

Missionary Spirit: The Missionary Spirit is to love God, fellow man and do under to others as we wish to be done. Mrs Minnie Brown recently realize the pleasure in cheering others as well as her self in such means friends were greeted, cheered and fed. The recent affair will be long remembered as you hear friends I had

forgotten and never would have seen if had not been for the turkey dinner. This affair was witness several U years passed and now among the pictures if you can placed the friends living and dead. at the Salem Baptist Church. God Bless all that taken part. Mrs Elouise Varnado was one of the assistants at the dinner.

You will find a picture with the Committee time passed namely:

Mrs. Effie Payne, Mrs. Canteline Shelby, Mrs Irby Johnson, Charles Brown deceased, Blanch J. Harris and Mrs Minnie Brown Chairman.

Can You Name the Passed Golden Agers?

FOR LARGER
QUANTITIES—
REFER TO BACK
OF ALBUM



B. E. Payne Celebrates Birthday



Mr. B. E. Payne who celebrated his 75th birthday on Xmas day, a very energetic citizen and ardent worker. On last Tuesday night in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Chandler 140 W. Baslin Street. He entertained his pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Webb and following official staff for '42 Rev. Martin, Rev. O. Johnson and wife, Rev. Rev. O. B. Johnson and wife, Rev. C. E. Campbell, Mr. U. Moreland treasurer, Miss H Chandler, assistant clerk, deacons J. Garland and wife, Ed Benton and wife, John Brown H. Pierce trustee. W. H. Chandler and wife with host Mr. and Mrs. Ed Payne. Home was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Evening was spent with the history of the Bible, defreshments, ice cream and cake with coffee.

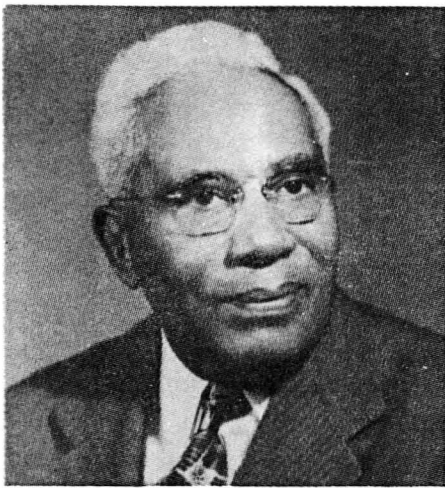
1940 A



The Salem Baptist Church, A monument to the workers of the colored Baptists of Champaign. Every colored man should vote against the saloon for if they return a drunken mob may destroy your homes and compel you to flee for your lives as they have done in Springfield, Cairo and East St. Louis. Saloons are the greatest enemy of the colored race.

J. M. Rivers, pastor of Salem Baptist church.

A. T. Jackson, Pastor of Bethel A. M. E. church



CHARLES EVERETT PHILLIPS, SR.

1889 - 1975



A Man of Thought & Deep Concerns

A Man of Vision

A Man of Hope



"There is a destiny that makes us brothers;

None goes his way alone

All that we send into the lives of others

Comes back into our own."

— Edwin Markham

Charles Everett Phillips, Sr., was born May 26, 1889 in Kansas City, Missouri, the only child of Eliza (Johnson) and Jack Phillips. At the age of six months, Charles' mother brought him to Illinois to live with his grandfather, David Johnson, an ex-slave, who lived on a farm near Mattoon in Coles County, Illinois where he had settled upon leaving Cape Girardeau, Missouri shortly after the Civil War. Later Charles was brought by his mother and grandfather to Champaign, Illinois where in 1865 his grandfather had been one of the founders of the Second Baptist Church, now known as Salem Baptist Church located at the corner of Fifth and Park Streets, Champaign.

Charles remembered the many stories about slavery told him as a child. He was strongly motivated by the emphasis of his grandfather on the need for acquiring a good education, for, as David Johnson said, "Ignorance is the greatest curse ever placed on a human being." This emphasis influenced Charles Phillips' life pursuits and became a vital part of his messages to young people as he later in life attempted to help them build constructive lives. Even in his adult vocational pursuits in the insurance business he emphasized to parents the need for educational insurance for their children.

Charles Phillips, organizer, business man and promoter, organized and managed his own musical group at the age of 14. Before he was out of his teens, he opened his own cleaning and pressing business in downtown Champaign, and organized the first Negro Business league in Champaign, associating it with the National Negro Business League. The success and method of operation of the cleaning and pressing business caught the attention of residents of Monticello, Illinois. He was asked to open a similar business in Monticello, which he did and operated in both cities until he decided to establish his residence in Monticello.

