

NORTH AMERICAN
Regional Voice



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

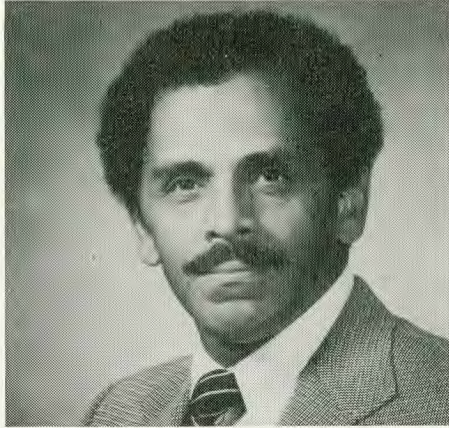
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President Brings Gift to Pine Forge Academy





Richard Mills, 13th headmaster of Pine Forge Academy

UPDATE ON PINE FORGE ACADEMY

Pine Forge Academy is in its 43rd year of operation as one of Adventism's most endearing educational institutions.

Recently, the "Regional Voice" had the opportunity to sit down with Alvin M. Kibble, president of Allegheny East Conference and chairman of the Pine Forge Academy Board of Trustees, and Richard Mills, the newest and 13th headmaster of the prestigious Seventh-day Adventist academy. The text that follows is the actual interview conducted by the "Regional Voice" with these two leaders.

"Regional Voice" (RV): Mr. Mills, as a newcomer to the "wonderful world" of Pine Forge Academy, what impressed you that it is indeed a very special educational and spiritual Seventh-day Adventist institution?

Richard Mills (Mills): I consider my coming to Pine Forge Academy a "call" from God. This fact alone makes Pine Forge Academy a very special spiritual place. When one considers that Pine Forge Academy has been in operation for more than 42 years, during which time many educational institutions have been forced to close down, and others have been placed under judicial control to prevent bankruptcy, it points out that God's mighty hand is working. Then there is "the harmonious development of the physical, the mental and the spiritual powers" here at Pine Forge, and this is God's counsel for us to model. God's hand is certainly on this place. It is just a blessing to be here.

RV: As headmaster, what do you envision as your priority goals and objectives for this academy during the present school

year? I ask you this because I am not sure if you have had enough time to develop long-range goals. However, if you have a long-range plan and can share it with the constituents, I know they are eagerly waiting to hear it.

Mills: Pine Forge Academy is going through a financial crisis. So, goal number one is to bring financial stability. This is a short- and long-range goal. Goal number two is to increase the effectiveness of instruction and the achievement of all students. Next, to train our students for service by making the community their laboratory. Originally, Pine Forge Academy carried the name of Pine Forge Institute. This initiated a vision for an emphasis in vocational training. A goal to teach vocational subjects, i. e., carpentry, woods, power mechanics, mechanical drawing, medical arts, textiles and foods, here at Pine Forge Academy is in the offing.

RV: Elder Kibble, allow me to pose part of that same question to you as chairman of the board of trustees. Has the Pine Forge Academy Board of Trustees developed a long-range plan for the academy? Can you share it with the constituents?

A.M. Kibble (Kibble): The Pine Forge Academy Board of Trustees is in the process of developing a long-range plan for the academy which includes a seven-committee quality assurance study of the following areas:

- A. Special Investigative Committee for Academic Performance and Quality of Curriculum and Instruction.
- B. Committee for Finance Review and Evaluation.
- C. Committee for Human Resources.
- D. Committee on Quality of Student Life.
- E. Committee on Constituency Review.
- F. Capital Needs Audit Committee.
- G. Committee for Studying Alumni Support and Development.

RV: Elder Kibble, it has been rumored that Pine Forge Academy is in another financial crisis. Is this so? What is being done about it? What is left to do and how does it involve the constituency of the academy?

Kibble: Yes. Historically, Pine Forge Academy's financial condition has been stressful. To borrow a medical term, Pine Forge Academy has over the years experienced a series of TIAs (Transient Ischemic Attacks), which are little strokes or hemorrhages. The current financial crisis was greatly increased to massive proportions due to incomplete budget forecasts and monthly financial statements that were the

results of improper and negligent business procedures. To put it succinctly, the business office was not doing its job and gave the headmaster and board misleading information. Consequently, although the academy had among the highest increases in student enrollment for North American Division academies, was receiving one of the largest subsidies per conference in the North American Division and had a 92 percent collection rate, the academy discovered a \$600,000 deficit in early February of this year. What is being done about it?

A. A special task force was set up under the direction of Mr. Bennie Mann, the Allegheny East Conference treasurer, to ascertain the true financial condition.

B. The performance of the business office was reviewed, and recommended terminations were made.

C. Because the financial condition was beyond the Allegheny East and Allegheny



Alvin Kibble, president of Allegheny East Conference and Pine Forge Academy board chairman.

West conferences' ability to recover, and threatened the academy's ability to open for the 1989-90 school year, special assistance was requested of the Columbia Union and North American Division. Both the union and division gave strong counsel and support. Elder Ron Wisbey, president of Columbia Union, immediately requested that monies be made available to cover critical deficits of taxes and insurance.

As chairman of the Board, I proposed to our parent body a three-way participatory recovery plan with each administrative level providing a special subsidy of \$200,000 with assurance that the Board will insure that the financial problems will be permanently repaired. To date, the Columbia

Union has provided \$200,000 and the North American Division has voted one-half of its subsidy.

The Allegheny East Conference carried the academy financially from the end of May until school opened in August, insuring the payroll for each faculty and staff member.

D. After careful consideration, the board voted a reduction in staff and an increase in tuition, effective January 1990.

What is left to do?

The sponsoring conferences are still responsible for raising their special subsidy of \$200,000. It is incumbent upon each member to support the efforts of their respective conferences toward the realization of this goal. Members with no children or with children who have completed their educational goals may desire to make a special financial contribution. Pine Forge Academy must have new money. All things are not equal. Fifty-one percent of our students come from single parents and the national statistics still suggest that the average Black family earns about 47 percent of its White counterparts. Pine Forge Academy does not have the special donors that other North American Division academies have experienced, nor do the sponsoring conferences have the deep pockets to aid in the capital appropriation. I have proposed the establishment of a Special Committee of 400 who will make annual gifts of \$250 to \$1,000 for academy operation. Restricted endowment programs are necessary, but if the school does not have sufficient funds to operate on a daily basis, the benefit of the endowment is nullified.

RV: A large number of the students who attend the academy come from the non-constituent conferences. Why is it that the board of trustees has not voted to charge the non-constituent fee to students from those conferences?



Kibble: We are sensitive to the financial restraints that Black parents face all across the country, and we do not want to out-price Christian education for our targeted group; however, this idea has already been proposed, and the board felt that the appeal should be made first to the parent conferences of the individual students.

Many of the conferences are struggling with their elementary and day academies. I am not sure how promising this idea will be. Nevertheless, the yearly statistics suggest that something of this nature should be done. Students attend Pine Forge Academy from 35 to 40 states of our division each year.

RV: With the financial crisis being such as you described, can the board of trustees ever make plans for needed capital improvements and expansion?

Kibble: It is foreboding, to say the least. We would be hard-pressed to do anything in the near future unless unexpected monies were made available.

RV: Mr. Mills, in its present mold, where do you think Pine Forge Academy is headed? What do you think it will take to get it where you and the staff feel it should be?

Mills: At a time in our nation's history when babies are raising babies; drugs and alcohol use among teenagers is at an all-time high, we look forward to an enrollment larger than ever.

We, the faculty and staff, must prepare for this time by giving our students the best training possible in character development, academic achievement, and career development, or a development of the individual as it relates to the world of work. We need to gear our students for leadership. Where else do we have such a fine group of trained young people who can go back into the communities and provide the best in leadership? Based on this, our needs are great and many. We need 1) to provide more classroom space, 2) to increase student dorm space, 3) to develop a vocational program to provide the hands-on training needed, and 4) financial support for the encouragement of an on-campus industry which will provide that work training needed for the training of our students for the world before them.

RV: Mr. Mills, I'm going to ask a big question about four areas of importance on the Pine Forge Academy campus, that is, what would you specifically like to see done in reference to staff development, academic excellence, spiritual development and the development of industry on campus.



Pine Forge Academy students, Lois Clay from Greater New York Conference and Reggie Watson of Allegheny East Conference, present happy faces during campus activities.

Mills: As far as staff development is concerned, our goal is to increase instructional effectiveness with a focus on the improvement of technique and variety.

On academic excellence, using the results of the standardized test, our focus must be toward improving the areas of weakness. Student achievements must take priority over other student activities.

When it comes to spiritual development, we are counselled in the "Testimonies to the Church" that the Lord calls upon His schools "to teach the youth evangelistic work, Bible work, etc." Thus, our youth should be encouraged to make decisions for God now and make a real commitment to bringing the downtrodden of our society to Him.

