



Our Front Page is your Doorway to News of every thing of importance going on in our community.

Lubbock Digest

"AN INDEPENDENT PICTORIAL NEWSPAPER FOR ALL PEOPLE... BUT... PRIMARILY SERVING LUBBOCK'S BLACK POPULATION... OVER 12,000"

20c
WITHIN CITY
LIMITS
OF LUBBOCK
25c
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ON GUARD
For Human Rights
24 Hours A Day

Vol. I, No. 14

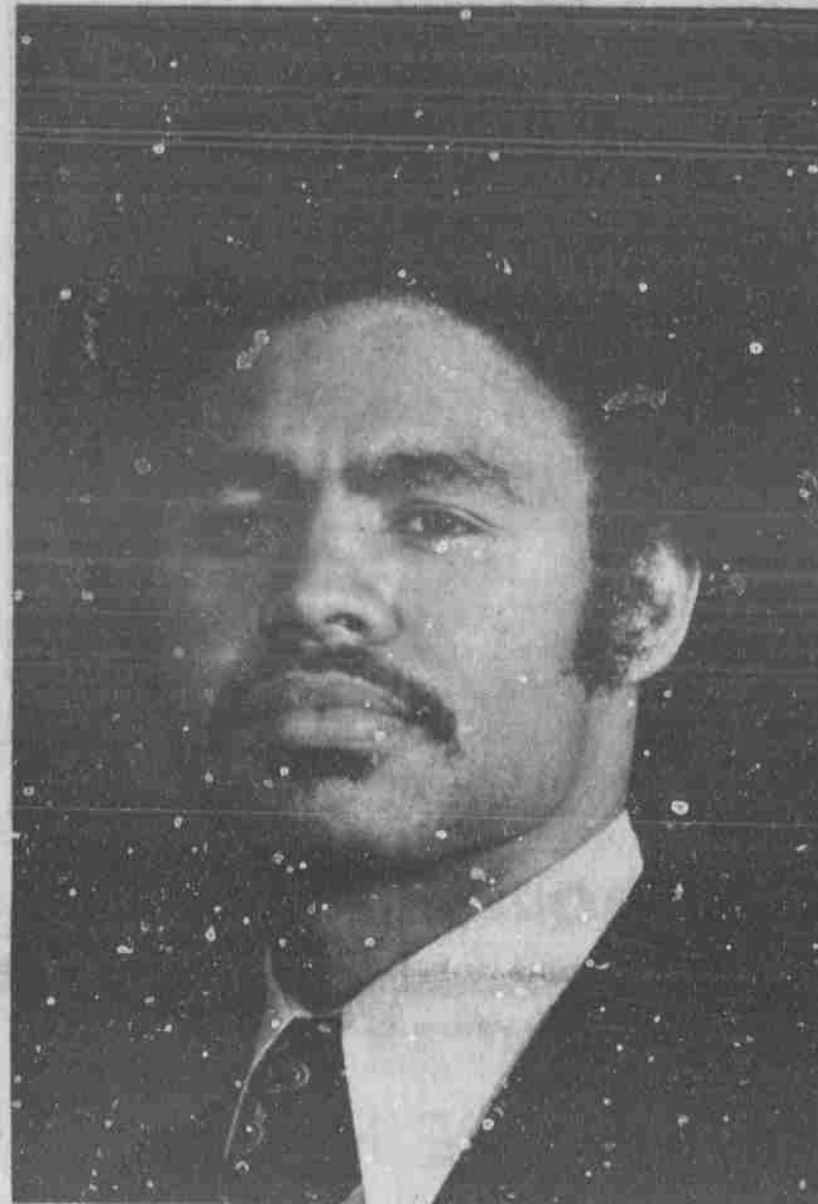
Lubbock, Texas

Week of Dec. 22 thru Dec. 28, 1977

NAACP MEMBERSHIP DRIVE UNDERWAY HERE

BLACKS IN THE NEWS

GRADUATES FROM TEXAS TECH LAW SCHOOL



It can be done if you work real hard! This statement is true, and our Black in the News this week is an example of what you can do with a lot of hard work. This young man is General E. Berry. He was one of thirty-four Texas Tech University law students who graduated last Saturday morning in the Law School Forum.

Civil Appeals Court Justice Carlton B. Dodson of Amarillo, former legal counsel for Texas Tech, was commencement address speaker at the hooding ceremony.

Berry, a native of San Antonio, received the Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree.

"Nothing comes easy, one has to work hard for it," he says to young people.

He is a graduate of the George W. Brackenridge High School in San Antonio, May 1966. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.

Upon completion of military service, he enrolled in San Antonio College, and later transferred to North Texas State University at Denton, Texas where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism.

Berry enrolled in the Texas Tech University School of Law in 1974 and reached his goal last Saturday.

He is scheduled to take the bar examination in Feb., 1978, and should know the results by summer, 1978.

"It takes a lot of hard work, but you can get there if you continue to keep your goal before you," says Berry.

"Sure, there are times when you want to give up, but you must hang in there and do the best you can," he continues.

His wife, Elaine, is a secretary in the College of Business Administration at Texas Tech.

It's good to know there are young men in the Black community who will not give up. General E. Berry happens to be one of those brothers.

He is our Black in the News who is and will continue to make positive contributions to America.

Chicago, Illinois — A nationally-noted psychiatrist blamed black TV addiction for many of the educational and employment habits growing presently in the black youth population. Dr. Douglas Foster also noted: "Too much television may be one of the reasons for the high crime rate in (parts of) the black community."

Dr. Foster added that a distorted picture of the world is fostered by an excessive viewing of what he termed the "idiot box."

Benton Harbor, Michigan — This far from the deep South community has been accused of school Jim Crow by a federal judge in Grand Rapids. U.S. Judge Noel P. Fox found the Benton Harbor Schools "guilty of creating and perpetuating a racially segregated school system."

Atlanta, Georgia — Apparently friendly disputes broke out between aides to Mrs. Coretta Scott King and officers of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference over a film version of the civil rights career of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

something special happen for some young people in our community. Cassandra Roland was crowned as "Queen for a Day" by the club president, Miss Darla Bradford. First runner-up was LaKecia Wilson. Second runner-up was Ramona Robinson.

The affair was enjoyed by all. Roshone Evans is youth supervisor.

The girls were escorted by Mrs. Rose Wilson, Mrs. Mary McGraw, and Mrs. Joe Roland.

"QUEEN FOR A DAY"

Members of the Magnificent Teenette Club celebrated the



Cassandra Roland
Christmas season with a luncheon in the Torreador Room of Furr's Cafeteria.



LaKecia Wilson
Mamie Heller.
After the luncheon,



RICH'S CHICKEN KEEPS CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

In keeping with the Holiday Spirit, Rich's Fried Chicken at Broadway and Quirt will be donating chicken to many of the churches in the East Lubbock areas.

Every year, the management and employees of Rich's Fried Chicken donate chicken that will be given to a number of less fortunate families. This year, the chicken will be distributed to the churches on Christmas Eve.

Rich's believes in the old saying, "Tis better to give than to receive" and they are proving it by helping their fellow man in this season of giving and showing others that they care.

People are not just the cause of the "population problem." They're also the victims. Plan responsibly. Visit Planned Parenthood, 3821 22nd Street, Lubbock. Phone /95-7123.

Honor the intelligence of your friends.
Give them books for Christmas.



Rich's Staff from left to right: James Lilly, Arthur Williams, Gayle McCleod, Donna Hill, and Ellis Osby.

WILSONS TO CELEBRATE 35TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Wilson, 2125 East 30th Street, will celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary on Friday, Dec. 23.

They are proud parents of nine children; five boys and four girls. They have twelve grandchildren.

"God has been good to us, and we are thankful," says Mr. Wilson.

Something is taking place in Lubbock this month! Members of the Lubbock Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) have a membership drive underway. "We want the support of the entire community," says Mrs. James Emma Jackson, chairperson of the membership committee.

The local branch has set as its goal 1,000 members. At present time, there are more than four hundred members. "We appreciate those who are members of the NAACP, and we encourage them to continue to renew their membership," says Gene Gaines, branch president.

Last Sunday morning, Mr. Gaines thanked publicly at his church, Lyons Chapel Baptist, all persons in Lubbock who had become members of the NAACP. He said: "We know you need the NAACP, and the NAACP needs you, so let's support this effort."

"With stronger numbers, we can speak more effectively for the citizens of Lubbock and the South Plains," he continued.

Local members feel as though the goal of 1,000 members by next

month is a reasonable goal, but would like to have more. "It can be done if everyone would get involved and become a member," said Gaines.

Membership fees are \$5.00 plus \$5.00 local dues for a year; National membership with the Crisis Magazine, \$10.00 per year; Contributing membership, \$25.00 per year; and Life Time membership, \$50.00 per year for ten years. Youth membership is: under age 17, \$1.00 per year; 17 to 21 years of age, \$2.00 per year; and Junior Life Time membership (under age 13), \$100.00.

Persons interested in becoming a member may mail their check or money order to the NAACP, 1104 Avenue J, Lubbock, Texas 79401. Assistant Mrs. Jackson with the membership committee are Ms. Joan Crawford, vice chairperson, 762-8063; Dr. Camryn Morrow, chairperson of the Life Membership committee, 797-7279. Mrs. Jackson's telephone number is 762-3350.

Other officers to call for membership are Mr. Gaines, 763-5050 or 763-3363; Dr. Floyd Perry, Jr., vice president, 797-3589; Tom Burtis, second vice president, 795-4264; David Sowell, third vice president, 765-8679; Ms. Joan Y. Ervin, secretary, 763-0853; George Scott, Jr., housing committee chairperson, 763-3613 or 742-2192.

Any member of the local branch will be glad to assist also.

In connection with the special membership drive, a new program has been instituted to visit the

various churches of the city on the third Sunday of each month. "Each month, we make an appeal to all churches so we can get them involved," says Rev. Roy Jones, chairperson of the church work committee. "We are most pleased with the results we have received so far from this special effort," he says.

The Lubbock branch meets the second Saturday of each month at 7 p.m. at Mae Simmons Community Center.

