

# A POTPOURRI OF RECENT EVENTS

By GEORGE B. RUSS



WILLIE MUSE

"Coach Muse, We love you!" Was the Birthday sentiment of the Basketball Team No. 2, printed in bright red letters on a huge yellow cardboard, autographed and hung in a place of prominence for the party guest and the honoree, Coach James Tyrone muse to see.

Union Baptist Fellowship Hall was all decked out like the setting for a May Day Festival, colorful crepe paper streamers, balloons and tables set up with tasteful refreshments.

Mrs. Maxine Mason shared in this year's celebration. March 9th is her birthday. The glowing charm of the lady piscoan did add glamour to the honoree's table. This pair of piscoans shared the spotlight with a great deal more ease than one might suspect. Perhaps the pretty scorpion, Miss Roslyn Johnson, seated between them, kept things on an even keel. Pamela Hill presented Muse a huge 36x36 autographed, greeting card from the Hill clan.

There were no speeches, everyone, just had a good time. Hostesses were: Mmes. Hattie F. Parjin, Elaine Pratt, Celestia Sanders, Misses Sheila Mason, Pamela Clarke and Sharron Pratt. Guests: Willie Hooker, Pete Freddy, Charles Cameron, Grove Wilson, Mrs. Mary Shaw, Mrs. Ollie Cameron, Rev. Essex Fields, Mmes. Stattie H. Russ, Gerald Green, McDuffie Holman, Rev. & Mrs. Fletcher Harris, Wendi, April and June. Van Clark, Jr., Rev. N. Sanders, Mrs. Patricia Parker, Jesse and Frederick Prather of Raleigh, Adron Hayes and Mrs. Isaac Prather of Hampton, Va. Mrs. Annie Rachel Muse and Willie Edward Muse and Barry Witherspoon and U.B.C. Team No. 2.

The real highlight of the March 10th Durham County and City Youth Union was a visit by Mrs. Minnie C. Lyons. Her visit was an inspiration to the Senior Leaders, supervisors and advisors.

The prim, little lady addressed the assemblage, standing in front of a huge heart inscribed "Have A Heart for Missions." She expressed great hope in the future of the Youth Department. And she commented on the presence of the young men and the splendid work they are doing. A smile radiated her face as she talked, and it is a safe assumption that she was reliving great moments when she was a much younger woman and actually engaged in Mission Works.

This session convened at Lincoln Memorial Baptist Church, corners of Roxboro and Moline Streets, Durham, Rev. Norward P. Bordie, pastor. Mrs. Ruth Davis, Supervisor of Lincoln's Youth Department.

Mrs. McLester gave a vivid narration of how and why the Youth Department adopted the "Have A Heart For Missions Project." The project is in honor to and in memory of Mrs. Eunice Youngblood of Mecklenburg County, Charlotte. The idea of selling hearts to raise funds for the Youth Camp and State Convention was used successfully by Mrs. Youngblood, therefore when she passed into transition the Leaders of the Youth Department held on to the



LESA JOHNSON



PAMELA HILL

February is heart month, Brotherhood Observance, Valentine, etc. So, February was chosen for Baptist Youths to raise Funds through "Have A Heart For Missions." The winner of this contest becomes a candidate for the Miss or Mr. Shaw Contest.

74 contestants: Willie Muse, Union Baptist, Robert Wiggins, Lincoln Memorial, Casey Williams, Morehead Baptist, Lisa Johnson, New Bethel, Renee Page, White Rock Baptist. Winner! Willie E. Muse.

Winner in the Parade of Talents was Lisa Johnson of New Bethel. President James T. Muse is grateful to all participants. "I thoroughly enjoyed the fine fellowship and the enthusiasm engendered by each performer. And to Mrs. Davis, a double portion of thanks for the delectable refreshments, and the lovely courage she pinned on Mrs. Patricia Dean of Morehead Baptist Church for the above par representatives present at the Union.

Culture is the art of being unselfish with some of your time.

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# FROM BLACK

BY JOHN HUGGINS



In recent day I have heard more about school problems than I have heard in quite some time. From parents and from students, I have heard all kinds of discussions about what's happening to us in the schools. From push-outs, to drop-outs, to threats, to corporal punishment, to just plain racism.