Finally, the development of industry on campus: It is imperative that a campus industry be developed. At present, our students are involved in the Little Lake Industry. I have been impressed with this industry in that it provides the kind of training and experience our students could not get otherwise. However, it does not involve enough of the students. We need a larger building to encourage a large industry to move to this campus, thus providing jobs for all our students. This could provide more than \$250,000 in revenue each year. Surely this will provide financial stability which many have longed and hoped for.

RV: You have spent many years in educational administration, and I ask you this question candidly. Why, in your opinion, is Pine Forge Academy a "good school"? The second part of that is, what are its weaknesses?

Mills: I have said this many times. Pine Forge Academy is a very fine school. Pine Forge Academy is located on over 560

acres of rolling hills, blessed with a 100-tree orchard, adequate school buildings, living quarters and homes. It is a good institution because it provides the kind of training needed to give preparation for service in this world. Students are not only receiving good academic training, but their characters are being shaped and formed in a way that makes a difference. Our students are different. They dress differently, speak differently, act differently. Like Daniel, our students are being trained to serve in high places, to make a difference. It is the only Black institution of this kind with this kind of focus, where self-esteem, self-sacrifice, self-worth and self-reliance are as much a part of the curriculum as the three "R's."

Our curriculum is comparable to most state or public institutions, plus, our teachers have our 200 years of training and



Richard Mills, PFA headmaster, welcomes Kenita Furbert, a junior from Bermuda.



Neal C. Wilson (far left), General Conference president, receives a plaque from representatives of the United Student Movement, the student government organization of Pine Forge Academy. Left to right, Kevin Sampson, Marc and Keith Goodman.



Pine Forge Academy has many fine organizations that provide students with special training and an outlet for outreach activities. Phase I is pictured above as an example.

experience. They are certified and could teach anywhere, but choose to be here because of commitment and dedication.

Our greatest weakness at this point is our mediocre public relations, and we intend to work hard to improve them.

RV: Elder Kibble, reportedly, Elder Neal C. Wilson was a visitor on the Pine Forge Academy campus during the recent alumni weekend celebration. It is also my belief that Pine Forge Academy has a certain endearment to Elder Wilson. I am reminded that he did something special for Pine Forge Academy several years ago and I understand he made a special announcement during the alumni meeting. Would you care to comment on that?

Kibble: Elder Wilson has been a special friend and supporter of Pine Forge Academy. He has documented this fact more

than once. Elder Wilson's visit on alumni weekend was itself a kind of affirmation. His Sabbath message and words of encouragement were a definite boost to sagging spirits. The student body and the alumni congregation were thrilled with his announcement of a \$100,000 endowment gift to be given to the academy in January of 1990. In addition, he promised another \$100,000 gift to be given when the Pine Forge Endowment reaches \$900,000.

As officers, pastors, workers and individual members, we must make a personal pro-active commitment to our academy. Our institutions represent the best of what we have sacrificed for in the historical context of our work in North America. Our institutions will not have a "future-present" or "future-future" unless we will it so. We must put our monies where we want our hearts

to be. The proverbial ball is in our court.

Any individual wishing to participate as members of the Special Committee of 400 should write to:

Pine Forge Academy,
Committee of 400,
P.O. Box 338,
Pine Forge PA 19548.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord you labor is not in vain. I Cor 15:58 RSV

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. I John 3:23 RSV

REGIONAL LEADERS MAKE RECOMMENDATION FOR REGIONAL UNIONS

The Black leaders who gathered in Washington for the 1989 Annual Council accepted the concepts and plans for global strategy as set forth by the world, division, union and local conference leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, in a sincere effort to help carry the message of His love and saving grace to as many persons as possible before the end comes. They are under the conviction that the vehicle to be used in their sector is the Regional union organization in the church in North America.

In a letter sent to the president of the North American Division, the General Conferences Session approaches, the following requests were made by the Black leaders:

"Inasmuch as the blessings of the Lord have brought the Black (Regional) membership of the North American Division to the 30% level of the total population whose tithe income for a one year period represents more than 15% of the tithe income of the division and more than 11% of the tithe income of the world field, that:

(1) ... when the leadership post for the General and North American Division Conferences are filled during the 1990 session of the World Conference, that (*) no less than one (1) of the three (3) officers (president, secretary, treasurer) for the North American Division be selected from this largest minority group that is found in this division; (*) ... that persons from this group (Regional Churches) also be invited to serve in leadership roles at all levels of the church, as has been requested in previous documents that have been shared with our church leaders in the Division and General Conferences; (*) ... our studies and reflections have brought convictions to us that the best step to be taken to strengthen the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church among our ethnic communities (urban and rural America) would be the establishment of 'Regional Unions' in the North American Division ... It should not be construed that this organizational procedure would bring about further separation of the races; it would provide strength to the church body in achieving its objectives of a finished work as we move into the twenty-first century and the end of the age. We prayerfully and respectfully request that the church body

move to set up Regional Unions in the North American Division by 1990."

WOMEN GIVEN CHURCH AUTHORITY

In view of the widespread lack of support for the ordination of women to the gospel ministry in the world church and in view of the possible risk of disunity, dissension and diversion in the mission of the church, the Women's Commission recommended to the 1989 Annual Council that: (a) no authorization be given for women to be ordained to the gospel (b) and those who have (without regard to gender) been recognized as commissioned ministers or licensed ministers may perform essentially the ministerial functions of an ordained minister of the gospel in the churches to which they are assigned, subject to division authorization of this provision, if the following conditions apply: (1) the individual has completed approved ministerial training; (2) the individual has been called by a conference to serve in a full-time pastoral-evangelistic-ministerial role; (3) the individual has been elected and ordained as a local church elder.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE FOR G. C. SESSIONS IS RECOMMENDED

On Sept. 27, 1987, the General Conference Committee established a Constitution and Bylaws Committee to give attention to updating the present G. C. Constitution and Bylaws that govern the size of the world representation at the regular assembly meetings, which are held every five years. The members of this committee were F. G. Thomas, chairman; R. L. Dale, secretary; Walter E. Carson; Nancy Marter; W. L. Murrill; R. W. Nixon; Julieta Rasi; C. B. Rock; D. A. Roth; G. Ralph Thompson and F. D. Yost.

The recommendation that was brought to the Annual Council and voted and will be recommended to the world delegates when they assemble in Indianapolis at the time of the 55th World Conference of SDAs, is to limit the delegation to 997 for the world field, regardless of the membership growth. The action does not become effective until voted upon by the world body in session, which constitutes the "voice of God."

Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. He who does good is of God; he who does evil has not seen God. III John 11 RSV

WORLD CHURCH MEMBERSHIP SOARS TO 5,970,445

At the time of the Annual Council, held in Washington, D.C. October 1989, Elder G. Ralph Thompson, G.C. Secretary, reported that the membership of the world church had climbed to 5,970,445, and is expected to reach the six million mark in just a few days. Dr. Don Yost, the director of the G. C. Statistical Department, points out that the growth outside the North American Division is on a steady increase. The largest divisions in membership rank thus: Inter-America, 1,094,557; South America, 877,612; East Africa, 765,449; Far East, 730,255; North America, 727,561; and Africa-Indian Ocean, 707,268. A total of 8 percent of the membership of the world church is made up of third world nations.

In the North American Division, the comparisons are thus: (1) Caucasians and others, 458,805; (2) Regional churches, 179,960; (3) Hispanics, 55,141; (4) non-English-speaking Blacks, 8,254; ;(5) Asians, 8,254.

NEW ORGANIZATIONS ARE VOTED INTO THE CHURCH

The Quebec Mission was voted into the sisterhood of conferences when the Annual Council met this month. Also, churches of the Soviet Union, with a membership of 32,392, were officially voted to become the newest division of the world church.

NAD UNION TREASURERS MOVE TO CUT FUNDS THAT BENEFIT THE 'BLACK WORK'

THE NEEDS OF A MISSION FIELD - Ellen G. White 1907 (Concerning Growth of the Work Among Blacks in America).

"Although much remains to be done for the colored people, we have cause for rejoicing over the good beginning that has been made. In a recent number of the Gospel Herald (1907) it is reported that 'fifteen years ago (1892) there were not over twenty colored Seventh-day Adventists south of the Mason and Dixon's line; but today there are SEVEN HUNDRED. Twelve years ago (1895) there was only one colored Seventh-day Adventist church; today there are FIFTY, not counting those in Africa and the West Indies. ... The tithe of the colored people last year (1906) in the United States amounted to FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS; fifteen years ago, it was

not over fifty dollars."

"It should be pointed out that from the beginning of time when Blacks became members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, there has been a record kept with regards to their Growth and their giving. **BLACKS HAVE NEVER BEEN A FINANCIAL BURDEN UPON THE CHURCH!** " **ALTHOUGH SOME HAVE SOUGHT TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY WERE A BURDEN.**

A CUTBACK IN FUNDS THAT BENEFIT THE BLACK WORK IS PROPOSED.