In Monticello, through his contacts there, he became interested in politics, and was appointed a campaign manager at the age of 19, not yet able to vote himself. This interest and activity took him to Springfield as an Inspector for the State of Illinois and later Docket Clerk in the Department of Registration and Education. During this period he served two terms as State Republican Chairman for two national campaigns.

Mr. Phillips used his political activity as a vehicle, not only to promote the candidacy of various office seekers, but as a medium of education in the area of Negro History. As he traveled through downstate Illinois he distributed booklets describing the contributions of negroes dating back to the earliest years of our country. These booklets were paid for by the political ads contained therein. As a student of Negro History, Mr. Phillips gathered little known facts about his people and spread this information throughout many counties at a time when little, if any, information was being printed to enhance the dignity of the Negro.

In Springfield, Mr. Phillips organized (1) the State Employees' League to work for uplifting the status of the workers, improving working relationships with executives and protecting the employees' rights; (2) the Frederick Douglass Savings and Loan Association, a thrift movement, with a charter issued by the State of Illinois, the first Negro financial institution in downstate Illinois which successfully fulfilled its purpose to make it possible for negroes to accumulate savings and to obtain good credit ratings; and (3) the Estate Benefit corporation (a Mutual Benefit Association) which provided a unique insurance service and opened up job opportunities throughout the State from Chicago to Cairo. The growth of the Corporation commanded wide attention and in the late 30's was purchased by the Supreme Life Insurance Company of Chicago with Mr. Phillips being appointed Supreme Life's Western District Manager with base of operations in Champaign, meaning the return "home" for Mr. Phillips.

Upon his return to Champaign in 1939 Mr. Phillips found the city had changed. A slum area had grown up in the northeast section and relations between the races had changed. Many people lived in tar-paper shacks, three or four homes to a lot, some with no floors, toilet facilities, running water or electricity, and the economic conditions left much to be desired.

The ability to "promote" and his faithful adherence to his grandfather's admonition to "get out and meet the people" were crucial to Mr. Phillips' ability to gain public confidence for his various efforts to improve the conditions he found, and lift the status of his people. His sincerity of purpose and his faith commanded the attention of many of the right people. His works were not without criticism, but he did not let negative attitudes deter him, as he was intent in his purpose to do his best to improve housing conditions, pave streets and develop educational and economic opportunities for his people, thus creating a better environment for the growth of the youth ties for his people, thus creating a better environment for the growth of the youth of Champaign-Urbana.

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plus a street named for him in the new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Subdivision.

* Monuments to Mr. Phillips' humanitarianism, sincerity, patience, determination and what might be called his persuasive dignity are Carver Park, Burch Village, Dunbar Court and Attucks Place. * In 1947 Mr. Phillips, with Messrs. Clarence Taylor and Milton Clark, formed the Trust Fund Committee of the Northeast Improvement Association to begin calling on prospective home builders to further develop plans for what became Carver Park, the community's first major Negro housing development and the first privately financed subdivision. Carver Park was annexed to the City of Champaign by a unanimous vote of the City Council on February 7, 1950. All streets in Carver Park were named by Mr. Phillips using the names of outstanding Negroes in world history to emphasize to all who walk those streets the great contribution made by Negroes in the development of this country of ours.

Also in 1947 Mr. Phillips was a member of the Finance Committee of the Department of Urban Renewal. He laid the ground work and served as liaison person in the founding of the Frances Nelson Children's Home by the Optimist Club of Champaign, later named the Community Home for Children; and he participated in the founding of Douglass Center.

In 1950 Mr. Phillips was selected by the Unit 4 School Board to secure options on land for the building of Washington School; he assisted the Trustees of the Urbana and Champaign Sanitary District in its effort to promote a storm drainage project through a bond issue, speaking to community groups and writing articles for the daily papers. He also served with the County Housing Authority, the Council of Social Agencies and the League of Women Voters.

In 1955 Mr. Phillips was elected president of the newly formed Future Home Owners Association, a cooperative savings association and self-help organization for families in northeast Champaign qualifying for a home in the second privately financed subdivision which became known as Attucks Place; and he was appointed a member of the Mayor's Commission on Housing.

In 1960 Mr. Phillips was a member of the sponsoring Committee for formation of an Urban League for Champaign County; a member of the thirty-three member steering committee for the newly formed League, and elected Honorary Vice-President in 1961.

