

Shadows

of the

Southland

BY ANNIE GREENE NELSON



was passing away, so she called Julia, who silently summoned the other members of the family to Pa's bedside. Seeing their untrollable grief, Pa asked: "What you crying 'bout? Don't fret over me 'cause I goin' to rest from all these hard years of trouble and sorrow, but I'll wake up 'bout five in that beautiful morn'g and not made with hands." Then he asked for water. Big John went for the water while Ma Hester and Julia raised him up in bed. He took one swallow, shook his head, and asked to lie down. "Take the pillow from under my head," he murmured to Ma as she knelt beside the bed and tried to caress him. Tears dropped from under his head, he turned toward the wall and with a smile that illuminated his being, he bade farewell to the troubles of this old world. The story had ended.

Woodruff News

NEW BETHEL BAPT. CHURCH
Rev. J. S. Jones, Pastor

Sunday School opened with the regular number of the members present. Remond Ross, and teachers present. The attendance for the week was won by Mrs. No. 5, Mrs. Floyd and Mrs. C. W. S. teacher's class No. 7 received the financial honor. Mrs. Sammie Washington, teacher.

Mrs. W. I. Floyd and others motored to Birmingham, Ala. to visit her sister, Mrs. S. A. Johnson. Little Ronald accompanied them back. He is the grandson of Mrs. Floyd.

Ma; Mattie Shepard of Greensboro, N. C. visited her relatives last week. Mr. Manuel Browning and Miss Carrie L. Browning, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Browning motored to New York over the week Miss Blastic Browning accompanied them back home.

Mrs. Theata Robinson and children, Mr. Robert Grey, Mrs. Lula Parks and Mrs. Minnie L. Thompson and grand children were the dinner guests of Mrs. Johanie Parks and daughter in Glendale, S. C. recently.

Mrs. Joe L. Downs left recently for the U. S. Navy He is a 1957 graduate of New Bethel High School. Mrs. Nannie O. Isby and Mrs. Kenneth Brewton attended the Women State Convention in Aiken, S. C. last week.

Mrs. Minnie L. Thompson and grand children of Spartarburg, S. C. were the Monday dinner guests of Mrs. Odessa Smith, R. N. While in the city they also visited Mrs. Lula Owens.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Derrah and children were the Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ferguson and other relatives and friends.

Miss Mable Ferguson is vacationing in New Jersey with her Aunt and relatives. Miss Charlie M. Thompson is vacationing in N. Y.

Mrs. Ada L. Owens is on the sick list.
Mrs. Minnie-L. Thompson, Rpt.



The Old Times
"What a pity it is that nobody knows how to manage a wife but a bachelor!"

Allen University Begins 2nd Year Under Bonner-Veal Leadership

ALLEN U.—Led by L. H. Bonner, new chairman, Board of Trustees, Allen University has begun its second year under the leadership of Dr. Frank R. Veal, president. The school year in the residence halls at Allen University opened last July 15. The school year was marked by a series of activities and events. Already, under Dr. Veal's capable, progressive and dynamic leadership, the college has added to its cultural prestige rapid international and national attainments. Allen University started out for a mission last August to bring the gospel of Christ and modern America's first steps toward the infant states.

Allen University is a Christian college of the South, founded in 1862. It is a member of the Southern Baptist Convention and the National Association of Christian Colleges and Universities. The school has a long history of providing a liberal arts education for young men and women. Under the leadership of Dr. Veal, the college has been reorganized to meet the needs of the present and the future. The new curriculum is designed to provide a broad and liberal education for all students. The college has a strong emphasis on character education and service to the community.

Bishop Bonner, former Bishop of the A.M.E. Church, has been an inspirational and a powerful board chairman in building the program of the university.

Cope News

Rev. D. A. Morant, Pastor
Sunday was a very busy day for the church. The church was filled with people who came to worship and to hear the word of God. The pastor preached a powerful message that inspired and encouraged the congregation. The church is grateful for the support and love of its members and the community.

The pastor, after a few remarks, presented the speaker of the hour, Dr. E. A. Parker, Presiding Elder, who came forward and selected his text from Gen. 45:5, Theme: "The Unchangeable Plans of an All-wise God." From this sermon Dr. Parker brought to us a beautiful message.

We had a wonderful quarterly conference with every report in place. We closed out feeling that that we had done our part. The Fellowship was grand. The presiding elder with the pastor had dinner with the writer. They seemed happy to have an opportunity to discuss matters of importance in their field of labor.