MARY & MAC STUDENTS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE



Students around the Christmas tree at the Mary & Mac Private School are sitting on the floor) Darren McChristian, Larry Douglas, Tony Flowers, Maria Hunt and Lamont Harris. Sitting on the piano are John Thornton, Stephanie Sheppard, Killeron Hamilton, and Shundra Reddic. Standing are Marla Lethridge and Kelvin McKenzie.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS CLOSE FOR HOLIDAYS

Students of Lubbock Public Schools will enjoy Christmas holidays Dec. 23 through Jan. 2. Classes will be dismissed today, Thursday, at the regular time. They will resume at the regular times on Jan. 3.

Boston, Massachusetts — The July and August confrontation of blacks by some rampaging whites in the South Boston section's Carson Beach area was reported to be a major scar, adding to the already ugly racial wounds inflicted by largely Irish stock South Boston residents on this city's image of reason and tolerance.

Johnstown, Pennsylvania — Observers of the flood catastrophe here compared the looting and ransacking with that in New York during its mid July blackout and noted that (a) the looting was proportionately greater than in New York, (b) the looting was by whites against whites, (c) the looting was chiefly against neighbors and often against relatives, and (d) the white press and commentators made no issue of this activity of a far greater proportionate extent and distance than the looting in New York City.

Want to get somewhere in life? Know where you are going.

EDITORIALS

"HAVE A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS"

As we go into the Christmas season, we hope Santa will be good to all of us. There are some special gifts we would like to see Santa bring to the residents of the Black community. Here are some of the gifts we would like to see under the tree this year.

If we could look under the Christmas tree and see a gift of love, understanding, and concern for all citizens of our community, it would be a great gift for all of us.

If the civil suit filed by the U.S. Department of Justice against the Lubbock Independent School District would end in a positive way, the young people in the Lubbock Public Schools would have a great gift. If Santa would see that this gift for the young people would have a beautiful wrapping of "quality education for all", then all taxpayers would be pleased with this gift.

In another suit filed by Gene Gaines, local attorney, against the City of Lubbock last year is settled in a positive way, the citizens would benefit. Santa, if there's total representation for all of Lubbock citizens, then this would be a great gift. There's got to be representation of all people on the City Council of Lubbock.

Santa, as you bring your Christmas cheer for everyone, place a gift of confidence under the tree for everyone in the Black community in Lubbock and the South Plains of Texas. Explain carefully that they can make it in life if they want to do so. Advise them of the many opportunities available for them if they work hard.

Economic development, Santa, is needed in our community. Bring us a gift which will serve as a catalyst so we (Black people) can get up and start doing more things for ourselves. We don't need a handout, Santa, because we have the ability to do anything we want to do. It is necessary, however, Santa, that positive doors are open for all citizens in our community. It's time for us to be screened into the American mainstream of life, rather than being always screened out. Economic development has got to be a way of life for all of us, Santa!

Santa as you go through the Black community, give all of us a gift that will encourage us to work together. Let us know that when one Black is down, we are all down. Instill in us the pride that is needed to take off this yoke which has squeezed us in so many ways. Take away the hate, envy, and backbiting from our hearts. Tell us how easy it is for us to love each other and work together. We don't need anymore of the "crab philosophy" in the Black community, Santa. Will you help us in this way?

Without asking too much of you, Santa, will you inform our white brothers and sisters in Lubbock and the South Plains of Texas that what's good for the Black community is good for the total community. Apprise them of the fact that there needs to be concern for all people. Tell them in a way, Santa, we are not begging, but would like to have a piece of the rock.

Our Senior Citizens, from all communities, Santa, need assistance. They are the ones who have toiled and suffered so our community would stand today. Let them know that we haven't forgot about them. Perhaps your bag of goodies is getting a little heavy, Santa, but reach out and tell all Senior Citizens, regardless of their station in life that we love them, and want the best for them.

Santa, no doubt, you will come across some Black brothers and sisters who don't receive the love they need at home. Reach out to them and encourage them with a special gift. Let them know Christmas is everyday of the year. We love them, too, Santa.

While you have our young Black brothers and sisters at your control during this season, tell them there are so many opportunities in the world for them. Encourage them to think positive, because the sky is the limit.

All in all, Santa, we hope you will be able to deliver some of these gifts. We know it is hard and it takes a lot of patience to



REFORM OR ABOLITION OF GRAND JURIES

Commentary by Representative William Clay

If grand juries are not abolished, they ought to be altered to curtail the prosecutorial abuses inherent in the present system. The original intent of the grand jury was to protect the innocent who had been accused falsely. It supposedly was conceived as a group of peers deliberating in secrecy to determine if sufficient evidence existed to bring criminal charges against a neighbor.

The idea was transported to this country from England and developed as an intricate and prudent body of law to balance the interest of individual freedom with the interest of the state in protecting society against criminals.

However, in recent years grand juries have been composed almost exclusively of society's elite. The interest of the individual has been totally disregarded as prosecutors use the juries as a personal tool to harass, intimidate and frame those who espouse radical causes or differing political opinions.

Citizens who are targets of grand jury investigations, or more precisely the targets of prosecutors, are denied "due process" of law and most assuredly are not guaranteed the secrecy of the proceedings. In fact, most prosecutors have arrangements with the media to leak derogatory, unsubstantiated testimony to discredit and destroy the ac-

cusced. In addition, the accused is not permitted legal counsel while appearing before the grand jury, not afforded the basic right to be confronted by his accusers nor is he allowed to cross examine.

The members of the Congressional Black Caucus are our major political life line. They are always at your service.

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- By working with my local or nearest black congressional representative in any way that is needed
- (Please send me literature on the Caucus)

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Address _____
Tel. No. _____

BLACK EVENTS QUIZ

(This quiz is designed to accompany History-Making Black Happenings. It can be used for classroom discussion or to help you focus your own thinking on current issues.)

1) Does South Africa's nuclear potential appear to be a major threat to the peace of Southern Africa and to the world?

What steps, if any, might be taken by the United Nations or by the United States in order to prevent a nuclear holocaust in Southern and Central Africa?

2) What do you feel may be in store for Uganda if Idi Amin leaves his place of power through death or otherwise? Would his government continue? Or do you feel that the opposition "government in exile" would take control of this controversial and possibly beleaguered country?

3) With whom would you tend to agree in regard to the possible rise of concerted black African force for black African freedom from oppression? U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young believes that no such force should be organized. Nigeria's head of state believes otherwise. Which of the two do you feel is either wise or right?

4) To what extent do you feel that the white press and classrooms have played up, or given, respectful attention

to the remarkable Dr. Louis Leakey fossil finds which suggest Africa to be the birthplace of the human race? What importance would you attach to these findings?

5) Would you be in favor of a change in name and purpose of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to the Department of Health, Education and Opportunity? Should America be a "welfare" state or an "opportunity" state? How could and should blacks be guaranteed full opportunity?

6) Why do you feel so many black advertising firms have been able to be put out of business? What approaches do you feel that the government should take in this regard? What should we as black Americans be doing? Would massive boycotts and demonstrations help or not? Why or how?

7) What is your reaction to the assertion that too much TV produces counter-productive "idiot box" reactions among black youth by making them have unrealistic images of life as it is? What, if any, corrective measures are needed?

8) Do you feel that it is "necessary" to play up white roles in the civil rights movement in order to attract a white audience for a film on the movement? For what other reasons might such an effort be made?

get these gifts under the Christmas Tree of life. We haven't given up, however, because we know it can be done.

Anyway, Santa, we wish all brothers and sisters "A Merry, Merry Christmas." The "Lubbock Digest" loves all of you. May each of you continue to prosper in the New Year.



We're sending old-fashioned greetings to all our good friends... may you have the merriest holidays!

Lubbock Digest



BRANDON JR.

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CHAIRMAN OF THE BORED

WHY ARGUE? THE FACTS ARE HERE!



BLACK EMPOWERMENT

By Dr. Nathaniel Wright, Jr.
Human Rights Activist

WELFARE STATE MIND-SET

A small group of men and women involved with public policy issues relating to our central cities recently addressed itself to the question of what is frequently called "bootstrap economics" from within the black community. The essential question here is what can blacks do for themselves to help toward their own economic development? At first, the suggestions were placed before the group in rapid fire succession. Then, suddenly, there was a cloak of gloom, when one person present remarked: "But what are you going to do about the 'Give me something' mind-set within the black community?"

All those in the group were black; and to some of them the old Great Depression theme:

*Jesus Christ will lead me
And F.D.R. will feed me.
What cause have we, then, to fear?*

was all too fresh in—or etched deeply upon—their memories.

A state of mind is crucial in life decisions both on a personal and social (or political and ethnic) basis. That there has been a "sense of dependency" within the black community has never been a secret.

In order to enslave a man or a woman—and hold a person in bondage securely—one of the first requirements is to instill in such a person the greatest possible dependence upon the one who would be master. The black community—which has been

one of the most severely wounded by a deeply depraved form of human enslavement—has had a crippling sense of dependence hammered deep within its self-concept.

Not long ago, in reviewing a doctoral dissertation soon to be published in book form, there appeared these tragically telling words: "No matter how navigated black leadership may be, there has been a strong inclination to welfare-state economics... which does not mix well with the idea of self-help and bootstrap economics."

This is a terrible indictment of the systematic degradation to which black Americans have been subjected, perhaps for so long a time by white Americans that it is now almost entirely unconscious on white America's part. This latter fact deepens the tragedy and sorely complicates the difficulty of "getting the white man's unconscious road-blocking" stopped. White Americans cannot be convinced readily to cease an ingrained habit which they will not easily see as a habit on their part at all.

The message here was dramatically underlined in a smattering of trained black professionals—almost all of whom were clergymen, hence leaders in the black community.

A candidate for public office spoke eloquently of how, historically, "the great" in black America have not only had outside help but also—and perhaps chiefly—had immense and seemingly insurmountable outside obstacles "which only their own

personal grit and unconquerable determination" could enable them to overcome. The speaker urged that, along with more governmental help and local community support, perhaps the most important element for black survival and success remains, even today, a personal and collective determination. "Blacks must be of a mind," the speaker noted, "to say to themselves and to the world that, regardless of what does or does not come, we shall stick together... and 'we shall overcome!'"

