AFRO Writers Tell Of First Christmas

AFRO society editor attends 'boss' show given by Herod

By LULA MACKAY

BETHLEHEM — Well It's that time again. Taxes are due. But, as is said, nothing is sure but death and taxes.

But let's look on the bright side. What is poison to one is nectar to another, and while taxes are not our Thing, tax gathering is great for that old goat time is great for MACKAY of a Herod.

Since Caesar Augustus decrees that all citizens must come here to pay their taxes, it's great time for Herod to do a boss show off.

He can show his greatness with a snip at the poor; and his affability with great parties for the rich, especially the lordly Romans.

* * *

There's a snicker in every bag, however. So while Herod is holding forth with great parties in the theatres, the hippodromes and the amphitheatres, there are a few ants in the royal pants.

Herod doesn't know at what minute those plucky Jews might stage a real riot. Already, they are picketing the temples his little political ruse provide for them.

They are not un-hep to why he placed Roman insignias on the temples. They are charging him with great deceit.

But at the place and the great inn, everyone seems to be having a ball.

* * *

We stopped at the inn. You should have seen the gaiety there. Dancing girls and singing, and tables that groaned beneath their burden of meats, wines and breads. There were spiced figs from Ethiopia and fruits from Persia, great joints of meats and toweres of breads.

Joseph and Mary of Galilee came to the desk, but I suppose they had no reservation, I saw them turned away. The place had been engaged for days and not a single room was left, the clerk said.

It was nice seeing Mary and Joseph together.

There had been some talk of a rift following their engagement when Mary went for such a long stay with her cousin, Elizabeth. Now they are the picture of conjugal happiness.

The party was really jumping and Herod was in his best role as host when a servant announced that three Kings of the East were entering the gates of the city and asked where he should house them.

The guest rooms, the servant said, were already filled.

"Kings?" boomed Herod. "bring them in. Make room for them."

We were curious, too. Kings from the Orient! We decided to stay around and get a look at them and the splendor reported. We waited and waited, but the Kings never showed.

There was great commotion down at the stables, at dawn. As soon as day came, I dashed down there to see what was happening. Guess what? Mary and Joseph have a new son.

It was in the stable that they went when they could not get a room in the Inn. Oh, and what a beautiful child he is. He lay smiling in his sleep, as blissful in his swaddling clothes and on a bed of hay, as any royal child.

"He will be a king," cried Mary. "The angels told us so, last night. And not only that, kings have already come to visit him, to bow and worship him, to shower him with gifts of gold, of frankincense and myrrh," she added.

Mary let me hold the little boy while she packed. She and Joseph were leaving Bethlehem immediately to visit friends. As they pass through Jerusalem they will have the baby christened by Simeon, the priest, and Anna, the priestess will be godmother. The baby will be named JESUS.

Herod is surely blowing his top today. It is being rumored that the long-tailed-of Ruler of the Jews was born here last night, and Herod is quaking in his shoes that the end of his reign is in sight.

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ONE WISE MAN WAS BLACK

Balthasar, Caspar and Melchoir brought gifts to the young Child Jesuss.

Balthasar is represented as a black man on most of the early paintings. His gift was myrrh. Caspar brought frankincense and Melchior, gold.

The Three Wise Mean thought to represent three races on three continents, Europe, Asia and Africa. Balthasar is referred to as a King of Ethiopia.

The innkeeper turned them out

By A. N. SAID

The journey from Galilee to Bethlehem was long and tiresome for the tall, bearded gentleman and his pregnant wife.

When the party arrived in Bethlehem, it was late at night.

Like most travelers, the first thing the gentleman thought of was a palace to rest and eat.

As he and his wife, followed by a donkey, approached the business area of the city, they saw a dim light which read "Inn."

Delighted by the prospects of finding a place to sleep and eat, the party hurried.

* * *

When they reached the place, the inn keeper came forward and asked if he could help them.

"Yes," said the tall man. "Me and my lady here want a place for the night."

"I see," said the inn keeper, and a broad smile on his face.

