Rodney Draggon presents baptismal certificates to the new members of Bethesda.*

### BAPTISM AT BETHESDA

The Bethesda Church in Omaha, Ne., recently celebrated the baptism of several persons. The Finley family was baptized, along with Ms. Ruth Bensiner. Both studied with Mr. and Mrs. Haskell Lee, who were instrumental in helping them to make decisions for Christ.

Also, one of the church members had a daughter baptized; little Glenda Webb.

### PARK HILL HOLDS YOUTH WEEK OF PRAYER

The Park Hill SDA Church in Denver, Co., recently held its annual Youth Week of Prayer. The theme was "The Family and its Social Relationships."

Each service began with songs, and musical selections performed by various artists. Speakers for the week each presented knowledgeable and informative sermons on family relationships and social needs that are urgent not only for the young but for everyone.

Health reform, love towards one another, faith and Christian fellowship were presented during the meetings.

### LINDSAY SCHOOL HOLDS FIRST GRADUATION

It was a bright, sunny day on the tree-lined campus of Central States Conference Center in Kansas City, Kansas when the very first eighth grade graduates began to assemble for their historic march to the great chapel.

From the beautiful song by the primary grades, to the challenge by Elder Wintley Phipps, the occasion proceeded in symmetrical order. This graduation ended a banner year for the V. Lindsay SDA School, Kansas City, Missouri. The school, is named

in honor of the late Elder Von Goethe Lindsay, who worked untiringly to establish a school for Black youth in the Kansas City area. His dream was not realized until his death. The school opened its doors on Sept. 2, 1986 with sixty-three students.

The V. Lindsay School is presently housed in the lower level of the Real Truth SDA Church. The facilities offer spacious, well-lit classrooms and a large auditorium. The area was remodeled to meet the needs of the school.

Special events occurring during the year included:

- Parent/Teacher/Student Buffet
- Bonfire/Hayride
- Fall/Spring Weeks of Prayer
- Love Fest
- Christmas Program
- Publication of school paper
- Student Association Elections
- Class trip - Atlanta, Ga/Huntsville, Al
- Organization of school band
- V. Lindsay Days—School choir performances at area churches
- Publication of first Yearbook

The V. Lindsay Junior Academy will begin its next school year with the addition of grades 9 and 10, which will be housed on the campus of the Central States Conference Center.

The school is in the process of establishing a library. Books are sought to aid in this endeavor. Those individuals interested in donating books to the library, please contact the principal, David Green, at:

P.O. Box 090526  
Kansas City, Missouri 64109  
(816) 931-3973

—David Green  
Correspondent





*Seventh and eighth graders along with Mr. David Green.*



*The staff of the V. Linsay School, (left to right) David Green, principal and 7 and 8 grade teacher; Rose Robinson, preschool/kindergarten instructor; Shirley Fordham, teacher grades 1-3; Freda Wallace, teacher grades 4-6; Dr. N. Miller, Superintendent of Education for Central States Conference.*

## LAKE REGION

### KING'S DAUGHTERS DAY AT CAPITOL CITY

The King's Daughters, Chapter I and II of

Indianapolis held their annual King's Daughters Day on May 16 at the Capitol City Church in Indianapolis, In. The Indianapolis chapters were host to chapters from Cincinnati and Columbus, Oh.; and Detroit, Mi.

The Sabbath School theme was Loyalty

to My Mission. Vesta Bell, of Chapter I, served as Sabbath School Superintendent. Joyce Massey of Chapter II served as Secretary. The prevailing thought was—God has a mission for each of us, we must ask ourselves the question, Are we loyal to our mission?

Guest Speaker for the 11:00 o'clock service was Iris McChristian Allen, President of Eastern Region, Federated King's Daughters.

A Christian Home Seminar was presented in the afternoon with focus on proper tools and materials for building a Christian home. Individuals with building expertise spoke about the proper construction of a home beginning with the footings and foundation, working up to the roof. As each section was mentally completed, the spiritual significance was projected.

The Federated King's Daughters is a national service for Adventist women with chapters in many states throughout the country.

During the 11 o'clock service Jean Holcomb of Chapter II presented to Pastor Jerome Davis, 25 Church Hymnals, (new edition) plus two spiral bound hymnals for the organist and pianist.

Members of Chapter I are presently involved in a project to replace the draperies in the Sanctuary overflow, Pastor's Study and the Secretary's office. These are just two examples of the projects the King's Daughters' organization sponsor.

—Charli Cartwright  
Communications Secretary

### CAPITOL CITY YOUTH RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

Todd A. Chapman was one of 16 High School seniors to receive the Eugene C. Pulliam Carrier Scholarship. The grants are to a college or university of the recipient's choice. The scholarship was awarded on a competitive basis. Todd is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Ulysses Chapman; all are members of the Capitol City Church in Indianapolis, In. Todd has been very active in many departments of the church. He has served as junior deacon; he is a member of JOY choir and the Flames of Joy, a young men's chorale. He was just recently selected to receive an award from the members of JOY choir.

—Charli Cartwright  
Communications Secretary



## CHURCH SCHOOL ALUMNI DAY INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

August 1, 1987 has been designated as Alumni Day for Capitol City Elementary School. The years 60's and 70's will be honored. Former students, teachers and friends are invited. The planning Committee is seeking names and addresses of former students. For more information contact Mrs. Ann L. Ross, 3527 N. Rural, Indianapolis, In. (317) 545-0942

## CARLOS BLAKE CONDUCTS AY WEEK OF PRAYER

The Adventist Youth department of Capitol City Church held a spirit filled Week of Prayer. Carlos Blake, associate Pastor of New Life Church of Chicago, was the nightly speaker. His theme was: "Is the Young Man Absalom Safe" taken from the story in 2nd Samuel. Nightly the youth participated serving as ushers, offering prayer or giving special music. They were present each night in large numbers.

Each night the youth were challenged to a higher level of spirituality by Pastor Blake.

On Sabbath Pastor Blake concluded by inspiring the youth to make Christ the center of their lives so that their final destiny would not be as Absalom's was.

Lloyetta Warren is AY leader for the Capitol City Church.