On Sunday night we were honored to have Cedar Grove, Cherry Hill, Canaan, Spire's Chapel, Oak Grove, and Good Hope join our usher President, Bro. Leon Macdonia in Cope S. C.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Sister V. Johnson, Evangelist of Charleston, S. C. who passed away June 17. She was a great laborer who loved her Lord and her home to rest. Interment was in Cedar Grove A.M.E. Church yard near Rossville, S. C.

A. R. Sampson, Reporter

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next month brought real to the family of Pa Silas. one afternoon, Ma left the and went to the house and Pa growing steadily worse. became frightened and a to the door and waved for Ma thought Pa was going had told Julia, Pa Silas the bed near the door. He back Julia threw down a and came hurriedly the field to the house, Ma on the porch.

all you somethin' goin' to Old Jan, the rooster, been away from the house for over a month. That and that spider on the Pa's bed movin' his web lower and lower. Then the howls every night and I spectin' something."

Ma's face grew sad and tears under her chin as she started Pa's room. Pa brightened up he saw the "Baby" as he her. "What you doing here on?" He asked. "Just came how you were feeling," replied.

feel good fixing to move out his old house of flesh. That's I been praying for a new wherein dwelleth righteousness. There, Jesus will reign as and I know I will find love and justice for all."

ter investigating Pa's condition the Red Cross got in touch Big John's Officers at once. notified Big John and he ar from camp late the next

I were glad to see Big John looked so handsome that the tation girls who had never ed Big John as a plow hand, an to throw longing glances in direction. Pa raised his feet and put his arms around John's neck while Ma Hester Julia looked on. "Son, I goin' leave this old world of sin and row. I ain't made no record as man, and I'm leavin' your Ma you children to take care of."

ust as he spoke, his oldest her, Isaiah drove up with his e. Ma Hester's sister Liz came. The children from "up the d" were to come the following

Wonder where us goin' to e." Ma asked Julia while she s in the kitchen preparing sup. "You better get the clean its out the closet, and me and a sleep on a pallet. Big John t mind it neither, I know. use us got to give the comy the beds." Everything was raged. They went to bed but uldn't sleep much because Pa d a bad night. His heart gave n unusual trouble. The Doctor d the next day that Pa's passg might be expected any time. his message brought a peculiar dness into the hearts of the sorw ing relatives.

Late in the afternoon, Pa called a Hester into the room and ask h o r to rub his chest. Ho

thought he had gas around his heart and it was choking him. After Ma had rubbed him and sat down beside the bed, he reached over and took her hand in his and looked at it hard and long. Then he said slowly, "Hester, nobody's hand in all the world ever felt like yours. They been the

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smartest, kindest, dearest hands I ever saw." Tears wet Ma's cheeks until she took her apron and wiped her tired-wrinkled face. Big John heard Pa talking and entered the room silently while Pa continued to talk. He told about his love for them all and asked forgiveness for any wrong he had done them. The children with the rest of the family crowded around the bedside.

Pa lay back on his pillow to gather enough strength to continue. "I want you children to take good care of your mammy. She done labored hard to raise you up and all us got, 'ceptin' hard work, is an old mule, a buggy, a wagon, a cow and a couple of hogs. That ain't no record a tall for a man done lived long as long as I is, son. When a man been raised down-hearted, hit's mighty hard to 'spress your likes and dislikes, specially when you know it ain't no use. That's the way I felt all these years. Course you can't stop a man from thinkin' while he lives no mor'n you can stop his heart from beating, though there be times he can't spress himself, he thinks deep and dang'rously."

Pa turned over and spoke to Big John. "Looks here son, I hate to see our Ma worry 'bout the future." There was a smile on his face as he continued to tell Big John about Ma Hester. All the others had left the room, feeling Pa's end was near. Sadly they sat in the adjoining room and waited prayerfully.

Pa looked up at the spider on the wall; it had moved lower. He looked at the clock and asked Big John, "What time is it?" His breath was short. He called Ma Hester. When she got to his bed he looked up wildly with a glare in his eyes and a smile on his lips. He reached for her hands, and then patted them over and over again as he pressed them to his cheeks. When he looked into Ma's eyes there were tears under his worn, bearded, wrinkled old chin. "Honey," Pa spoke slowly. "I-I was just telling John how I hate to leave you." There, he stopped. This time he began to struggle for breath.

Ma Hester could see that Pa