The speaker was not booed but his words were met with the stark silence of clear disapproval. What the ministers wanted to hear was what black Americans were going to get, not what we—regardless of what comes our way—must give of ourselves, if we are ever to become a truly self-sufficient people.

It was with the kind of inescapable awareness in mind that the small analysis concluded that what the Carter Administration does for blacks can never be more than like "the two spot calling for the Ace." Help from Washington is the "two spot." What we do with the two spot is the most important element. Otherwise, when the "help from Washington" is withdrawn by public sentiment or runs out, we will be not better off—or perhaps even worse off—than before.

en to blacks are at least in proportion to our part of the population, (c) jobs are afforded at all levels in every branch of the government, and (d) job tests have "widened standards" and not "low-red standards" so as to include us.

In regard specifically to "widened standards," we as blacks have allowed ourselves in a foolhardy and self-defeating way to get caught in a trick bag. "Standardized tests," so-called, are always "focused tests" so as to give positive consideration to the attributes of the preferred or powerful group.

Yet all groups have some specific attributes which are unique to or more largely represented in their group. Testing for jobs, college entrance, upgrading or anything else should take into consideration the widest range of worthy and beneficial attributes afforded by the widest spectrum of racial, ethnic or other group experience.

Hence, we must never let anyone get away with the slightest suggestion that "standards must be lowered" in most cases to get blacks in. Further, whenever "new white skills" have been needed, there is the old device of "in-service training" that has been resorted to without a second thought.

We as blacks must be ever mindful that both God—and the world—helps those who help themselves by defining their own needs for long-term security and self-sufficiency and by insisting on "nothing less" than equity right down the line.

The Lubbock Digest

"Dedicated to Freemen, Justice and Equality"

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POLICE HAPPENINGS

ASSAULT

CECILIA CANTU, 1803 Beech Ave., reported to Lubbock police that she wanted to help her son one day last week, but had trouble.

According to the police report, the 53 year old lady went to her son's house, 2704 Colgate Ave., when his wife's brother and sister came over and started a fight with him.

She said that she had tried to help her son and was hit in the head with a 2 x 6 board.

She told police that she didn't know who hit her. The blow did cause a cut on her head, just above her hairline. It was an inch long.

She was advised that she could file charges.

+++++

BURGLARY

LOIS R. GENTRY, 1600 Ave. D, #43, reported that persons unknown did gain entry to her residence by prying a window open.

Taken from her residence was a black/white portable television set. It was valued at \$60.

+++++

BURGLARY

HATTIE LEE MINNER, 2105 East 4th St, #58, reported to Lubbock police that persons unknown gained entry to her house by prying the door open. There were marks left on the door which resembled marks of a tire tool or a large screwdriver.

She said that she had a fight earlier with a friend the night before.

Taken from the house was a stereo system with two speakers. The set was valued at \$145.77.

The woman told police that she did have the sales receipt in her apartment.

+++++

STEP-FATHER ATTACKS SON

A young Lubbock man reported to police that he walked in the living room of his home one day last week when he was attacked by his step-father.

He told police that he was struck on the right side of his head. The blow knocked him to the floor. When he fell, the man straddled him and continued striking him several times.

After doing this, according to the police report, the step-father went outside and got a crowbar and came back and swung at the young fellow once. He did miss.

The step-father ordered the son out of the house. He did, according to the police report, threaten him with further

bodily injury.

The son said he would file charges this week.

The step-father did throw an ash tray at the son also.

+++++

HOUSE BURGLARY

GAIL DALTON, 2912 Beech Ave., reported to Lubbock police that persons unknown did gain entry to her house by breaking out a window to gain entry.

After entry, the unknown persons did take a \$100 dollar bill, a suit case, and two bike tires.

According to the police report, the bike was stripped in the living room.

+++++

BURGLARY OF VEHICLE

WENDELL WALKER, 2633 East Baylor Ave., reported to Lubbock police that someone removed the battery from his 1970 model car while it was parked in his driveway one night last week.

It was taken by lifting the hood to remove the battery. The battery cables were removed.

The battery was valued at \$48.

+++++

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY

W. L. BROWN, 1711 Vanda Ave., owner of Brown's Pool Hall, located at 2820 Parkway Drive, reported to Lubbock police that persons unknown attempted to break into his business one night last week.

Police discovered that the burglars were attempting to gain entry through a covered air conditioner vent hole near the building.

Entry was not gained. Approximately \$25 worth of damage was done to the building.

+++++

OBSEQUIES

Clarence (Buddy) Rogers



Clarence (Buddy) Rogers

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 14, for Mr. Clarence (Buddy) Rogers at the Greater Saint Luke Baptist Church with Rev. A.L. Davis, pastor, officiating.

Interment was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of South Plains Funeral Home.

Mr. Rogers was born

in Telephone, Texas on April 16, 1905 to Mr. and Mrs. James and Isabell Rogers. He lived in Telephone until he moved to Lubbock in 1936 where he resided until 1969.

He moved to Clovis, New Mexico where he lived and died on Dec. 11, 1977.

His survivors in-

clude a wife, Mrs. Cordia Rogers; two brothers, Henry of Petersburg, Texas and Cal of Lubbock; two sisters, Mrs. Willie B. Daniels of Oklahoma City, Okla., and Mrs. Mae F. Malone of Vernon, Texas; two daughters, Janice and

Clarissa Rogers, both of Lubbock; a son, Clarence Rogers of Lubbock; a grandchild, Nicole Rogers; nephews, nieces, other relatives and many friends.

Pallbearers were Clarence White, Ralph Alexander, Earl Elliott, D.C. Kimer, Thomas Terrell, and Raymond Osby.

J. P. Rogers, Sr.

Final rites were read for Mr. J.P. Rogers, Sr. Dec. 13 at the Greater Saint Luke Baptist Church with Rev. A.L. Davis, pastor, officiating.

Interment was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of

South Plains Funeral Home.



Mr. Rogers was born August 12, 1917 to Mr. and Mrs. George Rogers in Nacogdoches, Texas. His early life was spent in Nacogdoches and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

He moved to Lubbock in 1925. He was married to Miss Rosie Lee Phillips in 1947 in Seymour, Texas.

Mr. Rogers served in the U.S. Army and was a member of the Greater Saint Luke Baptist Church where he served until his death. He passed away Dec. 8, 1977.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Rosie Lee Rogers of the home; a son, James of Houston; a brother, George, Jr. of Louisville, Kentucky; many cousins, other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were Ray Lewis Harkey, G. W. Fulcher, George E. Floyd, Cornelius Stevens, Jessie Sumlin, and Willie E. Floyd.

BLACK POETRY

TWILIGHT

*In the twilight towards the end of another day
 Rehashing the things I should have but didn't say
 Now the night has fallen upon my eyes
 Then another thought I hadn't realized
 Staring at life and how it passes me by
 Always searching for the reason why
 Shame on my mind for things I have yet to see
 Evading my true self that I have yet to be*

*In the twilight of my young years gone past
 Hoping I've caught myself at last
 These are my times before I grow old
 Never wanting to leave my story untold
 Once like a yearling new to the farm
 Trying to keep myself from harm
 The break of day now shines on my face
 Helping me to understand all the time I have wasted*

*Seeing the people out there the same as me
 Always searching for what they cannot be
 Reach from your bottom, hoping for the top
 That undying feeling that just won't let you stop
 In the twilight of my awakening mind
 That now understands all things in their time
 In the twilight of my new found peace
 That now understands faith is much more than a belief*
 —Arthur Clark

(The twilight of each day causes us to reflect on today and yesterday. We find through searching our lives and others that faith helps us to understand all things in their time.)

Media Reviews:

(A book for all students of musical lore)

SOME GOOD MUSICAL HISTORY

A review of *The Story Of*

The Blues by Paul Oliver, Chilton Book Co., Radnor, Pennsylvania, 176 large pages—price varied and reduced after Third Printing at larger bookstores.

Music reflects the spirit of a people; and a people's history is deeply spirited if their lives are rich and beautiful like the life of black Americans.

That America's best music is black follows logically. In reading *The Story Of The Blues* by Paul Oliver, the reasons for this are abundantly and graphically clear.

We recommend that lovers of history and music combined try to find this unusual and exquisitely illustrated book before it goes out of print. If your local bookseller has difficulty locating it, we suggest that your bookstore contact a good remaindering house like Marlboro Books or Bookmasters in New York City.

While reviewers normally concentrate on new books,

many especially fine books on the declining sales list are extraordinary finds and belong on the home library shelves of the well-read.

This is one such book worth seeking out. Good hunting!

Eight Pictures For \$1.00

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"THIS 'N THAT"

— ABOUT —
People

Places
Things

Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Johns and son, Spencer, Jr., of Las Vegas, Nev. are visiting relatives and friends in the city over the holidays. Spencer is a brother of Mrs. Ruby Donaldson and Alexander "Sonny" Johns. They are enjoying their short stay here over the holidays.

Mrs. Lovie Jean Cunningham and daughters, Ms. Sana Cunningham and Ms. Pam Cunningham of Dallas, will spend the Christmas holidays with her daughter and sister and family, Mrs. Janet Cryprain and family of Langston, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Linda Marie Griffin and daughter, Stacy, of New Orleans, La., are visiting their mother and grandmother, Mrs. Mildred Lusk. Their brothers and uncles, Karl and Kevin Lusk, were glad to see them also.

Rev. W. A. Terry is visiting his children in Indianapolis, Ind. for the holidays. He will be there through the New Year.

Mr. and Mrs. George Francis motored to Plainview, Texas last Sunday to visit Mrs. Walter Griffin who had a stroke recently and was released from the hospital.

Rev. A. L. Dunn, Mrs. Bernice Kelly, and Mrs. Callie Howard have returned home from Dallas where they attended the B. M. & E. State Board on the campus of Bishop College last week.