On July 11, 1989, Elder George Crumley, treasurer for the North American Division, along with a committee of Union Conference Treasurers, voted to recommend the following to begin in 1990:

a. ... to phase out, beginning in 1990, the conference and union contributions to the Union Specials, and Special Assistance

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? I John 5:4,5 RSV

Funds, over a five-year period; however, the funding of these two funds would continue at the present level through increased appropriations from the General Conference budget. This conference percentage phase-out at the end of five years would amount to 1.25 percent.

b. ... to ask the retirement office to study a plan whereby all entities would pay their retirement contributions on a percentage of payroll basis using Category A for all employees regardless of their COH.

c. ... that in the Special Assistance Fund, we treat the Regional churches in the Pacific Union as separate from the Union membership for calculation of special assistance.

d. ... that the following appropriations be eliminated in lieu of reducing the equivalent tithe percentages:

1. Tithe Reversion for Evangelism
 1. 50% (\$5,270,000)
 2. Local Church Growth Fund .25% (\$1,000,000)
 3. K-12 Reversion 2.35% (\$8,256,000)

e. ... that study be given for providing assistance to the Hispanic membership through the Special Assistance Fund.

The Editor's Desk



Newly acquired church in Owensburg, Ky., South Central Conference

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Nov. 24	Dec. 1	8	15
Boston, Mass.	4:16	4:13	4:12	4:12
New York City	4:28	4:25	4:24	4:24
Buffalo, N.Y.	4:45	4:42	4:40	4:41
Atlanta, Ga.	5:31	5:29	5:29	5:31
Miami, Fla.	5:30	5:29	5:30	5:32
Charlotte, N.C.	5:13	5:12	5:11	5:13
Birmingham, Ala.	4:40	4:39	4:39	4:40
Jackson, Miss.	4:57	4:56	4:56	4:57
Memphis, Tenn.	4:50	4:48	4:48	4:50
Louisville, Ky.	5:26	5:23	5:23	5:24
Detroit, Mich.	5:05	5:02	5:01	5:02
Chicago, Ill.	4:24	4:21	4:20	4:21
South Bend, Indiana	5:19	5:16	5:15	5:16
Minneapolis, Minn.	4:37	4:33	4:32	4:32
St. Louis, Mo.	4:42	4:40	4:39	4:40
Kansas City, Mo.	4:59	4:56	4:56	4:57
Denver, Co.	4:39	4:36	4:35	4:36
Little Rock, Ark.	5:00	4:58	4:58	4:59
Dallas, Texas	5:22	5:21	5:21	5:23
New Orleans, La.	5:01	5:00	5:01	5:02
Albuquerque, N.M.	4:57	4:55	4:55	4:56
Oklahoma City, Okla.	5:20	5:18	5:18	5:19

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

PICKING UP THE PIECES

"We are trying very hard," many helpful people stated.

"We understand," others said.

But for the 70,000 homeless and the 224,000 jobless and the 760,000 without power for light and heat, the situation was desperate. Devastated 311-year-old Charleston lay in shambles. When the Federal Emergency Management Agency requested "an assessment" for cost of generators, etc., Sen. Ernest Hollings (D-S.C.) called FEMA "a bunch of bureaucratic jackasses." "The requests must have fallen through the cracks," said Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, when Hollings asked for generators. FEMA said the requests were never received. (See NEWSWEEK, 10/9/89). "Tourism, the state's top industry may take years to recover. Timber, its third-ranking income source, took a \$1 billion blow, as more than a third of South Carolina's forests fell to Hugo. It may be 18 months before the 18,000 miles of blocked roads are cleared. Charleston's mayor, Joseph Riley, seemed clearly frustrated when Bush belatedly visited on Friday in response to complaints that 'Government is too slow.'"

On Thursday, Sept. 21, Hurricane Hugo made its presence known to the residents of South Carolina. Watching the progress of Hugo on TV made an impact on the ladies of the First Coatesville Seventh-day Adventist Church.

When the Dorcas Society met at the church on Monday, Sept. 25, Shantha Lord led out in a discussion of the real meaning of the society. "Is it necessary for us to sit here in comfort and mark clothing while people in Charleston are suffering for the necessities?" she asked.

The discussion led to action. Mrs. Lord called the General Conference office in Washington, D.C., to ask what the society could do, then inquired into the needs of the citizens of Charleston from Pastor Levin. She also talked with Pastor Alfred Johnson, in charge of community services for Allegheny East Conference, and received his blessing to make a contribution.

Having obtained the name and telephone number of Pastor Levin, of the Seventh-day Adventist church in Charleston, Mrs. Lord put in a call directly to him.

"It is heart-warming to hear you, Sister

Lord. We need anything you can offer. We need clothing, food — canned and fresh — matches, flashlights, Sterno stoves. Most of all, we need human support, consolation."

"Shall we send money and supplies?" Mrs. Lord then asked.

"Please bring it down to us; we need it now." was the response.

The Coatesville church is well known throughout Chester County for its benevolence, so when Mrs. Lord contacted individuals and organizations, there was an immediate response. Coatesville churches and organizations swung into motion. The Church of the Trinity, The Second Baptist Church, the St. Cecelia Catholic Church, the West Chester Seventh-day Adventist Church and others quickly collected \$1.3 million in cash and loaded the "seven-seater" van.

"What can we do?" Everyone contacted showed compassion and genuine interest. "Do whatever the Lord impresses you to do." Shantha Lord left individual decisions up to the Holy Spirit, as she planned to cease her activities in Coatesville and go south to the needy brothers and sisters there. (Are we not all members of the human family?)

Not every member was free to make the long journey to Charleston. Minnie McNeil, on duty at Brandywine Hospital, collected supplies. A nurse friend, Kathryn Wilson, gave food and \$100 cash. "Aunt Millie"

Potter collected money. Howard Johnson willingly collected new clothing and shoes from his friends and residents of the community at Peach Bottom. James Mosbey scurried about, loading, planning ...

Pearl White, Marjorie Mosbey, Shantha Lord, Howard Johnson and James Mosbey hopped into the U-Haul and left the Coatesville Seventh-day Adventist Church 11 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26. Weariness, aches and pains were forgotten. Howard Johnson and James Mosbey drove all night long. At dawn, stark evidence of Hugo broke into their senses. Mile after mile they drove along in hushed silence, staring with unbelieving eyes at pine forests leveled to the ground. There were no dry eyes, only prayers to God for the victims, and for strength to cope.

They reached Charleston at 11 a.m. on Wednesday morning and went straight to Savannah High, the Church of Pastor Levin. Before lunch, a couple came into the church saying, "We need help; there is a tree in every room in our house — four rooms and the foyer and the hallway."

Lunch was served at the church. Supplies were coming in from many sources. Few volunteers showed up to help. After lunch, the unfortunate couple left for their wrecked home with men and saws.

While the men busied themselves doing what they could with saws, etc., Mrs. Lord helped size and box clothing and shoes — boxes for men, women and children to be



A partial view of the devastating effects of Hurricane Hugo on one home in South Carolina.

loaded on trucks and delivered to the needy. A young girl finally came in to help. People streamed in for help all afternoon.

"I am Black. What can we do for the Black folk?" Mrs. Lord asked Pastor Levin.

Pastor Florence of the Black Shiloh Seventh-day Adventist Church was called. Supplies were made available for the citizens of Goose Creek. They needed a generator, blankets, fresh and canned food, candles, flashlights, even peanut butter and jelly. Before 7 p.m. curfew, Pastor Florence bought a generator for his people.

Dazed sufferers related reactions to the hurricane. "Noise, terrible noise, and darkness," some repeated over and over. "The sky turned a weird shade of green. The lightning blazed across the sky in huge streaks of green. The noise of the hurricane exploded around us in such a deafening roar that we could not even hear the telephone poles breaking off, nor the metal poles twisting and turning in the wind. Houses, torn from the ground, seemed wrecked in silence compared to the noise of the storm. It was as though there were demons in the very air. Then the sky turned black as soot and there was darkness and stillness."

"The darkness was worse than anything. We could do without food, and water to drink or bathe. But do you know darkness can be very terrifying when everything you own is gone? We craved the comfort of even just the light from one match."

Looting began almost immediately. Men saw a good chance to make money from the "captives." They charged \$10 for a 98-cent bag of ice. There was one bit of relief from a center offering "free water." None offered free generators and light.

"Oh, if we could only have done more!" the group of five lay persons said as they returned to Coatesville at 10 p.m. on Thursday evening.

H. J. FORDHAMS CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

More than 200 guests were present to witness the 50th anniversary celebration of H. J. Fordham Jr. and Geneva Duncan Fordham, held in the fellowship hall of the Pine Forge Church.

On Aug. 20, 1989, Geneva and Henry exchanged their nuptial vows in the D. L. Clark mansion in Pittsburgh, Pa. Officiating was Elder W. W. Fordham, brother of the groom, who had just been ordained. The couple met and courted during an evangelistic crusade being conducted by the elder brother. Henry was the singing evangelist,

and Geneva assisted in the area of Bible instruction.

In the presence of family and guests, Elder W. W. Fordham once more officiated in their renewal of vows. Sharing in the ceremony were Louise and William Davis, Geneva's sister and brother-in-law, who traveled from Pittsburgh to be present.

