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I DISCOVER AMERICA

By GEORGE A. PASSES
In a small village of Masala Horio (Big Village) in Greece, I was born on June 28, 1934 to Helen and Anastasio (Frank) Passes. It was in this little village that my parents had made their home. Here, to make their living, they farmed a few acres of land. At the age of seven I entered the first grade of grammar school. From this time until I completed the sixth year of study, I was attending school and helping my parents at our home.

When World War II broke out my father went to the army. During the time of war I lived a life of terror and frustration. Before the Italians came to our village, we left to go to the mountains to find a place of safety. For several days we lived in caves without having enough food to eat and water to drink. As the Italians were approaching our village, fourteen men, the best leaders of our community, went to welcome them. The Italians killed twelve of them and put our preacher and our chief of police in a house and set the house on fire. It was the day before Christmas when we got back from the mountains. The screaming of a mother, wife, or sister was appalling to the hopeless hearts of the people. One destruction followed another. The war brought depression.

For a period of nine months we lived by eating wild vegetables without salt or oil. The catastrophe of hunger caused the death of my grandfather and the sickness of my mother and me. With the end of the

MISS GARDNER-WEBB ELECTED



By RONALD BEANE

Miss Billie Blankenship was chosen Miss Gardner-Webb in a beauty contest that was held in the college auditorium in late November. The judges committee included Mrs. Remm Drum, woman's editor of The Shelby Daily Star, John Martin of the Star news staff, and James Harrell, artist and art teacher of Lincolnton and Shiloh. Mrs. Sam Crawley, Jr., of Belling Springs acted as mistress of ceremonies at the contest and Miss Kay McGee of the college music department appeared on the program for a group of vocal numbers. Miss Blankenship comes from Rutherfordton and is a graduate of Central High School where she participated in many extra-curricular activities.

She was chosen over a field of 27 contestants of which Mrs. Jimmy Gamble of Boiling Springs, placed second and Miss Tempa Hamrick of Lanester, S. C. was in third place.

My mother and I arrived at our new home, my uncle, who had lost every member of his family, came to see us and agreed to take care of my mother so that I could go into Athens to work. One day as I was working, the mail man brought me a letter from my godfather who was in America. This letter told me that he wanted me to come to America; it also included papers that would identify me with the American Embassy in Athens. I realized that the only hope I had for a better future was in this land. I was then seventeen years old. I was very happy to know that I had the opportunity to come to America and have the chance of seeking an education, but I was very sad at the thought of leaving my home and my mother who was very ill at the time.

The day that I was to sail from Greece finally came. I was on my way to America! I kept thinking as the boat made its way out to the sea, that my past life was getting far behind me and I was entering a new life in a new land.

Finally I saw the Statue of Liberty. I was very excited, for I had learned in school that it stood for the land of the free, that it represented the friendship that America shared with other countries, and that it stood for the spirit of the American people. Even though I was coming to a new land alone, at this moment I was not afraid; even though I could not speak the English language I felt secure because I was facing the Statue of Liberty—symbol of freedom.

After seeking the Immigration Office and the Travel Agency, I made

my way to Weldon, North Carolina. Arriving in Weldon, I was very happy to find Chris Gavrilis at the train station to meet me. I went to the T. & N. Cafe and met my godfather, Tom Gavrilis, who made me feel much at home.

After being in Weldon one week, my godfather sent me to Mrs. Jennings to learn to speak the English language. This she did by teaching me the sound of letters. Working for my godfather as a waiter in his restaurant and attending school a few hours a day, I lived in Weldon until my mother died, one year later. Then I decided to go to Greenville, North Carolina, to find a new job.

Here I worked as a waiter for a period of one year. Having paid all of my debts, I decided to go back to Weldon to find a job and to attend the Weldon High School.

I entered Weldon High School on the opening school year of 1940-1954. I was attending three classes in the morning and working as a cook at Milton's Coffee Shop from twelve noon until ten at night.

My first year in school was difficult, for my English was very limited. Many times I felt desperate, for I had no time to study and had no home in which to live. My first high school year ended; I had taken three courses and I passed two of them.

The following September I decided to continue school as I did the previous year. Five months later, since I had been able to save an amount of money that would help me to attend school that year, I decided to leave my present job and finish part time on this. This gave me the chance to learn that the hearts of the American people are filled with human kindness.

Continued on Page 4

HOLIDAYS BEGIN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21 - JANUARY 7

With the approach of the Christmas holidays, which begin on Friday, excitement and joyous anticipation have prevailed in the Gardner-Webb atmosphere for the past two weeks.

Ushering in the holiday season will be the Christmas banquet tomorrow night in the college cafeteria. Our hostess promises another one of her notable meals which on every similar occasion fulfills the primary desire of the boys, and causes the girls to forget their diets. And the program committee promise to come across with an interesting as well as an amusing program.

