

Oregon Jurisdiction, OES Elects New Officers

by Margaret J. Isaacs, PGWM
OES Reporter

The Order of the Eastern Star, Oregon and Its Jurisdiction, held its annual Communication in Boise, Idaho with members attending from the states of Montana, Idaho and Oregon. Newly elected officers from Oregon are: Mrs. Jo Ann Childs, grand worthy matron; Mrs. Frances R. Johns,

M. Simmons is GWM. Mrs. Childs also attended the Heroines of Jericho of Washington State, Fashion Show and Breakfast. Accompanying the newly elected grand worthy matron of Oregon jurisdiction were several officers, associate matrons, three (3) past grand matron and the newly elected grand worthy patron or Oregon, Brother Roy L. Callier. All attended Church Services in Olympia, Wash. July 9, 1988.

Community Services involving youth, donations of food, clothing to the poor and a positive image against drugs and gangs are a part of the progressive program being established by GWM Childs for Oregon Jurisdiction for the ensuing year.



Mrs. Jo Ann Childs,
Grand Worthy Matron

grand associate matron; Mrs. Gloria D. Brown, grand associate conductress; Mrs. Vethel M. Hall, grand treasurer; Mrs. E. Jean Dillard, grand chairman of the executive board of directors; Mrs. Esther Douglas, grand assistant secretary. Mrs. Mary Ghee of Montana retained her position as grand lecturer.

Elected from the State of Idaho: Mrs. Barbara Callier, grand secretary; Mr. Roy Callier, grand worthy patron; Mr. Levi Belton, grand associate patron.

Among GWM Jo Ann Childs' official acts was attending the 75 Annual Communication of P. H. Grand Chapter, OES, Washington jurisdiction of which Mrs. Susie



Mrs. Nancy Powell, past matron of Enterprise Chapter No. 1, Order of the Eastern Star, Portland, Oregon, was crowned "Miss O.E.S. Queen" at the 27th Annual Grand Session in Boise, Idaho. Nine princesses voted for the honor of being queen for the O.E.S. Jurisdiction of Idaho, Montana & Oregon. Over \$4,000 in charitable donations were made by Enterprise Chapter members, community sponsors and friends in support of Mrs. Powell's campaign for O.E.S. Queen. A year of peace, happiness and love is wished for this most deserving and lovely O.E.S. Queen.

Stephen Mung'oma To Speak At Maranatha

Evangelistic Enterprise, (of which the late Bishop Festo Kivengere was a co-founder). Stephen was featured as a Plenary Speaker at "Amsterdam '86", the Billy Graham International Conference for Itinerant Evangelists.

Stephen Mung'oma holds graduate degrees from Makerere University, Uganda, and Fuller Theological Seminary, where he is presently a doctoral candidate. He and his wife Rachael have seven children. His ministry emphasizes youth evangelism, church growth, and mission involvement of churches.

Once a refugee from the cruelties of Idi Amin, and now an evangelist and international conference speaker, Stephen Mung'oma will address the Maranatha Church on Sunday, July 24th at 10:30 a.m.

Stephen Mung'oma had already established six congregations in six Uganda towns before forced to flee for his life in 1977. While in exile in Kenya, he worked as an associate pastor of a 2,000 member church while involved in evangelism all over the country. Since 1980, he has been working with city-wide evangelistic missions in Africa under the African

For Your Information

Major gaps exist in the 50 states and the District of Columbia in the safety nets of government programs that provide cash, medical and other assistance to the poor, according to a new series of reports issued by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

While the Center found that the 51 safety nets it examined varied widely in the quality of protection they afforded the poor, a number of major "holes" appeared repeatedly. Focusing on the effects of policy decisions made at the state level, particularly in the areas of benefit programs and tax policies as they existed in 1987, the studies found:

- In 32 states, the maximum benefits from Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), the nation's primary cash assistance program for poor families with children, are below half the poverty line for a family of three with no other income.

- In 21 states, for all members of a three-person family to be eligible for Medicaid, the family must have an income below half the poverty line. In only one state is the Medicaid income eligibility limit set at or above the poverty line.

- In 26 states, fewer than one in three unemployed workers received unemployment insurance in an average month in 1986. In 17 of these states, there is no AFDC program for poor two-parent families in which the primary earner is unemployed. In 24 of these states, there is not state general cash assistance program covering poor single individuals and childless couples who are neither elderly nor disabled. As a result, for unemployed two-parent families and their children who do not qualify for or have exhausted unemployment benefits, as well as for jobless single individuals and childless couples in this situation who are not elderly or disabled, little or no safety net exists in many states. These people are ineligible for virtually any cash assistance, regardless of how poor they may be. Many are ineligible for health coverage as well.

- 28 states impose state income taxes on working families living below the poverty line and 10 tax the incomes of families below half the poverty line.

- In half the states, the maximum AFDC benefit for a family of four without other income declined by more than 31.4 percent from 1970 to 1987, after adjusting for inflation. In 12 states, it fell by more than 40 percent and in six states, by more than half.

The study's National Overview also reports that the effectiveness of government benefit programs in removing families from poverty has declined markedly in recent years to the point where only about one of every nine families with children who would otherwise be poor is lifted out of poverty by government assistance programs. The report attributes a substantial part of this decrease in the anti-poverty impact of the programs to cutbacks in state programs and decreased program funding at the federal level.

Other Significant Safety Net Holes

The Center's examination of each state safety net also reveals the following gaps:

- 24 states fail to supplement federal Supplemental Security Income payments to elderly and disabled people living in poverty. The basic federal grants equal only 75 percent and 89 percent of the respective poverty lines for an elderly individual and an elderly couple. In all but four of the states that do provide SSI supplements, the supplements do not bring SSI benefits for elderly people living alone up to the poverty line.

- Only eight states have state programs that provide general cash assistance to single individuals and childless couples who are not elderly or disabled. In all other states, state general assistance programs are either limited to the elderly and disabled or to not exist. Sixteen states do have county-based general assistance programs, but these programs are often quite limited in scope. As a result, substantial numbers of poor individuals and childless

couples who are not elderly or disabled cannot qualify for any cash assistance from any level of government, unless they are among the minority of the jobless who receive unemployment insurance.

- Property taxes comprise nearly \$3 of every \$4 of local taxes and usually constitute the heaviest burden on poor families of any federal, state or local tax. (Both homeowners and renters pay property taxes. Landlords generally pass along most or all of their property taxes to renters in rental charges.) Some 31 states have "circuitbreaker" programs that ease the property tax burden, but most of these are limited to elderly and disabled people. Only 10 states have circuitbreakers that provide tax relief to low-income families and individuals who are not elderly or disabled.

- In every state, there are more low-income renters than affordable rental housing units. In 16 states, the number of very low-income renters is more than twice the number of affordable units. Nationwide, there are 3.9 million more very low-income renters than units they can afford.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, located in Washington, D.C., is an independent, non-profit research organization that studies the impact of state and federal programs and policies on low income Americans.



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Adult and Family Services Division, Department of Human Resources, State of Oregon

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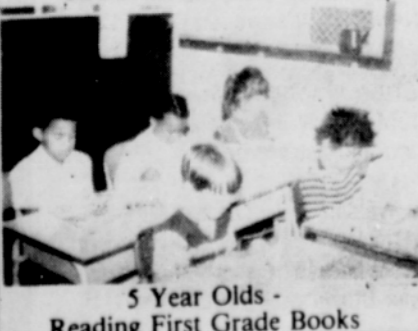


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