

'Sisters' In The Church From Page B5

ly white communities.

"I had to adjust," she says, "and a lot of times I had to adjust to ignorance because a lot of people have prejudices and don't know why."

"As a black woman in religion, you have to weigh these things and come to the realization that there's a lot of educating to be done," she says.

That is why Sister Towns makes the annual trip she's been making since 1969 to the National Black Sisters Conference to share experiences and discuss with other black women the problems they face being accepted as a nun.

On a whole, the Catholic Church is beginning to face a severe shortage of men and women willing to commit their whole life to the church, and Sister Towns says she sees the lack of commitment in a contemporary world as being the root of the problem.

Says Sister Towns: "Any young person who decides they want to go into religious life has to sit down and

realize just what committing their total life to God really means.

"Many young people today aren't willing to make that total commitment," she says. "Look at the rate of divorce. With society offering so much, we've found that religion is not being emphasized the way it used to be."

"The things we have valued as religious traditions have been taken away and it all starts in the family," she says. "A lot of our heritage was lost when we came over from Africa."

No one could convince Sister Maxine Towns that the decision she made more than 20 years ago was a bad one.

"I wanted to give myself totally without any interference," she says. "There are people who are married, who are very religious, but they have to commit time to their family, too."

"My whole life, however, is to God and His service, so I can listen and carry out the mission he has given to me."

Candidate Speaks At First Baptist

The Rev. Sidney A. Locks Jr., State Representative elect for District 16, will be the second candidate to speak at First Baptist Church this Sunday at the 11 a.m. worship service.

Locks is presently pastor of Sandy Grove Baptist Church in Lumberton. He is an administrator with the Sandy Grove Dare Care Association and a coordinator for the Robeson County Operation Sickle Cell.

A native of Opelousas, La., Locks received his B.A. degree from Wiley College in Marshall Texas and his

M.D. degree from Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta.

Locks is a former commissioner for the Robeson County Jury Selection Committee and former member of the board of education for Lumberton City Schools. He also serves as an executive board member of the General Baptist State Convention.

Locks is also a member of the NAACP, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and was elected by the National Jaycees as an Outstanding Young Man in 1981.

Reversal Of Roles Is Working From Page B1

"Because of my schedule at the bank," Betty says, "I am up and out of the house by seven. Jerry gets the boys dressed, feeds them and gets them off to school. And in the afternoons, I go on shift (taking care of the boys). And when it comes to driving the kids from school to field trips, Jerry does the driving. In fact, most of the time he is the only father there."

Although Jerry carried the majority of the load, the two also share house-cleaning and cooking chores. "I did it because it had to be done, but I hate house-cleaning," Jerry says.

Betty and Jerry, who call each other momma and daddy, seem to have adjusted to the reversed roles easily. But convincing Betty's mother proved difficult.

relationship whole and fruitful.

"And you have to show that person that you love them instead of just saying it. If you love that person, you have to let your work speak for you. And remember, the sun is not gonna shine every day."

Says Betty: "A lot of marriages have problems because folk don't try to relate to each other. I have to understand that Jerry is an artist and may not do things in a systematic way, like I do. But I have to combine his positive assets with mine to make a whole."

"We have our problems just like everybody else," she says. "Whatever daddy (Jerry) does has a direct impact on this circle we are trying to keep complete that includes the boys, our careers and managing the household."

And after 11 years of marriage, and a lot of trial and error, the Hanes seem to have found the right mix.

"When I met Betty I knew she was just my kinda woman," Jerry says. "She was like your favorite food."

And Betty describes Jerry as "fantastic." "When I need him, he is there and I get good support and I get mutual respect," she says. "I don't worry about competition from my husband because this is a team."

The two will admit that although things are working well for them, they have not located the magic formula. "We are still working on it. We are still mixing the positions together," Jerry says.

One of the hardest tasks Jerry has had, has been describing to his male friends his present role. "When they call and say they wanna do something, if I have to go pick up some groceries, I tell them that," he says. "If he or she is a friend of mine, then they will understand. The biggest thing is trying to keep away from the peer pressure."

And if all goes as planned, both Jerry and Betty Hanes will carve their own individual nooks -- Jerry in art and Betty in the field of banking.

"I didn't get jealous when Betty's career was moving ahead because I was a part of her doing well."

-- Jerry Hanes

"My momma had a hard time adjusting to our arrangement," Betty says. "She used to tell me, 'You leave Jerry at home with them boys. He doesn't know what he's doing.' But I like the fact that he has no problems about helping me with the boys. I couldn't imagine having anybody else."

And the two boys think their parents' reversed roles are natural.

"They see it as a way of life," Jerry says. "They say, 'my momma or daddy might come to school, or wash the dishes or cut the grass.' We may overlap."

What makes the team of Jerry and Betty Hanes work?

"Not only are we husband and wife," Jerry says, "we are good friends. You have to open up and make the rela-

Comfortable In Background From Page B1

Vivian. "He likes to be in the background and enjoys seeing other folk make it. If you have ever seen someone who is willing to let all the attention go to someone else, then that's how I feel Logan is."

Says Logan: "I've never been a person interested in a bunch of fanfare. Whatever you do or accomplish, knowing yourself that you accomplished it is enough."

eat," says Logan. "Vivian is always on some kind of diet."

