

# Children's Church of America Rescues Juvenile Offenders

By GENE KINNEY

Oklahoma City (AP)—Five years ago they were Oklahoma City's forgotten children. Today they are leading better lives because a ragged urchin, many years ago, was dragged to Sunday school by a friend.

The children are the congregation of the non-denominational Children's Church of America, founded by the former ragged urchin, the Rev. L. M. Stevenson, "bicycle preacher."

They laughed when he first pedaled through the streets, coaxing youngsters to Sunday school and riding them there on the handle bars. He cut a ridiculous figure, he admits, but there's nothing funny about the change he has made in young lives.

More than 100 children come from a section known to police as a spawning bed for juvenile delinquents and criminals. "The Reverend" has graduated from his bicycle. For a time he used taxicabs, then a station wagon. Now he is buying a bus. He goes out after the members.

Stevenson, at first, was disconcerted that many children who promised on Saturday to be in church Sunday weren't there.

"More often than not," he says, "they were in jail."

He set out to get them out of jail and into church. When juvenile officers give up on a child in trouble, the minister takes them into his home if they have no other place to go.

His project is backed by the inter-denominational Wesleyan Youth, Inc., organized by Stevenson and supported by more than a thousand businessmen.

One of his "incorrigibles" at 16 had a criminal record that shocked even a hard-bitten judge. On Sundays you can find this erstwhile tough guy at the Children's Church teaching Sunday school.

Such cases have drawn national



Evangelism is important for James Leroy Fritchard, 12.

wide attention. District judges here swear by him and jurists elsewhere have written to learn his formula.

"I lay claim to no magic formula," he says. "But I do not deal with juvenile delinquents. I have never met any juvenile delinquents — only kids who need help."

His charges range from tots to 18-year-olds.

Each Sunday morning he delivers a sermon. That night it's the children's turn. Someone is assigned a topic to talk on, and must seek out quotations in scripture.

"It's something," Stevenson smiles proudly, "to watch a 12-year-old who used to spend his nights stealing, or smoking marijuana, lecturing his fellows on faith."

The member who brings the most visitors to Sunday school gets a prize — the choice of 50 cents or a Bible. These broke youngsters invariably choose the latter.

On Monday nights they all go roller skating and there are picnics and other outdoor festivities to keep the mischievous from backsliding.

"The children were sullen and unruly at first," he recalls, "and some parents were even hostile."

## Bishop to Visit



The Rt. Rev. Thomas Wright, bishop of the East Carolina Diocese, will be at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Morehead City, to conduct a service of confirmation at 4:30 p.m. Sunday. There will be evening prayer and the choir will present an anthem.

In Peru, flutes are made from the leg bones of llamas.



May 19—Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Hall and family spent the weekend at Norfolk with his sister, Mrs. Earl Lyle.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Lewis and daughter visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lewis Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Garner spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Willie Pelletier.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lewis and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Lewis spent a short while with Mr. and Mrs.

Joe Barnes Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Garner attended church at Holly Springs Saturday night.

The Rev. Carroll Hansley attended the Ministerial Meeting at Morehead City Monday morning.

Mrs. Linwood Hall visited Mrs. Paul Taylor Monday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne West were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Lewis Sunday.

Those from Sound View who attended church at Holly Springs Sunday night were Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Garner, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Page, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Pelletier, Mrs. Lera Ward, Mrs.

M. B. Taylor, and Mrs. Lina Garner, Douglas Elliott, Lois Taylor, Jean Farmer and Mrs. Millie Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Hall Jr. and son, Lester III, of Morehead City visited Mr. Hall's parents Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Parker of New Bern spent Sunday at their cottage here.

Miss Margaret Hall, who teaches at Deep Run, is home for the summer months.

Mr. and Mrs. Rebert Scarborough spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Paul Taylor.

Mrs. William Piner visited relatives here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hall visited his father Sunday.

Friends of Carlton Taylor will be glad to know that he has been

discharged from the Morehead City Hospital and is able to be out again.

Mr. J. B. Henderson spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. Curt Henderson.

Mrs. Randolph Garner celebrated her birthday Sunday.

Mrs. J. B. Henderson, Lois Taylor and Mrs. Larry Hall attended the show Sunday.

Mr. Randall Hall visited his father, Mr. D. J. Hall, Sunday.

Danville, Pa. (AP) — An Angler and his son pulled a hollow log from the creek for firewood. Heating splashing inside, the fishermen reached into the log and pulled out one 11-inch black bass and one 10-inch bass.

