

1953

HIGH LIGHTS

PAST AND PRESENT

If we work on marble, it will perish
If on brass, time will efface it
If we rear temples, they will crumble into dust;
But, if we work upon immortal minds and imbue them
With the just fear of God and love of our fellowmen,
We engrave on those tablets
Something that will brighten all eternity.

HISTORY OF THE

SHREVEPORT

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

FOR

NEGROES

ARCHIVES

DEDICATION
In Loving Memory

I Light these candles in affectionate memory
Of those loving spirits who saw a vision
So bright, that it has glowed all these years
Through cities, towns, and villages of our Nation.
Lighting the way for us in our work
For the Welfare of children and youth
With sincere Thanksgiving we watch these candles
burn
And reverently dedicate ourselves anew
To the great cause to which your life was conse-
crated.
May these candles burn till the world may be freed
From all vengeance and hatred,—from all crime and
greed
Parents and Teachers working side by side,
In the holiest of missions, God be our guide.

Taken from Our National Family,
February, 1953

This booklet is dedicated to Mrs. A. B. Palmer
and to Mr. R. E. Brown who worked so diligently to
promote the welfare of children and youth in home,
church, school, and community.

To bring into closer relation, the home and
the school, that parents and teachers may co-
operate intelligently in the training of the child.

To secure for every child the highest advantage
in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.





Mrs. Lou Green Owens, 1st
Sec'y. of Mothers' Club, 1910.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR FOUNDERS

In 1910 at the Peabody Elementary School, a small group of mothers met and organized a Mother's Club, which was in keeping with the National organization. Serving as its first president and secretary, respectfully, were Mrs. Adole Murphy and Mrs. Lou Green Owens. Mr. Albert Stewart, who was serving as principal of Peabody School, worked with this organization very faithfully.



OBJECTS OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, Church, and community.

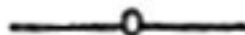
To raise the standards of home life.

To Secure Adequate laws for the care and protection

of children and youth.

To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the training of the child.

To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for every child the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education.



TO YOUR WHO READ THIS HISTORY

We hope that such background information as given in the historical sketch of the Colored Parents and Teachers will help you to appreciate the value of the information compiled in this booklet, as it represents the efforts of present members of the P. T. A. for Negroes in Shreveport; they sought out older persons in their communities and of others who, themselves, remember the first meeting of the P. T. A. group which was held at their schools. There are, doubtless, errors in some dates or names mentioned, for voluntary gathering of information was the only method used. You readers, will please bear in mind, therefore, that this information gives only the highlights in the history and is not to be considered as a complete account.

The arrangement of Material is alphabetical by names of schools.

Our thanks go to Miss Mary Amanda Blocker, Branch Library Asst. who aided in the typing of information about P. T. A. activities which serve as fillers to inspire the readers between highlights; to Mr. Jesse Colquit, English teacher in the Dan White School, who instructed the compiler in preparing manuscript for the printer. Our thanks,



Mrs. M. N. Ringgold, 1st Pres.,
National Congress of Colored
Parents and Teachers for the
State of La.

5
also, to Mrs. Eddie
Jones and the Pres-
idents of the PTA's
and teachers who
answered our tele-
phone calls for
more information,
time and time again!

Mrs. O. W. Emanuel,
in charge of com-
piling and prepar-
ing materials for
the printer.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF COLORED PARENTS AND TEACHERS

The fact that the emblem of the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers is the picture of the child, while that of the National congress of Parents and Teachers (White) is the Oak Tree, that symbolizes the life and growth of an organization that exist because of the child; is an indication that in both organizations, the welfare of the child comes first and that both organizations were created to serve the child.

How does it happen, then, since both associations have the same purpose, that two such organizations are operating instead of one? It is necessary to delve into history of both organizations to have the answer revealed. On Page 5 in the Feb. 1953, issue of OUR NATIONAL FAMILY, the official publication of the National Congress of Colored Parent and Teachers.

Mrs. Ora K. Glass, then National Chariman for Founders' Day, wrote a "Histroical Sketch of the Parent Teacher Organization, "From which following excerpts were taken:

...In 1896 Mrs. Alice McLellan Birney originated the idea of a Congress of Mothers in which the care and training of Children might be discussed to the end that fuller opportunities for child development be secured and parenthood be recognized as a profession second to none, in importance to humanity.

"with the cooperation and financial assistance of Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst, Mrs. Birney called a conference at the Nation's Capitol, which was attended by hundreds of delegates from every section of the United States. So great was the interest that in response to a general demand, a permanent organization was formed to serve as a bureau of information on child training and welfare. Hence, on February 17, 1897, the National Congress of Mothers came into being. Mrs. Grover Cleveland, President's wife, was hostess at a reception at the White House.

"This new phase of cooperation in education swept the country, and in 1908, the organization altered its name in recognition of the groups which began to include fathers and teachers. It became the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers, association. This title was cumbersome and in 1924 it became the national congress of Parents and Teachers. This organization irrespective of color, creed or condition, stood for all parenthood, childhood, homehood, even as it does today."

Although the organization recognized all children as its children, in principle; the ideal could not work in practice all over the United

States. Harry and Bonaro Overstreet, on pages 267 and 268 of their most readable study of the P. T. A. idea, WHERE CHILDREN COME FIRST, reminds us that "In many parts of the South, for example, state Constitutions or statutes provide that separate schools be set up for Negroes. Yet this group was and is our largest racial minority. What could be done for Negro children in places where there were dual school systems? For to serve only the White schools and leave the Colored schools to their fate would be disloyal to the principle of equal devotion to all children."

"First, the Congress established its local units in the White school systems. Then, whenever the members of these P. T. A.'s could work for child welfare in the Community as a whole, they were able to cross racial barriers. At the same time the early National Congress leaders sought another more certain and more direct means of reaching the Negro child and his parents and teachers. They encouraged colored women to form mothers' Clubs and Mothers' meetings were held by members of the National Association of Colored Women even before 1900. Mrs. Booker T. Washington was among this group of noted women seeking aid and enlightenment for the mothers of their race, and the National Congress of Mothers watched their progress with great interest. In 1908 these scattered activities were brought to a head when the National Congress asked Mrs. Arthur A. Birney to search out a Colored woman who would take the initiative in forming a National Congress of Colored Mothers."

The present organization known as the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers did not actually come into existence until 1926, for as Mrs. Glass continued:

...A call to organize such a group came on April 19, 1926, from Mrs. H. R. Butler, then

President of the Georgia Colored P. T. A.; Mrs. A. H. Reve, President of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers; Mrs. F. W. McAllester, Chairman of Extension of Parent-Teacher Association among colored people. The Georgia associations issued an invitation, in connection with the Sixth Annual Convention, to all associations in various states to send delegates to the meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, May 6, 7, 1926, for the purpose of forming a national colored association. The National Congress of Parents and Teachers held its Thirtieth Annual Convention in Atlanta at about the same time, and acted in an advisory capacity, so that the same standards and objectives would be assured in each organization.

"This meeting was held in Liberty Baptist Church Atlanta, Georgia, May 7, 1926. The name agreed upon was The National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers. Four States sent delegates: Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, these becoming the Charter States. Immediately following this meeting West Virginia, Kansas, Kentucky, were added, then came North Carolina and other states followed in rapid succession until there were twelve states in membership before the end of the year. Several associations in Maryland and Missouri joined the National Congress directly because there was no state organization.

"The Founder, Mrs. Henry Rutherford Butler, (Selena Sloan) of Atlanta, Georgia, was elected the first president and conducted the first annual convention held in the Pearl High School Nashville, Tennessee, July 25-27, 1927. Other officers of this election were: Vice President, Mrs. Mary W. Blocker, Jacksonville, Florida, who later became the second National President; second Vice President, Mrs. J. Graham Scott, Delaware, (Now deceased); third Vice president, Mrs. H. D. Davison, Montgomery, Alabama, who later became National President; Recording Secretary, Mrs.

S. Daniels, Georgia; Historian, Miss O. H. Lee, Georgia, Treasurer, Mrs. Willie Daniels, Georgia. Mrs. Fred Wessels, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, Chairman of Committee of Extension among Colored people, acted in an advisory capacity. Mrs. B. Bessie Baker, of Jacksonville, Florida, and Mrs. Hattie Reese, of Albany, Georgia, were among other diligent pioneer workers. At this time there were 300 units and 3000 members."