Despite all the little inconveniences, Logan says he is happy for his wife.

"I wish her luck and I would be happy to serve as her campaign manager again (if she decides to run for another office)," he says. "Frankly, I think I'd

"I don't see myself as a man being in front. She is capable and thinks for herself," he says. "She has her own personality and involvements and I have my own. I don't see myself as ... propping her up. She is capable herself."

much time away from home helping other people, but still, on the other hand, I am not envious," says Logan. "If that's what she enjoys doing and that makes her happy, then OK. She is more productive now than if she were at some bridge table or involved in a lot of social organizations."

But sometimes just sitting in the background can get to be a little too much for anybody. When Logan was on vacation last summer, he decided that he would do some much-needed painting around the house -- which turned out to be only a desire.

"A lot of women are probably out of the house as much as Vivian, and if you look at what they have accomplished in terms of making a commitment to the community, it has been very little," he says.

"Every time I stuck the brush in the paint bucket," he says, "the phone would ring. From early that morning until 3:30 when Vivian got home, the phone rang 30 or more times. I never did paint that day."

But just who is Logan Burke? You won't find out much if he has to tell you. Instead, his wife, who never seems at a loss for words, tells his story and he hesitantly fills in any gaps.

And Vivian's hectic schedule has also forced Logan to take to other tasks around the house. "I don't clean the house," he says, "but I do admit to washing the clothes. You know when the colorful shirts were in style? Well, I had one and Vivian washed it and messed up my shirt and I said I will wash from now on."

"I am an unusual person in a lot of ways. I enjoy just relaxing. I enjoy spectator sports and I enjoy spending time with our son (a law student at North Carolina Central University who shares an apartment with Logan in Durham during the week)."

And the cooking. "Well, we both do the cooking," Vivian says.

"Usually Todd and I will go out and get something to

"Unselfish, that's the one word I would use to describe Logan," Vivian says. "Logan has done a lot of good things. And a lot of people in this community know him for the things he has done."

Virginia's Turn From Page B1

But George is responsible for the beginning of Virginia's political career.

"In 1963," Virginia says, "George told me that I needed to run for school board (in Raleigh). He told me to put my clothes on so we could go downtown to file. The next thing I knew I was filing for school board."

Virginia lost that race, but that didn't stop George from encouraging her to try again. But Virginia said she always thought that George should hold public office. After all, his grandfather, John T. Newell, served four terms in the state legislature. "George had it in his bones," Virginia says. "I didn't."

But political family ties soon proved not to mean much. Since then, the name Virginia Newell, not George Newell, has become a household word in political circles in Winston-Salem. She has been instrumental in the development of the East Winston Shopping Center, Mechanics and Farmers Bank, the East Winston Restoration Association and the East Winston Crime Task Force, just to name a few.

It's a wonder that George doesn't have a tinge of jealousy.

"You know," George says with the help of what he calls the "University of Experience," "Socrates taught Plato and Socrates didn't care what Plato said because he was the teacher."

And that seems to hold true for George and Virginia because she was a student of his when he taught biology at Atkins High School.

"She was a very ambitious little girl," George says. "And when she went away to college, I kept my eye on her pretty closely."

But keeping his eye on Virginia took up only half of his time. George says that in his day he was considered "a man about town. Several ladies threatened to commit suicide if I didn't marry them."

But Virginia says, "... when he met me, he met his match."

And a match the two of them are, except when it comes to politics.

Virginia is a Democrat and George is a Republican.

"I don't believe all blacks ought to be like cattle," George says of the reasons he decided to join the Republican Party. "Now all blacks vote the straight Democratic ticket and if a Republican gets in, they ain't obligated to serve us. The South is no longer a Solid South. You got to have a two-party system to compete. As it is now, some black people are voting Democratic and don't even know what they are voting for."

He adds that he predicts this election year will favor the Republicans.

He says: "From the courthouse to the White House, this is the best year to run on a Republican ticket."

George, who always seems to have historical stories at his fingertips, could be described as an African griot. He talks about his days as a young boy who had to leave Clarkton to find a school that he could attend eight instead of six months, his college days at Johnson C. Smith University, the difficulties he had trying to attend graduate school in 1931, his various jobs -- despite the fact that he has never filled out a job application -- and the rearing of his children.

Since his retirement days, George has slipped from the public eye and is more of a homebody. He even tries his hand these days at cooking and cleaning.

Although he won't admit to domestic chores, he slipped from the interview into the kitchen, where smells of dinner and the clanging sounds of pots and pans could be heard in the frontroom.

When asked who is the strongest of the two, Virginia says, "He's behind me." But George, not wanting her to get one over on him, adds, "And she's behind me."

Black On Sports From Page B3

Over in the NFC, one thing is certain. The NFC championship team will have a Notre Dame graduate as its starting quarterback barring injury. Both Joe Theismann and Joe Montana played their college ball at South Bend.

So, as the NFL playoffs near a close, both Seattle and Krieg find themselves in select company. Who would

have expected the Seahawks to be in the AFC championship game? Probably as many as there were who felt a Milton College graduate could compete with grads of Notre Dame and Stanford.

No, I'm not about to pick Seattle to win the AFC title. But you can believe I'll be pulling for the Seahawks.

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