Mrs. Dorothy McKeever, who is director of the Joy Bible Club, had her annual

Christmas party at her home at 2104 Birch Ave. last Saturday afternoon from 3 to 5. Over forty children were present. Each of them received a stocking full of candy, nuts, fruit. It was a big job, but for Mrs. McKeever enjoys it. Mr. George Woods dropped in to say a word, and was gladly welcomed.

Mrs. Willie B. McDaniel and son of Oklahoma City, Okla., former residents of Lubbock and members of New Hope Baptist Church, were here last Wednesday saying hello to friends here. She attended her brother's funeral, Clarence (Buddy) Rogers.

Mr. Clem Virden, who has been shut in for sometime, wasn't feeling well last Sunday.

Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Booth, former residents of the "Hub City," are visiting relatives and friends here during the holiday season. They reside in Dallas.

The Class of 1967 of Dunbar High School is having a class reunion on Sunday, Dec. 25, at the St. Luke Baptist Church. All graduates of this class are asked to be present at the morning services at 11 a.m. Family night will be held Monday night, Dec. 26, at 7:30 p.m. at the George Woods Community Center.

East Erskine & Zenith Ave. A social hour will be held at the Red Raider Inn on Tuesday evening, Dec. 27. "We want all to come," says a spokesperson of the group.

Prayer Poem

In the Psalm of Confidence is the Twenty-Third Psalm. It reminds us of why we need not fear.

In 1868, Henry W. Baker paraphrased this Psalm into the hymn, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is." Its words are well-nigh immortal.

*The King of love my Shepherd is
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
And He is mine forever.*

*Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He healeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth*

*In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;*

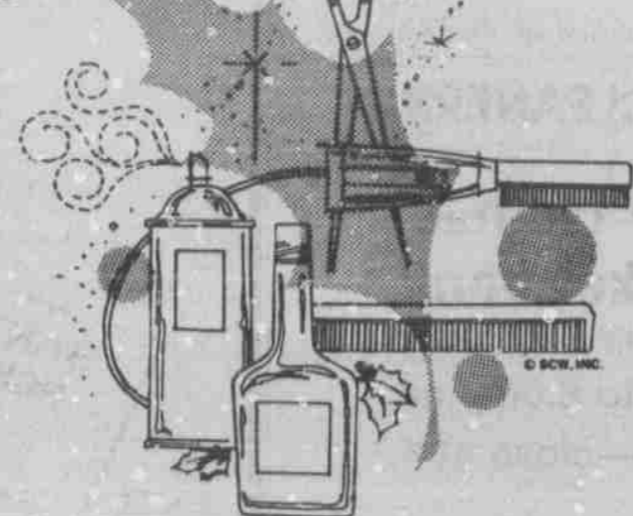
*Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.*

*And so through all the length of days,
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house forever.*

Worship God in His house this week.



Greetings



It's always a pleasure to wish you the best of the season. Thank you for your patronage — we hope to serve you again.

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Across The Nation

News From Home Folks

This feature is a news compilation from more than 100 black-owned and oriented newspapers in this nation. It deals with what blacks, who are all too often little recognized, are doing to promote full participation in American life by black Americans. It is thus a salute from all of our readers for unsung heroes... and is designed to be a challenge for all of us to keep on doing our very best.

The Kalamazoo, Michigan, *Focus News* tells a fascinating story of a local black man of imagination and determination. He is the kind of man who deserves every encouragement and our deepest praise. Write to him, if you will, or to the editor of the *Focus News* who brings us this deeply refreshing story:

One buys an old building that housed a dairy and was used also for farm produce. The first thing to do is clean it out, rid the place of old metal, crates and junk. Then have someone cart it away. Right?

Wrong. At least Jim Jackson, III doesn't do that. He stockpiles the metal and turns the pieces into objects of art — he and his eight or so assistants, who then sell them so more equipment can be purchased to continue JGJ III Enterprises, located at 1802 N. Burdick.

Jim has shown his metal sculpturing at the Kalamazoo Center, and recently returned from a showing of his art work in New York where he said it was enthusiastically viewed. Especially popular are his "Happy People" which he makes from used railroad spikes — buying the metal by the ton.

Jim has had varied life experiences — ranging from foundry work to a position at the Job Corps Center. His educational background includes business, social studies, metallurgy engineering, and art — and he calls on it all in his endeavors at the studio.

Walking through the one story building on N. Burdick is an experience in itself. Living area displays, business items, sculptures, welding

equipment, pictures, and the ever present piles of metal remnants wherever you look, inside and out. Jim's higher education was obtained at Muskegon Heights Junior College, Ferris Institute, and Western Michigan University.

The Charleston, S.C., *Chronicle's* Barney Blakeney has done some superb reporting which in direction would be revealing elsewhere in black America!

Charleston has long been a tourist attraction and is considered one of America's most beautiful cities. The gardens and Charleston's historic atmosphere has created a city with two faces. The side tourists see is a quiet, serene southern town, whose populace goes about its daily activities complacently. But those of us who live and deal with the city know it as the grey hell-hole where its people are in constant struggle to make ends meet.

In the effort to obtain information in regards to public attitude, the *Chronicle* staff member traveled through the Charleston area in attempt to see the city as others might see it. Outwardly Charleston appears to be an extremely "nice" average sized city, which is the reason for Charleston's booming tourist trade. However when citizens of the black community were approached, it was realized that all is not peaches and cream.

Problems with discrimination, public housing, equal employment, crime... the list could go on and on; these problems were those blacks listed as part of the everyday life in the City of Charleston.

Whaley Boyd, Jr., a young and well known citizen, said that one reason there are so many underlying problems within the city is that blacks are not given an equal opportunity to prosper and better themselves.

Mr. Boyd was among many citizens who felt that old Southern practices of racial prejudice are the foundations of the city, blacks doing one thing, whites doing another.

the fear of traveling through the city alone at night. Even when in cars some residents say they don't feel safe.

Crime statistics, while they haven't risen drastically since this time last year, are still uncomfortably high. Between the months of January and April of 1976, a four month span, there were 19 cases of reported rapes. In the same amount of time during 1977 13 have been reported.

The number of robberies doubled from 66 cases in 1976 to 112 cases in 1977. This may be some indication of economic problems within the community. Break-ins numbered 546 cases last year; in 1977 the number rose to 617, more than 1400 cases of larceny were reported from Jan-April of 1977.

Whatever the reasons may be that Charleston finds itself with so many problems, the blacks here acknowledge the fact that problems do exist. Most residents felt that Charleston's troubles were quite obvious but expressed a lack in knowing how to find solutions to these problems.

It is this reporter's opinion that unless officials and civic leaders concentrate their efforts to dig out problem areas and find meaningful solutions to the problems, the standards of living in the black community may change, but will not improve.

Our readers may wish to address congratulatory messages and messages of encouragement to the papers which report happenings of interest or concern to us. Such messages may be sent to the editors or other persons directly by simply addressing them, using the name of the paper, c/o Black Resources, Inc., 410 Central Park West, PH C, New York, N.Y. 10025.



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Women's Page

CAREER WOMAN

ENJOYS THE BANKING FIELD



In America today, there are Black women who are in the banking profession. One of those young ladies is Warlean Reed, who was recently promoted at First National Bank. "There are many banking field for young Black ladies," she says.

A six year employee of First National Bank, she was promoted from the Teller Department to the Installment Loan Department. According to a spokesperson at the bank, "Her promotion from paying and receiving teller will leave a vacancy that will be hard to fill

for the bank since she had developed many customers who went to her specially to transact business". She is a member of the Carter Chapel C.M.E. Church. She and husband, Robert, have three children.

Warlean's new duties in the Installment Loan Department will be involved with installment loan payments and note retention.

A graduate of Dunbar High School, she is a native of Gilmer, Texas. She moved to Lubbock with her family in 1949.

"Young Black ladies must not give up, because with a lot of hard work, they can make it in life," she says. "I really love my new position, and hope to continue to make a positive contribution to the First National Bank," she concluded.

Warlean Reed is a career woman in our community who is making things happen. She is one we are all proud to know.

BLACK POETRY

LOVE IS SPLENDID

True love is splendid and great to behold. It grows very deep down in one's soul; It's full of compassion beyond one's control; It's strong and it's weak, and it's great, I've been told.

Love is forgiving and wanting to be Exactly what our loved ones want us to be. It's caring and sharing and wanting to bear; It's laughing and weeping and wanting to share.

It's laughing and crying together as one; It's waking and finding the bright morning sun Shining so brightly as a new day's begun; And speaking so gently to everyone.

It's being together and sharing all things; It's being apart and longing to bring Time close to returning your love to your side; And hoping and wishing he'll ever be by.

It's joy in the morning, when waking from sleep, And finding a new day of sweet joy and peace, And thanking God softly for His loving grace, For giving His son's life to die in our place.

—Rosemarie McKnight

(Love is sweetness clothed, such is the black poet's thought.)

(Black poets, who may wish exposure to our reading public, may send copies of their poetry in groups of 12 or more poems—for editing and with permission to use—to Media Resources, Box 157, Selkirk, N.Y. 12158. Poetry selected should normally appear in 12 to 20 weeks. No copies can be returned, due to staff limitations.)

..... Basso profundo Mr. Henry Donohoe acted as business manager. Around these, the central figures, were grouped a large, well-balanced chorus, and a

Continue on Page 8..

Thank You

Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow. You added to our comfort in every way. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

The Henry T. Nichols Family

WEDDING VOWS SET HERE



Mrs. Jessie Benson announces the wedding of her daughter, Judy Roquemore, to Mr. James Douglas of Arlington, Texas.

Miss Roquemore is also the daughter of the late Mr. Willis Roquemore.

She is a senior at the University of Texas at Arlington, and is majoring in criminology.

The future groom is a labor relation representative for

General Motors.

The wedding will be held at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 7.

Media Reviews:

(For students of black labor history... and disciplined adult readers)

IMPLICITLY BLACK-PURPOSED

A review of *Organized Labor and The Black Worker, 1619-1973* by Philip S. Foner, International Publishers, N.Y., 489 pages—\$4.50.