We may assume that Louisiana was included in the above account, but just for the record we quote Mrs. J. H. Stringer, in the Foreword, of "Milestones Along the Way", Volume II of the history of Louisiana Parent-Teacher Association, "The Louisiana Parent-Teacher Association was organized and became a branch of the National Congress in 1923." According to Mrs. Eddie Jones, President of the local P. T. A. Council for Negroes, Louisiana Colored Parent-Teacher Association, Organized and joined the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers in 1929, Mrs. Fannie C. Williams as representative who went to Washington, and Mrs. M. N. Ringgold, as first president for Louisiana. Information for the above historical sketch was gathered from the following sources, the first two, periodicals and the last two, books;

1. Louisiana Parent-Teacher Association, Milestones Along the Way, Volume II, 1949-1950, Louisiana Parent-Teacher Association.
2. National Congress of Colored Parents and teachers, Our National Family, Volume XV, February 1953, No. 2, National Congress of Colored Parent and Teachers, cl950.
3. National Congress of Parents and Teachers, The Parent-Teacher Organization, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, cl944.
4. Overstreet, Harry and Bonaro, Where Children Come First, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, cl949.

HISTORY OF THE SHREVEPORT COLORED P. T. A. COUNCIL

In keeping with the objects of the Parent-Teacher Organization and knowing that "In unity there is strength," the Shreveport, Council of Colored Parent-Teacher Assn. was organization on Oct. 1938, with Mrs. Ella Malry, President; Mrs. Christine Sims, Secretary; Mrs. M. M. Wallace, Treasurer; Mrs. C. E. Whitmore, state supervisor. The organization made slow progress because of its infancy and the lack of knowledge on the part of the local units; but because of its great worth to the community, the organization kept alive during the struggle by distributing a few clothes and shoes to needy children.

Early in the school year of 1939, the West Shreveport P. T. A., with Mrs. Mildred Dickson, President, realized the need among our children for food and clothing. A committee was appointed to look after the underprivileged children, with Mrs. Eddie Jones, chariman of Welfare. Mrs. Jones was working as a domestic servant for some fery fine white people, Mr. and Mrs. James Hamilton Macbeth, from Buffalo, New York. Because of her interest in Mrs. Jones work, Mrs. Macbeth would let Mrs. Jones make contacts over her phone, because Mrs. Jones did not have one at her home. The need for welfare became so great until Mrs. Macbeth decided to join Mrs. Jones and Dickson to help in this worthy cause.

West Shreveport P. T. A. decided to have a city-wide milk drive for the underprivileged children. Mrs. Macbeth sought Mayor Sam Caldwell to get permission but was told that the project could not be carried on, unless it included all colored schools of the City and would function under the auspices of the P. T. A. Council. Thus the council took life. All schools were notified and the workers were full of enthusiasm, ready to put over a worthwhile drive. A welfare committee

was organized, with Mrs. Macbeth as general chairman and composed of a teacher from each school. Namely:

Mrs. A. McCain of Central High
 Mrs. Edvige Wilson of West Shreveport
 Mrs. Vera Williams of Hollywood
 Mrs. J. C. Tunney of Brooks Street
 Mrs. L. King of Canaan Land
 Mrs. W. L. Emanuel Martin of Douglas Island
 Mrs. Dolzie Epps of Ingersoll
 Mrs. C. Whitmore of Stoner Hill
 Mrs. Martinez Green of Shady Grove
 Mrs. B. Coleman of Little Hope
 Mrs. Dulah Holmes Gray of Mt. Zion
 Mrs. I. Washington of Mooretown
 Mrs. L. Duncan of Valencia
 Mrs. Johnetta Smith of Milam St.

The first milk fund drive was organized as follows: Executive Chairman—Mrs. U. A. Warnsley and Mrs. Wesley Elder Treasurers of the Council Mrs. M. M. Wallace President of the Council—Mrs. Ella Malry State Vice President—Mrs. Mildred Dickson Secretary of the Council—Mrs. Christine Sims State Supervisor—Mrs. C. E. Whitmore Character and Spiritual Education Chairman—Mrs. Eddie Jones.

And as in most cases opposition arose. The Mayor informed us that the P. T. A. Council for white objected to our soliciting on the downtown streets and that we would be restricted to the Colored sections of town and the lower end of Texas Street or the levy. With our spirits dampened, we accepted, because we could not forget the hungry look on the faces of those children that needed food and milk.

Over \$700.00 was collected and 33,000 bottles of milk were distributed in the thirteen (13) Colored Schools of the City. There was not enough money to give milk for the entire school year; so

that a milk fund "benefit" show was given with a cast pupils from the schools, and \$356.30 was netted.

Our Negro doctors examined 5,500 children and treated them free for minor defects; several active cases of tuberculosis were found, responded to treatment and were cured.

Girls of the National Youth Administration, Mrs. Bertha Sims, supervisor, made 237 dresses, 89 shirts, 105 pairs of bloomers, and 67 layettes—thus closing a very successful school year.

In the school year of 1940-41, Mrs. Christine Sims was elected president and Miss Dolzie Epps, secretary. Then came World War II. We did not have a USO for Negro Boys, so that the P. T. A. put a desk in the Union Station and a volunteer worker would serve each day to help our boys. The most outstanding event was our joint Founders' Day Program with Dr. Felton G. Clark, President of Southern University and rated one of America's best speakers, as guest speaker. The Central Colored High School Auditorium was packed and a colorful reception followed.

It was the same year that a tornado struck the Valencia School community. Mrs. Duncan, along with several others, had a leading part in helping to rehabilitating the community.

In 1942-43, Mrs. Louise Russell was elected president, and Mrs. Eddie Jones, Vice-President. Mrs. Russell was elected again for the 1943-44 term, but was called to California, leaving the Vice-president to serve. There was still a great need for milk, therefore, Mrs. Jones conferred with Mayor Caldwell and he gave the go signal for another drive to get underway; this time the drive netted \$753.96.

Mrs. Edith Jones was elected president for the year 1944-45; Mrs. Elizabeth Bennett Foxell was secretary and Mrs. Lucile Duncan, Treasurer. The council limped along but survived during the post-war period. The welfare Committee, however, under the capable leadership of Mrs. A. B. Palmer, has done the unbelievable; children both in town and rural have been helped. Over \$450.00, plus food and clothing, have been given to needy families, some receiving as much as \$50.00 per family. Three children were given glasses; one has had an operation for cataract.

Knowing, as we have said, "In unity there is strength," the leaders working together, brought the Welfare Committee under the auspices of the council again and have launched a drive for clothes and funds to keep our children in school. The Welfare of the child is our first thought.

With the co-operation of the Caddo Parish School Board, principals, teachers, parents, and librarians of the Lakeside Branch Library, the P. T. A. has had a "face lifting". We now hold our regular meetings in the reading room of the Public Branch Library, as well as have launched study group meetings with Mrs. Otis W. Emanuel, branch manager, acting as study group chairman. Subscriptions to the National Parent Teacher and Our National Family have been given to the library by the Council to aid in the group discussions; a copy of There Children Come First by Harry Bonaro was also given to the library by the Council. In November, 1953, the library joined the council in observing American Education and National Book Weeks. Persons working on the Committee that made plans for the observance, placed exhibits in Negro Business places throughout the city and articles in the local Shreveport Sun to make the

public aware of these observances.

We sincerely believe that we have one of the best organized and most informed groups to be found in the State. Let us "March on 'till Victory is won".

"JIMMY"

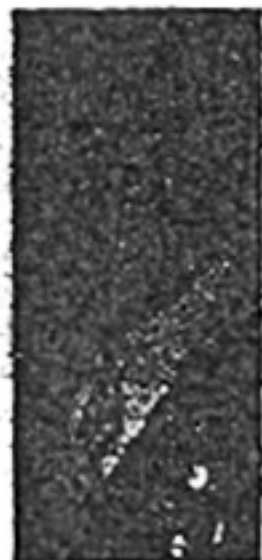
He's just ten years old.
He's made up of the following ingredients;
Noise, energy, imagination, curiosity, and hungry.
He's the Cuta little fellow down the street,
that spoiled imp next door, "or "MY SON,"..depending
on who you are.
He's something to be kept fed, clothed, healthy,
happy and out of trouble.
BUT.....
He's something else, too—
He's tomorrow.
He's the future we're fighting for.
He's part of the worlds most important generation.
Our generation will determine whether it was worth
doing.
He's one of the most important people in history.
So.....
Anyone who influences his life is also a mighty
important person.

Taken from Our National Family,

February, 1953



Mrs. A. E. Palmer, Chairman, Child Welfare.



