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THE FEDERATION JOURNAL

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

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ADDRESS DELIVERED

by

Commission Samuel E. Leonard

*on the occasion of the
Dedication of Three New Buildings
at the*

**State Training School for Girls
Dobbs Farm, Kinston, N. C.**

This School had its beginning prior to 1925 when the North Carolina Industrial School for Negro Girls, Efland, North Carolina, was founded. For many years devoted and consecrated women were active in propagandizing the need for such a School. Money was not so plentiful as it is today, particularly among our Negro folk, yet somehow, with the leadership of the North Carolina Federation of Negro Women's Clubs, this group managed to raise funds sufficient to purchase 150 acres of land in Orange County, near Efland, construct a wooden building that would house 20 girls and staff, drill a well, obtain pigs, chickens, and a cow and have a going concern in 1925. It was a private School but it was never intended by those women who had labored so hard that it should continue to be so. It was their idea that if the School were actually in operation and were offered to the State that the State would take it over and make it a State Institution. In order to be able to offer the property to the State, these women arranged to lift the mortgage of \$2,000.00 and assume this debt by notes. It was all in vain, however, for as the Legislature met every two years, the ever renewing request was made only to find that the subsidizing to the extent of \$2,000.00 a year was all that was ever done. I do not have the date of the closing of the little School and I wonder what has become of the few records, but the good women found it not feasible to continue so the efforts became history. Incidentally, the land with the decaying building is still owned by the Federation but no returns are being realized from it.

In the 1943 Legislature a bill was introduced which became Chap. 381, Public Laws 1943, and which was entitled "An act providing for the establishment of an Institution for the care of Delinquent Negro Girls." The bill passed both houses and was ratified March 2, 1943. Thus the efforts begun in the early "twenties" became a reality. The sum of \$25,000 was the initial appropriation named in the bill but as will be shown later, additions to

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AMONG OUR CLUBS

The Business and Professional Women's Club of Salisbury held its Annual Bazaar Thursday evening, December 3, at the home of Mrs. John Nicholson. Many beautiful, useful and artistic articles were displayed for sale, and the proceeds are used toward the State Scholarship Fund. Some of the articles were corsages made from nylon hose material, fancy aprons, crocheted glass holders, pot holders, hand-painted kitchen curtains, ear rings, handkerchiefs, lamp shades, embroidered luncheon sets, fancy pillow slips, artistic dish towels as well as home-made candy, date sticks, cookies and pound cake.

This Club follows not only the activities that comport with its name, but each member has an interesting hobby; and some members have enough different articles they have made to open a hobby shop, showing weaving, jewelry making, leather craft, basketry, tatting and knitting.

The Business and Professional Women's Club counts among its members women who are outstanding in a variety of worth while activities. Of the twelve members, the following are teachers: Mrs. Mary Perkins, President; Miss Rosebud Aggrey, Secretary; Mrs. Nonie Johnson, Mrs. Lillian Simpson, Mrs. Abna Lancaster, Mrs. Mazie Holt, Miss Marie Weeks, Mrs. Mabel Payden, Miss Willie Mae Clingman. Other members are Mrs. Leathia Nicholson, Rowan County Assistant Case Worker; Mrs. Julia Taggart, School Nurse for City and County; Mrs. Lois Reeves, Livingstone College Nurse now on leave for advanced study.

Miss Clingman is owner and operator of a confectionery shop; Mrs. Payden is co-owner and part time operator of the Salisbury Cleaners; Mrs. Taggart is co-owner of the Taggart Dry Cleaning business.

Moore County Clubs

by MRS. AMMIE P. FOSTER

The club women of West End are keeping their motto in action. They are really "lifting as they climb." Their club daughter whom they adopted is now in the sixth grade.

The Morrison Training School Club group continues active. Mrs. P. R. Brown, Vice-President of Moore County Clubs, has the cooperation of other members of the staff who seem to enjoy club work.

Addor Club ladies are planning an interesting program for the current year.

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SET ME UPON MY FEET

*Address delivered at the Annual
Convention at Elizabeth City*

by

MISS RUTH G. RUSH
(Retiring President)

In the book of Ezekiel second chapter, verses one and two, we read as follows:

"And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.

And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me."

Let me again repeat those words as a springboard for what I may have to say in way of challenge to this organization and to our friends assembled here tonight.

"And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.

And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me."

Our observations of young infants reveal to us helpless, squirming, fumbling bits of humanity. Groups of children studied as they grow evidence a general pattern of postural control—control of head and neck first, then the chest, back, and lower trunk, and finally the legs. Standing with support by the end of the first year is a real achievement, but it becomes an exciting adventure when the baby stands alone. Then for walking, all that is needed is to be set upon their feet.

Organizational growth may be likened to that of the child—we pass through the stages of kicking, creeping and crawling and finally there comes the day when we hear a voice saying "stand upon thy feet." If we respond to the voice and allow the spirit to enter us, we will find that we are set upon our feet and can walk—no longer the infant but grown into maturity.

With standing on one's feet, there come new responsibilities—not always easy to accept but nevertheless present and challenging. If we fail to accept the responsibilities we drop to our knees and return to crawling.

What are the challenges which come to Negro club women today—May 1, 1953? I cannot discuss them all—they are too numerous. However, I would have you think with me about several which I consider pertinent to our every day living and to our way of life.

Paramount in our thinking today is this problem of segregation. Segregation is a vicious evil and harmful to our fundamental way of life.

In our national life, we are awaiting the
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