"I don't think I have a vacancy for you two, but I do have a vacancy in my stable. Perhaps you might want to spend the night there. The price will suit you and your donkey will feel at home."

* * *

"I will take it," replied the tall gentleman. He led the tired and hungry lady into the stable, along with the donkey.

There, in a dirty stable, the lady, whose name was Mary, gave birth to a boy-child which she named Jesus.

"Glory to God in the highest" sang the tall gentleman, whose name was Joseph.

He was filled with pride and joy as he gazed down the shining black face of his newly born child.

Christmas alone can do this

By CHARLES DICKENS

And numerous indeed are the hearts to which Christmas brings a brief season of happiness and enjoyment.

How many families whose members have been dispersed and scattered far and wide, in the restless struggle of life, are then reunited, and meet once again in that happy state of companionship and mutual good will, which is a source of such pure and unalloyed delight.

And one so incompatible with the cares and sorrows of the world, that the religious belief of the most civilized nations, and the rude traditions of the roughest savages, alike, number it among the first days of a future state of existence provided for the blest and happy!

How many old recollections, and how many dormant sympathies, Christmas-time awakens!

* * *

We write these words now, many miles distant from the spot at which, year after year, we met on that day, a merry and joyous circle.

Many of the hearts that throbbed so gaily then, have ceased to beat.

Many of the looks that shone so brightly then, have ceased to glow; the hands we grasped, have grown cold.

The eyes we sought, have hid their luster in the grave; and yet the old house, the room, the merry voices and smiling faces, the jest, the laugh, the most minute and trivial circumstance connected with those happy meetings crowd upon our mind at each recurrence of the season, as if the last assemblage had been but yesterday.

Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days, recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the traveler back to his own fireside and quiet home!

The Story Of Christmas

(From The Papers of Carl Murphy)

For many years the AFRO has published the story of the birth of Christ as it is told in the second chapters of St. Mattrews and St. Luke's gospel.

But the Gospels say nothing as to the day of Christ's birth and the early church did not celebrate it.

In time, however, the Christians of Egypt came to regard January 6, as the date of the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles and the custom of celebrating the coming of the Saviour on that day gradually spread until by the Fourth Century, it was universally established in the East.

By the end of the Third Century, the Western church, which had never recognized the 6th of January as the date of the Nativity, adopted the 25th of December as the true date and in time its decision was accepted also by the Eastern church.

How Church Started

What led the church to institute the festival of Christmas? It is told by one writer that Egyptian and Syrian custom dictated celebration of December 25 as the birthday of the Sun, at which time lights were kindled in token of festivity.

In these celebrations, Christians also took part.

Paganism and Christianity were rival, but eventually, as Christianity began to predominate, the Christian fathers took counsel and chose to celebtate the birthday of Jesus on December 25 in order to transfer the devotion of the heathen from the Sun to Him who was called the Son of Righteousness.

Astarte, the Egyptian Goddess who conceived and bore a son on that day, for us became the Virgin Mary.

Jesus Great Teacher

The issue of authenticity of this story has long long is the balance, but it is indisputable even in these times that Jesus was a great teacher.

So it seems appropriate this year to emphasize not so much the manner and time of Christ's birth, but the manner of man He was.

The Christ Child was humbly born, even by the standards of the poor people of nearly two thousand years ago.

He grew to manhood in a carpenter's home, and eventually went about the country preaching and teaching the simple doctrine that people should live peacefully together, deal fairly with each other and respect one another.

He had the answer to fears such as grip many nations and many peoples in these times. Fears that there shall not be enough oil, or gas, or food, or shelter.

Said He, God feeds the sparrows and the ravens. He clothes the lilly, He numbers the hairs on your head, how much more will He protect and keep you.

Had Answer for Prejudice

He had the answer to race prejudice (St. Luke 6:22, 23):

"Blessed are ye when men shall hate you and when they shall separate you from their company and shall reproach you and cast out your name as evil . . .

"Rejoice . . . leap for joy . . . your reward is great in heaven . . . for in like manner did their fathers unto the prophets."