Present also were the couple's three children, Pastor H. J. Fordham III of Berea Temple Church in Baltimore; Mrs. Zella Fordham Abdul-Hadi; and Mrs. Kathleen

Fordham Barnes. The Fordhams also have 10 grandchildren.

Toasts were proposed by Renee Street, representing the grandchildren; Margaret Duncan from Phoenix, Ariz.; Jessie Wagner of Pine Forge, representing the family; and Dr. Anna Young of Philadelphia, Pa.

The day's events were coordinated by A. Pearlita Jones of Pine Forge, and included selections by Louise Preston, Leon Thomas, Ruth M. Greene, Michael Jones and Lloyd Mallory.



Geneva Duncan Fordham and Henry Joseph Fordham II, August 1939, Pittsburgh, Pa.



Henry J. Fordham II and Geneva Duncan Fordham, August 1989, Pine Forge Academy

CENTRAL STATES

GRAND OPENING AT GROVE HEIGHTS

For many years the members at the Wichita, Kans., Grove Heights Church have dreamed of having facilities to house their Sabbath School and Dorcas departments, and an all-purpose room. In May 1985, the board, under the leadership of Elder Edwin Hyatt, selected a building committee to be responsible for fund raising and the building.

The dream of having better facilities and a pleasant place of worship burned deep within many. When the fund raising started, there were \$32 in the building fund. At the grand opening held April 1, 1989, the church had raised more than \$120,000.

On Easter 1988, Grove Heights held the ground-breaking ceremony. A new wing has been added to the church with Sabbath School classrooms and restrooms, plus a sound room. A pastor's study, Dorcas room, kitchen, business office and an all-purpose overflow room and nursery have also been added. The sanctuary was reversed and renovated.

Grove Heights wishes to thank everyone who had a part in making this dream a reality. Special thanks to Pastor Hillard Pettway and his wife for their untiring effort and leadership in this project.

James E. McClain
Building Chairman



Grove Heights SDA Church



The children of the Grove Heights Vacation Bible School during their graduation ceremony.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT GROVE HEIGHTS

Vacation Bible School workers at the Grove Heights SDA Church in Wichita, Kans., were very excited about this year's session because of new facilities. Under the leadership of Lottie McClain and a staff of 28 faithful workers, VBS was held with 95 children. Fifty-five of the children enrolled were from the neighborhood. The theme was "Jesus and Me."

Grove Heights sees VBS as a missionary tool in spreading the love of Jesus. There is a young lady attending church every Sabbath as a result of VBS last year. On Sabbath afternoon, a special program was conducted in which each child and worker received awards.

James McClain
Correspondent



Mrs. Gussie Duncan

CHURCH MOTHER HONORED

The Bethesda Church in Omaha, Neb., honored Mrs. Gussie Duncan, a faithful, hardworking mother of the church. Mrs. Duncan, a lively 88 years old, loves the Lord and His church. She was one of the original charter members of Bethesda. She is a deaconess, and does volunteer work in the community. Her late husband, William Albert Duncan, was a faithful deacon.

Pastor Draggon and the Bethesda Church family thank Mrs. Gussie Duncan for all her work.

Communication Department

Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. He who does good is of God; he who does evil has not seen God. III John 11 RSV

WEDDING BELLS AT SHARON CHAPEL

In the entire Sharon Chapel history, there has never been a marriage ceremony performed in the Sedalia, Mo., church. But all that changed one June morning as Alona Boggess and Robert Smallwood pledged their love to each other. Family and friends came from far and near to share in their joy.

The unique ceremony, choreographed by the bride, was coordinated by Mrs. Zula Poindexter. The bride, whose father is deceased, took the traditional stroll down the aisle alone while singing "Nobody Loves Me Like You Do." Pastor Henry Mason performed the midnight candlelight service, and Mrs. Alice Carter was pianist and vocalist. The newlyweds will reside in Flint, Mich.

Gertrude Boggess
Communication Secretary

NORTHEASTERN

LAYMEN ON THE MARCH

The Northeastern Conference Laymen's Federation celebrated their 21st year as an organized group. The federation's function is training laymen to aid in finishing the work of the gospel. Elder Lester Phillip serves as the new president.

The 21st annual federation was held at Camp Victory Lake in Hyde Park, N.Y. Laymen, 300 strong, had an opportunity to be close to nature and God and to fellowship with one another. Each delegate received valuable information that will help them to return to their churches with renewed zeal.

Pastor Charles Drake, Inner City Director for Northeastern Conference, conducted three of the six workshops. His emphasis was on organizing the church for effective follow-up of spiritual interest and physical/social needs. In his presentation, Elder Drake pointed out that sowing must precede reaping; without sowing, no one reaps anything. He further stated that if the field is not cultivated and cared for painstakingly until the time of harvest, there will be nothing to reap. His workshops taught the delegates how to lay the foundation for soul-winning, strategies to be used in carrying out the plan, how to follow up and hold spiritual interest.

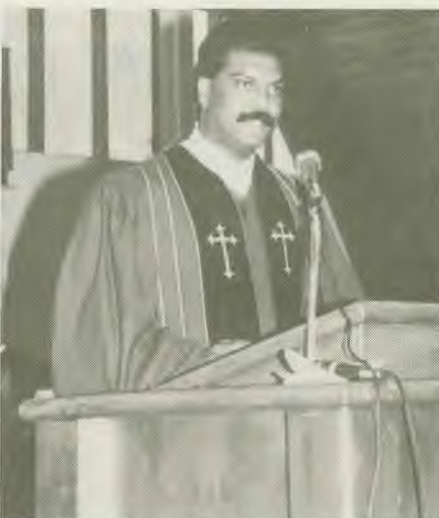
Elder Hopeton Thomas, a counselor who works with young people, and Mr. Malachi Dyett, a medical worker and counselor to alcoholics, spoke about organizing the church



One of the graduates of the Lay Bible Instructors class receives her certificate.



Mr. Vashni Davis receives plaque from federation president, Mr. Lester Phillip.



Pastor Abraham Jules addresses the Laymen's Convention.

for effective follow-up of the physical and social needs of new members. They gave techniques to be used in handling these problem areas.

The keynote speaker for the weekend was Pastor Abraham Jules. Pastor Jules was also chosen by the laymen as Pastor of the Year for his success in soul-winning.

Other highlights of the weekend were the outstanding reports given by the various district leaders, the graduation of Lay Bible Instructors trained under the direction of pastors Drake and Snipes, presentation of awards to the district leaders of the Hudson Valley District, and Evelyn Mungin of the Bronx/Manhattan District. Layman of the Year was Elder Dave Fulford, and Personal Ministries Leader of the Year was presented to Dr. Benson Andre. Other awards were presented to Elder Brunson, the lay-

man who started the Northeastern Conference Laymen's Federation; to Elder Henry Wilson, the former president, who served for 13 years; to Elder Joseph Thurman, former vice president; and to Ms. Bertha Davis, a former secretary.

The theme for the weekend was "Laymen on the March, Onward, Upward, No Turning Back."

Earl Pickett
Public Relations Officer

JAMAICA PATHFINDERS ATTEND CAMPOREE

At 8 a.m. on Aug. 6, 38 members and staff of the Jamaica Royal Crown Pathfinders in Queens, N.Y., packed their camping gear, boarded a bus and took off for Breezewood, Pa., to attend the Friendship Camporee.

"What will we see?" "Who will we meet?" "Is it going to rain?" This was the chatter on the three-hour bus ride. Then, there it was, the sign "WELCOME TO FRIENDSHIP CAMPOREE." Excitement took charge as Jasmin Hoyt, Northeastern Conference Pathfinder president, met and directed the Pathfinders to the site which would be their home for the next seven days. Camporee patches, identity wrist bands, camporee passports and schedules of events were issued at check-in.

Altogether, more than 12,000 Pathfinders were present. This was a wonderful opportunity to meet, work and play with people from every union in North America, from the Caribbean and Europe. Daily assembly meetings brought together the more than 1,000 boys and girls of the Atlantic Union Camporee — red, yellow, black and white, marching together for morning devotion.

A full round of daily activities kept all busy. Unique programs featured "Friends of Jesus" such as boat-builder Noah, John the Baptist, Dorcas, Martha, John the beloved disciple, missionary Paul and others. Campers met these individuals around the campgrounds, and listened to their stories of what it was like to know Jesus personally. Ellen Harmon (Ellen G. White as a young girl) was also one of the friends Pathfinders were privileged to meet.

Exchanging buttons from different states was one of the highlights of the camporee. The Jamaica Royal Crown Pathfinders' button, designed by counselor Jason Diggs, was one of the most sought-after buttons. The colorful button depicted a royal crown, clasping black and white hands, a map of New York State and an apple, surrounded



Young members of the choir provided music for the services.

by the name of the club and name and date of the camporee.

