

83 YEARS OF SERVICE TO YOUTH

That's the record of Philander Smith College, the tiny Methodist-sponsored school in Little Rock, Arkansas. Almost a century has passed since Philander Smith, a wealthy white man from Oak Park, Illinois, donated \$10,000 to Walden Seminary—then a struggling institution with 15 students, a one-room rambling shack with no instructors. That was Walden Seminary. Back in those days there was great concern over the education of thousands of freshly emancipated Negro youth. Methodist ministers and laymen, with the help of white friends, managed to found Walden Seminary. The grateful Board of Trustees was so pleased with Philander Smith's gift to their poor school, they changed the name from Walden Seminary to Philander Smith College on March 3rd, 1883.

Today Philander Smith College can look back and smile with pride at the difficult times it has passed through. It now has the highest of academic recognition. Fully accredited by North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools; The University Senate—a highly critical accrediting agency of the Methodist Church, it has membership in the American Council on Education, Association of American Colleges, National Council of Church Colleges, National Collegiate Athletic Association and numerous other distinguished bodies.

Philander Smith College's well-trained graduates are serving throughout the nation. They make up a majority of the teachers in Greater Little Rock and Pulaski County in Arkansas. The college has graduated more than 300 ministers and full time lay workers, 75 have become physicians and dentists, 2,500 teachers, bishops, college presidents, foreign missionaries and many others.

Yes, Philander Smith College has served Negro youth well for over 83 years. But it still needs financial help in order to continue its wonderful work of preparing our young people for their work of tomorrow.

LOCAL 1419 CAN BLOCK THE WORLD'S FOOD SUPPLY

Nowhere in the U.S.A. does the Negro have more labor-power than in New Orleans' Local 1419 of the International Longshoremen's Association of the A. F. of L. This local, 3,567 members strong, can actually tie up much of the world's shipping at the booming New Orleans port. Scores of American cities from New York to Pittsburgh and from Cincinnati to Chicago and Kansas City pour their rich cargoes of steel, soap, farm machinery, and thousands of other commodities down through New Orleans to be shipped to all parts of the world. The coffee we had with our breakfast, or the delicious cookies, cakes and pies we ate a few days ago, were all probably seasoned with sugar that was handled by the longshoremen of Local 1419. In addition to being the gateway to trade between Central America, South America and North America, New Orleans imports from and exports to many foreign countries who depend upon the steady flow of tons of commodities—much of which is handled by longshoremen of Local 1419. But this powerful local hasn't always had such tremendous powers in the shipping industry.

Back in 1933 Local 1419 was first organized by Arthur Williams, Adolph Robertson and Paul Hartman; and in 1934 Joseph P. Ryan invited them to join his strong organization. The local didn't have much power then. In fact very few people even knew that it existed. There were only 700 members of Local 1419 in those days, but today there are 3,567 active longshoremen members. Much of the credit for the local's rapid growth is due Dave A. Dennis, fearless, ambitious president of the powerful longshoremen's local. Dennis was elected president two years ago and has been going strong ever since. Dennis was no stuff-shirted amateur at the business. He had worked for years as a longshoreman and knew all the curse-words and hardships that were flung at the longshoremen. A big man in size and personality, Dennis has always had the interest of his local's members at heart. When he was a boy he wanted to become an engineer, but the lack of funds and the necessity to earn a livelihood forced him to give up schooling at an early age. For five years he worked as a merchant seaman, and saved enough money to enter the restaurant business. Later he saved enough money to become owner of a cleaning

and pressing establishment.

Dennis was still in his early twenties when he began to work as a longshoreman. One day in 1943, while Dennis was working as a deck hand, he was called up and appointed business agent for Local 1419. He was very popular and efficient, so he moved up fast. In 1946 he was made chairman of percentages—then in 1948 he became president of the local. What a guy.

Dennis is now the powerful head of 3,567 longshoremen, capable of tying up shipping at the booming New Orleans port. Under his wise leadership the longshoremen have gained higher wages. The average longshoreman earned 65¢ per hour in 1933, but today the basic pay-scale runs from \$1.85 to -3.68 per hour. Overtime pay runs from -2.77 to -5.22 per hour.