He counseled that a good rule to follow, in order to insure happiness and contentment, was to do only those things unto others that you would most desire they do unto you.

He picked twelve associates from the ranks and by the power of His personal conviction transformed them into an organization which has carried on victoriously for nineteen centuries.

He was no Coward

While He preached nonviolence, He was no coward. He condemned evil and hypocrisy, whipped money changers out of the temple, defied the majority when it was wrong, and did not cringe or beg for mercy when those who called Him a radical hanged Him to a cross.

Yet, even as He died, He found the inward peace that He preached. He forgave His enemies, who, He said did not understand Him.

This is the simple and beautiful story that has told all over the Christian world this week.

It is to the world's discredit that men will not heed it. For men still believe that peace comes by conquering others instead of themselves.

They have not heard the Christmas message aright or that there shall be peace for men of good will! That it is more blessed to give than to get; to stand firmly for principles than to compromise; to hate evil rather than evildoers.

EndAll Injustices

This week the world prays for peace. But in many places, there is none because most nations, including our own, regard the teachings of Jesus as an ideal rather than a practical way of life. . .

In this Yuletide season, when the spirit of goodwill and friendliness is at its peak, we might well say to our nations: End all the injustices that beset the people of this earth who can be identified in the national conscience by reflected parading legions.

Jesus would say: Do away with it, because it is just and will lead to peace on earth.

If there were any other way, the Greatest Teacher of all times would have told us. There is none.

Nevertheless, our way is clear. We can pray that the Blessed benediction of peace will come upon America, and we can work and fight until free people can walk gracefully and gratefully in the lasting faith His life has taught us.

Merry Christmas to AFRO readers

By RUTH JENKINS

'Twas the hour before
deadline, and all through
the place
Every darn thing was stirring at a hectic pace
The copy was typed and edited with care
Since we all knew that press time soon would be there
The heads were well chosen to highlight the story
Crime, sports and society blared forth in glory
The news next emerged from the linotype machines
With haste and accuracy as seldom is seen
Then on to the desk for the proofreader's pencil
Ads sprang into place, pics were cropped with a stencil
The boss wore his usual make-deadline frown
All over the building, folks scurried around
Pages set up through confusion and noise
Brought the order to "Roll the press — let 'er go, boys!"
Then up on the stairs there arose such a clatter
We stopped in our tracks to see what was the matter
A timid reporter ran down like a flash
Caught hold of the boss by his work-aprons sash
The fear in his eyes and an uncontrolled shiver
Foretold of a message
He was hard to deliver
Then finding new courage, he shouted
"Since it's Christmas time, boss, print something about it."
With a fierce look of menace, the boss turned on us
We knew without question, he restrained a cuss
More rapid than eagles, excuses they came
And he fumed and he shouted, but called us no names
"Now (censored), now (censored). Forgot it? that's fine!
They dashed away, dashed upstairs, dashed back again
Page and stick in a line!"
From the head of the staff to the mere mice of men
They dashed back again
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work
And helped fix the paper, then turned with a jerk
And wiping a smudge from the side of his face
And giving a nod, up the stairway he paced
He stopped at the door, to his team gave a look
As away they all toiled like a blitzkrieg had struck
And we heard him exclaim, as he glanced at the sheet
"Happy Christmas to all — NOW GET THIS ON THE STREET!"

Silent Night 150 years old

"Silent Night, Holy Night," is known as the "Queen of Christmas Carols." On December 24, 1968 it celebrated its 150th anniversary.

The composers of the carol were Franz Gruber and Joseph Mohr, whose purpose for writing the song was to supply "Some special music for the Christmas Eve service."

Mohr and Gruber and the choir of St. Nicholas' Church in Oberndorf, Austria, first sang the completed song on December 24, 1818. It didn't appear in print until after 1831.

A. R. Friese of Dresden, Germany, published the song in a pamphlet entitled, "Four Authentic Tirolean Songs."

After its first appearance in print "Silent Night" gained popularity and began to appear in Catholic and Evangelical hymnals.