—Charli Cartwright  
Communications Secretary

## J.O.Y. CELEBRATES FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

J.O.Y. (Jesus Oriented Youth), a youth choir at Capitol City Church, celebrated their 4th Anniversary on Sabbath, May 23, 1987.

The choir presently has 21 active members. They have been involved in witnessing by distributing literature, singing in nursing homes and various churches.

In closing remarks, Elder Jerome Davis, pastor of Capitol City Church, commended the choir members for their faithfulness in spite of the problems they had experienced. He also stated that this is a crucial time for the youth of the church, and he solicited the continued support and prayers of the membership on behalf of all of our youth.

Bruce Seawood is Founder and Director of J.O.Y.

## NORTHEASTERN

### FLATBUSH SCHOOL CONTINUES TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

During the school year of 1986-87, the Flatbush SDA, Brooklyn, N.Y., School continued its tradition of excellence. In events such as the Spelling Bee and Science Fair, Flatbush maintained its number one status among elementary schools in the Northeastern Conference.

A computer program for students in grades K—8 was developed and the school's office was computerized making billing and communication more efficient. Much needed repairs were also made on the school's premises.

Plaques were awarded to: Ms. Joyce Blackman and Ms. Joyce Scarlet for over 25 years of dedicated service to education; Ms. Ceilea Levy and Ms. Blackman for preparing the students for top achievement in the science and spelling competitions; Mr. Edson Jarvis for his patience and perseverance in putting together the first yearbook for Flatbush; and Mr. Steve L. Beckford for his selfless service to Flatbush and to the furtherance of Christian education.

Recognizing that the aims of Christian education are two-fold, academic and spiritual, a committee chaired by Ms. Smith was formed to emphasize spirituality among the students. Following a Week of Prayer conducted by Pastor Chapman, a Bible class was conducted from which several students were baptized.

### THE FRUITS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY EXPERIENCED AT FLATBUSH CHURCH

What is religious liberty? Some answers are: freedom of worship, the right to worship God in the manner that one chooses without coercion and with a free conscience. Religious liberty also insures that the government will not impose religious legislation.

Cited below are two cases of religious liberty that touched the Flatbush Church family in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Oswald Francois, a Transit Authority employee visited the 1986 summer evangelistic crusade sponsored by the Flatbush Church. The speaker, Dr. Robert Lister appealed to the congregation to give their hearts to God and Oswald decided to do just that. Determined to join the Adventist faith, he approached his employer requesting Saturdays free. This request was denied. Nevertheless Oswald

continued to study.

In 1987, instead of working, Oswald attended church on Sabbaths and was baptized on April 4. A letter from the pastor was sent to his employer and within a few weeks Oswald received Sabbaths off.

Wayne Williams, a health care worker was denied Sabbaths off. He resigned and for several weeks was unemployed. God rewarded Wayne's faithfulness and he now works for the Rona Alarm System. His very first assignment involved installing an alarm system in the Flatbush Church.

### ACADEMY STUDENTS BAPTIZED AT EPHEBUS CHURCH

Northeastern Academy not only teaches academics, the teachers also believe that they should, "Teach . . . all things whatsoever I have commanded you, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost."

On June 6, 1987 at the Ephesus SDA Church in New York City, Pastor Edward Herndon, Bible instructor at the academy, officiated at the baptismal service of several Northeastern Academy students.

These student's baptisms came as a result of Weeks of Prayer held by Pastors Edmond and D. Osborne. A study class was formed and taught by Mrs. M. Myrtle Smith, Bible Instructor for Bethel SDA Church in Brooklyn, NY.

### OBITUARY

Eunice Faye Lammie, born March 8, 1927 in Wilmington, North Carolina, died July 17, 1987 in New York City.

Mrs. Lammie was educated in the public schools of Wilmington, De., and after graduating from high school migrated to New York City, where she received a nursing degree from Hostos Community College. She did further study at John Jay College. She was employed as a nurse for 25 years.

Growing up in a religious home, Faye joined the Butler Memorial A.M.E. Church after coming to New York. She was united with the Adventist church as a result of an evangelistic effort held by Elder Albert White during the summer of 1974.

Eunice Faye Lammie is survived by her husband Percival, a daughter Candice, her stepmother Mary Fields, four aunts, and many other relatives and friends.

### BRONX TEMPLE HEADS "TRACT ATTACK"

The Personal Ministry Department of the Bronx Temple SDA Church, Bronx, N.Y., launched a tract drive in Bronx, N.Y. It has been in operation since the beginning of the year.



Mrs. Beulah Davis, department head, and her associates were responsible for distributing over 6,000 tracts in the neighborhood.

### THOUSANDS ATTEND NORTHEASTERN CAMPMEETING

June 26 through July 4, Northeastern Conference held their annual campmeeting celebration. Thousands from all over New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island gathered on the Victory Lake Campground in Hyde Park, Ny., for 10 days of activity designed to keep campers of all ages occupied.

The theme featured on the campmeeting booklet was "Pastors and Laymen Moving the Caring Church". In order for the caring church to move forward, it must be educated; campmeeting '87 certainly provided many learning opportunities. The weekly schedule was filled with seminars sponsored by the Education, Personal Ministries, Publishing, Stewardship, Church Growth, and Temperance departments. In addition, Dr. Richard Williams of Rochester, Ny., led a seminar entitled, "The Black Family".

Featured speakers for the Sabbath morning services in the Senior Pavilion were Dr. Silburn M. Reid, president of the West Indies Union and Dr. Calvin B. Rock, vice president from the General Conference of SDA. Individuals from various districts of Northeastern led out in the vesper services during the week.

Elder Herman Davis of Southeastern Conference was the daily vesper speaker at the Youth Pavilion which is fondly called the three tabernacles, because of the three large tents needed to house the



*Combined choirs from the Linden Boulevard Church, Laurelton, NY perform during a divine worship service.*



*Dr. D. L. Moore, forefront right administers the life expectancy exam.*



*Dr. Silburn Reid addresses the large congregation during campmeeting.*



*A camper gets blood pressure check-up at the health tent.*



young people of Northeastern. Elder Davis led out in the Sabbath services on July 4 as well. Speaker for divine worship June 27 was Elder Alvin Kibble of the Allegheny East Conference.