Mr. R. E. Brown, 1st Principal,
Central Hi School.



Mrs. Ella Malry, 1st Pres.,
P.T.A. Council.



Mrs. Eddie Jones, Pres., P.T.A.
Council, Pres., 4th District of
P.T.A. for La., Vice Pres. of State
P.T.A.



Mrs. Bertha Sims, Parent Edu-
cation Chairman, State P. T. A.



Mrs. Eddie M. Travers,
Character & Spiritual Education
Chairman, P. T. A. Council.



Mrs. Mandura Brown, 1st Negro Visiting Teacher for Caddo Parish.



Mrs. Otis Emanuel, Study Group and First Librarian to serve in a Public Branch Library Building for Negroes.



Lakeside Branch Library, 2004 Milam St., on the Campus of the B. T. Washington Senior High School. The first separate building to house a public library collection for Negroes.

OFFICERS CP P. T. A. COUNCIL

- Art Chairman..... Mrs. Alice Beach
- Budget Chairman..... Mrs. Lula Mae Caston
- Character & Spiritual Education.....
2032 Wienstock St..... Mrs. Eddie Mae Travers
Phone 2-0058
- Child Labor..... Mrs. Della Lucine
227 St. Luke Street, Phone 2-1730
- Child Welfare..... Mrs. A. D. Palmer
835 Butler Street, Phone 3-6924
- Council President..... Mrs. Eddie Jones
1808 Murphy Street, Phone 3-3427
- Health & Radio..... Mrs. Lillie Lacy
1808 Anna Street, Phone 3-8908
- Hospitality..... Mrs. Lillie Brown
- Magazine..... Mrs. Josephine Patton
- Music..... Mrs. Gussie Pryor
1852 Ashton Street, Phone 2-2689
- Membership..... Mrs. Agnes
Simpkins
1943 Hollywood Ave., Phone 7-9374
- Publicity..... Mrs. Juanita Pierson
1665 Logan Street, Phone 3-4885
- Publicity Book..... Mrs. Alfie T. Crawford

Founder's Day..... Mrs. Gertrude Williams &
Mrs. Ladell Brown

Room Mothers.....Mrs. Martha Lee Higgins
2309 Roosevelt, Phone 5-7028

Student Aid..... Mrs. Elizabeth Powell
1804 Logan Street, Phone 2-2352

Thrift..... Mrs. Pinkie Roberson
& Mr. James Travers

Study Group & Library..... Mrs. Otis Emanuel

Secretary..... Mrs. Mary Jones

Corresponding Secretary..... Mrs. Thedora Donaldson

Treasurer..... Mrs. Francis Hodge



IN LOVING MEMORY

(original Poem by Frances L. Richmond)

I light these candles in affectionate memory
Of those loving spirits who saw a vision
So bright, that it has glowed all these years
Throughout cities, towns, and villages of our Nation,
Lighting the way for us in our work
For the welfare of all children and Youth
With sincere Thanksgiving we watch these candles burn
And reverently dedicate ourselves anew
To the great cause to which your life was consecrated
May these candles burn till the world may be freed
From all vengeance and hatred,—from all crime and greed
In the holiest of Missions, God be our guide.



Mr. R. H. Brown, Principal.
B. T. Washington Senior High
School



Mrs. Elizabeth Powell, Vice Pres.
B. T. Washington Senior Hi
School and Student Aid Chair-
man, P.T.A. Council.



Mrs. Josephine Patton
P. T. A. President

Infantile Paralysis, Inc.; at Tuskegee Institute.

As we flash back to 1923, we find that the Brook Street School organized a P. T. A. first of its kind in the city of Shreveport. Mrs. Palmer was elected the president, thus giving her the distinction of being the first president of the first P. T. A. for Colored in the City of Shreveport. As seventh president of the Central Colored High School P. T. A., she took office in May, 1940. For the sixteen years that she has been identified as a P. T. A. leader, remaining president of the senior High School which became Booker T. Washington in 1949. (Central Colored then became Central Jr. High School with a separate P. T. A. See elsewhere in this booklet). Her accomplishments include: a school cafeteria, sidewalks completed, scholarship to Emily Alexander, furniture for the lounging room sponsored Girl Scout Troop #61, a well-rounded nutrition program, and juvenile delinquency project. These accomplishments have been great because of the co-operative spirit of parents, principal and teachers of the school. In a special Founders' Day program, the historian, Mrs. Dolzie Epps, related this information from which this history was written, including these challenging words of poetry spoken to the Mothers, Principal R. H. Brown; Assistant Principal, A. T. Chambers; P. T. A. President, Mrs. Palmer; and faculty of the School:

If you think you are beaten, you are
If you think you dare not, you don't
If you'd like to win, but think you can't
It's almost a cinch you won't

If you think you'll lose, you've lost
For out in the world we find success begins with a
fellow's will
It's all in the State of Mind.
If you think you're outclassed, you are.

You've got to think high to rise,
 You've got to be sure of yourself before you can
 ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go to the stronger or
 faster man
 But sooner or later, the one who wins is the one
 who thinks he can.

First meeting of the Booker T. Washington senior High School P. T. A. for the school year 1949-1950, was held December 2, 1950. Mrs. Palmer Presided, Mrs. Deliah Abney was vice-president, and Mrs. Alberta Harris was secretary. The visual aid program and calendar for the year were outlined.

In 1951, Mrs. Palmer resigned and Mrs. Josephina Patton, then vice-president, was elected president in 1952, along with Mrs. Della Lucine as Vice-president, and Mrs. Mary Jones as secretary. Mrs. Patton, a church worker and civic leader, is still president who has the following achievements to her credit, a "Booker T. Washington Parent-Teacher Association Year Book" for 1952-1953, sponsor of Y-Teens, Leader of Girl Scout Troop #29, sponsor of Senior and Junior Tea.

PRESENT OFFICERS

Honorary President—Mrs. A. B. Palmer, 635 Butler St.
 Honorary Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Deliah Abner, Allen Ave.
 President—Mrs. Josephine Patton, 1723 Milan Street
 Aids to the President:

1st. Vice President—Mrs. Della Lucine, 227 St. Luke
 Street
 2nd Vice President—Mrs. Elizabeth Bennett, 1804
 Logan Street

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Mary Jones, 207 Schumpert Street

Assistant Secretary—Mrs. Devella Jones, 1938 Pol- and Street

Treasurer—Mrs. Eddie Mae Travers, 2032 Wainstock St.

Chaplain—Mrs. Laura R. Taylor, 2053 Ashton Street.

Committee Chairman:

Hospitality—Mrs. Eugenia Tyous, 2023½ Talbot Street

Membership—Miss Mae Etta Scott

Art—Miss Martha Duckett, 1538 Christian Street

Character & Spiritual Education—Mrs. Ella W.

Nelson 1460 W. 58th. Street

Citizenship—Mrs. Herman Selber, 1904 Milam Street

Program—Mrs. Corine Taylor, 1740 Alston Street

American Education Week—Mr. Frank R. Rayson, 1500 Acorn Street.

Telephone—Mrs. Ruby Teague, 2048 Murphy Street

Child Welfare—Mrs. Eddie Jones, 1802 Murphy Street

Parent Education—Mrs. Ruth Lincoln, 2855 Abbie St.

Scrap Book & Founders' Day—Miss Dolzie C. Epps
1945 Ford Street

Magazine—Mrs. Sadie Lee Barrett, 1516 W. 58th St.

Health—Mrs. Henrietta Sarter, 1318 Allen Avenue

Recruiting—Mrs. Mandura Brown 3103 Ashton Street

Publicity—Mrs. Elisabeth Bennett, 1804 Logan Street.

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THE CHILD SPEAKS TO ITS PARENTS:

When you tell me to do this and that, tell me why.
Let me feel that I am wanted, that I am important
to you.

Include me in the family plans when you can.
Be friendly and loyal to me, that I may know how
to be the same to others.

Prove to me that a promise is a promise.
Please don't keep me your baby when I want to
feel grown up.



Mrs. Irma Green Jackson, Principal of Brooks Street School



Mrs. Theodora Donaldson, Pres.,
P.T.A.



Mrs. Pinkie Robinson, Vice
Pres., P.T.A.

BROOKS STREET SCHOOL

After the erection of Brooks Street School on 1115 Brooks Street, Professor R. P. Player and Mrs. A. B. Palmer organized the first P. T. A. at the school, in 1923. The officers were as follows: President, Mrs. A. B. Palmer; Secretary, Mrs. Pearlina Player; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Mary Dougherty; Treasurer, Mrs. Marie Fuller. The first project undertaken by the group was the purchase of a piano. Good attendance and increased interest simplified the achievement of this project.