Music, marching, candlelight services, fireworks, drama and inspiring spiritual messages given in a contemporary manner, sustained the enthusiasm throughout the camporee. On Saturday night, as the Friendship Flag was lowered and the Friendship Flame was extinguished, all were already looking forward to meeting again at the next camporee scheduled to take place in Calgary, Canada.

Doris Shorey
Pathfinder Director

MOUNT VERNON HONORS ITS SENIOR CITIZENS

Sabbath, Sept. 16, was the day the Mount Vernon, N.Y., Seventh-day Adventist Church honored its senior members.

The theme of the day's program was "We Love and Appreciate Our Seniors." Activities began with Sabbath School, ably conducted by Mrs. Juanita Austion, superintendent for the day. A special feature of the program was "the brown bag object." Four seniors, Mrs. Minnie Wilson, Mrs. Nina Thomas, Mrs. Corrine McLeod and Mrs. Ludie Hayes pulled objects from a brown bag and explained what the objects meant to them.

Except for the pastor, all participants in the divine worship service were seniors. They were William Beale, Henry Carr, Nehemiah Webber and Herbert Stewart. After an electrifying sermon by Pastor Desmond Francis on what it means to be senior citizens, the seniors were escorted to the lower auditorium where lunch was



Some of the seniors at the Mt. Vernon SDA Church



Some of the seniors at the Mt. Vernon SDA Church.

served and tributes presented to them. Some of the Pathfinders served as hosts and hostesses.

While they ate, Elder Hollis McEachrane serenaded the seniors with a flute solo. Desmond Thompson, a Pathfinder, played a lively piano selection; Rema Kenton sang "Christ is All the World to Me"; Mazie Henry recited one of her famous poems, "Quality of the Mind"; and Christopher Trammel sang "Ordinary People."

Many of the seniors testified of their experiences and thanked God for His goodness, and for giving them long life.

Winsome Dyer
Communications Secretary

NUTRITION AND VEGETARIAN COOKING CLASS AT CITY TABERNACLE

The Health and Temperance Department of the City Tabernacle Church in Manhattan, N.Y., conducted the first nutrition and vegetarian cooking class for the year, on Aug. 21. Ms. Gloria Ralph, a dietitian, held discussions on food groups for the various meatless diets: vegans, lacto, lacto-ovo vegetarians, protein complementation and meat alternatives. The importance of having the proper quality and quantity of protein in a vegetarian diet was also greatly emphasized.

Three teachers—Sybil Logan, Gloria Lawrence and Joan Marsh—demonstrated their culinary art as each taught how to prepare vegetable patties, vegetarian Italian cheese balls and wholewheat bread, respectively.

After a decorative display, students and teachers enjoyed what was prepared, and everyone concluded that a vegetarian diet can be not only nutritious but also delicious.

Goals of the class were:

1. To have young people and adults from the church and the community prepare more meatless dishes.
2. To have them share with others their knowledge of vegetarian cooking.
3. To help minimize the risk of coronary diseases and colonic cancer, etc., by avoiding the use of meats and including in the diet more grains, legumes, nuts, seeds, fruit and vegetables.

Dr. Nwakanma, leader of the Health and Temperance Society, was pleased with the response, and felt the effort was a rewarding experience.

Sylvia Bryan

EPHESUS MEMBERS FORM DRAMA CLUB

Reach stands for many things. At Ephesus, R.E.A.C.H. is 32 actors and actresses who have joined to form a drama club that is second to none. R.E.A.C.H. means Reaching Earnestly for the Advancement of Christian Happiness.

Organized in April 1988, under the direction of Richard Felder, the dream of delivering inspirational messages through drama became a reality. Richard says that he envisioned R.E.A.C.H. as an avenue toward addressing contemporary issues to which youths and adults could relate. The cast has harmonized their individual talents to produce exemplary dramatizations



Members of the Nutrition and Vegetarian cooking class at City Tabernacle.



Richard Felder, producer/director

of both creativity and substance.

"The club truly enjoys performances," says Richard, "but more than that they've found happiness in the togetherness rehearsals bring. There has been a bonding between people who normally don't associate together."

The cast's first project was entitled "Behind Closed Doors." Performed over a period of 18 months, the series told the story of life in Nature Valley, USA, a small but very busy Adventist town. On Sept. 9, the grand finale was given.

"Behind Closed Doors" sparked a new interest in reviving AYS meetings and gave some members a greater incentive to return to the afternoon programs, accomplishing one of the major goals of the R.E.A.C.H. drama club.

Gail Felder
Correspondent



Steven Childs and Judy Glasco in "Behind Closed Doors."



(left to right) Jeffrey Nixon, Patricia Henderson and Irving Shillingford in "Behind Closed Doors."

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. II John 3 RSV

SOUTH CENTRAL

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SELECTS NEW EVANGELIST POSTS

In response to the challenges that have been set forth by the world church leaders, the executive committee of the South Central Conference has moved to elect pastors J. A. Jones and Timothy Lewis to serve as full-time evangelists for the conference. This is to begin during the first part of 1990. These brethren, in addition to pastoral duties, have been blessed to keep a continuous program of evangelism and soul-winning moving in their fields. Their new assignments will be to engage in total evangelism throughout the year, establishing new congregations and reviving existing ones.

This does not mean that the conference programs of evangelism by the pastors and local leaderships throughout the field will not continue. This program will be in addition to the existing programs. Plans should be laid now for strong evangelistic thrusts in every church/district during 1990.



Timothy Lewis, pastor for the East Knoxville/Harriman/Morristown district, is to serve as one of the conference evangelists for the South Central Conference. He conducts from four to six meetings each year, as well as shepherding his flocks.

THE WORK STILL THRIVES IN COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI

J. Edson White came to Columbus, Miss., by boat at the turn of the century. A number of the people of that city accepted the teachings of Adventism and became members of the church. Many of these faithful souls journeyed from this place to many corners of the earth to witness for the Lord. Elder White also brought a prefab building on his boat, and constructed a place of worship for the people, but time



Joseph A. Jones Sr., pastor of the Longview SDA Church in Memphis, Tenn., is to serve as one of the conference evangelists for South Central. Many persons have been baptized under his ministries, and a goodly number of churches/congregations have been organized throughout the conference.

took its toll and this structure was replaced when L. W. Williams came to serve as the spiritual overseer of the flock.

Pastors have come and gone, and all are grateful that each one has brought blessings to the work in this city. The present pastor, Robert Edwards, is a native of Memphis, Tenn., and his wife, Denese. Both are frontier people. He began a new work through "infiltration" ministries in Owensboro, Ky. She began a new church school in Selma, Ala., before joining hands in matrimony and taking up new challenges in Columbus.

Of the blessings of ministry that they are witnessing, he recently wrote: "In the Spring of the year, Salem SDA Church in Columbus, Mississippi launched a program of personal evangelism. Shirley L. Martin, an employee of Columbus Air Force Base was contacted by Technical Sargent Keith Alexander and his wife, Leanna. Personal studies were started and on June 3rd, 1989, she received a diploma for completion of 'Amazing Facts' Bible Study Course. Upon completion of an 'In-home' Revelation Seminar Course she was baptised into the Seventh-day Adventist church in the month of August. The 'one on one' teaching method really works."

The Lord is still blessing the work in Columbus, Miss.



Brother and Sister Keith Alexander, Mrs. Shirley L. Martin and Pastor Robert Edwards.

TERRIE GAINES JOINS STAFF OF "BLACK ENTERPRISE"

Terrie Gaines completed her studies at New York City School of Professional Artists and is now serving on the art and layout staff of the "Black Enterprise Magazine." She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Gaines of Nashville, Tenn., and a member of the Riverside Chapel of that city. She stands with her pastor, Elder Xavier Butler during a recent visit home.



Terrie Gaines, staff artist for Black Enterprise Magazine, stands with her pastor, Xavier Butler of Riverside Chapel in Nashville, Tenn.

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP - 20,072

It actually happened during the third quarter of 1989! When all of the church clerks' quarterly reports were tallied, it was cheering to see that the membership of the South Central Conference had reached the 20,072 mark for the first time in the history of the conference, and had all of the reports from every church been in, it would have been higher. If the reports that were given by the pastors at the time of the workers' meeting were also sent in by the clerks, there would have been another 312 members reported on the statistical report that was sent to the General Conference.

CHURCH OFFICERS' MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN DECEMBER

Church officers' meetings will be held in the following locations during the month of December. Please see to it that the officers from your churches/district attend these meetings. Ofttimes, some may feel that this is "old hat," but it will help the pastor in the training of his officers in a signal way when these meetings are attended.

The places and dates are as follows: Sunday, Dec. 3, 9 a.m., Hattiesburg, Miss.;

Sunday, Dec. 10, 9 a.m., Oakwood College, Ala.; Sunday, Dec. 17, 9 a.m., College Hill Church, Knoxville, Tenn.

COUNCIL ON EVANGELISM TO BE HELD

The annual Council on Evangelism is to be held Nov. 27 through 29 at Oakwood College. The council is one of the best meetings that the church has produced in the Region I sector to help the program of evangelism throughout communities in the NAD.