Other activities planned with youth in mind included an A.Y. honor class, Vacation Bible School and a Temperance Oratorical Contest. Bible Bowl Championships were also held with Corona's junior team and Christian Fellowship's senior team coming out on top.

By taking a computerized life expectancy test given by Dr. D.L. Moore of Living Springs Ministries, many campers were able to receive an estimate of their lifespan.

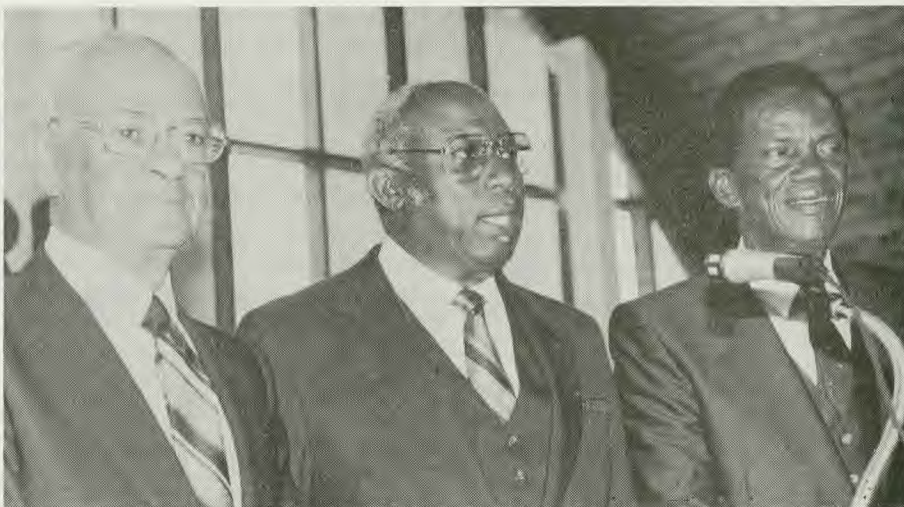
During each of the two campmeeting Sabbaths, ceremonies were held honoring outstanding leadership and service given to Northeastern Conference. The camp dining facility was renamed the "George R. Earle Cafeteria" in honor of the former conference president during a special service held Sabbath, June 27. The following Sabbath Elder Garnett Riddick of Poughkeepsie, Ny., was presented an award of appreciation. For over 20 years Elder Riddick has been the chorister for the early morning devotion services during campmeeting. Also, Mrs. Rosa Lee Jones, retired Bible Instructor, and members of the New Believers Chorus received a distinguished service award for helping to make the Victory Lake Nursing Home a reality.

The ordination service is always a solemn ceremony and this year four ministers were presented this rite; Pastors Eldeen C. King, Timothy P. Nixon, Max-Jose Pierre, and Roberto Reyna. Elder D.B. Reid, retired minister from South Central Conference was the guest speaker during this service.

After being charged to faithful service by Elder S.H. Brooks, conference treasurer, and welcomed into the fellowship of Adventist preachers by Elder L.G. Cox conference ministerial director, the newly installed ministers were warmly received by fellow ministers. Elder Walter Arties of Breath of Life Ministries and the ministers' wives provided music for the service.

Other special guests of Northeastern Conference during its encampment were Elder P.S. Follett, Atlantic Union Conference President, Elder P.H. Kamilos, Publishing Director for Atlantic Union Conference, and Elder Tim Walters of West Indies Union.

—D. Wilson



*Left to right; Elders D. B. Reid, L. G. Newton, and T. Walters.*



*Mrs. Rosa Lee Jones, center, receives award from conference officials.*



*Elder L. G. Newton, extreme right, present Mr. and Mrs. Garnett Riddick award of appreciation.*



## SOUTH CENTRAL

### REFLECTION ON A MISSION EXPERIENCE, PART 2

During summer vacation, Lavetta and I, along with the Newborns and the Harts went camping in Masai, Mara, an extension of the Serengete Safari Park in Kenya. During the early morning hours, Dee Hart was awakened by something moving outside of the tent. It was a lion! The only thing separating the king of the jungle from his midnight snack was a plastic wall. The lion ripped a couple of jagged holes, thrust in a claw, snatched a basket from beside Dee and scattered its contents in the surrounding bush. The rest of the group now awake, signaled to Todd Hart, sleeping in the car to blow the horn turn on the lights and start the motor. The lion abruptly disappeared, not from fear but from annoyance. Like Daniel, Dee can say, "My God has shut the lions' mouths."

My medical work was rather routine after 40 years of surgery in the United States. I treated simple injuries, hepatitis, diarrhea, malaria, simple injuries, migraines, infections, and minor surgical procedures.

Since many specialities are present in Nairobi, specialty board qualifications are required of those using major hospital facilities such as theatre and coronary care. Not having a surgical degree, my hospital cases were limited to diagnostic work and treatment of medical cases.

Language adjustment in Kenya wasn't too difficult because English is the official language and Swahili is widely spoken. Swahili is a relatively easy language to learn. Since I never used it regularly, I didn't become fluent. However, I was able to speak a few words, "open your mouth," "breath," "turn over," "take off your clothes," "does this hurt?" and other expressions. My Swahili was sufficient for a complete examination, but detailed histories had to be done through a translator.

My working staff was dedicated and well trained. Sellina Onimba, the secretary-receptionist was a 4'10" Tanzanian who spoke Swahili and British English. "Kidogo," my nickname for her, translated in Swahili means little, was a perfectionist. She would write out my dictation in long hand, make me correct it, then submit her perfect copy for signature.

Nahoshon Kiamba, laboratory technician, did all the lab work for 3 doctors. He is an industrious, hard working, Christian man. Kiamba is the father of five, who on a monthly salary of \$450 managed to put a down payment on a house and pay \$1250 cash for a used car.

Mrs. Damaris Mainda, the wife of a banker, is the accountant and business manager for the clinic. For 14 years she has worked faithfully with the Health and Welfare Association not out of necessity but rather out of love for God. Mrs. Mainda pays all the bills, keeps up the physical plant, watches the budget, supervises the maintenance crew and manages personnel.