I am beginning to wonder whether all of us are familiar with who is responsible for running the schools. If after talking to the principal and the superintendent, and the school board, you can still go up town on the right Monday morning and raise your case to the county commissioners. For years the school boards have been going to the commissioners getting more and more of your tax dollars. No one has ever been before the county to oppose this. Thus it is clear that they know very little about the school systems they are funding.

You on the other hand who are suffering because of the way the schooling in Durham is being handled have a right to state your case and try to make things happen at all levels of government.

While it is certain that the Durham Morning Herald gave very biased reporting of the school situation, we as Black people know of many other things wrong with the schools. The newspaper cannot change the schools. We can if we are willing to.

Too many parents are ready to run their mouths but don't want to run them in the right places, PTSA, School Boards, City Council, County Commission. The problems are not going away because we talk about them among ourselves. We have got to make noise beyond the closets. If that doesn't do it then we are ready to move on to other ways of getting change. Right now we have Black people on all of the above government units, its up to us to make them work.

The same thing applies to students. Most students are content to complain to everybody except the people who are responsible for the problems. Students we in the community can only help you move, we can only give you support, no one is going to fight your battles for you. If you don't like what's happening in your school, stick your neck out and do something. It is far easier for the community to come to your rescue than it is for us to fight your fights for you.

So in the final analysis we are talking about those of us who are directly affected by school problems moving against the sources of those problems. Black parents don't go to schools enough. Bug the hell out of the principal, let him know you want your child educated, not abused. Get to know the teachers, so that if you have to cuss one out you can do it by name. I know school board meetings are dull as can be but go and say your piece, leave or sleep through the rest. Same thing about all these other meetings. You don't have to be an expert to go to a meeting and speak your part. Make your own agenda, tell them what you want them to know and the hell with the rest of the meeting, if its dull or boring leave, your taxes are paying for the door just like they pay for the room, it's yours, go and leave when you want to.

The same thing applies to students. If you know everybody on the school board by name, the principal is

going to think twice before he mistreats you, especially if he knows that your side of the story is coming up in the next board meeting. It's your school system if you don't run it others will. Do something if it's wrong, change must come from action. It is unwise and stupid to think problems will go away if you don't move against them in any way you possibly can.

# LIFE BEGINS AT 62 1/2

By GEORGE B. RUSS

Hearing Emma Lou's sleepy, irritated voice rekindled her keen dislike for the woman, "wake up! Git up! you had no business walking off with the key to that apartment. Where did you think I was going to sleep?"

"Whom do you think you're talking to, Madie Perkins? There was pronounced anger in Emma Lou's voice.

"Don't give me that 'whom do I think I'm talking to' chat. I'm tired, sleepy, mad 'n stinking. You know what they say about Hagar's chillum when they're tired, sleepy, mad 'n stinking?"

"Go peddle your riddles someplace else, old woman!" Miss Madie retorted hotly, "th' next move I make is to talk wiff th' white folks uptown."

"I just bet you would do just that!" Emma Lou's tone was caustic.

"Just as sure as grits is grocery," Miss Madie wanted to spit into the mouthpiece, but, instead, she listened for Emma's rebuff. Finally she came through with something about Curt's being out.

"You made your bed-ah-bed of thorns, now sleep in it." Emma Lou answered curtly, "keep your shirt on! I'll be there as soon as I can get some clothes on."

"Ah-got-news for you, honey, if you don't show up pretty soon, I am calling th' law."

The clicking sound on the other end of the line told Miss Madie that her party had hung up. The chances were in favor of Emma Lou's coming to Bayborough Heights. The odds were to be reckoned, with Emma Lou might keep her waiting until Curtis arrived home. Ten minutes, half hour, or, perhaps, several hours. However the cup tilted she would go that-ah-way. She called out, "thanks-ah-lot, Sheila. I'll drap by early tomorrow 'n help out." No reply reached her ears, so, she hurried out of the house. She was fearful of what might lurk in the shadowy darkness, nevertheless, she retraced her footsteps toward Apartment 2-A. And as she was passing Miss Carrie's apartment, the woman's drowsy voice completely dispersed her discursive thoughts.

"You didn't stay long-ah-see."

"None, I wanted to talk wiff Sheila 'bout mister Ben's sittin-up." Miss Madie lied evenly. She had no reason to offer for lying. She just lied.