Elder Sargent Sims, pastor of the New Life Church in Huntsville, Ala., was one of the pastors to conduct evangelistic programs in Africa. A total of 174 persons were baptized during his crusade in Liberia, West Africa.

SOUTH CENTRAL PASTORS PREACH ON AFRICAN CONTINENT

A new program of evangelism which gives to pastors a clearer view of world mission, was instituted in the South Central Conference during 1988. The program calls for pastors from the South Central Conference to render their services in evangelism and revivals for sister conferences on the continent of Africa. During 1988, pastors Joseph I. Grider and Sargent Sims responded to the plan, and conducted meetings in West and South Africa, where a goodly number of persons were added to the church.

M. A. Mounter, has just returned from a tour of duty for one month in the South African area; J. A. Jones is leaving for West Africa within the next few days and R. L. Patterson will leave for a month's series of meetings in November. C. E. Monroe will go in January of 1990. These leaders are not only helping to spread the gospel in that part of the world, but are also helping to develop future leaders for the finishing of the work of God in the earth.

NEW BUILDINGS OPENED

Pastor Alfred Frazier and members of the Owensboro, KY, church opened a new facility on Sabbath, Oct. 14. It will serve as a new outpost in this city. Pastor Alfred Hill and the Tunica, Ala., congregation will have their new church opening on Sabbath, Oct. 28, in the afternoon. It is a newly constructed facility which was purchased from the Church of God congregation of that city. After two and one-half years of faithful labor, the members of the Daphne SDA Church will open the doors to their new facility on Dec. 2, so states Pastor J. R. Bell and local elder, James Lester, and the members of this congregation who did the total construction by themselves. The new church school building that has been under construction throughout the summer months is now completed and is ready for occupancy, according to Elder P. E. Vincent. The new conference office building program is moving along nicely and is scheduled to be opened in the spring of 1990.

Buildings have been opened throughout the conference in the following places during this year: F. H. Jenkins School at Nashville, Tenn.; E. E. Rogers School at Jackson, Miss.; Gadsden SDA Church building at Gadsden, Ala.; and Indianola, Miss., church building. Negotiations are under way to secure a new building in Tupelo, Miss., where Donnell Morgan is the pastor. A new building is being renovated for church use in Kingsport, Tenn., under the leadership of Elder John W. Jones. A new building was constructed in the city of Campbellsville, Ky., under the leadership of Michael Holland during the spring of this year.



Pastor and Mrs. Alfred Frazier stand in front of the new church building in Owensboro, officially opened on Oct. 14.

DISTRICT CHANGES

Alfred Hill has been asked to serve as the new pastor for the Phenix City/Opelika/Union Springs district and Charles C. Brooks is to care for the Batesville and Tunica Ala. congregations, which Pastor Hill has served for the past five or more years.

MRS. LAURA SMITH TO HEAD WOMEN'S COMMISSION ORGANIZATION IN SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Mrs. Laura Z. Smith of Montgomery, Ala., has been elected to serve as the director for the Women's Commission Organization for the South Central Conference. This organization is in keeping with the division-wide organization that has been instituted by the North American Division of the General Conference. Such groups have been encouraged at all levels of the church.

Each church is to select a person to lead chapters in the local church throughout the field and to serve as a member of the church board to help give lay input in the finishing of the work of God in the earth and to hasten His coming.

Smith stated that her burden is not to have women assume the roles that are played by the men of the organization, but her thrust will be to (1) help to strengthen the family ties; (2) build a strong, caring ministry among the believers in each congregation; (3) and to help with the insights, plannings and executions of programs in the church that will help to make ready a people to meet the Lord.

Each pastor and worker strongly endorsed the Women's Commission Program that was presented at the time of the fall workers' meeting.



Mrs. Laura Smith speaks at the Fall Workers' Meeting in Jackson, Tenn.

President J. M. Doggette had the responsibility of speaking to members of both churches during the celebration of district day. His message was entitled "The Sanctified Soul." In the afternoon, the president met again with both congregations for an update on conference activities, to answer questions and encourage the members.

Maxine Moore



Earline Washington, left, and Shirley Green.



Roderick Elzy, ministerial intern in Southeastern Conference.

SOUTHEASTERN



(left to right) B. W. Powell, first elder, Sarasota; J. M. Doggette, president, Southeastern; and Barry Bonner, pastor of Ft. Myers/Sarasota.

FORT MYERS DISTRICT ACTIVE

On the west coast of Florida between St. Petersburg and Naples, there are only two churches in the Southeastern Conference. This great expanse needs the revival and work that presently is underway.

Pastor Dennis George evangelized the Fort Myers area and bought a new church home.

The district of Fort Myers and Sarasota is now under the leadership of Pastor Barry Bonner.

PRINCIPAL WRITES STUDY GUIDES ON GREAT CONTROVERSY

Shirley Green, principal/teacher of the Jacksonville Ephesus Junior Academy, has written a 42-lesson study guide on E. G. White's "Great Controversy."

Fifty individuals, some of whom had never owned the books, others who had it but never studied it, and still others who had never understood or enjoyed it, have just graduated and received their certificates for successfully completing the 42-lesson course.

Earline Washington typed the lesson each week and made copies available for each class member. Two chapters from the most important relevant book the church possesses were discussed every Wednesday night at prayer meeting.

The lives of the members of the church were enriched because of their study. Light from God's word was received, a realization of the nearness of Christ's coming impressed them and a commitment to be ready for His appearing made.

SOUTHEASTERN'S NEW MINISTERIAL INTERN

Roderick Elzy, a 1988 graduate of Oakwood College, was recently voted a ministerial internship by the Southeastern Conference Executive Committee. Elzy has worked in several evangelistic campaigns and assisted at the Valdosta, Ga., church. He will enter the theological seminary at Andrews University in the fall of 1990.

LEESBURG EVANGELIZED

The city of Leesburg, Fla., was chosen by the members of Shiloh SDA Church in Ocala, Fla., to be the place for their 1989 spring Bible Crusade meetings, held April 23-June 3.

One of the local elders, Clarence Curry, along with the assistance of Pastor Calvin Robinson, members of Shiloh, and the Leesburg Company members, spent six weeks preaching and teaching the gospel to the people of that community.

An anti-drug parade was held in conjunction with the meeting. The Pathfinder club of Shiloh and Apopka marched through the city of Leesburg, accompanied by the Shiloh Band, declaring war on drugs. Six new converts were added to the company of believers in Leesburg.

Bible studies are now in process, and a baptism at a later date is planned.

Beverly Davis

RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONIES

Ribbon-cutting ceremonies were held recently at Elim SDA Church, St. Petersburg, Fla. The ceremony was in connection with the opening of the newly constructed multi-purpose building. Elder J. M. Doggette, president, Southeastern, and Elder Joseph Harris, Elim's pastor, conducted the ribbon-cutting.

Initial plans for the multi-purpose building began approximately three years ago. Although obstacles had to be overcome, Pastor Harris said, "We praise God for this

achievement of phase one of our construction and renovation plan."

According to Principal Tyrone Boyd, the multi-purpose building will house the entire school system, which includes day care, kindergarten and junior academy (grades 1-8). He said, "The school year is off to a big success." They have already exceeded last year's figures.

Betty Hayward

EVERYBODY CAN DO SOMETHING

The elders of the Mount Sinai SDA Church, Orlando, Fla., believe that "everybody can do something." This past summer the elders under the leadership of first elder, George Bowens Jr., led the church in an evangelistic outreach program.

Meetings were conducted for five weeks in the city of Orlando, Fla. Bowen served as the evangelist. Elders W. Wiggins, E. Monroe, K. Unick, A. Assent, R. McKnight, and Bible Instructor Iza Lewis, along with the pastor, were actively engaged in the nightly programs.

Six persons were added to the church at the conclusion of this outreach ministry.

SEVENTY-FOUR BAPTISMS AND ONE MIRACLE

Evangelist Yves Pierre, executive secretary, South Haiti Mission, conducted a campaign in Pompano, Fla., for five weeks, from July 9 to Aug. 12, 1989.

The supporting cast included Irvin Jean-Philippe, district pastor, South Haiti Mission, responsible for visitation; Elie Pierre, a music teacher from North Haiti Mission, who served as organist; and Amos Bossous, pastor, Ft. Lauderdale/Boynton Beach district campaign coordinator. Laymen from the Sinai French church were involved in many details of the crusade.

This evangelistic procedure was not exempt from the usual difficulties attendant upon a work such as this.