Its influence grew so rapidly that it wasn't until 1859 that authorities finally admitted that the song was written by two unknowns rather than a great composer like Beethoven or Haydn.

Now on its 150 birthday its simplicity and its strength and sincerity are accredited to the humblenesf of the priest, Joseph Mohr and the organist, Franz Gruber who gave the world this immortal song.

The two verses of the carol follow: Silent Night, Holy night, All is saim, all is bright, Round young virgin, Mother and Child, Holy infant, so tender and mild.

Sleep in Heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, Holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing: Alleluia, Christ, the savior, is born.

God Rest You

God rest you merry gentlemen.
Let nothing you dismay;
For Jesus Christ, our Saviour
Was born upon this day.
—ENGLISH CAROL

CHRISTIANS AWAKE

Christians awake, salute the happy morn
Whereon the Savior of mankind was born.
John Byron.
HOLLY BERRY

'And you are His blessed mother.'

By BETTYE MOSS

"Watch your step, Mary, darling . . . let me hold on to you a little tighter . . . it can't be too much further

MOSS

Even as he spoke these words, Joseph had misgivings.

Suppose they could not find a place to stay.

Just then, Mary let out a weird cry, "Oh, oh, oh, I think my baby is ready."

Joseph locked her up in his arms and started to run, stumbling several times before they reached the lighted inn.

"Don't care who you are, you can't come in here," growled the bearded man whose huge frame covered the lighted doorway.

Mary had fallen into a half-conscious state and was moaning lotally when Joseph turned towards the stable in the rear of the inn.

"Don't worry, honey," he whispered, "I'll find a place for us to rest."

He pushed the stable door open and gently placed Mary on the hay.

They were just in time.

Mary groaned louder and then the baby was born.

"What is it, what is it?" cried Mary. Joseph lifted the child up for her to see.

"A boy, a boy," he repeated as he quickly took his own garment, wrapped the child and placed him in a manger.

* * *

Just then, in the distance, they heard singing, "Glory, glory to God in the highest; Unto us is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."

The stable door burst open, there were men in flowing robes, "Where is He? We have come to worship Him."

"Mary," said Joseph, "they are talking about our new son. He is the new King."

Mary smiled. "You mean our new Saviour."

"Yes," answered Joseph, "and you are His blessed mother."

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with Thee. Blessed art thou among women, blessed is the fruit of Thy womb. Amen.

Far more brilliantly than the flame in Mexico City

BY SAM LACY

The Legend of Christmas brings many things to mind.

For one who was in Mexico City, it causes speculation over what may have happened had the "greatest story ever told" occurred two months earlier in 1968.

It is conceivable that the smooth operation of the Olympic Games would have been disrupted had three of the torch bearers been distracted at Nazareth.

* * *

Had the Games been scheduled for December instead of mid-October, there would have been a blazing light illuminating the North sky. It shone far more brilliantly than the flame they were bearing in relays toward Mexico City.

John Wise Man, James Wise Man and Joseph Wise Man may have been drawn to the phenomenon. That would have meant a detour in the Mexico City jaunt.

It then would have meant witnessing the birth that changed the course of world events, and the Olympic Games would have paled in significance.

The 3 Kings

Three Kings came riding
from far away:
Melchior and Gaspar and Balthasar.
Three Wise Men out of the East were they,
And they traveled by night and slept by day.
For their guide was a beautiful, wonderful star.
—HENRY W.

CHRISTMAS CAROL

There's a song in the air,
There's a star in the sky,
—Josiah Gilbert Holland.

a real Christmas gift

From McPherson's History of the Rebellion

In 1863, during the great Civil War, Southern white pastors in an address to Christians throughout the world by the clergy of the Confederate States of America" declared:

1. That the war proposes to achieve restoration of Union, something which cannot be done by violence."

2. "The separation of the Southern states is universally regarded by our people as final, and the foundation of the Confederate states' government as a fixed fact," making restoration of the former union impossible.