Mrs. Palmer presided until 1930. During the succeeding years, insufficient co-operation among parents and teachers temporarily handicapped the unit. In 1945, Mrs. Nellie McIssac became president. Other officers included Mrs. Flossie Neely, Secretary, Mrs. Addie M. Williams,

Treasurer. The project they worked on was the purchasing of basketball uniforms.

Having realized the constant need for an organized P. T. A., the present unit was begun under the principalship of Mrs. Erma G. Jackson, who discussed beautifully subjects of great interest to the group, making the first meeting a total success. Meeting date was decided as the second Tuesday of each Month. Room mothers have been selected with the hope that they would increase the interest of others, all parents were immediately notified of the P. T. A. while explaining the membership duties and dues to be assessed, the importance of regular attendance was specifically stressed. Of the 200 parents, only 50 are pledged members. The project undertaken by the group was the purchase of a movie projector for the school.

Again, obstacles have appeared in the form of apparent lack of interest among the parents and hindered the rapid progress it was hoped would be made. However, working with the mothers' March on Folio was a pleasant, profitable experience for the group; Eighty dollars and thirty-eight (\$80.38) comprised the total contributions.

The future outlook, as expressed by the president; "As a mother with great confidence in the P. T. A., I believe that interested parents will agree that only through the help of God and constructive co-operation of parents and teachers will we understand and appreciate the connection between the home and school. I also feel that despite many disappointments, our unit another year will strengthen and realize the importance of a better understanding of our children and the school."

The following officers are presently led by perhaps one of the youngest P. T. A. Presidents; Mrs. Theodore Donaldson; Mrs. Pinkie Roberson, Vice-President; Mrs. Inogene Sapp, Secretary; Mrs. Lenora Frazier, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Mary L. Hart, Treasurer; Mrs. Mary Lambkin, Chaplain; Mrs. Geneva Crockran and Mrs. Martees Cartwright, Reporter.

The Shreveport Sun, January 2, 1954, carried the following articles on page three concerning another project of the present P. T. A.

"Parent-Teacher Association presents "Electric Phonograph" to Brooks Street School.

The Parent-Teacher Association of Brook Street School presented to the school an electric Phonograph. This is the beginning of many projects planned to promote visual aid in the school.

Mrs. Pinkie Robinson (blind) vice-president of the P. T. A., won first prize at the L. E. A. Convention for her outstanding exhibit. The teachers were presented gifts and boxes of cookies made by the P. T. A. committee. Mrs. Theodora Donaldson, President; Mrs. Pinkie Robinson, Vice-President; Mrs. Mary Hart, Treasurer,

A FOUNDERS DAY QUIZ

- I. What is the significance of Founders Day?
 - A. This day marks the birthday of organized Parent-Teacher work, which occurred in Washington, D. C. February 17, 1897
-



Mrs. Gertrude Williams, Pres.,
Canaan Land P.T.A.

CANAAN LAND SCHOOL

The extent to which P. T. A. members who gathered material for this booklet, went in order to get as factual an account as possible, is exemplified in the fact that the following beautifully written history was sent to the P. T. A. by Mrs. Beatrice Moore Johnson, 502 South Pasadena Avenue, Pasadena, California:

The Canaan Land Elementary School, 2409 Carrie Avenue, (formerly known as the Turner Chapel School) had its beginning in a little church located in what was then known as Stringfellow's Quarter, just off the Greenwood Road, behind Stringfellow's feed barn.

The founder of the school was Mr. Harry Duncan, a barber in that community, who saw an urgent need of a school for children--too small and the distance too far for them to attend what was then

the West End School at the foot of Laurel Street, just West of the K. C. S. viaduct. The Turner Chapel School opened in the fall of 1919, with Miss Beatrice Moore (Mrs. Beatrice Moore Johnson) as its first teacher.

One year later, in the fall of 1920, the need for help and better understanding brought into existence the first P. T. A. A meeting of interested school patrons and friends was held in the Church. At this meeting, Mrs. Betty Mayweather was elected president. Those attending this meeting and who later became loyal, active members were Mr. Harry Duncan, Mrs. Ida Young, Mrs. Mary Morris, Mrs. Mary Lewis, Mrs. Maggie Collins and Miss Beatrice Moore.

The school was overcrowded with children of grades one through five, and the problems were equal to the conditions. The group of faithful P. T. A. workers struggled as best they could with a determination to provide some help in supplying the needs of their new school. After three years of pleading and earnest effort, this group of workers were successful in convincing the late Superintendent C. E. Byrd of a real need for a school in this community. The site was donated by the Holly Realty Company, which was opening the Canaan Land Subdivision. In September, 1923, the Turner Chapel School opened in the present location under the name Canaan Land Elementary School, with Mrs. Carrie McPherson Brown (deceased 1939) as the first principal. Other members of the faculty were Mrs. Lillian Thomas King, Mrs. Beatrice Moore Johnson and the late Mrs. Sweetie Williams. Later in the same year, conditions warranted the addition of two other teachers to the faculty, Mrs. Emerlyn F. Williams Brown and Mrs. Mamie L. Graham.

The loyal group of P. T. A. workers were

vandals had broken down and ruined the tops of the trees. These vandals were a menace to the community as well as the school.

At the death of Mrs. Carrie Mc Pherson Brown in the spring of 1939, the faculty had grown to seven members: Mrs. Ruth R. Lawson was added to replace Mrs. Clara V. Williams upon her resignation.

Under the new Principal, Mrs. Zella Mae Thomas, gardening and handicraft were stressed. These activities were profitable and fresh vegetables were supplied to aid in feeding the underprivileged pupils.

Upon the resignation of Mrs. Thomas, another capable and worthy principal was appointed to Canaan Land School, Mrs. Annie Canfield Pullim. The P. T. A. at this time had suffered another "lag" and reorganization was in order. Upon the resignation of Mrs. Broussard, Mrs. Irene North was elected and served well for three or four years. Through the co-operative efforts of the school and the P. T. A., many improvements in facilities and a program for the development of better citizens have resulted. Because of poor health Mrs. North resigned and Mrs. Gertrude Williams our present president was elected.

In spite of the setbacks and failures we (the P. T. A.) have weathered the storm and now enjoy a brighter outlook for the future. As a retired teacher of the Canaan Land School, I can truthfully say some of my happiest years were spent with the children in the classrooms of dear old Canaan Land and by co-operating with each principal and putting the child first, I feel a gratification in knowing that I had a small part in making the school what it is today. I predict that under the leadership of Mrs. Annie M. Pullim, Canaan Land School and P.T.A. will one day stand as a monument - and a beacon light for the youth of our community and region.

still functioning to the best of their ability and interest, but with the new school set-up, the principal saw the need of reorganizing the group. In the new organization, the officers were: Mrs. Ella Malry President; Mrs. Beatrice Moore Johnsch, Secretary; Miss Sweetie Williams, treasurer; Mrs. Mary Lewis, Chaplain. Other members were: Mrs. Janie Hutchinson, Mrs. Mary Morris, Mrs. Ida Young (deceased), Mrs. Margaret Hollins, Mrs. Annie Miller Mrs. Hattie Cooper (deceased), Mrs. Richard Cooper, Mrs. Eugenia Hutchinson, Mrs. O. C. Nervis, and a few other loyal and faithful workers. Under the leadership of these officers the Canaan Land P. T. A. grew strong and served well in spite of obstacles, disappointments and failures. (These good men and women worked together under the supervision of Mrs. O. C. Nervis, Mrs. Eugenia Hutchinson and Mrs. Hattie Cooper and provided clothing for many of the underprivileged.) Later a milk drive was held in the city and this same group did its share in selling tags to furnish milk for the underprivileged. An interest to always be remembered by the community was the co-operation and unity that prevailed within the group. Every year a representative was sent to the State Teachers and Parents-and-Teachers Association to bring back ideas that might help further their cause.

After the resignation of Mrs. Malry, Mrs. Verda Broussard was elected president. Many achievements were made under both presidents. Among some of them were the the purchasing of playgrounds equipment-slides, basketballs, volley balls baseballs; for further physical development, dumbbells, jumping ropes to suit the various age group; the purchasing of a piano and a fully equipped library. The campus was beautified. The disappointments and failures were too numerous to mention; but the most discouraging incident of all was to arrive the morning after a grand arbor Day celebration the day before, and find that young

vandals had broken down and ruined the tops of the trees. These vandals were a menace to the community as well as the school.