Philip Foner's book provides an especially useful focus for a comprehensive view of the history of blacks as workers in American life. It traces the role of the American black in his organized breadwinning activities from the nation's beginnings to the early 1970's.

While accurate history, every line is implicitly black-purposed in that it provides the historical meaning of events as it relates to the well being of black Americans.

If you are a disciplined reader and want to enjoy some hefty and richly rewarding reading about black life, here is a scholarly but lucid tome on which to munch. One will get the most from

Foner's work by reading it at intervals or by researching it for special topics. This is a fine example of the newly-

emerging pro-black scholarship which is simply the truth told from a humanistic and not from a pro-white bias.



We're hoping that your holidays are beautiful in every way! Thank you for your past patronage...we hope to serve you again.

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OUR GIANTS SPEAK

A LOOK AT THE COLORED AMERICAN OPERA COMPANY

This is Part XI of Twelve Parts on black musicians of our past, excerpted from "Music and Some Highly Musical People," published by James Trotter in 1878. Professor Trotter's able research and his extensive command of classical literature is evident in his writing. The book is a remarkable example of the accomplishments of blacks in the period of the 1870's.

"...A series of performances were given at Washington and Philadelphia in the month of February, 1873, by an organization called 'The Colored American Opera Company.'

This troupe, formed in Washington, was composed of some of the most talented amateur musical people residing in that city. The fol-

lowing-named ladies and gentlemen were the principal members and performers:—
Mr. John Esputa
..... Musical Director
Mrs. Agnes Gray Smallwood
..... Soprano
Miss Lena Miller... Contralto
Miss Mary A.C. Coakley
..... Contralto
Mr. Henry F. Grant... Tenor
Mr. Richard Tompkins
..... Tenor
Mr. William T. Benjamin
..... Baritone
Mr. George Jackson
..... Baritone
Mr. Thomas H. Williams

Continue on Page 8..

JOIN NAACP!



We're wishing each of you a very happy holiday season as well as the best of everything!

Mr. & Mrs. Cleo Lawson & Family

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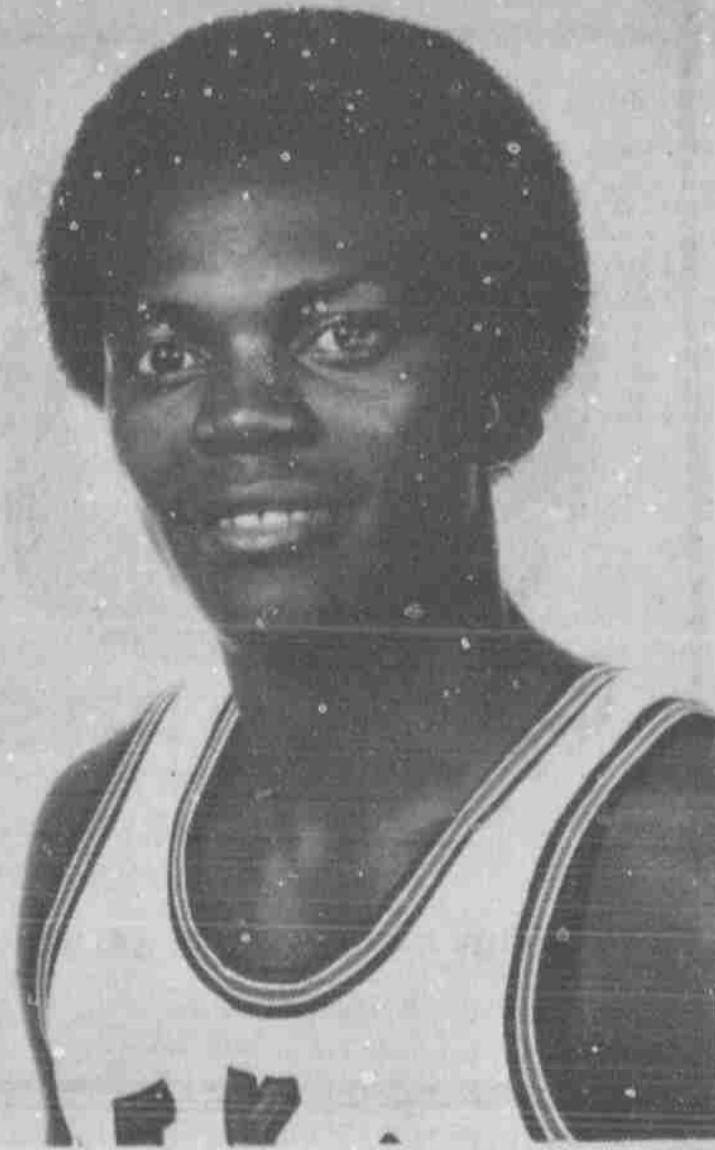
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SPORTS

ONE OF THE QUICKEST...



One of the quickest players ever recruited to Texas Tech University on a basketball scholarship is Tommy Parks, guard, 6', 160 pound, Fort Worth (Poly). He is an excellent ball handler and floor leader. He is, however, the smallest player on the Red Raider squad. He is a transfer student from Midland College. He is a physical education major, and

son of Perlee Parks of Fort Worth. Tommy is the quickest player on the team and he uses his quickness well. He is a good all-round point guard type player who will help us with his ball handling and play-making ability. We think he can become an outstanding floor man," says Gerald Meyers, head coach of the Red Raiders.

SPORTSVILLE

by Dempsey Taylor

DUNBAR ROLLS OVER LAKE VIEW, 55-22

It was like taking candy from a baby last Monday evening at Panther Gym as Dunbar rolled over Lake View of San Angelo, 55-22 for their first win in 3-AAA District play. From the tip of the ball, Dunbar was on its way to win, and win big! "Our fellows came to play," said Coach Joe McWilliams. The Chiefs only bright spot came in the game when they finally scored their 20th point. This was in the fourth quarter with less than a minute and a half remaining in the game. Last year, the Panthers insulted the Chiefs by beating them badly, 112-45. This could have been the reason why the Chiefs went into a four-corner stall in

the second half. The Chiefs are now 3-10 for the young season. High point man for the game was Billy D. Hardaway, the city's top scorer, with 20 points. He only played about half of the district game. Hardaway, the 6'6" senior, was the only Panther in double figures. Dwight Brown hit the net for 8 points. The Panthers led the first quarter 20-4, and went into the dressing room at halftime with a 26 point advantage. The score was 38-12. During the final half, the Chiefs scored only 10 points, while the Panthers added 6 points in the third quarter and 11 in the fourth. Dunbar had 9 fouls while Lake View had 10. This was the sixth game the Panthers had played in the past eight days.

Dear Beloved,
This season of the year has a special meaning for it brings to mind that blessed event of many centuries ago when the Christ-child was given to us.

This season brings about a spirit of joy, love peace and giving. Joy for those who are lonely and without comfort, love for God and your fellowman, peace with ourselves and the world, and the giving of ourselves and our bounty for the benefit of mankind and to the glory of God.



It is in this same vein that Mrs. Haynes and myself wish to greet you. Just as God gave His best to us, we should in like manner give our best to Him. This is best accomplish through serving mankind and we have done in our opinion our best for the past twenty-years in the Lubbock area as Pastor and Wife, civic responsibility, radio ministry and Sister and Brother to all who accept our devotion.

The Christmas-New Year seasons gives as the vehicle that will enable us to reach the masses the world over with the message that will bring hope, joy, peace, love and salvation to man.

The vision to bring over 20 years of service to fruition is to redeemed the time asking God and man to forgive us of our mistakes and to make the best of God's gift to us in which we are celebrating during the Christmas-New Year season.

Our sincere wishes are sent to you and yours for a blessed holiday season and a New Year of good health and prosperity.

Bishop and Mrs. W.D. Haynes
and the Christ Temple Family
2411 Fir Avenue
Lubbock, Texas 79408
Phone: 744-5334

BAD ROAD TRIP DETOURS TIGERS SUCCESS STORY

Dallas, Tx.. Bishop went to Louisiana last week but the occasion was not to purchase Louisiana nor to see the King's Treasurer. It was basketball business. Three Louisiana college teams (SUNO, Xavier, Southern U.) played host to the visiting Tigers and all sent the out-of-state challengers away unhappy. Southern University of New Orleans snatched the fighting Tigers to a surprising 88-73 defeat. Robert Sangster high lighted the affair with a 27 point performance. Bishop had its up's and down's plus the in and outs all night long. They gave up the ball 35 times, mostly on three second violations. They trailed at half 43-40 and as many as 16 in the second half. Four players fouled out, including Cla-

rence Scarborough, who led his team with 18 points. SECOND HOST-XAVIER U. The burly 6-7, 220

pound sophomore pivot man, Byron Williams for Xavier University's Gold Rush shouldered a heavy come from behind vic-

tory 84-82, over Bishop College in the Xavier Barn. Bishop's lead grew to 11 points early in the second half and

Continue on Page 7

GREAT JOY fills the air at Christmas time. May your fondest dreams come true.

LIZ LAUNDRY
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Happy Holiday!

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World Scene

FOCUS ON "DESERTIFICATION,"
A MAN-MADE PROCESS

(For Classroom and Group Discussion)

As the population increases in the dry areas of our globe, the larger the deserts become in size. Part II of this six-part series describes how this process occurs.

Part II of Six Parts

...The advancement of deserts is essentially due to the increasing human population. Traditionally the inhabitants of most of the semi-arid regions wanted to see their herds increase to the maximum since wealth is measured in the number of heads of livestock that they own. Increase in population and increase in livestock together are sufficient to trigger off a vicious cycle. The herds first make the nearest pastures disappear, then they have to seek grazing land further and further away. The number of animals coming to drink at each watering point also increases, and as a result the soil is made literally sterile over a wide, roughly circular area with the well at its centre. The area of cultivated land spreads further afield because there are more and more mouths to feed. But at the same time the yield from the rapidly exhausted soil decreases spectacularly. This in turn forces the farmers to put other plots of land under cultivation. Trees and shrubs disappear, eaten by goats and camels or burnt in domestic hearths. The barren soil is swept away by the wind, and the underlying

sand is freed to invade nearby land which might still be cultivable.