3. President Lincoln's Emancipation of the slaves "is in our judgment a suitable occasion for solemn protest on the part of the people of God throughout the world."

4. The war against the South has achieved no good result and "we find nothing in the present state of the struggle that gives promise of the United States' accomplishing anything good by its continuance."

5. Moral and religious interests of the South ought to be appreciated by Christians of all nations. "We regard abolition of slavery as an interference with the plans of Divine Providence. The Bible says: 'Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, that the name of God and His doctrine be not blasphemed.'"

This address was signed by the leading white Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Methodists and Episcopalians of the South.

President Abraham Lincoln's Christmas gift to the South in 1863, was an order through the War Department authorizing agents of the church in the North to take over all places of worsipn pastored by disloyal ministers.

Southern churches protested but Mr. Lincoln's Christmas gift was effective. White rebels claimed under the Constitution the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. The War Department went further and in at least one case compelled a church to display the American flag.

Central ME Church, Baltimore, discontinued services rather than obey this order.

Las Amigas presents 12 in Whitesville

WHITEVILLE, N.C. — The local chapter of Las Amigas, introduced 12 talented and charming young women from Bladen and Columbus counties in an Orchid Cotillion, here recently.

The cotillion was held is the Central High School. Each debutante was sponsored by a member of Las Amigas, and represented a cross-section of communities and schools. Each received a gift and a corsage from her sponsor, and the five finalists received prizes.

* * *

Miss Valinda Gaye Carter of Whiteville received the coveted title of "Miss Orchid Cotillion." Miss Paula Jacobs of Clarkton received the first runner-up prize and Miss Linda Kaye McKoy of Whiteville received the second runner-up prize.

The third and fourth runner-up prizes went to Miss Yvonne Grant of Clarkton and Miss Theresa Jacobs of Hallsboro.

The other debutantes were:

Misses Pennie Antone, Wananish; Joyce Blue, Clarkton; Delphine Brown, Council; Ethel Bryant, Hallsboro; Jane Leake, Elizabethtown; Colette Pone, Elizabethtown; and Georgie Smith, Clarkton.

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Marshals included:

Franklin Howard, Whiteville; Ronnie Bracey, Hallsboro; Charles Pittman, Whiteville; James Steele, Clarkton; Larry Hall, Riegelwood; Charles Smith, Hallsboro; Lacy Monroe, Clarkton; James Pridgen, Hallsboro; Alexander Bellamy, Hallsboro; Obie Newkirk, Elizabethtown; John Rogers, Elizabethtown; and John McKoy, Clarkton.

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Las Amigas is an organization dedicated to improving the civic, cultural, and social welfare of the community. Each year the Whiteville Chapter presents at least one cultural program to the public. It also contributes toward civic projects and grants a scholarship to a senior student of the local area upon entrance into college in the fall.

The members are Miss Albenny McKoy, Chadbourn; Mrs. Carolyn Blanks and Miss Hazeline Kealon, Clarkton; Mrs. Janice Jones and Miss Jean Lloyd, Council; Mrs. Cloris Lloyd and Mrs. Mildred Newton, Elizabethtown; Miss Margaret Peterson, Kelly; Miss Quessie Peterson, Riegelwood; and Mrs. Doris S. Burris, Mrs. Clara Mumford and Mrs. Evelyn Troy, Whiteville.

Trucks and buses accounted for 15 percent of the urban travel and 24 percent of the rural travel in 1967, says the National Automobile Club.

South Pasadena, at 3.4 square miles, is the smallest city in area in California.

PHITOGRAPHED at luncheon when the executive board of Chi Eta Phi Sorority met in Baltimore, recently, are, from left: Mrs. Phyllis Shamwel of Baltimore, Mrs. Lilyan Slater of Baltimore, Mrs. Joyce Lomax of Pittsburgh, Pa., Mrs. Mamie Garland of Pittsburgh, Mrs. Pearl Walker of Richmond, Va., Mrs. Delores Green of Atlanta, Ga., Mrs. Henrietta Chisholm and Mrs. Vashti Gilmore, both of Washington, D.C.