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With twenty-six teachers, he is still on the job, as he was years ago, doing all the good he can in the many ways that he can.

Turning to the work of an organization created for better understanding of children and a closer relation between the home and the school, we find that the P. T. A. was organized in 1927, by a group of women, including a Mrs. Louise Rankins, who saw the need of the boys and girls in her community.

Tis sad to mention, but some of these have passed on to the great beyond, leaving the work that is still being carried on, in the hands of one time president, Mrs. Mildred Dickson, and other who have followed her. For example Mrs. Trilly Lockett Green led these P. T. A. members; Mrs. Lucy Smith, Mrs. Pinkie Williams, Mrs. Gussie Pryor, Mrs. M. L. Collins, Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. G. L. Hall, Mrs. Jane Bush, and Mrs. Beulah Dubois, and others in carrying on the Rankins' plan for the establishment of a cafeteria, lights on the West side of the school, and sidewalks leading from the school.

Things had sometimes looked very dull, but the women still worked on towards the goal of a cafeteria, bringing cooked food from their kitchen every day, and serving it to many a needy child. Milk was carried to the children in room three, by Mrs. McKeetham. Mrs. E. Jones, a parent, called on White friends, Mrs. and Miss Macbeth,



Mr. E. B. Miller, Prin., Central
Junior High School.



Mrs. Mary Jones, Pres., Central
Junior Hi School P.T.A.



Mrs. Juanita Pierson, Vice
Pres.

elected treasurer.

This group was organized to form a better understanding among parents, teachers and students and to alleviate such conditions and situations considered as deterrents to the successful growth and development of children and youth. Membership and attendance has grown with the years and meetings have proven to be of interest developing such topics as "Growth Toward Maturity" by Mrs. Mary Jones, "Characteristics of Adolescence" by Mrs. Dorothy James, "Guidance Through the Years" by Mrs. Juanita Pierson.

Some very tangible work has been done through this organization such as supplying needs of some of the less fortunate students of the school, making a sizeable contribution toward the purchase of Choir robes and band uniforms, purchasing of a mimeograph machine which is now in use each day in the registrar's office, and furnishing supplies and equipment for a first aid room for the school.

This organization is a cooperating body with the P. T. A. Council, District, State, and National Parent-Teacher Associations, and other related agencies. Delegates are sent annually to these meetings.

Annual projects and observances are: Annual membership drive, a school carnival each year in the fall, and the observance of Founder's Day.

Its present Officers are as follows:

Mrs. Mary Jones, President
Mrs. Juanita Pierson, Vice-President
Mrs. Annie C. Murray, Secretary
Mrs. Dorothy James, Assist. Sec'y
Mrs. Bertha Sims, Treasurer
Mrs. Janie Meyers, Chaplain

Mr. E. Brannum Miller, Principal

Look to this day.

For it is life, the very life of life
In its brief course lie all the verities and
realities of your existence

The Bliss of Growth,
The Glory of Action,
The Splendor of Beauty,....

For Yesterday is already a dream
and tomorrow is only a vision.

But today, well lived,
Makes every yesterday a dream of happiness,
and of every tomorrow a vision of hope.

Look, therefore, to this day.
Such is the Salutation of the Dawn

Taken from Our National Family,

February 1953



Mrs. Frances Hodge,
President of P. T. A. Douglas
Island School



Mrs. Willie Emanuel Martin,
Teacher, Douglas Island, Mem-
ber of Original Welfare Com-
mittee, P. T. A. Council



Mr. Herschel Crowe, Principal,
Douglas Island School

DOUGLAS ISLAND

The Douglas Island School P. T. A. was organized in 1933 under the auspices of the late L. B. Moore, as principal, and Mrs. Willie Emanuel Martin, as teacher. The organization has had three very competent and enthusiastic presidents, namely; Mrs. Mamie Dawson, Mrs. Margaret Martin, and Mrs. Frances Hodge. These presidents, with the co-operation of the parents and teachers have made great progress in this community, in directing the youths to higher ideals.

During the depression years, the P. T. A. worked with other civic agencies in helping underprivileged children, by furnishing them with milk, shoes, clothing and even playground equipment. The P. T. A. worked co-operatively with the P. T. A. Council under the leadership of Mrs. McBeth, Mrs. Eddie Jones and Mrs. C. Sims, to inaugurate benefit shows that were given to help the needy children.

In a special milk drive, held on street corners and elsewhere, Ruth Bridges and Janie Clark, two pupils gave recitations on a speaking contest, which won first prize for the school. Later weiner roasts and other entertainments were given and the money raised therefrom was contributed to children in the community.

Principal H. J. Crowe and present faculty of Douglas Island School feel elated over the past record of the P. T. A. as well as the work being done by the present organization with its present officers: Mrs. Frances Hodge, President.

"CHILDREN WHO GROW UP
WITH BOOKS LEAVE FOOT-
PRINTS IN THE SANDS OF TIME."



Mrs. Lucy H. Johnson, Principal.



Mrs. Ladell Brown, Pres. Hollywood School P.T.A.

THE HOLLYWOOD SCHOOL

Hollywood School was organized in 1885. At that time it was called Fairfield School, and was located near Linwood Avenue.

The following principals taught from 1885 to 1926:

Mr. Charley Perkins
Mr. Robert Berry
Mrs. E. W. D. Carter
Mr. Terry White
Mrs. Maggie Patterson
Mr. L. E. Green
Mrs. Sally Thompson
Mrs. Gracie Williams
Mrs. Alice Davis
Mrs. Fannie Clark
Mrs. Lucille Blount
Mrs. Ida Goins

On October 18, 1926, Mrs. Lucy H. Johnson became principal. The school has made rapid progress under her successful supervision and guidance.

Mrs. Johnson lives in the Community, and believes, that it is better not just to stop with a few accomplishments; but in order to grow, it is better to work for greater achievements that make for a bigger and better school and community.

In 1933, the name of the school was changed from Fairfield to Hollywood. The present location is 5828 Third Street.

The Hollywood School P. T. A. was first organized in the year 1926, under the careful supervision of Mrs. Johnson and the leadership of Mrs. Clydie Martinez, the first P. T. A. president. It has been an active organization since that time.

The following persons have served as P. T. A. presidents, from 1926 to the present year:

Mrs. Mamie Allen
Mrs. Alice Cheatham
Mrs. Hattie Harris
Mrs. Nona P. Clark

Mrs. Lula Caston, who was elected president for the year of 1952-53, was a tireless worker, and a very interested mother in the welfare of the school and community. The first meeting of the year consisted of one hundred two (102) parents and teachers of the Hollywood Community.

Other officers for the year are:

Mrs. Agnes Simpkins, Vice President
Mrs. Ladell Brown, Second Vice President
(Now president at the time of this writing)

Mrs. Willie Mae Harrell, Secretary
 Mrs. Rosa Lee Perry, Corresponding Secretary
 Mrs. Mary Gaines Smith, Treasurer
 Mrs. Ruth Watts, Chaplain
 Mrs. Erven Taylor, Reporter

All of the meetings, entertainments, such as
 gumbo suppers and carnival and special programs
 this year have been a success; and with the co-
 operation and guidance of the principal, Mrs. Lucy
 H. Johnson, the organization can boast of the sum
 of \$212.00 now in the P. T. A. treasury.



TO MAKE GREAT SCHOOLS

We need great buildings for great schools,
 Walls that will stand till time is old,
 Made of such stone, laid with such tools,
 That every sill and beam will hold, and
 science here must bring her best,
 Her newest knowledge, latest love;
 But still they may not stand the test—
 We need great souls to make great schools,
 Or all our walls were laid in vain.
 Youth, asks for reasons, not for rules;
 There's more than Latin to make plain.
 The Road of life is here to tread—
 We need great souls to lead youth one.
 We need great hearts to make great souls,
 Who speak the truth with voice and pen,
 Not doubting cynics, shouting fools,
 But noble men and clean women.
 We must have teachers who will teach,
 But law and justice, right, not rules.
 However high our roofs may reach,
 We need great souls to make great schools.



R. Lawson, Principal,
School.



Mrs. Little Brown, Pres. P.T.A.

INGERSOLL SCHOOL

Mrs. H. S. Davis was principal of Ingersoll when the first P. T. A. was organized in . She called a meeting in order to lecture parents on the subject, "How to dress your teenage daughter." The outcome of this meeting was the organization of the Ingersoll P. T. A. with Mrs. Bernice Gaines as president. The following is a list of all of the presidents, the projects that they undertook, and the principal; and which the presidents served:

With Mrs. H. S. Davis, principal; and Mrs. Bernice Gaines, president; the group was successful in building a cafeteria. Mrs. Rosa Tyler, president, and members installed drinking fountains along the sidewalks. Mrs. Bernice Johnson, president, and the group supplied the cafeteria with food and rest rooms for the school buildings.

