

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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attention has been the conscientious effort of the Souvenir Program Committee with Mrs. F. T. Newsome as chairman to stimulate interest and enthusiasm in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of our great organization which will be held at Wilson, N. C. Temporary plans for the celebration were presented at the fall meeting of the Executive Board. A later meeting of the committee was held in Raleigh at the Harriet Tubman Clubhouse as guests of the Woman's Club. There we were happy to see Miss Juanita Lowe, a senior at Shaw University who has merited a scholarship from our State Federation through each of the four years.

An overnight trip which covered 993 miles will long be remembered. Delivering Christmas packages at the State Hospital in Goldsboro for patients of Elizabeth City made possible by the City Federated Clubs gave the first stop of the trip.

Answering a call to represent our organization on an advisory committee set up by the Conference Committee on Children and Youth in connection with the North Carolina Conference for Social Service which was held at Raleigh in the afternoon gave opportunity for information on a subject of vital interest to us, "Births out of Wedlock." A suggested outline for study and report on the subject included: Facts on Births out of Wedlock in North Carolina; What Happens to the Children and to the Mother Afterwards?; Cost to the State of Children out of Wedlock; Why are Children Born out of Wedlock?; Sexual Promiscuity, and What Can Be Done About the Problem? The committee realized the whole problem a grave one about which perhaps little could be done but because of the great concern action needs to be taken. Other such meetings will be held and it is the hope of your president that our organization will get all information possible and make use of it to help our children.

After leaving Raleigh an invitation was accepted which was extended by our own Mrs. Esther Moore to attend a meeting of the North West Women's Professional Club. Not even the dangers of continual rainfall and highways under construction daunted the determination to accept the invitation. To meet with nearly one hundred ladies in their Christmas meeting in the recently constructed modern recreation center at Hickory was certainly a memorable occasion. It is our hope that the ladies were sufficiently inspired to join the ranks of our State Federation.

On the return trip home a baby who had been discharged two weeks from the McCain Sanatorium was picked up and brought home to

relatives who had been unable to get him here. Truly the cheer spread and contacts made more than compensated for the 993 miles covered and the tired feelings accompanying them.

As a means of disclosing plans for entertaining our State Federation at the Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration the planning committee at Wilson with Mrs. Norma Darden as chairman extended an invitation to your president to meet with the committee. Our chairman, Mrs. Newsome, agreed to make the trip also. Mrs. Larkin who has worked untiringly with the committee was notified of the meeting. Having Mrs. S. F. Griffin, one of our senior club ladies accompany me to Rich Square where the night would be spent en route to Wilson worked well. The real surprise came on awakening and finding ourselves snowbound which meant returning home as soon as possible and deferring the trip to Wilson.

A great deal was accomplished by the overnight stay in Rich Square because many plans were made in connection with our Federation business. Among them was one of getting copies of our Federation Song into each club so that they might be used in club meetings as well as our larger club gatherings. It is my hope that you have seen fit to send the \$1.00 for copies received to our Corresponding-recording Secretary, Mrs. W. P. Collins.

At a later date favorable weather permitted Mrs. Newsome to join me and make the trip to Wilson. Mrs. Larkins met us there. Meeting the planning committee in the lovely home of Mrs. Darden gave opportunity to iron out many details in connection with our annual meeting. First of all came consideration of the date for the occasion because we were aware of making a change due to wintry weather which had caused change in the date of closing school where meetings were to be held. After careful consideration which included contacting the school principal and our speaker for the banquet, Mrs. Vivian Mason, of Norfolk, Va., May 14 was set as the date for the banquet with other sessions to follow on May 15, 16. A delicious dinner served by members of the planning committee certainly was enjoyed.

No communication reached me regarding an emergency conference in January which was called by Mrs. Rosa L. Gragg, president of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs. Later a letter expressed her regret at not having me present. There must have been an oversight on somebody's part. Mrs. A. Foster was in Washington at the time, attending the meeting and got information about which we hope to hear later.

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## Wilson Host City to Convention

### Wilson Planning For Convention

The Fiftieth Anniversary Convention of the North Carolina Federation of Negro Women's Clubs will be held May 14, 15 and 16, 1959 at the Darden High School in Wilson, North Carolina.

At this time of stress, strain and distrust and tension among the various racial groups, the need for organized work among women of the world is more needed than ever.

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Mrs. Bessie S. Satchell  
President Host Club

The carpet is being spread by the City Federation of Negro Women's Clubs in Wilson for our guest. We are leaving no stones unturned, and the whole city extends a cordial welcome to club women and their friends in and out of North Carolina.

The people of Wilson are proud of their city along the Atlantic Coast, located on U.S. Highway 301 with highways No. 264, No. 48 and No. 42 entering it.

The fair city boasts of being an eastern agricultural and educational center, where homeseekers and businessmen alike are certain to find it Neighborly and to succeed.

The city had its beginning in 1949. Tobacco and Wilson are synonymous, having established on September 3, 1890 a tobacco auction market where the first basket sold for 50c per pound.

Nash Street, lined with magnificent elms and oaks, has been called one of the ten most beautiful residential streets in America.

Churches embracing 13 different denominations and faiths make it easy to select your church.

Schools and teachers are among the best the country over for both races.

Adequate protection — utilities — shopping—and recreational facilities can be found in Wilson for its population of 24,600 as well as their guests. The homes are spacious and comfortable, come and share them.

You need not hesitate to take this opportunity to visit the city, you will find all the people friendly and ready to assist if needed.

Host Committee  
Mrs. Norma Darden, Chairman  
108 Pender Street



WILSON HOST PLANNING COMMITTEE—Seated, left to right: Mrs. Anna B. Johnson, Mrs. Bessie Satchell, Mrs. Norma E. Darden, chairman, Mrs. Lelia B. Yancey. Standing, left to right: Mrs. Ethel L. Hines, Mrs. Marie R. Mitchner, Mrs. Letitia Fisher, Mrs. Flossie C. Barnes.