



RELIGION

MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

Scripture of the Week:

Ezekiel Chapters 31-32



19901 REGION VII JOINT GALADAY of the IMPERIAL COUNCIL A.E.A.O.N.M.S.P.H.A. and IMPERIAL COURT AUXILIARY A.E.A.O.N.M.S.P.H.A. North and South America & Jurisdiction, Inc.

by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

On the 24th day of May, 1990 at nine in the morning, registration began in the Klamath Conference room of the Red Lion Inn - Columbia River, at Jantzen Beach to celebrate the 1990 Region VII Joint Gala Day.

Before this weekend was completed, this group had held its Convocation with Commissioner Charles Jordan, as guest speaker, on the night of May 24, issued meritorious awards to three very deserving persons; the Humanitarian Service award was presented to Mrs. Margaret L. Carter. The Community Service award was presented to Dr. Mathew W. Prophet. His award was accepted by Mr. William Gerald.

At the Convocation Service, Commissioner Jordan stated that... "Blacks have a set aside mentality. Society has conditioned blacks to believe that black is bad through some very simple, everyday influences, such as: weddings are white and funerals are black; angel food cake is white and devil food cake is black; a champion dresses in white and an outlaw dresses in black.

We, the Black race, are much like the people, in the book of Numbers. They were a murmuring lot. God had already done so much for them and now they had come to a point in their journey when God required of them to rest solely on their belief in him. Trust Him and claim the inheritance that he had had for them. It was just waiting for them to claim but because of the sin and unbelief, however, they were not allowed by God to claim their inheritance but were condemned to wander in the wilderness for forty years. Then, after forty years of wandering in the wilderness, God brought them to the banks of the Jordan.

God continues to be faithful to us but we, like the children of Israel, continue to commit the sin of unbelief. God remains true to His word. How many times have we, as Black people, been on the banks of the river Jordan. We don't want to give up our houses or our cars. When are we going to realize that we should praise the giver and not the gift. We seem to be waiting for Pharoah to part the water." Commissioner Jordan's words are still ringing in my ears and in the ears and hearts of all those who were assembled there, that night.

Also, on the program was the Bethel A.M.E. Church Inspirational Choir led by Ms. Lorraine Wilder and their pastor, Rev. Milton Green. As the M.C., Noble John T. Blow, stated, "This program reads like a who's who from Bethel A.M.E...."

Following the special convocation service, there was a gala celebration of games and fellowship with food and

refreshments in several rooms, that had been set aside especially for the occasion. Assembled were representatives from Alaska, Nevada, Oregon, the state of Washington, Arizona and California. Among those present were: Grand Worthy Matron of OES Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Dtr. Jo Ann Childs; Imperial Daughter of the Desert, Dtr. Frances Odom; Illustrious Commandress of Minor Court #142 of Oregon, Dtr. Orene Roseman; Imperial Deputy of the Oasis, Dtr. Virgie Tinsley; Illustrious Potentate of Prince Hall Shriners of Oregon, Charles W. Sanders; Imperial Directors, Noble Lawrence Valmore from Suisun, California; Imperial Co-Directress, Dtr. Mary Alice Blackwell from Oakland, California. Noble Valmore and Dtr. Blackwell presided over the region's activities.

This was the first time the Gala Day celebration had ever been held in Oregon. The first time it was held in Los Angeles. The second time it was held in Oakland. This celebration, in Portland, was the third. The fourth annual Gala Day Celebration is scheduled to be held in Los Angeles, again. California sent a very large representation. The main Imperial Council will be held in Detroit, Michigan in the August 1990.

The next day, Friday, May 25, 1990, began on the golf course and then on to the bowling alley. There was a memorial service held in honor of their deceased members, a joint business meeting and opening ceremony. Later, that afternoon, there were training workshops on leadership and supervision. The evening activities were bubbling with surprises brought forth from the "Talent Program" that was held that evening in the main ballroom.