Elks hold instruction

BALTIMORE — Daughters of Elks held a School of Instruction for council members, here, last week.

The course was sponsored by Alpha Deputy's Club of Maryland, IBPOE of W in the South Baltimore Memorial United Church.

Mrs. Elizabeth Frazier of Towson, Md. was registrar.

Among those attending were Mesdames Grace Thomas, Ophelia Barnett, Elizabeth Jones, Arabella Tyree, Alverta Thomas, Pauline Butler, Aristie Jacob, Mildred Chisley, Lena Wiggins and Mary Chase of Annapolis, Md.;

Mesdames Laura Wilson, Mary Williams and Rachel Cooper, Margaret Leper, Mildred Bivens, Elizabeth Caldwell and Elizabeth J Roles of Baltimore;

Mesdames Alice Downing, Jacqueline M. Fair, Mattie Hawkins, Elizabeth Quander, Virginia E. Starkes, Thelma L. Battle and Elizabeth King of Washington;

Mesdames Marcie Hopkins and Bessie Lennard of Rock Hall, Md.; Julia Carroll and Beatrice Shockley of Frederick, Md.; Mesdames Fannie Thomas, Samantha Poulson, Madeline Sander, Virginia White, Lucille Smith, Margaret Harris, Rosa Lee Hall, Viola Julius and Mary Spence, also of Baltimore; and Mrs. Eva Walker of Wilmington, Del.

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Officials of the Alpha Deputy's Council of Maryland which sponsored the institution included Daughters Mary Robinson, Gertrude Bush, Elizabeth Frazier, Myrtle Spencer, Gladys Wilburn, Florence Snowden, Ophelia Barnett, Elizabeth Jones, Priscilla Smith and Ella Gibson.

Officials who participated included Grand Daughter Ruler Nettie B. Smith of New York, Tri-State President Amy Warden and Dr. Willa T. Moss, grand vice daughter ruler.

New Year's ball Goes to Vietnam

NEW YORK — Every year since 1906, with the exception of the World War II blackouts in 1942 and '43, the "New Year's Ball" on the flagpole atop the Allied Chemical Tower on New York City's Times Square has been lowered as a signal to the crowds below that the New Year has arrived.

The six-foot aluminum ball is lighted with 180 light bulbs and weighs about 100 pounds.

CHURCH PEWS
BUDGET TERMS
FREE CATALOGE
Write for New Year's Special Offer
to Dept. 6
STEVENS CHURCH SUPPLY CO.
P. O. Box 781
Huntington, W. Va.

Now: pure relief for dry, problem skin

VASELINE® PETROLEUM JELLY gives your skin the richer moisture it needs for protection from chapping, from dry ashy-gray skin. To keep your skin soft, younger-looking, insist on genuine 'Vaseline' Petroleum Jelly. You pay a little more than for other brands of petroleum jelly... but your skin is worth it!

Feminine Front

Gadabouting U.S.A.

by Lula Jones Garrett

A holiday engagement, a spring wedding is the lovely lot of Cheryl Goodwin and Lonnie Washington, Jr., Lt. Col. and Mrs. Felix L. Goodwin, of Tucson, Ariz. announced the betrothal of their daughter, and Mr. Washington, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Washington, Sr. of San Diego, Calif., this week.

Miss Goodwin is a graduate of Oakland, Calif. Technical High School, received a B. A. degree in education from the University of Arizona, Tuteson, and a Master's Degree in Social Work from Arizona State University. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and is the author of a Program of the college.

MISS CHERYL GIODWIN (Engagement told)

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Magnolia Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen W. Williams of Warrenton, N.C, was one of six American students selected by the United States Information Service to attend an international conference in the French Alpine city of Annecy. She is one of 42 students in the University of North Carolina. A junior at North Carolina College, where she is majoring in the French language and literature, lina's Year-at-Lyon Program. Miss Williams is spending the 1968-69 academic year in France with the UNC cooperative program at the University of Lyon.

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Nancy Bannister, a sophomore biology major at Virginia State College, form Amelia Court House, Va., will spend next summer working in the laboratory at the Yale University medical school.