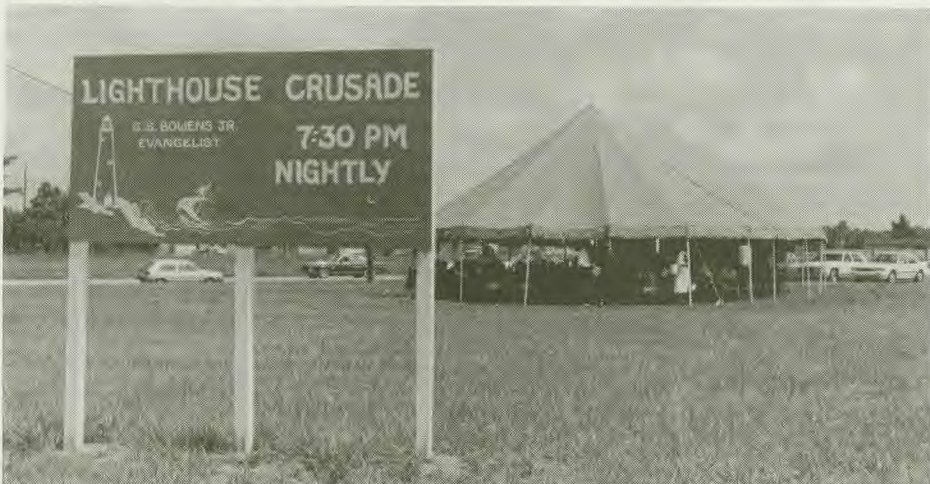
Four weeks before the campaign, special bands for fasting and prayer were organized to pray through the problems of site and permit. Four days after the meeting began, Protestant church pastors began a strategy of keeping their members away by having meetings themselves.

God intervened, and from 600 to 700 people attended every weekend, and from 300 to 400 weekdays.

Southeastern Conference personnel visited the campaign at different times to bring



Elim Junior Academy, St. Petersburg, Fla.



Tent site of the Lighthouse Crusade held by the elders of Mt. Sinai SDA Church, Orlando, Fla.



Souls awaiting their turn to go down in the watery grave of baptism.

encouragement to the work; President and Mrs. J. M. Doggette; R. R. Brown, secretary; S. J. Jackson, ministerial secretary; and J. C. Brutus, French coordinator.

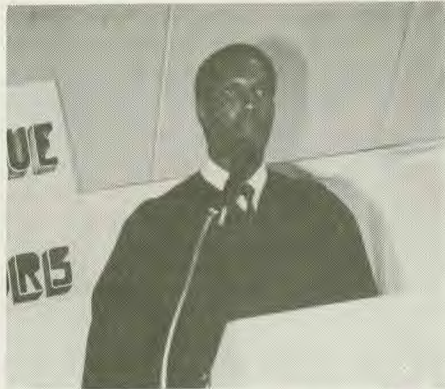
At the conclusion of the crusade, 74 individuals joined the family of God in three baptisms.

The glory of the Lord was especially manifested by the healing of a woman who had been seriously suffering for years, being persecuted by demons. She could not walk; she could not sleep. The day of the baptism, she was carried by two persons to the pool. Pastors Pierre and Bossous baptized her horizontally. She was again carried by two persons to the room where she changed her clothes. Surprise and joy came as she walked alone, slowly but surely, and without her walkers. The cries of joy and praise to the Lord seemed to rend the heavens.

It was a real miracle. The woman, who lives in Miami, Fla., now attends the Ft. Lauderdale Sinai Church. She walks and praises God for what He has done for her.

Crusade workers and members praise God for his display of power during the crusade.

The Pompano public efforts are over, but the new converts are the recipients of further study and care.



Evangelist Yves Pierre, secretary of South Haiti Mission, expounds the spoken word.



Picture of lady unable to walk, awaiting her turn to be baptized.



Nurses on parade during Health Day at Ephesus-Jacksonville, Fla.

EPHESUS CELEBRATES HEALTH DAY

Health Day at the Jacksonville, Fla., Ephesus Church lived up to its design.

Pastor C. L. Wright delivered a sermon on healthful living at the worship hour. At 6:30 p.m. Dr. Kenneth Jones, general and vascular surgeon, lectured on cholesterol and fielded questions.

Adrian Lilburn from the Wellness Center, Methodist Hospital in Jacksonville, conducted cholesterol screenings. Pat Morrison, R.N., director of the Nurses Corps at Ephesus, expressed appreciation to participants and friends.

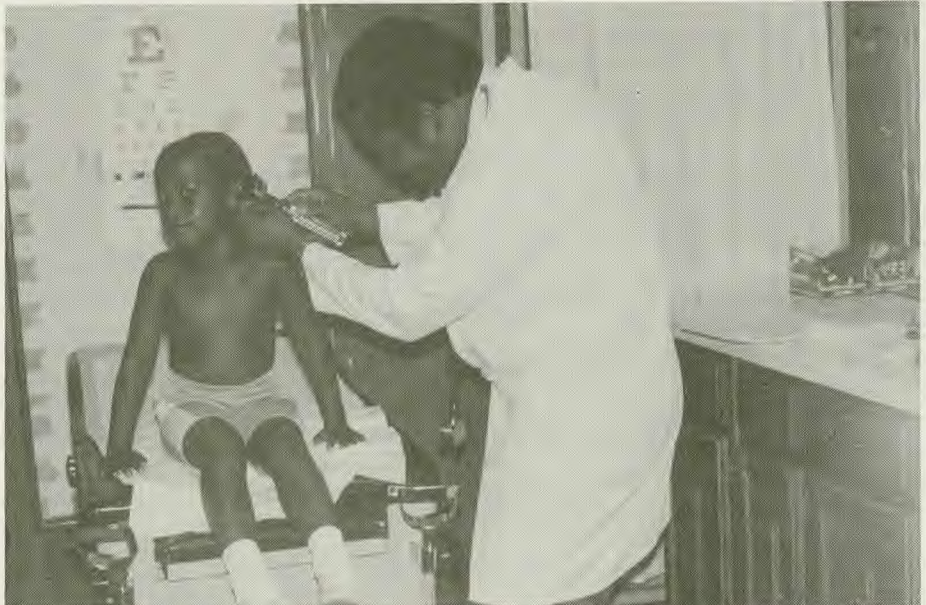
Grayce Bateman

PRE-SCHOOL PHYSICALS

Free pre-school physicals were given Thursday, Aug. 17, from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Jacksonville, Fla., Ephesus Community Center by Dr. Wallingford Bowlin. Dr. Bowlin was assisted by nurses Pat Morrison and Lula Frazer in the areas of eye check and blood pressure.

Georgia Blount, director of the center, reports that more than 30 children were examined.

Grayce Bateman



Dr. Wallingford Bowlin examines pre-schooler at Ephesus Community Center, Jackson, Fla.

HADLEY HOSPITAL OFFERED FOR SALE

The Adventist Health System/North, Eastern and Middle American/Mid-Atlantic Corp. announced a regional consolidation plan in September that called for the sale of Hadley Memorial Hospital in Washington, D.C. — the only Adventist hospital that serves primarily African-American clientele in North America — and the closing of Leland Memorial Hospital in Riverdale, Md.

The sale of Hadley and the closing of Leland would cut the number of Adventist hospitals in the Greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan area in half. It appears that Hadley is going the same route that was taken with the sale of Riverside Hospital earlier in this decade. This will be the last hospital that the church has operated in the predominantly Black community. Its closing will mean a loss of the mission of the church in this community, a loss of jobs among this group and the disbursement of a 300-member congregation that has come into being during the past three years.

The administration of the Health System for that area is asking \$21 million for the facility, which includes a new physical plant that was constructed just a little more than two years ago. Some of the physicians and community leaders who serve the hospital are in the process of making an offer to purchase the hospital.

LOMA LINDA FOODS CORP. IS SOLD

The historic Loma Linda Foods Corp., which has been owned by the Seventh-day Adventist denomination for many decades, has been sold to Worthington Foods Inc., a private organization based in Ohio, which has served as competition through the years. Worthington Foods Inc. also purchased the Madison Foods Corp. of Madison, Tenn., during the 1960s. It is a subsidiary of General Mills Corp.

Little children, you are of God, and have overcome them; for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4 RSV

CHURCH INSURANCE PROGRAMS STUDIED

The leadership of the Regional conferences is giving study to what can be done to help cut back on some of the insurance premiums that memberships are being called upon to pay in many cities and areas across the nation. It was revealed that the Re-

gional churches/conferences in the United States pay into the Gencon Insurance Corp. more than \$6 million in premiums each year. Smaller premiums that will give the same benefits, if not more, are being sought.

Another interesting observation that was made is that none of the members of the Regional conferences/churches are employed by nor sit on the board of this firm. Mr. Leon Spears, who formerly worked for the firm, is no longer employed there.

SOLID ROCK CELEBRATES 14 YEARS

The Solid Rock SDA Church in Far Rockaway, N.Y., celebrated its 14th anniversary during the weekend of Sept. 1, 1989.

The special services began at sunset Friday evening, with a rousing song service conducted by Calbert McIntosh. An inspiring message was delivered by Pastor Lawrence Mason of the Mount Olive SDA Church, New London, Conn.

On Sabbath, services began at 8 a.m. with an early morning prayer service. This was followed by a special Sabbath School program.

The divine worship service message was delivered by Pastor Robert Lister, Stewardship Director of the Northeastern Conference of SDAs. After the worship service, a fellowship lunch was served.