By the time that the school had grown from a four-teacher school to an eighteen-teacher school with seven grades, Mrs. Marie Hopkins was made president. Her group gave an annual banquet for the seventh grade and purchased a pressure cooker. The next president, Mrs. Hattie Gilliam led the P. T. A. into buying utensils for the cafeteria. President, Mrs. Ruby Johnson, increased and improved the social activities. When Mrs. Sallie Scott served as president, the group purchased steam tables and had the campus oiled.

With Mrs. L. J. Lee as principal, Mrs. Sallie Scott continued as president of the P. T. A. and supervised the planting of trees; she also influenced the members to buy a piano.

When Mr. J. A. Gaudin was principal, the P. T. A. president; Mrs. Scott and the group had electric light; telephone, and library services brought to the school. Under Mrs. Ruth R. Larson, present principal, Mrs. Scott and the members perfected a project to buy a first aid kit. Mrs. Lillie Brown present P. T. A. President, and members have purchased another first aid kit, a set of World Book Encyclopedias playground equipment, Rex-O-Graph basketball uniforms, moving picture machine, Piano.

The P. T. A. also had an additional room set up for audio-visual aids, sponsored a 4-H Club and The Girl Scouts sending delegates to camp and conferences; and organized a room mothers' Club.

At present, there are 200 members enrolled in the P. T. A. and nineteen (19) teachers and the principal at Ingersoll School.

THE SEEKERS

Am I wise enough to teach him,
 Yet to free his destiny?
 Am I strong enough to help, and yet refrain
 From imprinting all the worries of my own uncertainty?
 And the doubts that life has caused me to attain?

Am I equipped to guide a child's
 Eager Personality,
 To expand into a rich and goodly life?
 Can I point to far horizons of a world democracy,
 When on every side stand hoses of hate and strife?

May I say: Dear child, in frankness,
 Neither you nor I are sure
 Which direction is a right of constant sign;
 But we'll travel on together
 knowing each is insecure,
 And thus share a vast companionship of mind.

That I'll never know the answer
 Which I need to chart his ways
 Nor will all the ones I furnish turn aside,
 By one hairs breadth, a happening of a single
 pregnant day,
 But they may create strong hearts to breast the tide.

And that though I am his teacher,
 We are comrades on the march
 Toward the distant goal of knowledge
 Drawing near; day by day, we'll pass withwinder
 through
 each bright and shining arch,
 Beyond which tomorrow's pattern may appear.

Taken from Our National Family
 January-February, 1953



Mr. Oliver H. Brown, Principal,
Little Hope School.

LITTLE HOPE SCHOOL

Little Hope School P. T. A. was organized in 1928, on 72nd. Street, in the block of land donated by Mrs. Cora Holland. Mesdames Nettie F. Williams Nervie Ogilvie, Mahalia Booth, Addie McCray, Katie McKnight, Mamie Davis, Jannie Johnson and Pick Adams Attended the first meeting; the following officers were elected; Mrs. Mattie F. Williams as president, Mrs. Mahalia Booth, as Secretary, and Mrs. Cora Holland, supervisor, and Mrs. Nettie Hutchinson, as principal of the school.

The good women saw the need for improvements around the school. Water stood around the school and kept the children from attending when it rained; the workers had dirt hauled to make the campus adequate for the children to walk and play on, and had shrubbery planted to bring about a homey atmosphere.

Other activities which brought funds to be used by the group included the selling of fish and sponsoring gumbo suppers. Past presidents include Mrs. Nervie Ogilvie, Mrs. C. C. Carter, and Mrs. Minnie Cherry.

Attendance was, to begin with, large and interest wained to a faithful few. Under the present staff of officers, a victrola was paid for and given to the second grade room, taught by Mrs. Oma Thomas. The Gray-Y-Club was helped by the P. T. A. The cafeteria was cleaned and curtains were put up, as well as some of the rooms used for classes.

Present Officers are:

Supervisor, Mr. Columbus Palmer
President, Mrs. M. A. Hill (She is serving her 3rd.
term)

First Vice-President, Mr. J. J. Landers;
Secretary, Mrs. Adel Harris;
Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Katie Mosely;
Treasurer, Mrs. Maggie Johnson;
Chaplain, Mrs. Beulah Palmer;
Reporter, Mrs. Edith Toussiant;
Principal, Mr. Oliver H. Brown

A mother builded a temple
With loving and infinite care
Laying each stone with patience
Planning each arch with prayer.
And day after day she builded
None knew of the wondrous plan,
For the temple the mother builded
Was unseen by the eyes of man.



Mr. Albert Davis, Principal



Mrs. Alice Beach, Pres., P. T. A.

MILAM STREET

The Milam Street Parent Teachers Association was organized October 20, 1940 with Mrs. Genevieve Tisby as president, who served under great odds as the school was relatively new and regular students were attending for the first time. The school was originally designed to teach out of school youth and adults trade subjects.

Since this was the first year that regular Junior High School pupils attended the Milam Street Trade School, as it was called then, the Junior class had the responsibility of sponsoring the Junior-Senior Banquet. Because of opposition toward the school instilled in the public through unfavorable publicity, the school administration knew that cooperation between the school and the community was necessary to successfully operate the school. This gave rise to the organization of the P. T. A.

In September 1943 after the death of the first President, Mrs. Alice Beach became the president with the following officers assisting her: Mrs. I. B. Duboise, Vice President; Mrs. Marcel Smith, Secretary Mrs. Louise Russell Chaplain; Mrs. Johnetta Bradford Smith, Treasurer; and Mrs. Maribel Belton Boyd, chairman of the program committee other Officers who served were: Mrs. Emerlyon Williams Brown and Mrs. Myrtis Trammel as secretary and Mrs. Lizzie Knowles as vice-President.

The first great purpose of the P. T. A. was to create favorable sentiment for the school among the pupils and the public. This required several years since during the first year the students and some of the faculty members did not accept the school's program unanimously.

After a few years through the assistance of the P. T. A. the school was able to sell its program to the pupils and faculty and eventually to the public.

On Sunday February 20, 1944, the P. T. A. held its first Founders Day Program at which time a picture of the late Superintendent E. Weldon Jones was unveiled by Miss Leola Thomas, then a student in the tenth grade. During this program which was presided over by James S. Holt, III, also a student the faculty was presented corsages by the P. T. A. and the first students of the school were honored. At the close of the meeting the principal, Mr. Albert Gus Davis was presented a Mimosa tree which was planted on the campus the following day.

In 1945 the P. T. A. brought a set of Encyclopedias as the school did not have a set. This set was used to a great advantage until it was destroyed by fire when the school burned. Also during the Founders Day Program on March 17, 1945 the students of the Milam Street School began a rally for the construction of a

gymnasium for students of Shreveport. At this rally every child in the school contributed, at least one dollar, and more than three hundred dollars were raised. Before the end of school they had raised twelve hundred dollars. This was the beginning of what is now Booker Washington High School.

During the years the P. T. A. assisted in buying uniforms for the basket ball teams until funds for uniforms were provided in 1946. They also purchased some of the robes for the choir since the school became a Junior High School.

It has always been the policy of the P. T. A. of Milan Street to combat Juvenile delinquency and poor school attendance. The President with her committee has succeeded in having some places closed that were contributing to the delinquency of young people.

During the years large numbers have not attended the meetings but those who have attended have worked diligently to accomplish the objectives of the P. T. A.

Alice Beach, President
Myrtis Tremble, Secretary
Albert G. Davis, Principal

RESOLUTIONS

You probably have made your New Year Resolutions, but I will repay you to go over these and see if you can add to the ones you already have resolved to keep. If perchance you may have charged to your account a few broken resolutions, be not discouraged. With the saying of yesteryear "Try, Try Again."



Mr. H. C. Martin, Principal
Mooretown School



Mrs. Rosie Dixon
One of the Leaders of First
Mooretown School P. T. A.



Mrs. Helen Toney, Pres.
Mooretown P. T. A.



Mrs. Gustavia Lee,
Secretary, P. T. A.



