

THE FEDERATION JOURNAL

"Listen to our Clarion Watchword—We are Lifting As We Climb"

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MRS. GRETCHEN V. C. ABBOTT—Guest speaker at annual convention, N. C. Federation of Negro Women's Clubs, Raleigh, June 3, 1960.

Mrs. Abbott is the Field Consultant for the Southern half of the United States and has been working in the field with these states, helping them to prepare for the White House Conference since the fall of 1958.

She has served on the boards of many national organizations: National Social Welfare Assembly, National Council of Social Work

Education, National Association of School Social Workers and others. She is also known in Texas as past president of the Texas Committee on Children and Youth, of the Dallas Children's Bureau, of the Dallas Association for the United Nations, etc. Mrs. Abbot was, at one time, instructor in psychology at Southern Methodist University.

Annual Convention

Shaw University: June 2, 3, 4.
Theme: "Adult and Youth United for a Better World"

Thurs., June 2nd: Executive Board, Banquet—Meeting in Shaw University's Dining Hall as guests of Raleigh Host Clubs, at 7:00 o'clock

Friday, June 3rd: Convention opens at 10:30 A. M. in University Chapel. President's message, reports of officers, etc.

At 1:30 P. M.: Address, Mrs. Tom Grier, N. C. Conference of Social Service; Workshops 1, Working Mothers 2; Housing 3; Cultural and Recreation Activities.

At 7:45 P. M.: Program of Host Group and Guest Speaker, Mrs. Gretchen V. C. Abbot, Consultant to State Committees for White House Conference on Children and Youth. Reception for
(Continued on Page 4)

Message From Our President

Greetings to all Club Ladies:

As usual my appreciation is boundless to God and to each of you for the many many acts of mercy and unselfish service since last we communicated.

Since attention is called throughout the nation to the Golden Anniversary of the White House Conference on Children and Youth my mind naturally follows the trend in my article to you.

My reading the recently published "Profile of North Carolina's Children and Youth," a summary of reports from White House Conference Committee of 100 counties issued by the North Carolina Committee 1960 White House Conference on Children and Youth and coordinated by North Carolina for Social Service by appointment of Governor Luther H. Hodges, certainly revealed many interesting facts.

As one would expect the report includes findings on health, social service, recreation, family life, employment, church related activities for youth and law enforcement. At the conclusion of each discussion for each section is given a list of unmet needs which will certainly be increased incentive for the work of club women.

As members of the North Carolina Federation of Negro Women's Club we have not waited for the White House Conference to point

cut the reeds among our children and youth but have been mindful of such as our record of the past fifty years has proven.

Ever mindful of our motto, "Lifting As We Climb" it is my hope that you will pardon my relating a recent experience with the idea of its offering a suggestion that may be added to your list of improving conditions among the children and youth of your community.

Seeing three children varying in ages from four to fourteen poorly clad and undernourished begging from door to door rather often led to an investigation at their home, rather their place of abode. A dilapidated structure which had been without water connections for months housed the mother, three children just mentioned and two others whose ages were one month and two years. The scarcity of fuel and food and the unsanitary condition of the place gave further evidence of the need for aid.

After most immediate needs were met temporarily, answers to questions revealed that the family had received aid from the welfare until the birth of the last child who had been born out of wedlock and been preceded by another born under the same condition.

Welfare aid could not be issued again unless the mother agreed to sterilization. Then came the job of convincing her that such was necessary in order that her children might have bare necessities. In the mean time the husband who had disappeared several years before

(Continued on Page 6)

Raleigh Host Com. Planning Convention



RALEIGH HOST COMMITTEE planning for annual convention. Seated l. to r. Mrs. Lillian Logan, Mrs. Victoria Walters, Mrs. Hattie Toole. Standing l. to r. Mrs. Beatrice Hall, Mrs. McKenny, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Devane, Mrs. Ida Jones.