My medical colleagues, Drs. Zofia and Jonazz Lypo, a husband and wife team, joined me in August 1985. Jonazz is an internist and his wife, Zofia is a gynecologist. The Lypo's are dedicated missionary team having previously served in Nigeria for seven years. They are an asset to the clinic; their arrival has professionally and financially strengthened the clinic. Dr. Zofia Lypo has been granted a place on the gynecological and surgical staff of the Nairobi and Aga Khan Hospitals. Dr. Jonazz Lypo's practice is growing steadily.

During my stay in Kenya, I came in contact with the rich, the poor, the powerful and the influential. Shortly after beginning my work an American gentleman was brought to the clinic suffering with influenza. After treating him, one of his friends asked if I were acquainted the Living Bible. "Of course," I answered. He then revealed that my patient was Dr. Ken Taylor, translator of the Living Bible. Dr. Taylor, a very warm, Christian man, spoke of the 18 years he devoted to prayerful study of the Greek and Hebrew text trying to find the real meaning of the text. Dr. Taylor remembered with enthusiasm the satisfaction he received when his work was accepted. Before his final visit, he gave my wife and I an autographed copy of the Living Bible.

During my mission service, I discovered the respect that one multicorporation has for our church. Every year we would examine the executive staff of the Kenya Canners, a subsidiary of Del Monte. These executives who traveled around the world confided that wherever their business takes them they always look for a SDA clinic or hospital.

One patient that stands out in my mind, was a fragile Kenyan woman, who came

into my office with her hand swollen nearly twice the normal size. She explained, it all started as a small cut on her little finger. After one week of home care, the finger grew worse. Upon closer examination I discovered she was diabetic and her condition was quite serious. I administered penicillin, drained the abscessed pocket. Soaking along with oral antibiotics reduced the swelling and pain but the little finger was turning black. I regrettably had to amputate her finger. I gave her the best medical care and with overwhelming gratitude, this "shilling less" woman, left the clinic overjoyed.

During a routine check up one of my patients, a friendly man, confided in me that he had just been appointed the Kenyan Ambassador to China. During the course of our conversation, Mr. Jelian Habib invited my wife and I to stop in Peking on our return to the States. Was he just being gracious or did he really mean that we should be his guest at the embassy? The offer was too good to be true.

Before making our final travel plans I checked with the Kenyan Office of Foreign Affairs and was told the offer was genuine. I was also informed that Mr. Habib would be returning to Kenya for surgery on the advice of an SDA physician in Hong Kong. As soon as Mr. Habib arrived from Peking he came in for consultation. It was my privilege to assist with his surgery and visit him during his convalescence. Before returning to China, he invited Lavetta and I to attend the inspection of the new 60,000 seat stadium built and donated by China to Kenya.

We accepted his invitation, arrived at the appointed time and received a special welcome from the Chinese Ambassador, the Somalian Ambassador, the Greek Ambassador, the Kenyan Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs (both the Secretary and his wife were my patients), and members of the Kenyan and Chinese Foreign Offices.

The facilities were elegant. Our host, the Chinese Embassy entourage, were especially kind. They had been informed of our proposed trip to Kenya. Following the tour the Chinese Embassy hosted a dinner. The specially prepared vegetarian dishes for my wife and I were delicious.

We did make our planned trip to Peking. We were treated royally. I don't know why God gave me favor with these



men, but I do hope I'll not fail to accomplish His purpose.

At a recent East African Union Session, following my report, one of the ministers asked the question, "How many souls have you baptized?" Of course, I answered, none, our function is to be an entering wedge softening hearts and allaying prejudice so the gospel might do its work when presented.

One prime example of my role as a sower, is the relationship I have developed with a Sikh attorney. We have had some deep discussions about Christianity. Who knows what God will do.

The gospel is spreading throughout Africa like an epidemic. The church in Kenya doesn't need to conduct an evangelistic crusade, they have only to indoctrinate the people knocking on the church's door. The baptismal class conducted by Mutoku Mutinga, Ph.D., has outgrown its small room in the church, filled the available space in the Better Living Center Auditorium and continues to grow. When the Bible students have finished their studies they always bring one or more relatives to take their place.

Finding seating for a newly baptized member poses a problem. There are no seats left, no aisles left vacant. Soon the converts will have to meet house to house like the early Christian church. A 4,000 seat church will be filled to the capacity before it can be completed.

Kenya has one of the fastest growing Christian populations in Africa. Religious freedom is guaranteed to every Kenyan. Public school facilities are made available for Christians to give Bible instructions to students willing to attend classes during their free time.

President Daniel Arap Moi recognizes the importance of religion. He attends a different church every week. Recently, he established an official five-day work week. He specifically mentioned that one of his primary reasons was to make sure that SDA could worship freely without having to jeopardize their livelihood.

It was rewarding having the privilege to spread the gospel in Africa. I hope that some of you reading this article will fill the vacancy I left.

### **FIRST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST TOWERS OPEN IN HUNTSVILLE**

On Sunday, May 3, the First Seventh-day Adventist Towers, sponsored by the members of the First SDA Church, Huntsville, Alabama, grand opening celebration

was held. The Towers is a five story structure, including seventy-six one bedroom apartments, a large community room with adjacent kitchen, spacious laundry facilities, furnished lounge and reception area, outdoor patio and sitting area on each floor.

The opening of the complex brought to a climax a long period of planning and hard work on the part of William Christian, contractor; Pearce Construction Company; Southeastern Management; Management Enterprise and Adventist Towers Board of Directors.

On hand for the opening ceremonies were a number of local and state government, community and church leaders. Music was furnished by Thomas Lyle, John Gill, Edrene Malcolm and Lillian Redcross.

—Nell R. Anthony

### **BREATH OF LIFE CHURCH HOLDS ANNUAL LADIES DAY**

The Breath of Life Church, Memphis, Tennessee, held its annual Ladies Day on May 9. Pastor D.C. Edmonds presented the morning message, "The Woman that Found a Man." In the afternoon a combination Pathfinder concert and Women's Day presentation was held.