Believing that "America's Manpower begins with Boypower," Mr. Phillips devoted more than 25 years to the Boy Scout Program. There were no Boy Scout troops in Champaign when he was a young man, and he saw a great need for such a program. Troop 11 was formed and chartered under the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Phillips accompanied his boys to Camp Drake each summer to make sure they had a rewarding experience. More than 200 boys participated in the Scouting program under Mr. Phillips and his sons, Charles, Jr., and David, served Troop 11 as Scoutmaster, Charles, Jr., in 1947 and David in 1958. The formation of Cub Scout Pack #100, sponsored by Salem Baptist Church was the fulfillment of a dream.

In addition to serving as Troop Chairman and Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee for Troop 11 through the 40's and 50's, Mr. Phillips served as Institutional Representative, 1948; District Committee Member, Arrowhead Council, 1948-51; Neighborhood Commissioner, Arrowhead Council, 1957-58. On February 12, 1956 the Arrowhead Council presented to Mr. Phillips a Scouting statuette and a Service to Boys Award.

In 1983 the Champaign Rotary Club's Community Service Award was presented posthumously to Mr. Phillips. Mr. Willard Hansen, Editor Emeritus of the Champaign-Urbana News Gazette in his column "Ramblings" for Thursday, July 7, 1983 gave an account of the presentation and stated "Mr. Phillips' philosophy for service to others was exemplified on the occasion of his 75th birthday, with this comment: 'When I was young, I prayed for help; when I was a little older, I prayed for help to help others; today I pray for help to help others help themselves.' He faithfully fulfilled that worthy goal. I well remember his friendly personality, his positive attitudes, and his diligent and successful work for better educational and living conditions for Black citizens of the local community."

* We have come a long way from the tar-paper shacks with one toilet facility for as many as four families, unpaved streets and muddy pathways of the late 30's and 40's in northeast Champaign. The power behind a large part of our progress was the man we honor tonight, Charles Everett Phillips, Sr., who lived according to the first and great commandment and the second like unto it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

The biographical facts outlined on the pages of our program for this occasion present in capsule Mr. Phillips' civic endeavors in all the places where he established residence: Champaign, Monticello, Springfield and back to Champaign. A single purpose thread of great breadth and strength fabricated this life of total community involvement. *On July 25, 1949 - M.C.E.P.*

It is quite significant that Mr. Phillips should be remembered on this occasion when our emphasis is on educational opportunities for Black youth, as Mr. Phillips throughout his life took every opportunity which came his way to propound the need for the pursuit of education for the elimination of ignorance and poverty, as the biographical facts have recorded. Among his memorabilia there are three deeply yellowed placards of medium dimensions which had places on the walls of his various offices. One reads "Ignorance is a judgment on our refusal ^{to} study." A second one is the United Negro College Fund slogan "A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste." Mr. Phillips even had small mailing stickers with the UNCF torch and slogan on them which he used on his business and personal mail. The third poster is the word "Think" which was to be found in the often frequented areas of the Phillips homes and became a top priority work in the family's vocabulary. The urgency of getting an education and developing the mind to its fullest became strong motivating factors in the daily lives of Mr. Phillips' children as they pursued their individual goals. Mr. Phillips urged us all to realize that the secret of our success is education, *visions, thought + reason.*

Mr. Phillips had a deep concern for the quality of life wherever he lived and worked, and from an early age he responded readily to any opportunity for community service. As a member of city, county and state commissions and other organizations, and a frequent participant in governmental and educational projects, he left his mark of real service by his knowledge of problems and conditions, his intensity of purpose and remarkable results.

His devotion to the Boy Scout Program inspired many of us with sons to become involved in Scouting. I am proud to say that the cause of him, two of my older sons became Scouts and attended Summer Camp @ Camp Drake along w/ Mr. Phillips & Sons Charles & David. Their ^{camp} experiences were very rewarding and led to the older son becoming a Scoutmaster as a young adult. As a by-product of Mr. Phillips Association w/ Arrowhead Council - We were able to organize Bay Scout Troops at the Howard H. Kay School, and later Girl Scout Troops. Mr. Willard Hansen, in his Column on the occasion of Mr. P's 75th birthday, quoted this comment by Mr. Phillips. "I tried to teach the boys that every man should try to know this world a little better than he found it."

Mr. Charles E. Phillips with Mr. Clarence Taylor
& Mr. Milton Clark joined the Trust Fund Committee
of the N. E. Improvement Assn. for the development
of Corner Park in ^{7/25} 1949. I hope then —

If we all did - what an improvement we could make.
In his memory I would like to read to you, this
poem which I believe epitomizes what Mr. Phillips
was about:

Author Unknown

To his family members present - I respected and
admired your Dad. He was truly "A Man for All Reasons".

Thank - you.

337-1826

"Uncle David" Johnson

Donated the land on which
the Church was built.