On Saturday, May 26, 1990, the 1990 VII JOINT GALA DAY PARADE left the Portland Memorial Coliseum at 10:30 a.m., proceeded north on Williams Avenue; turned right on Fremont and then right onto Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, heading back to the coliseum with Mayor Bud Clark as the Grand Marshall. As the parade wound its way through the streets of North/Northeast Portland, residents scurried out to see what all the commotion was about. There were drill teams, bands marching and on a truck, many cars with out-of-state dignitaries and a miniature motorcade with African American Shriners performing difficult maneuvers. All in all, it was a very good parade that stretched out for more than a mile.

When the parade reached the coliseum, the activities were far from over. Shortly after the parade was over, the drill team competitions began. Thutmos Temple #74 from San Francisco, California had two entries; "Flam-

ing 5" A-Group and "Flaming 5" B-Group. These groups were headed by Potentate Robert Sheppard and the Captain of Patrol, Phillip Cook, Jr. One group's ages ranged from 7-11 and the other team -- 7-16. Jo Shana Card was the leader of the B-Group and Antoinette Stephenson was the leader of the A-Group. The third group was led by Captain Noble Stringer, Alooma Temple #212 from Suisun, California with a nine man precision drill unit. The last entry was a nine man drill unit representing Egyptian Temple #5 from Los Angeles, California with Joe Powell as its Captain.

Reigning over the entire affair were three very charming and lovely young ladies -- Miss Region VII-1990, Kayenta Young representing Egyptian Temple #5 from Los Angeles, California; Miss Desert of Washington, Angela Jones representing Yemen Temple of Seattle, Washington; Miss Desert of Oregon, Lorraine Brown representing Mina Temple #68 and the retiring queen of 1989, Miss Yolanda Jones representing Sheik Temple #98. Mrs. Carrie Perry is the director and chaperone. These young ladies were chosen from these set of criteria: 17-21 years old, must be in High School or College, single, must have a good morale character, intelligent, 3.5 and above GPA and others.

Saturday night ended with a beautiful GALA BALL that drew scores of beautiful ladies adorned in their gowns and jewels. The men were handsome and dapper in their tuxes and elegant evening attire.

The 1990 REGION VII JOINT GALA DAY, of the Imperial Council A.E.A.O.N.M.S.P.H.A. and the Imperial Court Auxiliary of North and South America and Jurisdiction, Inc., terminated its four day celebration on Sunday, May 27, 1990 with a closing service in the Klamath Conference Room of the Red Lion Inn - Columbia River Jantzen Beach. Portland awaits the next Gala Day celebration. Its activities brought much happiness and many new friends to the City of Roses.

We have experienced love... in our parents, our families and friends and now a new love in each other. With sincere joy and a firm desire to give this love its fullest expression we will be joined in marriage on Saturday, the sixteenth of June Nineteen hundred and ninety at one o'clock in the afternoon Laurelhurst Bible Church 3212 Southeast Ankeny Street Portland, Oregon Minnie L. Harris and Lee O. Hardaway Reception following

SUCCESS AGAINST DRUGS

SUCCESS AGAINST DRUGS

There's growing hope for individuals, for families and for the entire country of triumphing against drugs. Treatment and rehabilitation centers are opening up all across the country. Perhaps one of the best—and expected to be the biggest—is the new Narconon Chilocco New Life Center in northern Oklahoma.

Narconon uses the drug rehabilitation technology developed by L. Ron Hubbard, one of the most highly acclaimed and widely-read authors of all time. The treatment is completely drug-free and includes education and other skills to enable a once-drug dependent person to reenter society successfully. The new facility will eventually serve hundreds of people in an isolated location which allows for maximum privacy.

"Today, there are six million Americans in need of drug and alcohol rehabilitation and there are only facilities for 250,000 available," says Narconon Director Manny Salinas. "President Bush has called for all Americans to join the War on Drugs. Narconon has been committed to that war for 23 years and the development of the Chilocco campus will be a major contribution in supplying the national need for more drug treatment services." For more information on handling drug abuse write Narconon, Route 2, Box 400, Newkirk, OK 74647.

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