Kordofan province in Sudan is a perfect example of the process of desertification. Every town or village is surrounded by a completely stripped area. Not a blade of grass, only an occasional spiny bush whose growth dwindles the closer one approaches to a human settlement. Everything has been devoured: the grass itself has not even had time to form the seeds necessary for its own regeneration. Virtually everything has been burnt, even the shrub *Acacia senegal*, source of gum arabic of which Sudan is the leading world exporter. (Exports of gum arabic have dropped in value by about 30 per cent between 1970 and 1973. They present eight or nine per cent of all Sudanese exports.) Only ten years ago the inhabitants of Khartoum used to go a matter of six miles from the town to cut the trees they needed. Today they would have to go 50 or 60 miles.

Until the beginning of this century, the rhythm of life in sub-desert Sudan derived its pace from a cultivation cycle of some 30 years. Each peasant burnt the natural vegetation from a strip of land and grew crops on it for four, five or six years. At the end of that period, the plot was allowed to lie fallow for about ten years which enabled various kinds of thorny

vegetation to grow up, particularly the *Acacia senegal*. Next followed a new period of lying fallow for some ten years, but the plot was protected against the depredations of animals by all the natural thorny shrubs. Thus both soil and vegetation had time to regenerate before a new cycle of 30 years began. And there was enough room for each peasant to have permanently at his disposal fields necessary for food-stuffs, strips producing gum arabic (the sale of which brought him considerable revenue) and pasturage for his animals. Today the effect of demographic pressure has been considerably to shorten the cycle: longer periods of cultivation, shorter fallow periods, a decrease in gum arabic production and thus of earnings, so that he is obliged in turn to extend his land under crops...

Key Questions:

1. What are three main issues in this article?
2. What does this article suggest that you can do about our world situation?
3. How many words did you look up in the dictionary? (If we do not use a dictionary daily, and for every word whose full meanings we may not know, we cannot grow individually and assure the best use of our resources for group freedom and a better America.)

TEXAS TECH TO SPONSOR "CAREER DAY" HERE

Texas Tech will conduct "College Day" March 3, 1978, for Texas and New Mexico high school seniors and others interested in attending the university, according to David Nail, assistant dean of students and coordinator of the program.

The event provides prospective students an opportunity to visit with academic advisors in the colleges and departments in which they are interested.

Each of the six colleges will have representatives available for consultation and questioning.

The event also features booths for service and campus organizations to give

Southern combined to score 32 and 28 respectively. Their total points almost matched that of the "fighting Tigers." They didn't miss as they fast broke and shot from thirty feet out.

The Tigers of Bishop College are now 3-6 for the season with one game remaining before the "Holidays."

prospective students a better idea of student life.

Campus bus tours and a special 12-minute film entitled "This is Texas Tech" also will be provided.

Last year more than 1,800 students attended "College Day", Nail said.

In addition to sponsoring "College Day," Texas Tech also participates in the Texas Association of College Registrars and Administration Officers (TACRAO) program.

TACRAO coordinates "college nights" during which colleges may visit a high school at one time to allow students to learn about several schools they may be interested in and obtain information from them.

Texas Tech will send representatives to Corpus Christi, Jan. 16; Kingsville, Jan. 17; South Texas area, Jan. 19-24, and the Houston area Feb. 6-9.

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The United Negro College Fund

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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SPORTS....
Continued from Page 6
things would not have reversed if the tempo of the game had not been drastically altered. With about 16 minutes remaining in the game, junior guard Darrell Perry came into the game, and

with starting guard Gary Holloman's help, affected the flow of the game on offense and defense.

Bishop lost a third game to the "Hot Handed" Jaquors of Southern University at Baton Rouge, 116 to 68. Frankie Sanders and Gregory Green of



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YULETIDE

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Semi-Monthly Summary...

HISTORY-MAKING BLACK HAPPENINGS:

(For your continuing calendar of major black events. Please cut out this column and keep it in your own notebook. Please mark the date of each entry.)

International News...

South Africa — Controversy continued to rage over South Africa's projected nuclear testing. For some time, South Africa's pool of nuclear physicists had been at work developing an atomic arsenal, the major ostensible purpose of which seemed to be the devastation of neighboring black African nations which might seek to end South Africa's vicious racial policies.

France — The French government delivered a sharp rebuke to the South African government on its reported plans to set off a "peaceful" nuclear explosion. The French radio noted: "We have information that there are in South Africa preparations for a nuclear explosion that South Africa claims will be peaceful, but one cannot distinguish an atomic explosion from an explosion of nuclear experimentation."

Uganda — Still unofficial reports that Ugandan President Idi Amin was in a coma aroused local speculation and uncertainty as to the future political course of this potentially powerful and prosperous black African nation.

Great Britain — Unrest continued to grow as the right wing white National Front organization attacked blacks in South London. The National Front is a recognized political organization with aims similar to those of the Ku Klux Klan.

Nigeria — Amid calls for a joint African military force for the procurement of freedom for oppressed blacks in Southern Africa, U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young warned: "It is not necessary to kill the patient to cure the disease."

Earlier Nigerian leader General Olusegun Obasanjo had stated that the world's black people are "drawing nearer the stage of direct involvement in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa." Nigeria possesses the black Sub-Saharan continent's largest standing army.

Zimbabwe — With an overwhelming victory in the largely white "national elections," Ian Smith was placed in a position of bargaining strength in the transfer of this country to black majority rule. There was some speculation that with a large segment of the white population behind him, Smith just might be sufficiently conciliatory and statesmanlike to avoid a seemingly inevitable civil war.

Kenya — The International Louis Leaky Memorial Institute for African Prehistory opened on the grounds of the National Museum of Kenya at Nairobi. Dr. Leaky had made a number of fossil and stone-tool discoveries that have built a strong case for Africa as the birthplace of mankind.

National News...On The Home Front...

Washington, D.C. — The Carter Administration's proposals to couple work with

welfare and its announced "alarm" over the black youth unemployment rate particularly have given rise to speculation that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare may become a department devoted to health, education and employment and service opportunities (or Health, Education and Opportunity).

For many blacks, such a major move would go far to realizing the hitherto unfulfilled goals of the late President Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society."

Washington, D.C. — Blacks in gray flannel business suits are diminishing at

OUR GIANTS SPEAK... Continue from Page 5 fine orchestra; nor was appropriate *mise en scene*, nor were any of the various accessories of a well-equipped opera, wanting in the presentation.

The opera chosen for these performances was Julius Eichberg's excellent 'Doctor of Alcantara.'

The first performances were given in Lincoln Hall, Washington, on the evenings of Feb. 3 and 4, 1873; the next at Philadelphia, in Agricultural Hall, Feb. 21, 22, and 23. Returning to Washington, the two last performances of the series were given in Ford's Theatre.

Of the highly meritorious character of these presentations of opera there exists abundant evidence emanating from disinterested, trustworthy sources, from which

least in the advertisement business, so it was reported at a meeting of black advertising executives in Washington.

Since 1973, ten of the eleven black-owned consumer advertising firms in New York City alone have been forced out of business by the apparently unfair, excessive and illegal actions of the largest Madison Avenue firms, so the black executives noted.

Washington, D.C. — Black Congressional and civil rights leaders affirmed "full employment" as the key

we quote the following. From 'The Daily Washington Chronicle,' Feb. 4, 1873:—

"THE AMERICAN OPERA COMPANY"

"The first colored opera-trope of any merit ever organized in this country appeared at Lincoln Hall last night in Eichberg's opera, 'The Doctor of Alcantara.'

'Lincoln Hall was literally packed. Of course the majority of the audience was colored, and including a host of the personal friends of the singers. Glancing over the house, the full opera-dresses scattered liberally through the audience reminded one not a little of the scene at a concert by Carlotti Patti or the Theodore Thomas orchestra. Quite a third of the audience was composed of white ladies and gentlemen, largely attracted, perhaps, by

the novelty of the affair; and among them were many representatives of the musical circles of the city, somewhat curious to hear and compare the performance with those they have been accustomed to hear.'

From the Washington correspondent of 'The Vineland (N.J.) Weekly,' February, 1873:—

'On Tuesday evening it was the good fortune of your correspondent to attend the

opera rendered by the 'Colored American Opera Company,' of which I spoke in my last.

'To say that every thing passed off well, simply, would be but faint praise. We all know that the colored race are natural musicians; and that they are susceptible of a high degree of cultivation is evidenced by their rendition of the opera on the occasion of which I speak.'

Key Questions:

1. What are three main issues raised in this article?
2. What does this article suggest about our life situation today?
3. How many words did you look up in the dictionary? (If we do not use a dictionary daily and for every word whose FULL meaning we may not know, we cannot grow individually and assure the best use of our resources for group freedom and a better America.)

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GREETINGS OF THE SEASON

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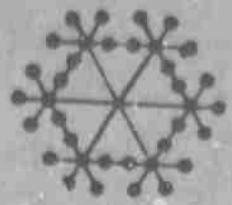


MERRY CHRISTMAS

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The Lubbock Digest
"Dedicated to Freedom, Justice
and Equality"



Across The Nation

News From Home Folks

The Akron, Ohio, Reporter tells of a signal achievement by a magnificent black educator of whom all our readers across the nation should be deeply proud. The Reporter relates: Wilberforce University and the African Methodist Episcopal Church officially in-

stalled Charles E. Taylor as the university's 15th president in an A.M.E. Convocation of Investiture. The ceremony provided official recognition by the university's board of trustees and the A.M.E. Church of Charles E. Taylor as President of Wilberforce Univer-

sity, the post in which Daniel A. Payne pioneered as the nation's first black college president. The service, including presentation of a medallion symbolizing the key elements in the Wilberforce tradition and the role of the A.M.E. Church in that tradition, was presided over by the Rt. Rev. Vinton R. Anderson, Bishop of the Third A.M.E. District. The main address was given by the Rt. Rev. Richard A. Hildebrand, Bishop of the First A.M.E. District and President of the Council of Bishops of the A.M.E. Church.