Miss Bannister will be an assistant to nationally prominent pharmaceutical authority Dr. Melvin H. Van Woert, who is investigating some of the interactions of certain chemical substances and drugs.

Miss Bannister was selected on the basic of her academic achievements at Virginia State and her performance as a laboratory assistant to Mrs. Evelyn W. Jemnison, associate professor of biology.

Miss Minnie P. Moore, instructor in business, recently participated in the American Vocational Association presession Research Training Program in Dallas sponsored by the Center for Vocational and Technical Education at Ohio State University and the Office of Higher Education of the U.S. Department of Education.

The pre-session was designed to help the persons attending with the problems of conducting college and university research programs. Developing objectives for such programs and the actual writing of research proposals also were discussed.

Miss Moore also represented ASC at the 46th annual convention of the Southern Business Education Association held during Thanksgiving in Memphis.

A recent graduate of Virginia State College has been promoted to the rank of Captain in the Women's Army Corps.

* * *

She is Capt. Mirian B. Turner, daughter of P. H. Turner, Franklin, Va. Captain Turner had her rank of insignia pinned on her shoulders by Col. Douglas T. Banks, commanding officer, Center Troops command, and Maj. Patricia S. Ernst, assistant chief, personnel service division in a ceremony at the U.S. Army Infantry Center, Fort Benning, Ga.

Capt. Turner is the commanding officer, WAC Company, First Battalion, Infantry Center Troops Command.

At VSC, Capt. Turner was a health and physical education major. She is presently working in a master's degree in the same field at Emory and Henry University in Georgia.

AMONG MEMBERS of the Lower Harlem New Era Neighborhood Association, New York, who hosted at a charity affair to assist in financing the annual children's Christmas party, were, from left, front: Mrs. Edith McClain, Mrs. Inez D. Gumbs, founder-president of NENA; Mrs. second row, former Assemblyman Lloyd E. Dickens, Archie Seale, Civil Court Justice-elect Clifford A. Scott; and at back, Clude Dickens.

Miss Mary Fieson wed to Eli Smalls

ALCOLU, S.C.— Miss Mary A. Fieson, daughter of Haskell Fieson Sr. and the late Mrs. Lula H. Fieson of this city, became the bride of Eli Smalls, son of Mr. and Mrs. Smalls of Georgetown, S.C. Saturday, December 14, at Green Hill Baptist Church, here.

The Rev. Vadroth Backus officiated at the double-ring ceremonies. Mrs. Mabel Givens was pianist and Miss Carolyn Blackwell, soloist both of Manning S.C. S.C.

The church was decorated with baskets of white flowers and holly berries, ferns, and two-tiered arched and pew candlebras.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown of Dulcette satin with a chapel length train. Jewel encrusted neckline accented the bodice and front of the skirt.

Her veil of nylon tulle ding band cap and was trimmed with jewels. She carried a cascade bouquet of white chrysanthemums with a white orchid and enwined ivy and bridal satin streamers.

Miss Frances Jenkins of Alcolu, was maid of honor. She wore an ivy green peau de sole grown wit a pearl neckline. Her headpiece was nylon tulle of shoulder length. She carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums.

Other attendants were Mrs. Bettye M. Davis of New York City, cousin of the bride; Miss Lois Jenkins of Alcolu, cousin of the bride; Miss Carrie Sinkler of Martinsville, Va.; and Miss Marie Holmes of Sumter, S.C.

They wore cranberry red gowns and headpieces designed similar to the maid of honor. They also carried small bouquets of white chrysanthemums.

Treava Taylor and Kim Scott were flower girls. They were attired in cranberry red gowns similar to the honor attendant's. They carried wicker baskets of chrysanthemums petals.

Ronald Blackwell was ring bearer.

William Grant Jr. served as Mr. Smalls' best man.

Ushers were Henry King Jr. and Jerome Dupree of Manning; Purdy Chatman and George Sherird Jr. of Alcolu.

