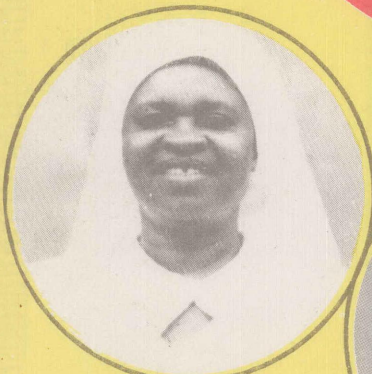


THE NEW KINGDOM DEACONESS

A JOURNAL OF THE DEACONESSES' FELLOWSHIP

2.00
PRICE N2.00



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Report: Obu's Angels
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GREETINGS

THE MANAGEMENT STAFF OF HERALD NEW KINGDOM PRESS LTD. warmly greets the Deaconesses' Fellowship on this great occasion of its 12th anniversary and the launching of its N250,000 Red Carpet Fund.

Red turbanned Sisters, yours have been twelve years of success. We thank the Father for giving you the ability to achieve these spectacular successes.

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APPRECIATION

on behalf of all the Deaconesses, thank the Holy Father for making it possible for us to celebrate with success, this year's Deaconesses' Week. We also thank God for the co-operation given to us by the Management and Staff of Herald New Kingdom Press Limited.

We have realized that their co-operation and service have made it possible for the little efforts, duties and projects handled by Deaconess in Brotherhood to be read by Brethren far and near, so that these remain as guiding principles to the newly elected Deaconesses.

They will also understand that Deaconesses whom the Father has elected and kept as mothers, have duties other than receiving and wearing of the red turban.

We also congratulate the Holy Father for bearing the strain of the week with us; and pray that He binds us in love and give us the ability to continue in His Service.

Thank You Father

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- 370. Deaconess Grace Okpo
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- 392. Deaconess Iquo Efiog Ben
- 393. Deaconess Patience Eko Spiff,

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- 394. Deaconess Gloria Okon Silva
- 395. Deaconess Victoria Adeleke
- 396. Deaconess Queeneth Ewah
- 397. Deaconess Gloria Shopeju
- 398. Deaconess Grace Prisa
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- 407. Deaconess Gwentyth Maymara Thomas
- 408. Deaconess Afiong Isua Ikoh
- 409. Deaconess Fiakth Ogrvia Charles
- 410. Deaconess Oronica Skinner
- 411. Deaconess Lystra Baptiste
- 412. Deaconess Umoh Joe Assam
- 413. Deaconess Joyce Papamitos
- 414. Deaconess Roseline Iffion
- 415. Deaconess Basse James Okuku
- 416. Deaconess Benedette Agbakoba
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- 418. Deaconess Junnifer Smith



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 365. Deaconess Ogunlosin
 366. Deaconess Winifred Niekabi

THE NEW KINGDOM DEACONESS

A journal of the Deaconesses' Fellowship issued to mark the 1985 Deaconesses' Week.

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THE SOLE SPIRITUAL MOTHER
Sister E. O. Obu

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Sister Ibum O. Obu

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Senior Deaconess Mary Mong

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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Brethren,

It has pleased the Sole Spiritual Head of the Universe, Leader O. O. Obu to give the Deaconesses' Fellowship the strength to bring out this magazine which tries to reconstruct the history of the Deaconesses as individuals and as a group known as the Deaconesses' Fellowship born towards the end of 1973.

The decision to create a document of this nature was motivated by the danger of the shortness of human mind that will find it difficult to accurately trace the origin of this Fellowship to posterity. Even at this stage, this danger has threatened to become a reality, hence our difficulties in accurately putting these materials together.

Another motivator of this decision has been the need to share our records with others and set a standard for ourselves so that with each year we shall be able to know whether we are going up or down.

However, this inaugural issue has been unable to cover all the activities of B.C.S's Deaconesses all over the world owing to the time factor and poor communications system. We are hopeful that the next issue will try to do so. Finally, we sincerely thank the Holy Father having given us the strength to take up this project and pray for His guidance forever more.