Wilberforce, named for 18th century abolitionist William Wilberforce, is the pioneer among black-owned and operated colleges. Founded in 1856, the university has operated under the auspices of the A.M.E. Church since 1863. Dr. Charles E. Taylor

became President of Wilberforce University on December 1, 1976, succeeding Dr. Rembert E. Stokes upon his election as Bishop of the A.M.E. Church, assigned to West Africa.

Dr. Taylor, age 33, is the youngest chief executive in Wilberforce history and is currently the youngest president of any United Negro College Fund institution.

Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Dr. Taylor received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from Ohio State University, completing his doctorate in educational administration in 1972.

Dr. Taylor is married to the former Karen Keys, also of Columbus. They have a five-year old daughter, Enid.

Prior to his appointment at Wilberforce, Dr. Taylor had been vice president for fiscal affairs at the Columbus-based Academy for Contemporary Problems, a public policy research institution. Dr. Taylor's experience also includes tenure as staff associate at the Institute for Educational Leadership and special assistant to the Commissioner of the U.S. Office of Education in Washington, D.C.

Since assuming his role at Wilberforce, Dr. Taylor has been involved with charting a renewed emphasis on excellence in the management of the University.



God Reigns

A love which conquers evil, what is this?
A fairy tale, like those of joy and bliss

In some far distant place where after life
Is past we go to know no more of earthly strife?

Around us evil and disdain we see
Men build in other men, not harmony

And love, but hate, where pride and selfishness
Hold sway, where might is right, where lowliness

Of spirit loses out, where men who would do right
No more have heart to stand and fight

For what seems good as they in church and home are taught,
All honesty and truth seem but to go for naught.

Yet robed in the garments of humility,
Mere swaddling clothes, there came in equal majesty

On earth: to what He bore in

heaven, no less Than God Himself, His scepter that of gentleness.

Love conquers evil. Such it always will.
Since both in heaven and earth God reigneth still.

The heavens declare His glory. Thus from heaven did sound

The angels' song of peace and joy; and in the earth around

There rose up humble hearts, who once did know by this
That all of heaven's promised joy and bliss

Were present with them, that God did reign,
As still He does, where gentle hearts at Christmas hail His name.

"Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

—Isaiah 9:6

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Black Monitor

Credo For Justice And Equity

Whereas, the federal government of the United States of America recognizes that our nation is comprised, on the one hand, of a large majority "meeting point" of ethnic groups, who can identify as white, and, on the other hand, of "affected class" minorities (largely black), "who, by virtue of past discrimination, continue to suffer the present effects of that discrimination" in a manner that has not allowed these "affected class" persons to identify with White America... And,

Whereas, black people in America and elsewhere are beginning to recognize more and more that the long standing oppression to which they have been subject for so many centuries has been based solely on skin color... with little or no distinction made to the educational attainments, economic status or other merits of the individual... And,

Whereas, black people everywhere recognize that since this discrimination and denial have been applied to them as a group, they must unite as a group in many ways to help overcome these conditions... And,

Whereas, our federal government and others are beginning to recognize that this use of race as a weapon, both deliberately and systematically, to exclude blacks and certain other minorities from the economic mainstream of American life, has resulted in an economic, psychological and political arrangement that is demeaning and unjust... And,

Whereas, this denial has been long-standing and so broadly pervasive that many persons with limited inner security have felt a need to engage in counter-moves to this frustrating inhumanity... And,

Whereas, to overcome these historic and tragic injustices... and to build equity for all, major corporations and others in economic control have begun to realize that compensatory or "make-up" adjustments have to be made by every institution in America, if any of us hope to live together harmoniously and without fear... And,

Whereas, all other previously-oppressed minorities have had to get themselves together to take leadership in—and give guidance and moral support to—changes toward building equity... And,

Whereas, our experiences with long-suffering make us more acutely concerned about all citizens (white or black) being treated fairly and that oppressed peoples get long over-due consideration in educational, job and other economic opportunities through both confrontation and support... And,

Whereas, business persons, firemen, policemen, teachers and others who do not live within our communities almost consistently have shown lack of regard for the reasonable and deserved needs of our communities... And,

Whereas, we recognize that all of us (black and white) are linked together in survival and all of us will suffer from the great economic and needlessly inhuman costs unless we all strive together for equitable changes... And,

Therefore, as citizens who understand that we can never realize the full promise of America until all blacks and other oppressed minorities are empowered to stand in a peer relationship with others via 1) genuine self-awareness, 2) keener insights into the realities of our society and 3) vastly improved economic opportunities, we pledge the following as a means of helping to make our society more just and equitable for every American:

1. that, for a more rapid shift toward psychological and economic freedom for our community, and except where comparable values are not available with reasonable convenience, all of our needs for goods and services will be from within our "affected class" communities...
2. that, to insure the best possible education for our youth and to insure the best police and fire protection, we will insist that only those who, along with their families, live within our communities, be able to serve as teachers, policemen or fire fighters for our communities...
3. that, on the basis of the simple equity needed to achieve peaceful and harmonious relationships among all in this nation, we will make every effort possible to encourage our employers to employ more minorities and engage more minority contractors on an equitable basis...
4. that, since the media of every community are a major voice for that community and therefore should come from within that community (not be outsiders), we will do all in our power to support those who support our true leadership voices... and will actively discourage support for any media purporting to represent us but which are not owned from within our community and accountable to the black community...
5. that, for redemptive and equity-building purposes, we will encourage group unity, promote community control and work in non-violent but aggressive ways for survival and growth of our people on all fronts and in our nation... particularly with programs oriented for our youth...
6. that, if any company should engage in any new venture which is ethnic related, we will do our best to help them see the wisdom of joining with blacks and other "affected class" minorities in this one area remaining open to them for quickly and easily establishing economic equity...
7. that, in order to keep blacks from continuing to be forced out of business, prevent deception, and help regain control of our own economic community, we will do all in our power to encourage non-minority owned ventures from needlessly exploiting black (or other "affected class" minority) pride, and giving the impression that they may be minority owned by using "soul" names unless our brethren actually own majority control of these enterprises...
8. that, for our own continued economic survival, we will support these needed efforts for creative change to which all thinking people must be committed by encouraging all of our friends—including black business people and professionals who stand to gain most immediately—to support in every possible way those institutions committed to work for the principles of this pledge...
9. that, for simple self-respect, and for the development of group strength (as all other ethnic groups have had to do), we will work to strengthen our educational system, develop our own community organizations like SCLC, Operation Breadbasket, Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC), People United to Save Humanity (PUSH), local NAACP Chapters, etc., in every way possible and help by making the alternatives more clear to those black brothers and sisters who continue to unwittingly or otherwise work against our self-development. And finally...
10. that, because the black church (along with the black-owned press) has been in the forefront of the struggle for freedom and dignity for all men in this nation, and because we all need the moral strength which it imparts, we will do all we can to support it financially and otherwise even if we live in other communities and cannot regularly attend... for, this is chief among our precious institutions.

Blessings of Christmas



May the spirit of Christmas abide with you and yours... may it bring you happiness, peace, and all the good things that life has to offer. And while we're wishing you the very best, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your loyal patronage in the past. We look forward to serving you again in the future.



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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON HOPE FOR A BETTER DAY

Micah 4:1-5

1 It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

3 He shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide for strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; 4 but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and none shall be afraid for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

5 For all the people walk each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

Micah 5:2-4

2 But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old from ancient days.

3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in travail has brought forth; then the rest of his brethren shall return to the people of Israel.

4 And he shall stand and feed his flock in all ages to enjoy.

the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

MEMORY SELECTION:

And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more. Micah 4:3.

DEVOTIONAL READING:

- HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS**
- M. The Promised King Micah 5:2-4
 - T. Born in Bethlehem Matthew 2:1-12
 - W. A Word of Peace Micah 4:1-7
 - T. A Gift of Light Isaiah 9:2-7
 - F. A Hymn of Hope Micah 7:16-20
 - S. God's Only Son Hebrews 1:1-9
 - S. Found in Human Form Philippians 2:5-11

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Discuss Malachi's belief in a coming Messiah.
2. How do we associate Christ with Malachi's conception of the Messiah?
3. To what did Malachi witness?
4. How may we witness to the good news of Christmas?
5. What was a name or term ascribed to the Messiah?
6. How does the spirit of Christ brighten the dark corners of our world at Christmas time?
7. Who was to be the new leader of Israel?
8. How do we associate Christ with this "new leader" of Israel?



Church News

Mount Vernon United Methodist was sung by Moses Turner. Services were well attended last Sunday morning with our pastor, Rev. Nathaniel Johnson, delivering the morning message. A special selection was held for the

The Parrish Youth will have youth services at La Trinidad United Methodist Church every Friday night this month, December, at 7:30. We are asking all of our youth to attend. Adults are invited to attend. The

subject is "Getting Acquainted." Let us not forget choir practice every Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m. Prayer meeting is held every Wednesday evening from 6 to 7. Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut in members. Will you do this for

Christ? *****
Twentieth & Birch Church of Christ

We are always happy to have visitors with us each Sunday. Among those who visited with us last week were Eddie Daye, Vertia Harris, George and Pat Johnston, and

Nina Day. Each brother and sister at our congregation is asked to join in on the fun, food, and fellowship to be enjoyed on Monday evening, Dec. 26, in fellowship hall at 7. Dress semi-formal. There will be something for

all ages to enjoy. Let us continue to pray for and visit our sick and shut in members. Sister Ruby Glaspie is a patient at St. Mary's Hospital, room 424. Brothers T. E. Ray and Nelson McCormick are still on the sick and shut in list. Sister Georgia Malone, Ella Williams, and Ruth Benton continue to

MOUNT VERNON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2304 Cedar Avenue
Lubbock, Texas 79404

Bishop Aisle H. Carleton
Northwest Texas-New Mexico Conference
Rev. Billy Wilkinson, District Superintendent



Rev. Nathaniel Johnson, Pastor

Schedule of Weekly Services
Church Service 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night - Prayer Meeting 4:45 p.m.
Bible Study 5:30 p.m.
Friday Night (Youth Service) 5:30 p.m.