A reception followed the ceremonies in the social hall of the church. For travel the bride wore a navy blue and white dress of wool knit. She wore the orchid from her bridal bouquet.

Upon return the coupie will reside at 26 Courtney Park, Norwalk, Conn.

The bride attended Morris College, Sumter, S.C. The bridegroom, a graduate of Finklea High School, Georgetown, S.C., is an electrical technician in Richfield, Conn.

Cole-Edwards betrothal told

WHITESVILLE, N.C. — The engagement of Miss Ann Yvonne Edwards to Bobby B. Cole of Charlotte, N.C. has been announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer L. Edwards of Pine Log Road this city.

Mr. Cole is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Hames of Charlotte. Having recently been discharged from the Army in which he served in the medical corps, Mr. Cole is currently with the Whirlpool Corp.

The bride-elect, who attended Fayetteville Technical Institute in Fayetteville, N.C. and Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, is also a graduate of Alverson Draughon Business College.

She is currently a teller at the Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company, this city.

Date for the wedding has not been set.

MRS. BOBBY COLE

Stans sees surtax end in 18 months

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Maurice Stans, the incoming Commerce Secretary, said last week he thought the 10 per cent income surtax might be dropped within 18 months.

"I would imagine we might be able to cut the tax surcharge perhaps in half by the end of next June and then all the way within a year," he told newsmen.

Stans, a former Budget Bureau director in the Eisenhower administration, did not elaborate. Nor did he attach any conditions to the fate of the surtax, which expires automatically next June 30 under law unless it is extended by Congress.

Powell's son linked with socialite

NEWPORT, L.I. — The names of Adam Clayton Powell III, son of the Singer-pianist Hazel Scott and Congressman Powell, are Beryl Slaum are being romantically linked, according to Betty Beale, Washington Evening Star writer.

In a column, recently, Miss Beale said that the friendship of Mr. Powell and Beryl Slocum, daughter of the John Slocums of Newport New York and Washington, and a cousin of the John Drexels, seems headed for seriousness.

* * *

Miss Slocum's mother is quoted as saying "Beryl is old enough to make her own decisions as to what she will do with her life."

Miss Slocum graduated from Radcliffe in 1967. Mr. Powell graduated from MIT and is currently a producer of a news show in New York for CBS.

Miss Lampkins current bride

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Miss Dorothy Lee Lampkins, doughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Lampkins, and Eddie R. Hairston were married in the home of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Anderson, here, recently.

The Rev. Mr. Hairston officiated.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hairston of Axton, Va.

* * *

Miss Hampkins was attended by Mrs. Margarett Ann Lampkins. Frank Fountain of Axton was best man.

A reception was held in the home of Mrs. Ella Mae Hairston. Assisting Hostesses were Mrs. Mollie Lampkins, Mrs. Carolyn Meyers and Miss Cinda Hairston.

Send all poems to Miss Murphy

WASHINGTON, D. C. Julian Messner has announced the preparation of an anthology to be called "Negro Voices." Mrs. Beatrice M. Murphy, a wellknows poet and writer will be its editor. She wants all submitted work type-written.

* * *

Miss Murphey invites poets, under 30, to send poems to her 117 R St., Washington, D.D. 20002 Accompanying the work should be a self-addressed, stamped envelop for unacceptable material.

It is the feeling of both the publisher and the editor that today's youth speaks eloquently and passionately for the colored people, and that they need only an opportunity to be heard. "Negro Voices" hopes to meet that need.

Drive to lower voting age set

NEW YORK — The NAACP will sponsor a drive to lower the voting age to 18 throughout the nation. Acting upon recommendation of the association's national youth committee the NAACP Board of Directors approved the project at its recessed meeting here, Dec. 9.

The drive will be launched at a National Youth Mobilization to be convened in Washington, March 12, the Rev. James G. Lake, NAACP vice president in charge of youth affairs, announced here, Dec. 13. He said that youth organizations would be invited to send delegations to the Washington assembly in an effort to get Congress to enact a law establishing 18 as the legal age for voting in all states.

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