The afternoon program began with a reading of the church history. The highlight of the afternoon was the remarks and comments made by the former pastors of the Solid Rock. Each minister was honored with a plaque expressing the appreciation of the church for dedicated, unselfish service rendered during their ministry at the Solid Rock Church.

Special recognition also went to Mr. Clifford Johnson, a member of the Solid Rock Church, who was awarded for the time and work he put into building the 40 new pews that now enhance the sanctuary of the newly renovated church.

Sabbath ended with a vesper message by Pastor Kenneth Green of the Kingston SDA Church, Kingston, N.Y.

The eventful weekend climaxed on Sunday, Sept. 3, with a special rededication service.

The celebration was well attended by well-wishers, visitors and friends who rejoiced with Pastor Tony Taylor and members of Solid Rock for an outstanding accomplishment to God's glory.

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit." Phil 4:23 RSV

PRECIOUS MEMORIES

The Shiloh SDA Church in Ocala, Fla., celebrated its ninth anniversary, July 23-30. The theme was Precious Memories. During the week's services, visiting pastors and their congregation were in charge.

Thursday and Sunday nights were devoted to music. Special groups and the Spiritual Ambassadors Choir of Ocala made presentations. Pastor Ernest Young from Atlanta spearheaded the construction of the church. He was the guest speaker for Sabbath services. The Adventist Youth Department presented the church history in a skit.

Offerings taken up during the weekly services went towards the Mortgage Liquidation Fund. Calvin Robinson now serves as pastor.

NSO DAY AT SHILOH

Four males and one female stationed in the USA, and four stationed in the countries of Germany, Italy and Korea, make up a membership of nine in the service from the Ocala, Fla., Shiloh SDA Church. They celebrated National Service Organization Day to give recognition to those individuals.

Sabbath School quarterlies, birthday cards, gifts and letters are sent throughout the year.

During the celebration, letters from the principals were read, and one called with his greetings from Germany. During the program, William Jones, veteran of World War II, and Horace Archie reminisced about their days in the Air Force and the Navy.

The NSO program serves to keep alive the young persons' commitment to God and country and the church's supportive role.

Beverly Davis

I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again. John 3:3 NIV

LARGEST INVESTITURE IN SOUTHEASTERN HISTORY

Fifty-four master guides were invested at the Southeastern Conference campground this year. Seven separate classes were conducted throughout the conference by dedicated coordinators, master guides and pastors, producing the largest single class in this conference's history.

Elder Leon Davis, former youth director of Atlantic Union Conference, challenged the class on the subject of leadership from a historic perspective, while Elder W. Lester Taylor, Southeastern's Pathfinder director, gave the charge.

REAL TRUTH—BRINGING GOD'S MESSAGE

The drums rolled, people marched, posters were lifted and children from all over the metropolitan area smiled as they paraded around the northwest community that surrounds Hadley Memorial Hospital, located at 4601 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. in Washington, D.C. This was no ordinary parade. Its purpose was to sound an alarm that would awaken a sleeping community infested by drug abuse and alert them to the dangers of such abuse. While these young people communicated their messages through their creative posters, adults carried the message of Real Truth to doorsteps, street corners and to passing cars.

On Sunday, July 16, the Real Truth Crusade began heralding good news to crowds of people anxiously awaiting. Capitol Hill's own Elder W. C. Scales enthusiastically carried the Bread and Water to people who were hungering and thirsting for life. Associate Pastor Don McPhaul prepared the audience to hear the word each evening. Souls were and are now being prepared to accept God's salvation.

The Real Truth Crusade brought a holistic approach to the community by ministering to spiritual, mental and emotional needs. It ministered to physical needs through a health fair on Sunday, July 16, and throughout the crusade a preventive health spotlight was presented. Under the direction of Dr. DeWitt Williams and ably assisted by Ms. Barbara Floyd, a weight management seminar, stop smoking classes, stress management and drug abuse prevention seminars were offered.

Pray for those who have already accepted the message and for those who are still contemplating this most important decision.

MRS. MYRTLE ROBELL WHITE HUDSON, one of the few members of the Bowling Green SDA congregation in that city, passed away on Oct. 13 after a massive heart attack. A great loss has been suffered not only by the Hudson family and the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, but by the city of Bowling Green. This congregation was established by C. M. Kinney just a few years after the church in Louisville, KY. The church has experienced declines in memberships by deaths and movings of the membership, but Mr. and Mrs. Hudson and Mr. Shelby White have remained behind to hold the group together. Mr. Hudson passed away just six months ago. All pray for the Lord to work a "work" to strengthen the mission of the church in this city.

CLASSIFIED AD

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Positions open for teachers at Busy Bee Day Care Center. Applicants must have a Bachelors in Early Childhood Education.

Teachers Aide also needed with at least 24 credits in Early Childhood Education. Send resumes to the Jamaica S.D.A. Church, Busy Bee Day Care Center, Box 208, Jamaica, New York 11431.

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115-50 Merrick Boulevard
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LOCAL CONFERENCE DIRECTORY

ALLEGHENY EAST, Alvin Kibble, President, Charles Cheatham, Secretary, B. W. Mann, Treasurer. Address: P.O. Box 266, Pine Forge, PA 19548, Telephone (215) 326-4610

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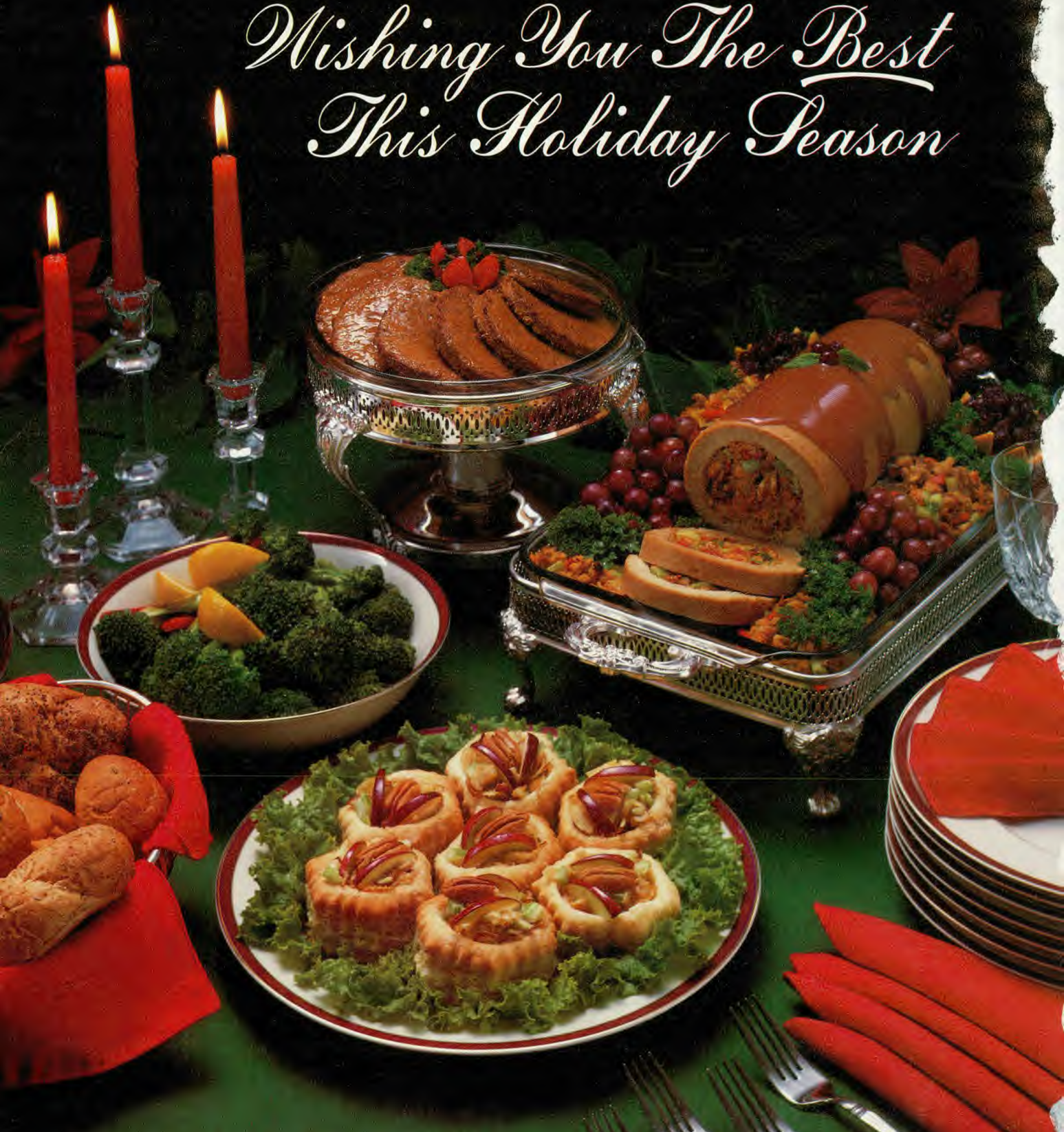
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