MOUNT GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH
2510 Fir Avenue
Pastor: Rev. A. L. Patrick
Phone: 744-5363

Schedule of Weekly Services:
Church School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
B. T. U. 6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Mon. Laymen Brotherhood (Ushers) 7:00 p.m.
Tues. Both Choirs 8:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Band 8:00 p.m.
Thur. Youth Dept. 7:00 p.m.
Fri. Teachers Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Sat. 1st & 3rd Deacons 5:00 p.m.
"Special"

Sunday Dec. 18, 1977, the Greater New Hope Baptist Church of Midland, Texas will appear with Mount Gilead at 3:00 p.m. with Rev. I. L. Patrick guest speaker. The Public is cordially invited.

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Morning Worship

Schedule of Weekly Services
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Training Union 6:00 p.m.
Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
Midweek Service 7:00 p.m.



GREATER ST. LUKE BAPTIST CHURCH
305 East 26th Street
Rev. A. L. Davis, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship 10:45 A.M.
Evening Worship 7:00 P.M.
Baptist Training Union 6:00 P.M.
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M.
Teacher's Meeting and Worker's Counsel
Friday 7:30 P.M.

Church News

Twelfth & Birch Church of Christ
 Our singing group was invited to take a part in the youth fellowship at Hobbs, N.M. last Sunday. We were unable to go because of our previous commitments by different ones in the group.

Lions Chapel Baptist
 We had a wonderful time last Sunday afternoon as we celebrated our pastor and wife's appreciation service. Dr. and Mrs. Floyd Perry. Special guest minister was the Rev. Wilson Baldwin, and church of Littlefield.

Joint evening worship services will be held Sunday, Jan 1st, at 7 p.m.
 Let us continue to pray for and visit our sick and shut in members.
 A joint mission church Christmas party was held Monday evening. Everyone had a lovely time.

New Hope Baptist
 Our annual Christmas program was held last Wednesday evening. It was a lovely affair.
 Special services, sponsored by the Baptist Ministers Union, will be held on Tuesday evening, Dec. 27, at 7, at New Hope. The public is invited to attend.

A special thanks to all of you for your support at the Bazaar sponsored by the Educational Board.
 All auxiliaries are asked to hold their election of officers and turn them over to the church office prior to the installation.
 Installation of officers will be held on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 3 p.m. All officers will be here for this service.
 A leadership training course is forth

coming. Date and minister will be announced soon.
 Our annual planning session of all officers will be held on Monday night, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m. Pastor Dunn is asking all to be in attendance.
 Let us continue to pray for and visit our sick and shut in members.

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal
 Services were well attended last Sunday morning with Rev. William Perry delivering the morning message. Youth Choir Number One was responsible for the music of the morning, under the direction of F.E. Brown, director, and Avis Patterson, pianist.

We were glad to see Brother Gary Buntun and Mrs. Linda Griffin, former members, with us.
 Our membership is invited to attend the wedding of one of our members, Judy Roquemore, on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 7 p.m. at our church. A reception will follow immediately in Fellowship Hall.

Our young people did a splendid job in their annual Christmas program last Sunday evening. Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Wilson, pastor and wife, had their annual Christmas party following the program. Everyone had a wonderful time.

Christmas baskets will be delivered on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 24. There are nine families who will feel Christmas cheer because of this effort. This program, which is done each month, is sponsored by the Adult Sunday School Class.

Let us continue to pray for and visit our sick and shut in members. Prof. E.C. Struggs and Mrs. Leaner Goldstein are still shut in.
 Let us continue to pray for our pastor, Rev. Wilson, who has

been ill and is still ill. He was able to attend church services last Sunday. He has asked that Rev. William Perry deliver the first Sunday message in January.
 Prayer meeting is held each Wednesday evening at 7. We are asking that all members come out and take a part in this much needed service.
 Senior Choir Number Two will practice on Thursday evening at 8 p.m. The choir is still looking for a choir director. If you know of anyone, contact any member of the choir.
 Youth Choir Number One sung at Federation of Choirs last Sunday afternoon.

Greater St. Luke Baptist
 Members of the Eunice Circle will meet in the Home of Sister Verma L. Moore tonight, Thursday, at 7, at 2804 East 30th St.
 Prayer meeting is held each Wednesday evening at seven. The family and church that prays together stays together. The only hope we have is in Jesus.

Mission Two met in the home of Sister Jewel Love, 1712 East Brown Ave., last Monday evening.
 Junior Mission, Brotherhood Union and Men's Chorus meet at the church each Monday evening at 8.
 The young adult choir meets at the church each Wednesday evening at 8.

The youth choir meets at the church each Monday evening at 7.
 Let us pray for and visit our sick and shut in members. Those on the sick list include Sister Mattie Travenia who is recuperating at her home after surgery. Sisters Dolly Howard, Roxie Reed, Ellen

Tillman, Mary Lee, Elizabeth Spencer, and Rosanna Harris are still shut in.

Home Circle Baptist

The NAACP needs you, and you need the NAACP. The strongest forces of the NAACP comes from church members who care about people. Won't you join the cause. Membership fees are: \$1.00 per year for youth 16 and under, \$2.00 per year for youth 17 to 21 years, \$5.00 per year for seniors, and \$10.00 per year for senior with the Crisis Magazine included. \$25.00 per year for contribution membership. \$100.00 life time for youth to age 13. \$500.00 lifetime for seniors, to be paid at \$50.00 per year for ten years.
 Let us get involved for our youth, to secure better education, community, and jobs.
 Let us also continue to pray for those who are ill in our community.

News From Home Folks
 This feature is a news compilation from more than 100 black-owned and oriented newspapers in this nation. It deals with what blacks, who are all-too-often little recog-

nized, are doing to promote full participation in American life by black Americans. It is thus a salute from all of our readers for unsung heroes... and is designed to be a challenge for all of us to keep on doing our very best.

The Washington Informer has kept the citizens of the nation's capital city abreast of the important local happenings. The following story of how City Councilmember Wilhelmina Jackson Rolark volunteered to help with a pressing community need in regard to crime sets an especially attractive example for hosts of others in every black community to follow.
 Who will do the troublesome and tedious work we have to do? The Informer story supplies one fine and exemplary response:
 Councilmember Wilhelmina J. Rolark volunteered to serve on the Mayor's Special Committee investigating attacks being made upon taxi drivers in Anacostia.

According to Mrs. Rolark the repeated attacks could cause taxi drivers to refuse to come into Anacostia, and without taxi service her constituents would be without transportation they depend on greatly.
 Ward 8 has been the scene of frequent transportation problems. With the opening of the subway METRO discontinued much needed lines into Ward 8. She stated that even with shuttle bus service her area is still at a disadvantage.

Mrs. Rolark was happy to hear Chief Cullinane's plans to step up police protection in the Far South East, Northeast areas which have been the scenes of the most frequent attacks.
 According to Councilmember Rolark, Police Chief Cull-

inane will assign special police mobile units to Far Southeast and Northeast Districts and non-uniformed police will drive taxis in a special effort to apprehend those responsible for the repeated attacks.

We salute the Informer for its important local work of national significance and note also that the courageous and pioneering publisher of the Washington Informer, Dr. Calvin Rolark is national chairman of the BMI Cooperative



May this Christmas find you at peace with the world and yourself.
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 Wednesday Night 7:30 p.m.

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 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Service 8:00 p.m.

Weekly Services:
 Monday—Mission #1 5:00 p.m.
 Wednesday—Worship 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday—Choir 7:30 p.m.
 Thursday—Brotherhood 7:30 p.m.
 Friday—Nancy Circle #2 7:00 p.m.

SPECIAL
 Sunday Evening at 2:00 p.m. Rev. Kado Lang will Preach: The Home Coming of the South Union Baptist Church in McCamey, Texas. The Church where he served as Deacon Called in the Ministry and called as Pastor of said Church for several years. We count it a blessing as well as a privilege to speak at the Home Coming.

WORDS OF LIFE

Biblical Inspiration For The Week

"Get wisdom; get insight."—Proverbs 4:5

1. "Wise up!" You have heard that expression many times. Perhaps most of the time we think of it as a somewhat sarcastic reprimand. But simply reflect upon the words. "Get wisdom." "Seek out the great truths and revelations of the ages." No matter in what kind of package those words are wrapped, the message of those words is sound. Seek wisdom!

2. Know where wisdom is best found. It has been said that a university is the best place to seek wisdom. We should all agree that aspiration to attend our colleges and universities which are repositories of wisdom should

be a goal for all or most of us. But one "library of universal wisdom" is never to be overlooked, the books of the Bible!

3. Daily grow in wisdom... and in grace! That's what Abraham Lincoln did in his daily reading of the Bible. He did not seek out its many mystical meanings, which often change from age to age. Rather he concentrated on its deeply practical store of wisdom, such as Jesus

always taught. There is nothing mysterious about Jesus. He is the embodiment of Truth, the expression of Wisdom, the incarnation of God's redemptive life and presence.

Prayer Poem

Rudyard Kipling, no friend of blacks—who spoke of black Africans as "half devil and half child"—represents the kind of vexing person who tests our capacity for

love.

In 1906, in God's mysterious providence, Kipling wrote these words about an all-embracing love which should even inspire (as well as perhaps baffle) us. He wrote:

Father in heaven, who lovest all,
O help thy children when they call;
That they may build from age to age
An undefiled heritage.

Teach us to look in all our ends
On thee for judge and not our friends;
That we, with Thee, may walk uncowed
By fear or favor of the crowd.

Teach us the strength that cannot seek,
By deed or thought, to hurt the weak;
That, under Thee, we may

possess
Man's strength to comfort
man's distress.

Amen

(Kipling's mixed love and hate—both of which were deep and sublime—are a living reminder of the good and the naughty in us all. Can we be less than loving in our outreach to and concern for others? Join with God's "fellowship of love and service" in your church this week.)



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- Did you know that Moses' wife, Zipporah, was a person of color?
- Did you know that many of the converts to Christianity at Pentecost were black?
- Did you know that King David, author of the Psalms, had a great grandmother who was a woman of color? Her name was Ruth.
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