

Late Reporting Contestants Want To Catch Up To Leaders

By Loretta Manago
Post Managing Editor

The word about the initial reporting of churchworkers Bessie Marshall of Pleasant Hill and Phillip Dunston must have gotten out to some of the other contestants of the sixth annual "Churchworker of the Year" contest. They have scrambled to catch up with the early leaders.

One church to make an impressive showing in its first week of reporting was Ebenezer Baptist Church. In the past years of Ebenezer's participation of the "CWOY" contest, Mattie Caldwell has been the candidate. This year, a change prevailed and a new contestant emerged. Nell Kennedy is the contestant this year and from the looks of things she plans to make her presence known. There is little doubt that although Mrs. Caldwell has taken a back seat in the contest she has passed her knowledge and strategies on to her replacement. With Ms. Kennedy's first report, she

has taken the lead in the medium category of churches. The only other contestant to report in the medium category is Joyce Forston of Greater Providence. From Mrs. Kennedy's report, Ms. Forston should be warned that her competition has a large lead over her. With four weeks left in the contest, though, there is plenty of time to catch up and assume the lead position.

True to his word Phillip Dunston of St. Luke is making the most commotion in the large church category. He took the lead last week by being the only large church to report and this week he retained the lead by bringing in more subscriptions than he did the week before. There is no time for relaxation though if Dunston plans to maintain his first place standing.

Gethsemane AME Zion and Gethsemane Baptist Church who also happens to have a male contestant are putting their bid in for

the top spot. In past contests each church has been strong contenders for the coveted prize. Last year Gethsemane AME Zion Church only missed the high mark by a few subscriptions. Another church to watch for is Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church. Last year it was Mayfield that walked away with the trip to the Bahamas. And there's a sneaking suspicion that with the first lady of the church, Robbie Diggs being the contestant, there is an additional drive

to win. So far, it is Dunston's wise strategy of reporting every week that has kept him on top. With only four weeks left in the contest, the work is cut out for those who haven't begun reporting. In the medium-large category, Doyle Reed reported and places second.

Where most of the action of the "CWOY" contest is happening is the small category. Bessie Marshall assumed the lead last week and maintained it by matching the number of sub-

scriptions she brought in this week. Even with the lead she has Mrs. Marshall can't afford to relax or slacken her pace at all.

Not far behind her is Mildred Caldwell of New Bethlehem. Mrs. Caldwell is no stranger to the Post's subscription drive. She and Mrs. Marshall have been in battle before. Mrs. Caldwell shows a determination to win. This week being her first week of reporting, already, Mrs. Caldwell has earned the second position in the small category.

Coming in third place of the small category is Sarah Nickerson of Noah's Ark. She may be a beginner, but her efforts have put her in third place. Behind her is Ann Crawford of New Zion Baptist Church. Elfrieda Witherspoon of Clement Memorial ranks fifth and the last position to be held in the small category is Etha Shannon of Clinton Chapel. What will happen in the next four weeks will be interesting to see. The excitement is on and the churchworkers know it.



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