Local 1419 members get relief pay when not working, medical attention, when needed, and have their own insurance, which includes sick, accident and death benefits. Dennis is looking forward to the day when Local 1419 will have its own chain of grocery stores, a bank and a clothing store to outfit the members and their families. More evidence of Dennis' keen interest in the members of his local is reflected in the way he handles their union funds. Rather than let the union funds lay idle in the bank at low interest—Dennis puts them to work. Today, Local 1419 is one of the richest in the country with over \$300,000 in cash and bonds plus other assets of some \$200,000 because of their president's investment sense. Over \$100,000 of the local's funds have been invested in an insurance company and funeral parlor. The complete story on Local 1419's enterprises is really a remarkable story. No other Negro labor local in the world can compare with the outstanding record of this New Orleans local. These longshoremen, under the guidance of likeable Dave Dennis, have climbed from obscurity to popularity.

ROBERT BRADFORD STABBED IN ROW WITH YOUTH, 14

A 16-year-old youth suffered stab wounds Friday when he became involved in an altercation with a 14-year-old boy over money.

Robert Bradford of 4338 McKinley was rushed to Receiving hospital from 455 East Adams.

The youth told police he was stabbed by a boy known only as "Bubble Turmar, who lives on Theodore near Hastings.

DREAM COMES TRUE FOR GEORGIAN WHO WANTED TO TEACH

From September to June, Henry E. Forston presides over a dramatic living experiment in better race relations, but he doesn't regard himself as anything except a teacher handling the job he loves.

The Inkster, Mich., man is principal of Carver Elementary School, an "integrated school," whose student body is composed of both white and Negro youths.

The problems he faces in running his school are perhaps a little different than those that other American principals have to contend with but Forston thinks his reward in terms of satisfaction is far greater. The success of his "experiment" he attributes largely to 100 per cent co-operation by all parents.

Born in the tiny Georgia town of Hartwell, he is a graduate of Morehouse College, Atlanta, one of the 32 members of the United Negro College Fund. He earned his Master of Science degree in Biology at the University of Michigan, and then, for 14 years, was assistant principal of the J. R. Hawkins High School in Warrenton, N.C.

Forston has also served as director of Green Pastures Camp, Grass Lake, Mich., a project of the Detroit Urban League. In support of his belief that the "community is the school," he is a Scout Master, a member of the Recreation Commission of the village of Inkster and a deacon of Springhill Baptist Church.

REV. HENRI ROBONSONNE SLAPS "RACKETEERING" IN CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Sunday morning at Ebenezer AME Church the congregation heard a far reaching sermon that blasted the Christian world for its sinful living, and racketeering in the church of the living God.

The speaker was the Rev. Henri Robonsonne, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Quebec, Canada.

Speaking on the theme "Lord Is It I?" the Rev. Robonsonne declared every Christian listening in the congregation should examine himself, secretly, and asked the "64-question" of himself, "Lord Is It I?"

Rev. Robonsonne said church members themselves, including the officials and leaders, lack faith in one another.

He added that many churches were making a racket out of ticket and dinner selling.

Speaking about the family-life, Rev. Robonsonne declared "Family-life means nothing today. Many members of the church are living together unmarried, and bringing children into the world.

"There is no harm in Christians drinking, but the sin comes when we drink and abuse it."

In speaking about Christians' community-life, Rev. Robonsonne said some Christians will not vote; others go about slandering their friends and neighbors. He said some young people isolate themselves because of their college degrees.

"The purpose of all learning is to know God. We should elevate our standard of living, but do it with God as the foundation."

Twelve new members joined. Worshippers were present from the following states: Florida, Tennessee, Texas, Ohio, North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia, New Jersey, Colorado, Georgia, and South Carolina.

Music in songs by the Rose of Sharon Chorus and the Senior choir.

Canned Milk For Belgium

Belgium recently has been buying considerable quantities of Canadian Evaporated Milk, the latest order being for 60,000 cases.

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