—Darrell Thomas & Juanita Holland  
Correspondents

### **YOUTH WEEK OF PRAYER HELD AT BREATH OF LIFE CHURCH**

"We are Winners," was the theme of the Youth Week of Prayer held April 19-25, for the members of the Breath of Life SDA Church, Memphis, Tn. The Week of Prayer spearheaded by youth pastor, Michael Holland began with a fellowship dinner for the entire church.

The topics for the week were: "Part-Time Christian," "Perfection: A Reflection of Christ," "The Best for the Less," "I'm Cool and I'm Bad." The youth lead out in the worship services during the week.

—Darrell K. Thomas & Juanita Holland  
Correspondents

## **SOUTHEASTERN**

### **RADIO COMMENTATOR HONORED AT GUEST DAY**

Jim Rhinehart, host of a local radio program entitled "Conflict", was presented the annual Community Service Award at the Town & Country SDA Church in Tampa,

Florida. The program focuses on community activities and it was fitting that on Community Guest Day this worthy citizen was recognized.

"Conflict" was instrumental in calming recent racial disturbances taking place in Tampa. Pastor Eugene Armstead Sr., was a featured guest on the program as a religious community leader.

Olga Britton, Sabbath School Superintendent, engineered the day's activities. In addition to the plaque, Mr. Rhinehart was given a subscription to Message Magazine.

### **GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HONORED AT COMMUNITY GUEST DAY**

Florida House representative Al Lawson and Tallahassee Mayor Jack McLean, Jr., were honored by Maranatha Church members, Tallahassee, Fl. These men have distinguished themselves in outstanding community service.

In place of the usual Community Service Award, Pastor Boyd presented each with a copy of the book "The Triumph of God's Love". Both commented, "We are often very busy, but we will take time to read this book".

### **ELDER C.L. BROOKS BRINGS MUSIC TO COMMUNITY GUEST DAY**

C.L. Brooks, Assistant Director of Church Ministries for the General Conference, visited the Northside SDA Church in Miami, Florida during their Community Guest Day.

Elder Brooks performed a mini-concert in the afternoon, and as one responsible for the Adventist Church Hymnal involved the audience in an appreciation for the book by explaining its many features.

Tyrone Backers, director of Community Crusade Against Drugs received the Community Award. Pastor W. Lester Taylor hosted the occasion.

### **PORTIA SPENCER CITED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE**

Portia Spencer, Executive Director of the Seminole County Head Start program in Sanford, Florida since its inception, was cited by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Human Development Services Administration for Children, Youth and Families Region 4 for her extraordinary community service.

The Mars Hill SDA Church in Sanford, Fl. also singled Ms. Spencer out for outstanding community service by presenting her with a plaque.





*Ordination, June 27. (left to right) Elder and Mrs. Brent Waldon, Elder and Mrs. Jean Claude Brutus.*

## **WHAT IS CAMPMEETING IN SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE?**

"Come to these meetings prepared to work. Leave your home cares and come to find Jesus, and He will be found of you. Come with your offerings as Jesus has blessed you. The object of camp meeting is to lead all to separate from business cares and burdens, and devote a few days exclusively to seeking the Lord. We should occupy the time in self-examination, close searching of heart, penitential confession of sins, and renewing of our vows to the Most High." 2T, p. 601

Campmeeting 1987 was all of the above and then some. The successes of Southeastern Conference have due to a hard-working group of pastors, and with them teachers, and literature evangelists. They all came to campmeeting and worked with camp superintendent James Williams to prepare tents, cabins, grounds, and the pavillion for worship.



*Nurses on duty during campmeeting.*



Campmeeting was Christian fellowship, with old friends renewing acquaintances and new ones being formed. Conference Wide Development offering struck a new high. Pastors and lay persons brought offerings of approximately \$108,000.00, a record.

Campmeeting was wonderful preaching. It was doctors and nurses overseeing and caring for those needing medical care. It was workshops of varied kinds, old fashioned midnight prayer meetings, ordination, baptism, shepherdess night, publishing meetings, and much more. Campmeeting '87 was the Breath of Life telecast, taping one of its programs for a later release. It was ten days in Hawthorne, Fl., in 80 and 90 degree temperatures.

Guests included: Elders W.S. Banfield, C.D. Brooks, S.D. Meyers, and D. Williams from the General Conference; Sandy Robinson of the North American Division; A.C. McClure, O.J. McKinney, S. Crook, and G. Powell of Southern Union Conference; President and Mrs. S.M. Reid of

West Indies Union Conference; M. Harris of Lake Region Conference; L. Butler of



*Sign language performed by campers demonstrate a part of their camp involvement.*



*Campers participating in T-shirt day, sponsored by the Youth Department, Elder K. A. Dennis director.*



## BIBLE COMMENTARIES ARRIVE SAFELY IN SOVIET UNION

Word has been received from our leaders in the Soviet Union that the shipment of 50 sets of *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, sent to the U.S.S.R. by the Review and Herald, has been received. A skid carrying these 10-volume sets left the Baltimore harbor May 24 on the ship *Heidi*, but instead of landing in the harbor at Leningrad, it was sent by the shipping company to Antwerp, Belgium. After a search carried out by our shipping broker, we discovered that the books were being held in Soviet customs in Antwerp, and we obtained permission from the Council of Religious Affairs in Moscow to secure their release. Permission was granted and the books were loaded onto a ship bound for a Baltic port in the Soviet Union. "On July 27 we received a phone call from Elder Mikhail Kulakov in the U.S.S.R., assuring us that the books had been received and that he had permission to distribute them to our pastors. Many Adventist members contributed to this project, and I wanted them to know that the books had arrived safely," commented Herold Otis, president of the Review and Herald and the person responsible for asking to bring the books into the country.

—Rose Otis  
Public Relations

### CLASSIFIED AD

Mrs. Jay Golles-Damazo, Associate Dean for Admissions from Loma Linda University School of Medicine will be on the campus of Oakwood College in mid-September. All students planning to apply to Loma Linda School of Medicine for the 1988-89 school year are required to have an interview to complete their application. There will be an opportunity for those students interested in a career in medicine to obtain further information.

Please contact the office of Dr. Emerson Cooper at (205) 837-1630 in order to schedule an appointment.