Mrs. Etherlene Herndon,
Former Pres., P. T. A.
Mooretown School



Mrs. Catherine French, Chm.
Program Comm., Teacher,



Mrs. Naomi Presley, Teacher
Mooretown School



Mrs. Johnetta Harrison, Teach
Mooretown School

HISTORY OF MOORETOWN SCHOOL P. T. A.



Mrs. Clara V. Peters,
Treasurer.

The Mooretown Elementary School is located at 4050 Flora Avenue, a short distance outside the Southwestern rim of the city limits. The School has always been here in this spot. In the past yrs., there weren't any Streets named or numbered.

Mr. G. G. Moore purchased about fifteen (15) acres of land and sold it in lots to people for the purpose of building private homes. Mr. Moore deeded the Caddo Parish School Board two (2) lots

to build a public school, however the school board did not build a school at that time. The citizens purchased enough lumber to build a two-room frame building. This was known as a hall, used for a recreation center as well as a place to teach school.

As the community began to grow and the citizens thought that the name of the hall should bear another name, they decided to name it after Mr. G. G. Moore. This is how the Mooretown School got it's name. The first P. T. A. was organized in 1925 under the principal ship of H. C. Martin. Mrs. Rosa Dixon and Mrs. Clara V. Peters. At that time it was known as the "Mothers and Teachers Club". The names of persons attending the Mothers and Teachers Club at that time are as follows:

Mrs. Lucy Watts
Mrs. Alice Bennett
Mrs. Mattie Jackson
Mrs. Lucindia Battle

Mrs. Minnie Patterson
 Mrs. Mahalia Sims
 Mrs. Cage

INCIDENTS THAT PROMOTED THE MOTHERS & TEACHERS CLUB:

Mrs. Rosa Dixon left this community for a short time and went to live in Dallas, Texas. There she visited the school that two of her children were attending. Observing how the parents and teachers worked together to help promote the welfare of their school and community, Mrs. Dixon moved back to Mooretown bringing this idea with her. With the cooperation of principal Martin and the parents they were successful in organizing the Mooretown School P. T. A.. The first meeting was not a very successful meeting, many parents did not seem to realize the value of such an organization. With the continued cooperation of principal Martin and his workable plans he brought forth, the community began to awaken and take on a new life. In past years the average membership was only about five person. Some of the major aims and objectives, as recommended by principal Martin, were to raise funds to equip the school with city water, gas & lights for the citizens in the community. Before this was accomplished drinking water was drawn from an open well, and wood was used for making fire.

The school has grown from a one-teacher school to a faculty of thirteen (13) classroom teachers, secretary, principal, and supervisor, two cafeteria workers, and one maid. When this school was first organized it had a membership of only 25 or 30 children. At present we have a membership of 840 students. The school has grown so large that the use of the church in the community had to be secured and four teachers are working there. In the past years the P. T. A. has always taken an active part in May Day or field Day programs and

25

also raised vegetables to sell in order to secure funds to provide the school with some of its urgent needs.

The present officers and members are as follows:

Mrs. Helen Tenney, President
Mrs. Janie Jackson, Vice-President
Mrs. Gustavia Lee, Secretary
Mrs. Lesse D. Bryant, Assist. Secretary
Mrs. Clara V. Peters, Treasurer
Mrs. Secreacy Allen, Chaplain
Mrs. Ester Seamster
Mrs. Susie Lockett
Mrs. Clardise McCoy
Mrs. Louise Lee
Mrs. Bessie M. Barry
Prof. H. C. Martin
Mrs. Catherine French
Mrs. Mary Ella Foster
Mrs. Velma Craiton
Mrs. Hannah Williams
Mrs. Alcy Williams
Mrs. Willie M. Stringer
Mrs. Mary Bell Pouncey
Mrs. Mary Payne
Mrs. Annie Mae Cannon
Mrs. Lula A. Wyndon
Mrs. Jessie Hartman
Mrs. Ruby Jackson
Mrs. Etherlene Herndon

ACTIVITIES DURING OUR PRESENT SCHOOL TERM

We sponsored entertainments to secure funds to partition one of the 3rd. grade rooms to relieve an overcrowded condition. Also took an active part in May Day Activities. Some of the members made hand-work to sell. These articles were sold to secure funds for the treasure. Our future activities are: A HARVEST TEA for the month of November; a CHRISTMAS PAGEANT for the month of December. We also plan to take part in programs sponsored by other schools.



Mrs. Rosa Tate
P. T. A. President

MT. ZION SCHOOL

In the early 1900's, Mrs. Gayles served as a leader in parent-teacher activities under the principalship of Professor Cane. In 1920, when Mr. J. W. Reddix, present principal at Mt. Zion School, came; Mrs. Gayles was still active. She and those working with her had sidewalks laid on the campus which still remain as a memorial to Mrs. Gayles credit.

Other P. T. A. presidents to follow included; Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Vagner, Mrs. Elnora Casey, and Mrs. Mary Jones, who led her group in hiring the first parttime cook for the school.

Under the present president, Mrs. Rosa Tate, daughter-in-law of Mrs. Anna Tate retired teacher of long standing at Mt. Zion and other schools in the Caddo Parish system; a piano, mimeograph machine and movie projector have been purchased



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for the school. Some members of the faculty that have been active in P. T. A. work include: Mrs. Jane O. Gray, also retired, Mrs. Beulah Holmes, Mrs. Maude E. Whiten, as well as all the others who have recently become a part of the Mt. Zion school faculty.



RECIPE FOR A GOOD P. T. A.

"To each P. T. A. add one good set of officers a good leader as a president, an accurate secretary, a careful treasurer and good committee chairman.

"Mix thoroughly until smooth and evenly grained. Then add a generous amount of congeniality, a dash of wit, two ounces of courtesy and a small amount of ginger.

"Sweeten with equal amounts of cheerfulness, kindness and charitable thoughts. Work well together then add a handful each of pep and patience for each member. Keep mixture at an even temperature; no steaming, boiling or stewing is necessary.

When done, sprinkle with willingness and the product will be ready to serve and will grace any school P. T. A.

Taken from Our National Family,

February, 1953



Mrs. Fannie Lee Perkins, Prin.
School for Exceptional Negro
Children



Mrs. Lula Mae Caston, Pres.
School for Exceptional Negro
Children Past Pres., Holly-
wood School P. T. A.

SCHOOL FOR EXCEPTIONAL NEGRO CHILDREN

The P. T. A. of the School for Exceptional Negro Children was organized in November, 1950, just one Month after the School itself was started on September 5, 1950, with five children and a teacher, Mrs. Fannie Lee Perkins, in the basement of the Zion Baptist Church, 1903 Milan Street. The officers were as follows: Mrs. Lula Mae Caston, President; Mrs. Doris Morris, Vice-President; Mrs. Maud Williams, Secretary; Mrs. Dessie Lee Youngblood, Assistant Secretary; and Mrs. Ella Tasby, Treasurer. The group was organized by Mrs. A. B. Palmer and Mrs. Eddie Jones.

Among the projects which this group has sponsored was a grocery project. Eight dollars was raised from this project and used to buy a gym set for the playground, eight fold-away cots for the school, and several other little things.

SHEDY GROVE SCHOOL

The Shady Grove School was founded in 1912 by a group of fathers who put their thoughts and finance together to secure the property, which was given to them by the late Mr. W. W. Jones. They first built one room and Mrs. Lucille Blount was sent to teach. The school board then built another room and sent another teacher.

By 1928, we had four rooms and teachers. This school had accommodated our children until this year, and a large two-story brick school building consolidating our school with Little Hope School, is being built out of the twenty-million dollars bond issue.

The P. T. A. was started about 1929 with Mrs. Lizzie D. Smith as president. The meetings were mostly social, with dues collected and discussions about the child being held. Mrs. Smith served until about 1931; then the late Mrs. Sarah J. Collins was elected president and Mrs. Pearl Hall as secretary. They worked together along with a loyal faculty.

About 1937, Mrs. Willie M. Collins was elected president with Mrs. Annie T. Brown as secretary. At this time, activities were still rather limited to meeting and discussing the problems of the school and the children; giving entertainments and having social gatherings. The proceeds from the entertainments were used to give florals, buy equipment for the school, and give a picnic at the end of school for the children and adults.

In 1940, the late Mrs. Arthuda Beaner, as president, led the P. T. A. into purchasing a piano, a project which meant much for the school.

Around 1943, Mrs. Jessie Mae Johnson was

elected president, under Mr. Joseph Walker as principal. During the following war years, the P. T. A. lost its place in the hearts of the parents. However, in about 1947, Mrs. Annie Bertha Dinkins was elected president and Mrs. Alice Carter as secretary; and the parents began to take interest in the P. T. A. again.