OWENS ELECTED CHAIRMAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Rev. M. O. Owens, Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church in Lenoir, is new chairman of the board of trustees at Gardner-Webb College.

The board elected Rev. Owens at its quarterly meeting recently at the college. He will take office as chairman Jan. 1 for a one year term. He has been a trustee of the Baptist college since 1954.

Elected vice chairman was the Rev. Tom S. Lawrence of Cliffside, and Arnold W. Kincaid of Kings Mountain was named secretary.

Retiring officers are the Rev. John E. Lawrence of Shelby as chairman, Dr. Wyan Washburn of Boiling Springs as vice-chairman, and the Rev. Tom S. Lawrence from secretary to vice-chairman.

Named to the board's executive committee to work with the officers were: B. Bruce Hildebrand of Marion, G. B. Harrell of Forest City, G. O. Max Gardner, J. L. Suttle, and Dr. Hubert S. Plaster, of Shelby, and Dr. Wyan Washburn. The Rev. W. T. Hendrix of Gastonia will be an alternate member. Mrs. Rush Stroup of Shelby was continued in office as treasurer and Julian Hamrick, also of Shelby, was named assistant treasurer.

The trustees and their wives joined the college faculty and staff members and their wives or husbands for dinner in the college cafeteria following the meeting. Dr. P. L. Elliott, president, and Mrs. Elliott make the dinner an annual event for all college personnel.

This was the final meeting of present tenure for seven trustees. They are the Rev. H. M. Baker of Warsaw, Paul Brothall of Lenoir, C. D. Spangler of Charlotte, Howard Rollins, Carlos Young, and Guy Roberts of Shelby, and Claude Hinson of Belmont.

Trustees-elect include Hon. Woodrow Jones of Rutherfordton, Arnold W. Kincaid, John Z. McBrayer of Mooresville, Clifford Hamrick of Boiling Springs, Rev. W. T. Hendrix, Joe T. Moore of Belmont, and Dr. S. A. Wilson of Lincolnton.

Those continuing as trustees include Mrs. O. Max Gardner, Shiloh, Mrs. Moore of Tryon, Dr. H. S. Plaster, Dr. W. Royler, Sr. of Shelby, Mrs. Hattie P. Self of Cherryville, J. L. Suttle, Rev. Harold White of Spindale, David Allen of Hickory, James P. Corwell of Lenoir, G. B. Harrell, Otis Harris of Kings Mountain, Rev. John E. Lawrence, Dr. W. Wyan Washburn, and Rev. Tom S. Lawrence.

REVIVAL SERVICES HELD AT COLLEGE

Dr. Sankley L. Blanton, president of Cozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pa., was at Gardner-Webb College for a week of special worship services beginning Dec. 2.

The services were conducted twice daily in the E. B. Hamrick auditorium with Dr. Blanton as guest speaker. The Baptist Student Union

In keeping with the holiday spirit, professors will be holding carry-over assignments to a minimum. Research papers for the semester, in most cases, have already been completed, allowing the students to be relatively relaxed during their vacations away from their studies.

On Friday, classes will be cut short in keeping with the holiday spirit to allow the students an early start on their various days of home for a welcome sixteen days of leisure. Students will be hurriedly vacating the dormitories, and the campus should be cleared by early afternoon.

Although most students will arrive home in a matter of a few hours, some of the students have as far as Miami, Fla., and Hyattsville, Md. to travel. There will probably be no students who will not have the opportunity to be with their families or friends at Christmas.

IN THE PILOT — THIS ISSUE

There's an exam schedule on page three, clip it out and use it if needed.

Our Associate Editor, Ray Collins, has his own column, "Around Campus," on page three.

Read what Gardner-Webb has done for Noemig King, page four. Read our editorials on page two, we have some good ones this issue.

Prof. F. B. Desmond has a book which will be published soon. Get the facts on page three.

"From the Sports Desk," by Sports Editor, Dilard Morrow, on page six.

was in charge, and Margaret Gold, BSU president, presided.

Dr. Blanton, a native of Ellersboro, is a graduate of Wake Forest College and Southern Baptist Seminary, and Andover Newton Theological School. He has served as pastor of Baptist churches in Connecticut, and Kentucky, and from 1935 to 1945 was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Wilmington.

In 1946 he became dean of the School of Religion at Wake Forest College, and four years later was named president of Cozer.

Many friends of Dr. Blanton from Cleveland and Rutherford counties attended the week of services along with the college students and Boiling Springs residents.

Customer in restaurant: "Give me a cup of chocolate with cream."

Waiter, catching loudly toward kitchen: "Take and cow for one!"

Customer: "Waiter, make that what you're creaming!"

Waiter again calling: "Chastite Sukey!"