### CLASSIFIED AD

S.D.A. Registered Nurses needed in Adventist Health System/West hospitals, all areas. Dedication, commitment and example of positive caring needed to represent Christ and His love to patients. Contact Betty Van der Vlugt, AHS/West, (916) 781-4690.

## OAKWOOD COLLEGE



Dr. Mervyn A. Warren.

### ONE MILLION DOLLARS RAISED

Over the past ten years, 1976-86, Dr. Mervyn A. Warren has written ten federal proposals under Title III of the U.S. Department of Education which have yielded a total of \$1,028,972 averaging over \$100,000 annually to the operating budget of Oakwood College. Begun earlier in 1973 by Dr. R. Timothy McDonald as an umbrella for campus-wide programs called "Quin-C" (or the Five C's), the operation had generated considerable help before 1976 for "curriculum," "culture," "communication," "coordination," and "community."

Since 1976, several projects within academic departments have been spawned under each "C", and departments have been encouraged to prepare proposals on their own amounting to an additional two million dollars. In 1983 the name "Quin-C" was changed to "S-E-A-D" (Strengthening Educational and Academic Development) and has beamed its focus more emphatically on instructional and classroom needs. Beyond channeling funds to the departments of Behavioral Sciences, Business and Information Systems, English and Communications, Education, Fine Arts, Home Economics, Music, Nursing, and Physical Education for such things as (1) instructional supplies, (2) instructional equipment, including computers, (3) pro-

fessional travel, and (4) workshops, "Quin-C" and "S-E-A-D" have focused most consistently on (5) faculty development through doctoral studies.

Four departments have been assisted toward national approval, namely: Home Economics with the American Home Economics Association, Music with the National Association of Schools of Music, Nursing with the National League of Nursing, and Education with the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. The Education department under the direction of Dr. Paul Brantley, attained full accreditation in 1983.

Doctoral programs of Oakwood teachers at universities have been supported by providing full salaries to these teachers while away at study or by providing full-time replacements for these teachers as well as providing assistance for their doctoral research, supplies, and travel. Of the some 32 teachers supported thus far, 26 (or 81%) are still serving on the staff. Eleven of the 26 (or 42%) have already attained the earned doctorate, another 11 are yet engaged in terminal degree programs, and 7 of the 11 (or 64%) have completed all residence requirements and are now doing research for and writing their dissertations. This phase of faculty development contributes to the momentum of the early 1970's which grew to increase the percentage of doctorates on the Oakwood faculty from about 22% to 32% in 1979, to 34% in 1980, to 35% in 1981, to 36% in 1983, and to 45% in 1985; thereby enabling Oakwood College to steadily reach and surpass the minimal 33.33% standard required by its accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

When Dr. Warren first assumed directorship of this particular Title III project in 1976, he was Vice-President for Academic Affairs. He has continued to carry it through his years as General Vice President, and later as Executive Assistant to the President and Chairman of the Religion Department.

—Dr. Roy E. Malcolm  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

### "YEAR OF THE READER" CELEBRATED BY DLRC

OAKWOOD COLLEGE—

Developmental Learning Resource Center's (DLRC) Reading Lab celebrates the "Year of the Reader" with new reading equipment and curriculum materials which fires up reading skills.



Our basic aim is to help students:

- 1) improve their reading speed,
- 2) expand their vocabulary,
- 3) discriminate accurately, and
- 4) strengthen their comprehension skills.

We have succeeded so far in accomplishing our goals, but our efforts need the reinforcement of parents and guardians, students, and other educators in order for us to achieve maximum success.

Our program offers students a direction in reading and helps them widen their horizons by implementing various reading activities.

"BOOK IT PROGRAM enters the second year." The headlines in *Reading Today* caught my eye. When I read it in detail, I realized that it was a national reading incentive program in which approximately 7,000,000 elementary school children participated during the first year. I thought it would be of inestimable value if there was a corresponding college level program. However, at DLRC's Reading Lab, we try to help our college freshmen reach higher reading goals.

With the prevailing reading problems, we individualize instructional assistance that the needs of each student can be met efficiently. Our lab is equipped with effective reading machines which we use in our battle against reading incompetency of college freshmen. The following are our latest pieces of equipment:

1. EDL Combo-8 Projector: fosters controlled reading and skill-building.
2. PAVE Sets and filmsticks: builds perceptual accuracy, visual efficiency and also facilitates discrimination of numbers and recognition of letters and words.

The above set of equipment and curriculum materials is for strengthening reading skills and motivating the reluctant reader.

3. Shadowscope Reading Pacer: motivates the student by its guiding shadow of light in faster left to right, or top to bottom eye movements.

4. AVT Learning Systems (Our original machine): covers ten comprehensive skills—main idea, supportive details, sequence, persuasion, drawing, conclusions, etc; it is complete with placement and diagnostic tests.

These materials are also used effectively by those who speak non-standard English, or who use English as a second language.

5. Microcomputer Courseware Package: the phonic series contains vowels, consonants, diagraphs, word recognition skill practice and more.

6. Apple Software: vocabulary builder and analogies for high school and adult students.

It was surprising to note in another issue of *Reading Today* April/May '87 that present reports from the National Commission on Reading, the Librarian of Congress, and others stated, "An alarmingly large number of Americans are not able or motivated to read." Congress then tried to focus national attention on the importance of reading by requesting the President to officially proclaim 1987 "THE YEAR OF THE READER."

"All Americans have been requested to observe this year with appropriate education activities to recognize the importance of restoring reading to a place of preeminence in our personal lives and in the lives of our nation."

Parents, give your youth the key to comprehension, vocabulary, and speed reading. Allow them to have performance-based steps to successful reading achievement. Skills can be improved and students will enjoy the accomplishment of being able to read.

Here at DLRC's Reading Lab we keep planning new strategies to motivate the students. We try to encourage them to share the love of reading which will ultimately fill their needs. Won't you join us in helping your children succeed and with us celebrate 1987: "THE YEAR OF THE READER."