At the district meetings they learned what a real P. T. A. is and how it should function. The principal, Mr. Walker, and the faculty worked loyally with the parents.

In 1948, Mrs. W. M. Collins was re-elected president. He sent boys to the Gra-Y meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, sponsored the Y-Teen and Brownies, bought uniforms for the basket-ball teams. Helped to buy equipment for the school—record-player, mimeograph machine, and other things.

We have participated in the P. T. A. Council Fourth District and State P. T. A. Meetings.



The home and the family are the foundations of life in America.

Nothing good outside the home can fully compensate for lack of abundant living in the home.





Mr. E. B. Williams, Principal.
Stoner Hill School



Mrs. Mary Collins, One of the
P.T.A. Pres.,



Mrs. B. Lewis, 1st P. T. A. Pres.



Mrs. Williams Past President

STONER HILL SCHOOL

Stoner Hill School was organized in 1904. The first teacher was a Rev. Jackson. The first Principal appointed was a professor T. L. Leathers who was followed by professor J. W. Reddix, Professor A. A. Pradd, Willis Brower, Ervin, Tisby, Whitmore, Ike Rollins, H. D. Webb and Professor E. D. Williams, present principal. Professor H. J. Crowe served while Professor Williams was in the U. S. Navy.

The forerunner of the P. T. A. was the Mothers Club. Mrs. L. A. Haughton was the first president of the club. Mrs. J. C. Carter was the last president.

Mrs. B. L. Lewis was the first president of the P. T. A. as such. It was organized in 1912. other Pres. were: Mrs. Mary Cooper, Mrs. Katie Sledge, Mrs. Celia L. Miles, Mrs. Lois Jones and Mrs. Thelma Williams.

Some outstanding contributions that the P. T. A. has made to the school are, as follows: Purchased a set of World Encyclopedias, bought a Ditto machine, secured fruit for students during Christmas holidays and gave baskets to the needy during the Thanksgiving season. Every room has a room Mother who looks out for the interest of the children in her room. An annual affair is the Fall Tea and get-to-gether at the beginning of each school session. The Stoner Hill P. T. A. is affiliated with the city, district, and State organizations of the P. T. A. The relationship between parents and teachers has improved a hundred per-cent in the last ten years.



Mr. John Robinson, Principal,
Valencia School.



Mrs. Janie Williams, Pres., Val-
encia School P.T.A.

THE VALENCIA ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL P. T. A.
(HISTORY)

The Valencia Parent-Teacher Association, an organization for the promotion of cooperation between parents and teachers the discussion of child-education problems, and general child welfare, was founded in 1933.

Its first and present president, Mrs. Janie Williams (Mama Janie) has faithfully and actively served for 20 years with parents and school faculties under the.....



Mr. Jessie Davis

following principals; Mrs. Vera Sims, 1933, Mrs. Bernice E. Bailey, 1935; Mr. W. F. Booker 1939; and Mr. John Robinson, the School's present principal of 5 years tenure. Other members of the school's faculty are Mrs. Lucindia Chambers, Mrs. Virginia E. Saxton, Mrs. Louise H. Martin, Miss Arvella V. Davis, and Miss Luverse Martin—student of Grambling College presently doing practice teaching in this school.

During these 20 years of the Valencia P. T. A. organization, Bro. Jessie Davis has served variously as vice-president, treasurer, and recording secretary, his present position. Among the members of this association he can be singled out as the one male parent who has given an unbroken period of 20 years of continuous service to his school and community.

The other officers of the Valencia P. T. A. are:

Mrs. Martha Higgins.....	Vice-President
Mrs. Helen Walker.....	Assistant Secretary
Mrs. Aletha Lockett.....	Treasurer
Mrs. Roddie Addison.....	Chaplain

To mention a few of the achievements which may be accredited to the parent-Teacher association are: The laying of side walks (concrete) adequate to meet the needs of the entire school and campus, 1936.

When the School was restored, after suffering heavy damages from a cyclone, the P. T. A. purchased sewing machines and woodworking tools to further the practical training of its boys and girls.

The association petitioned many times and was instrumental in obtaining additional rooms for the school, repaintings, etc. During the past 4 years this organization, under the capable leadership of its officers, has purchased two pianos, the first of which was lost when the school burned in January of 1951.

Two great Sunday Afternoon Calendar Teas, dates of which were March of 1949 and May of 1953, which were heavily attended by patrons of the community and the city at large supplied much of the financial means to make these purchases possible.

Besides Mr. W. F. Booker one other teacher has retired from the school and the teaching profession.

Expressions of appreciation for the services of Mrs. Edvige B. Wilson were made in May, 1953 with an ovation reception and gifts.



Speak to me with your heart and your hands; I do
not understand your words.
Surround me with Kindly People.
Give me peace in which to grow.
Give me a corner in your home all my own;
Give me my share of attention and consideration.
Let me question: Give me as honest an answer as
you know.



Mr. E. L. Green, Principal, West
Shreveport School.



Mrs. Alfra Crawford, Pres.
P.T.A.



Mrs. Myrtle J. Johnson, Post
Pres.



Mrs. Gussie Pryor, Past Pres.
West Shreveport School
P. T. A.



Mrs. Dixon, Past President
P. T. A.

WEST SHREVEPORT SCHOOL

The West Shreveport School sprang into life from two schools consolidating; in 1926 the Peabody school, located near the downtown area, and the West End School, located in the 2000 block of Keeneth Avenue, near the K. C. S. railroad track and running into the 2000 block of Weinstock Street. This red brick building serving sixteen teachers on the red clay hill, gave a much prettier view than the unpainted frame buildings. The new brick school building was then the pride of many young ones and the pride of their grandchildren, now.

The first principal was a home boy, Mr. Tony Jackson, who served only one year. He left the doors open for the little mighty man from Wiley College, Mr. Melton Robinson, who said, "Let us see that all the children have more space in which to move around." The school board added five new frame rooms to the school, and five new teachers came marching in, giving a total of twenty-one teachers.

After toiling three years, Mr. Robinson skipped out to the golden West, leaving a Morehouse man, Mr. J. O. Whaley, Principal. He, too, said that the children needed more room and three more rooms and teachers were added to his forces. After serving five years he also headed toward the golden West, leaving the mild and calm man whom we know as Mr. E. L. Green to take the job.

With twenty-six teachers, he is still on the job, as he was years ago, doing all the good he can in the many ways that he can.

Turning to the work of an organization created for better understanding of children and a closer relation between the home and the school, we find that the P. T. A. was organized in 1927, by a group of women, including a Mrs. Louise Rankins, who saw the need of the boys and girls in her community.

Tis sad to mention, but some of these have passed on to the great beyond, leaving the work that is still being carried on, in the hands of one time president, Mrs. Mildred Dickson, and other who have followed her. For example Mrs. Trilly Lockett Green led these P. T. A. members; Mrs. Lucy Smith, Mrs. Pinkie Williams, Mrs. Gussie Pryor, Mrs. M. L. Collins, Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. G. L. Hall, Mrs. Jane Bush, and Mrs. Beulah Dubois, and others in carrying on the Rankins' plan for the establishment of a cafeteria, lights on the West side of the school, and sidewalks leading from the school.

Things had sometimes looked very dull, but the women still worked on towards the goal of a cafeteria, bringing cooked food from their kitchen every day, and serving it to many a needy child. Milk was carried to the children in room three, by Mrs. McKeetham. Mrs. E. Jones, a parent, called on White friends, Mrs. and Miss Macbeth,

to help get the house on popular Street to serve meals at low cost. A cafeteria was then built, with Mrs. Gussie Pryor as the operator; she has proven worthy of the job and has paid some back debt on the cafeteria.

There have been others serving as president—Mrs. Morrow, and Mrs. M. Johnson both of whom were instrumental in getting membership cards for mothers who have joined the P. T. A.

Today's president; Mrs. Eddie Jones, who has been constantly working with the organization since she first became a parent to the school, has served as president under whose leadership much has been accomplished, including buying a movie projector and a fence. Following her, has come the present president, Mrs. Alfra Crawford.



- Q. How can the local P. T. A. celebrate Founders Day?
- A. Find out in your community those persons who began parent teacher work and have them present calling attention to the great service the rendered the children, school and community. Use the Founders Day Program set up consisting of plays, pageants, etc. A program may be presented over the radio. There may be a birthday cake with candles for each year of the organization and suitable ceremony which always creates interest. A free will offering may be taken at this celebration and sent to the State Treasurer.