Now many remain to pray — literally. As many as 20 youngsters linger after regular services to gather at the altar for their own private prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENT . . .**

I hereby announce my candidacy for nomination for constable of Morehead Township, in the election May 29th, 1954. Your assistance will be appreciated.

Respectfully,  
**MURPHY JENKINS**

(Political Advertisement)

## KERR SCOTT . . .

has devoted his life to building . . . to building things and programs for service to all the people in their daily lives.

### North Carolina Needs This Builder in The United States Senate

This advertisement paid for by me, and any support you can give Kerr Scott I will greatly appreciate.

C. T. Cannon  
Newport, N. C.

## Carolina Power & Light Splits Common Stock

Stockholders of Carolina Power & Light Co. split the company's common stock, two for one, at their recent meeting.

The stock split will give holders of common stock one additional share for each share they hold at midnight May 28. About 30,000 shareholders now own 2,047,500 shares of common stock.

The stockholders voted to increase the authorized common stock from 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 shares. W. H. Weatherspoon, vice-president and general counsel, put the motion and explained that the additional shares will allow for "orderly growth in the future."

**President Explains**

Louis V. Sutton, president of CP&L, explained the need for such growth, pointing out that \$117,000,000 has been spent by CP&L for new construction since VJ Day. He said the company raised \$95,000,000 through the sale of securities during that period.

He said the company will spend about \$25,000,000 this year and an equal amount next year for new construction. It is installing a 150,000-horsepower generating unit near Wilmington for operation by mid-summer with another of like size due there within another year.

"We don't know how big our expansion program may become," Mr. Sutton said, pointing out that the \$50,000,000 construction program launched after VJ Day had grown into a \$200,000,000 project to end in 1957. "If the territory we serve continues to grow, as we are hoping it will, we must be able to raise the money to make improvements to meet the electrical needs of the people we serve."

**Directors Re-Elected**

The stockholders also voted to record in the minutes the State magazine citation of Sutton as "North Carolinian of 1953." They unanimously re-elected him to the board of directors, along with the

other old directors. They are as follows:

Hargrove Bellamy of Wilmington; James L. Coker of Hartsville, S. C.; Fulton B. Creech of Sumter, S. C.; E. Hervey Evans of Laurinburg; Robert M. Hanes of Winston-Salem; Verne Rhoades and C. S. Walters of Asheville, and Alexander Webb, R. B. Carpenter, J. C. Richert, Jr. H. B. Robinson, W. H. Weatherspoon and W. L. Yoder, all of Raleigh.

## Cancer Crusade To End May 31

The county cancer drive has been extended until May 31 by order of the State Cancer Society, Mrs. George Ball, commander of the Carteret County Cancer Crusade, announced Friday.

The state society extended the drive throughout the state for two additional weeks at the end of April and then extended it again until the end of May, Mrs. Ball explained.

The county society's executive board met yesterday with Dr. John Morris in Morehead City to discuss the progress of the campaign, and to map out policies for the cancer educational program fostered by the society.

Society treasurer, Mrs. George Eastman, reports few contributions received through the mail. Persons wishing to contribute to the drive may do so by sending their check or money order to "Cancer, care of Mrs. George Eastman, Postoffice, Morehead City, or Postoffice, Beaufort."

Containers placed in various places in each community of the county have not yet been collected, Mrs. Ball said.

THIS POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF RAY HIGHSMITH

# VOTE FOR RAY HIGHSMITH



YOUR ASSISTANCE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

I AM AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE 100% FOR THE CITIZENS OF CARTERET COUNTY

## FOR SHERIFF OF CARTERET COUNTY MAY 29th.

I am not running for this office backed by any so-called RING or GROUP.

I am not obligated to any one, except the CITIZENS of CARTERET COUNTY.

There are rumors that I have already appointed a Deputy. This statement is NOT true. When I am ELECTED I will appoint a Deputy, picked by you the CITIZENS OF CARTERET COUNTY.

I have had THREATS made to ME and to my FRIENDS. This will not cause me to withdraw. I disregard all threats.

I am running my campaign CLEAN, Honest, Fair and Square to all, for the safety and protection of all the citizens of Carteret County.

I have made no promise to any one except the citizens of Carteret County.

Honesty is not merely the BEST policy, it is the ONLY policy that should be tolerated in public office.

I am against any one who tries to use their power and influence to take advantage of any citizen anywhere. On this presentation I earnestly solicit your vote and support in the Primary, May 29th.

## LISTEN TO Judge J. Paul Frizzelle

ON WMBL

WED. MAY 26, 6:15 P.M.

THURS. MAY 27, 6:15 P.M.

Candidate for renomination for resident Judge of the 5th Judicial District.

(Paid for by Sam B. Underwood)