—Cecily Daly  
Reading Specialist

## IN THE NEWS

### OBITUARY—FURMAN FLETCHER FORDHAM

FURMAN F. FORDHAM was the third child of Henry J. and Katherine Fordham, Sr., born in Charleston, Sc. Early in his childhood his parents became SDAs. Furman shared this belief with his parents and was later baptized. He served with distinction as a singing evangelist with numerous ministers, including his three brothers, Wilmont Fordham, W.W. Fordham, Sr. and H.J. Fordham, II. Many souls have come into the church as a result of his musical ministry.

Furman met and married Ruthe Charles

of New York, his former voice student. They shared many rich and memorable years together, as a result of their common musical interests, which brought about global travel, and above all, their love for God and mankind.

Music was his life. The musical career of Furman Fordham has ranged over a period of 60 years, each one filled with distinctive achievements and tributes too numerous to mention.

His training began at the age of eleven in his native Charleston, Sc. He studied piano theory, and harmony under John E. Moore, a well-known music professor who was to instruct him for over eight years. He attended Oakwood Academy and Atlantic Union College. When he was twenty, Furman opened his own studio of musical instruction under the guidance of Professor Moore. In 1924, he became the first Black soloist to perform on radio in the State of South Carolina.

About this time Professor Moore sought and won for his young protegee a scholarship to study voice at Hubbard School of Music in Boston. After completing his studies there, he accepted a teaching post at Allen University in South Carolina.

In 1952, Professor Fordham accepted a position as instructor at the Pierre-Royston Conservatory of Music in New York City, a representative of London's Royal College of Music. Two years later this conservatory awarded him an honorary doctorate degree in Music Education.

In 1958, he trained the 300-voice chorus that performed for six days and nights on the beach of Fort Saint Catherine in Bermuda as part of festivities commemorating the colony's 350th Anniversary. Bermudians called him "The Amazing Dr. Fordham!"

At the 1965 New York World's Fair, Professor Fordham served as music coordinator for the New York State exhibit with such distinction that the exhibit set aside the entire day of August 23, 1965, as an occasion honoring Professor Fordham for his contributions to the special events production of the fair. The highlight of the day came when the professor was presented a Silver Medallion, the fair's highest award.

He left a legacy of music appreciation and oratory by virtue of the fact that many of the leading choral directors, soloists and elocutionists nationwide came under his tutelage. His extraordinary gift of recognizing, nurturing, cultivating and promoting talents of individuals came out of his philosophy, "If you can talk, you can



sing."

The award winning choral group, "The Fordhamaires" who traveled extensively, affectionately called him "Fess".

Just days before he expired, his testimony was "I'm packin' up and gettin' ready to go -and I want to meet all my family and loved ones around the great white throne."

He leaves to mourn: his wife, Ruthe M. Fordham; his sister, Mrs. Jessie R. Wagner; two brothers, Elder W.W. Fordham, Sr. and Elder H.J. Fordham, II; cousins, nieces and nephews, sisters and brothers-in-law; and a host of friends and admirers.

Furman's song has not ended for his melody lingers on, in the hearts of all who loved him.

## OBITUARY

COLONEL LEONARD WILLIAM JOHNSON, JR. was born in St. Augustine, Fl., July 15, 1932 to Leonard William Johnson, Sr. and the former Vera Nell Brooks. At the age of 10, he joined his family's migration North to Elkhart, In., which he called his home. He graduated from Elkhart High School at the age of 14 and completed his pre-medical education with a major in Chemistry at Howard University in Washington, D.C. receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree at the age of 18. He received his Medical Degree from Howard University School of Medicine at the age of 23.

Leonard married the former Louise Mys at Ephesus SDA Church (now Dupont Park SDA Church) December 26, 1953. To this union two children were born: Karen and Leonard W., III.

After his internship at the Los Angeles County General Hospital, he engaged in the private practice of medicine and surgery in San Diego, Ca., for a year-and-a-half prior to entering the military services.

Leonard had been on continuous active duty with the United States Air Force since 1958 and had served in Texas, Germany, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, the Phillippines, Alabama, Arizona, Virginia and Maryland.

In June 1971, after only 12 years and 10 months of active duty, he was promoted to the rank of full colonel becoming at that time the second youngest colonel in the U.S. Air Force Medical Corps.

He also holds a Masters Degree in Public Health from Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts and in 1968 he became the first Black physician to



*Col. Leonard Johnson.*

become certified in the Specialty of Aero Space Medicine through residency training. He was a Diplomat of the American Board of Preventive Medicine with Board Certification in Aero Space Medicine. He also was a fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine.

He held membership in several professional societies and had numerous military awards and decorations which included: The Legion of Merit (the Nation's 7th highest military award); The Joint Services Commendation Medal for his aero medical management of the POW Program; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medal with three Oakleaf Clusters and many, many more. He also held the Aeronautical rating of Chief Flight Surgeon, the highest flying rating for a physician in the Air Force. He owned his own Commanche 250 air plane and held a commercial pilot's license and had

logged more than 7000 hours of flying time in more than 55 types of military aircraft and 15 different types of civilian aircraft. He last served as Surgeon General of the Electronic Security Command at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tx.

On Aug. 1, 1987, his life abruptly ended when his private plane was damaged while flying through a thunderstorm near Kokomo, In. Oh, how we will all miss him so.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn; daughter, Karen; son, Leonard W., III; father, Leonard W. Johnson, Sr.; mother, Vera Brooks Johnson; brothers: Vernard and Levar; son-in-law, Andre' T. Carter, Sr.; grandson, Andre', Jr.; and a host of relatives and friends.

## OBITUARY

GRACE DOBSON McLEOD was born Aug. 27, 1916 in New York city (second daughter of Eubert and Esther Dobson).



Inasmuch as the Dobsons resided in the suburban city of Montclair, N.J., Grace obtained her basic education there, and was graduated with honors from Montclair High School in 1934.

Her lifelong ambition had been to become a graduate nurse; so she was accepted into the pre-nursing course at Oakwood College, graduating with the class of 1937. Later she received a diploma in nursing from the Glendale Adventist School of Nursing in California on Aug. 31, 1941—the very day she was married to Elder Norman S. McLeod, then pastor of the San Francisco Philadelphia SDA Church.

Sister Grace McLeod was a beloved minister's Wife, having served her husband for more than 40 years, teaching vegetarian cooking classes, visiting the sick and shut-ins, and using her Nursing Skills whenever needed in connection with his churches.