He has the picture of "Uncle
David" which used to be
hanging in Salem

Per David Phillips in Indpls.

He will send me a laminated
copy of his model of the plane
used by the Jesuit ^{Drum}
who became Peter.

Per tel w/ David Phillips
3/3/99

337-1826,

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the Church was built.

He has the picture of "Uncle
Deere" which used to be
hanging in Salem

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1998

National

The New York Times

Baptist Leader Is Charged With Theft**His Fund-Raising for Burned Black Churches Is Called Fraudulent**

By GUSTAV NIEBUHR

The Rev. Henry J. Lyons, president of the nation's largest predominantly black religious denomination, was arrested in St. Petersburg, Fla., yesterday and charged by the state authorities with racketeering and theft, stemming from accusations that he had misused his position for personal financial gain.

Among several fraudulent schemes attributed to Mr. Lyons in the criminal complaint was the diversion of the bulk of a \$225,000 donation given to his denomination by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith to rebuild churches destroyed in a rash of suspicious fires at black churches across the South in 1995 and 1996. (After the league learned last summer that little of the money had gone to help burned churches, it demanded the rest of the donation be returned, which a lawyer for Mr. Lyons did in September.)

Within hours of Mr. Lyons's arrest, one of his associates, Bernice V. Edwards, with whom he owned a \$700,000 waterfront house near St. Petersburg, was arrested at her home in Milwaukee on a warrant issued in Pinellas County, Fla., the Milwaukee police said. Ms. Edwards was charged with racketeering.

Mr. Lyons, elected to lead the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., in 1994, was released on \$100,000 bail, law-enforcement officials in Florida said.

The police in Milwaukee said Ms. Edwards was jailed in lieu of \$50,000 bail. They also said that the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department would move to have her extradited to Florida.

The complaint filed against Mr. Lyons and Ms. Edwards, called in Florida an issue *capias*, charges them with conspiring to defraud a bank, an insurance company and a corporation that owns and operates cemeteries. The complaint accuses Mr. Lyons of keeping money that he was supposedly raising for the denomination.

The document includes an affidavit by David Kurash, an investigator with the Florida state attorney's office, who said that about the fire



Andrew Innerarity/St. Petersburg Times, via Associated Press

The Rev. Henry J. Lyons, leaving the Pinellas County Jail complex in St. Petersburg, Fla., yesterday.

elected president of the Baptist denomination, Mr. Lyons opened a secret convention bank account and, with the help of others, from early 1995 through July 1997, engaged in schemes "to defraud several large corporations." His affidavit said the inquiry had determined there had been "a large theft of funds" from the Anti-Defamation League.

Mr. Lyons's lawyers could not be reached for comment. But The Associated Press quoted Mr. Lyons as saying he planned to clear his name.

The charges against Mr. Lyons and Ms. Edwards come eight months after disclosures that the minister had been living a lavish life style and that Ms. Edwards, whom he had hired in 1995 as the denomination's public relations director, had pleaded guilty to conspiring to embezzle.

These details came to light after Mr. Lyons's wife, Deborah, was arrested on charges of setting fire to

tially said she believed that her husband was having an affair, but she later recanted the accusation. Mr. Lyons has denied any romantic involvement with Ms. Edwards, with whom he shared a checking account and owned a 1987 Rolls-Royce.

Marianne Pasha, a spokeswoman for the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department said Mr. Lyons surrendered to law-enforcement officials there after a warrant was issued for his arrest, based on an 82-page affidavit that the state attorney's office presented to a Florida circuit judge.

Once a nationally prominent religious figure widely courted by politicians and consulted for his views on racial matters by President Clinton, Mr. Lyons saw his reputation diminish and a shadow cast over his denomination after reports about his life style and association with Ms. Edwards became public.

He rejected calls from some ministers within the denomination that he resign and instead won a vote of confidence from delegates at the National Baptist Convention's annual meeting in Denver last September, despite concerted efforts by his opponents to oust him.

But given that Mr. Lyons now faces felony charges, his ability to retain his office will be severely tested. Regina Cooper, a public relations agent retained by Mr. Lyons's lawyers, said the minister would hold a news conference on Thursday in Nashville at the National Baptist Convention's headquarters, together with the denomination's board. The board has been strongly supportive of Mr. Lyons in the past.

The denomination, a loose association of 33,000 autonomous churches that together support a publishing house and missionaries, has endured internal strife before Mr. Lyons, 55, was elected to a five-year term as its president.

Mr. Lyons's predecessor, the Rev. Theodore J. Jemison, was criticized for spending \$12 million on a new headquarters building and for siding with Mike Tyson after the boxer had been charged with rape.