"When is th' funeral, Miss Madie?"

"I've heard two different stories, Miss Carrie. But I rather think he'll be buried Saturday at 2 o'clock. And while she was wishing "th' woman would hush" a car came to a stop in front Apt.2-A. Miss Madie cut her friend's drooling voice off, "ah'll have to stop you later, Miss Carrie, looks-lack-mah-sister-in-law is calling on me." Then she sped off down the street.

Emma Lou was standing on the step of the stoop in front of Apt. 2-A by the time Miss Madie arrived, "heaven knows I am glad to see you," she said with mocked enthusiasm.

Emma Lou was still attired in her sleep apparel. Curtis' winter robe was in dishabille about her neck and shoulders. Her hair was in metal curlers, besides, the flip-flops on her feet belonged to her husband, too. "I see you came

in-ah-hurry, girl."

Miss Madie said in an effort to abort her sister-in-law's sardonic silence.

"If it weren't for my job, I would let you stay out here until hell freezes over. The Board of Education would look with astance upon my action. But you know and I know, you deserve much worse."

Miss Madie moved in closer to her stup looking sister-in-law, blowing profusely through her nostrils, "don't

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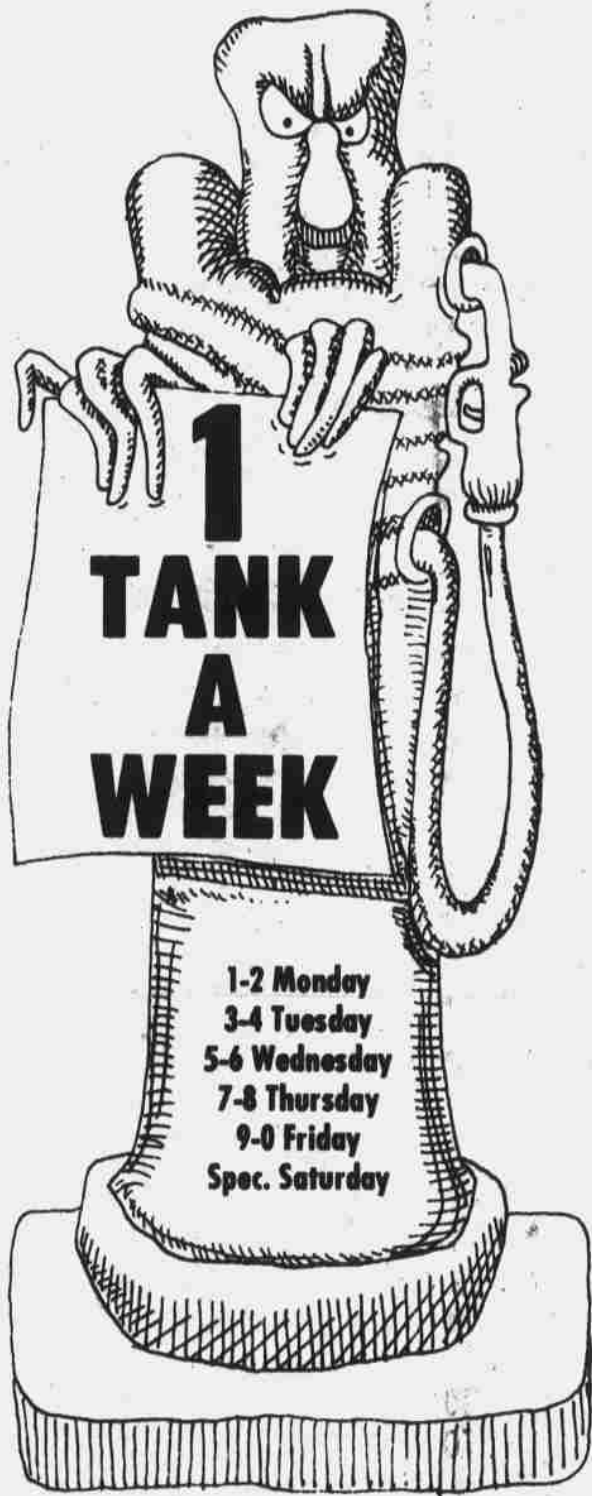
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