In 1962, the McLeod's accepted a joint-call to serve at a former Riverside Hospital in Nashville, Tn. While in the position of director of nurses, Mrs. Grace McLeod was granted a full-scholarship to complete requirements for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing at Memphis University of Tennessee College of Nursing. In 1965, she was accorded the honor of being graduated as the first Black nurse from that institution.

Grace and her husband had the joy of raising three children who have achieved success in their chosen fields of life.

After having lived in would-be retirement nearly seven years as a "helper" to Pastor E.C. Ward of the Oakwood College Church, Nurse Grace Dobson McLeod fell asleep in Jesus early Wednesday morning July 1, 1987. Aside from her beloved friends and relatives (including Mrs. Hilda Dobson Lee of Lincoln, Ne.)—Grace is survived by her wonderful mother Esther Dobson, age 100 years; a daughter Norma; and two sons; James and Howard.

We shall long-remember the lovely, sweet disposition and helpful ways of Grace Dobson McLeod—looking forward to meeting her in the Kingdom of Heaven! Submitted in sorrow by her ever-loving husband.

Elder Norman S. McLeod

## MOTHER'S DAY PROJECT

It is always nice to be remembered, especially on Mother's Day. So on the eve of Mother's Day after Sabbath worship,

the Sharon Chapel, Sedalia, Mo., ladies delivered potted plants and flowers, along with small tracts, to twenty five mothers in the community, most of whom were elderly and shut-in. But some were given to women just because we cared. It was a beautiful day for missionary work and all recipients were happy to know that someone thought of them.

## THE DEDICATION OF THE PULASKI PHILADELPHIA SDA CHURCH

By Robert Thomas

On this day of the year April 11, 1987  
We dedicate this temple to the great GOD  
of heaven.

May this place be a dwelling for the Most  
High,

A sanctuary of refuge for those passing  
by,

A higher institution of learning temple,  
Educating the wise and simple;

A place where angels congregate  
And the hungry get fed at the gate.

This temple was erected to serve all  
races,

Both nobles and those in common  
places.

The work of the laborers on this temple  
has not been in vain,

Because today we stand in it to honor  
GOD'S Name.

We stand in it recognizing that through a  
vision,

The members of this church made a wise  
decision;

A decision to do as Solomon did,  
To build a house as GOD bid,  
The work has been completed,  
The saints can comfortably be seated.

As time drifts on the sand of eternity,  
May the members of the Pulaski Church  
fellowship here in a state of serenity.

May the members of this church accom-  
plish what they've been appointed to do  
By GOD'S grace fill the sanctuary pew.

## GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD RECEIVED BY CHURCH

On May 8, the Philadelphia church and Pastor Albert White received a Good Neighbor Award in a special ceremony conducted by the Bethel AME Church.

This award as noted in the daily newspaper, THE DES MOINES REGISTER. This award presented to Philadelphia church for sharing their building with Bethel AME Church after their church building was razed by a fire.

## THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL VOICE

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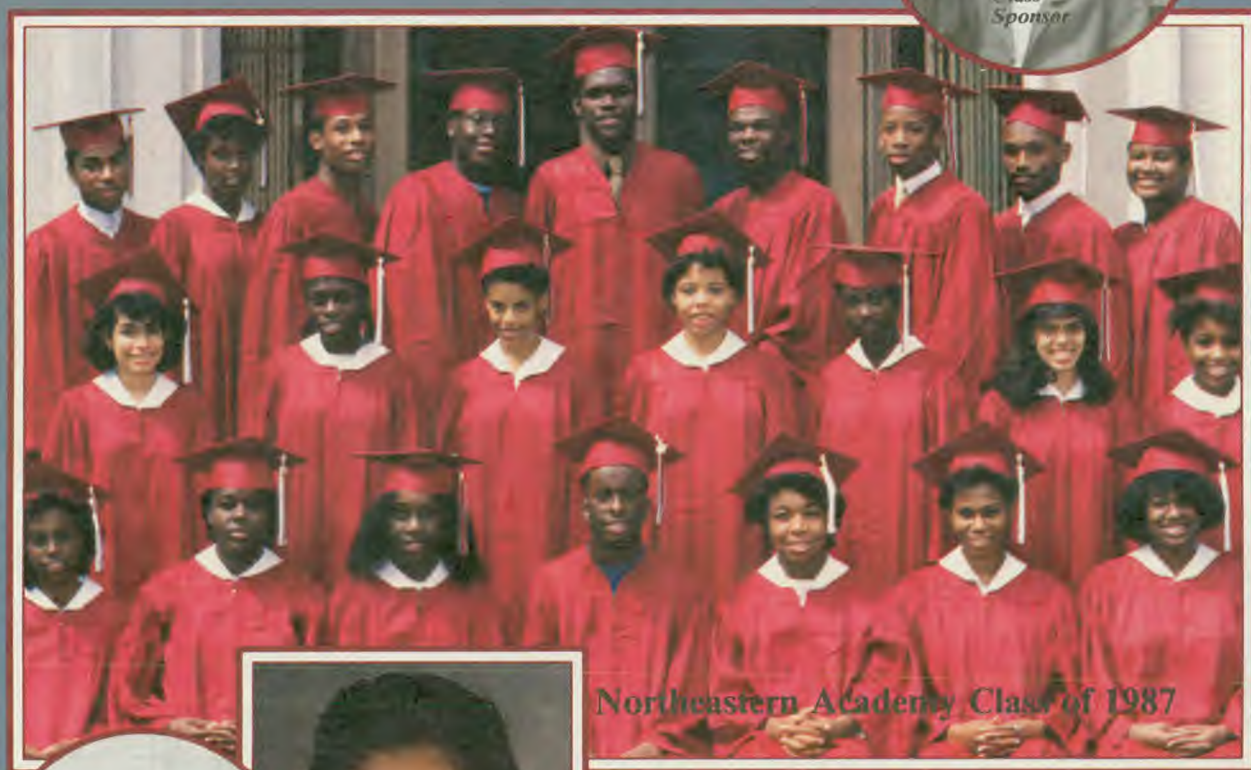
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