Thank You Father

*Obtainable at
Brotherhood Bookshop
34 Ambo Street, Calabar*

M.O.S.
PRESIDENT

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THE SOLE SPIRITUAL HEAD OF THE UNIVERSE AND SUPREME HEAD FOR ALL DEACONESSSES,
LEADER O.O. OBU.

EDITORIAL

THREE HAPPY CHEERS!

There is a consensus in today's world that almost all women belonging to the contemporary breed of women are a complete disgrace to womanhood. Although there appears to be a discordance of opinion among the people of the world when it comes to tracing the origin of this malaise, we of the New Kingdom of God on earth have no doubt that it is a fulfilment of what was written about this period in 2 Timothy 3:1-9.

That today's women have become lovers of themselves; lovers of money; self-assuming; haughty, disobedient, unthankful; disloyal, devoid of natural affection; unnecessarily non-compromising, slanderers; losers of self-control; fierce, none appreciative of goodness, betrayers, recalcitrant, proud, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, possessors of a form of godly devotion but proving false to its power and from these turning away and guilty of such other ungodly acts is a sign of the last days.

The question then is what sort of women are desired for the New World that will replace the present dispensation after it has been destroyed?

According to Paul in his first letter to Timothy Chapter 2: 9-15 such women must be modestly dressed in a way befitting women professing to revere God through good works; learn in silence with full submission; full of love, faith and sanctification as well as sound mind.

Indeed, these are the type of women constituting the Deaconesses' Fellowship in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star which is the New Kingdom of God on earth.

About 23 years ago, the Sole Spiritual Head of the Universe, Leader Olumba Olumba Obu ordained two Deaconesses among what turned out to be the first batch of ordained ones in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star.

The assignment was clear: they were expected to look after the welfare of the flock in the physical absence of the Father as well as lead in the crusade to turn the world towards God.

As individuals, the operations of the Deaconesses were minimal. Thus with the increase in their numerical strength from then onwards, the Deaconesses realized that they could do better as a group with like assignment and common interest.

That was how the Deaconesses' Fellowship was born on November 16, 1973.

Today, the Fellowship is almost 12 years old. the question is, to what extent has it been able to

justify the hopes and aspirations of its progenitors?

Scanning through the balance sheet of our Fellowship one would discover that the Father has used it in carrying out a number of assignments. For instance, it has undertaken many missionary journeys to many states of Nigeria and to Britain as well as the United States.

It fitted the ceiling fans inside the Pentecostal hall of No. 34 Ambo Street, Calabar and carpetted the Father's altar which fund is being launched this week. Besides, the Fellowship has been able to render modest aid to its members and other brethren in need.

On the spiritual side, the Deaconesses' Fellowship whose insignia of apostleship is the red turban has been at the forefront of organizing such great occasions as the Mother's Day, Queen's (Mother's) Week, Women's Fellowship, Father's Week, etc. They are normally at the forefront of preaching and conducting of various services. Some Deaconesses are even choristers.

The potentials of the Deaconesses are so great that it will take many years to fully exploit. And we thank the Father that these potentials are being utilised in His Service. The Deaconesses, some who are professionals in their private lives-teachers, nurses, etc have brought their experiences and training to bear in their services to the Fellowship. Some have even voluntarily retired their appointments to put in their best in the service of the Father.

For all these, we really thank the Father.

There is real hope, however, that with time, the changing hand of the Holy Father will help change completely and bring us totally to Himself.

Meanwhile, it would be sheer ingratitude to the Holy Spirit to dismiss the twelve years of the existence of the Deaconesses' Fellowship as fruitless. Indeed, the Father has done marvellously well through the female apostles.

Thumbs up! Three happy cheers for the Father. It has really been Twelve Years of Victory.

BY

Xt Servant's Emmah



THE SOLE SPIRITUAL MOTHER OF THE UNIVERSE AND THE SUPREME MOTHER OF THE
DEACONESSES' FELLOWSHIP

FRUITFUL TWELVE YEARS

At last, after what appeared an interminable period of waiting, a week devoted to only women has arrived. Frankly, I must confess my partiality towards this occasion for obvious reasons. Firstly even for the mere fact that I am a woman and it is only a bad child that forgets his origin. Secondly, I happen to be the newest Deaconess in the fold and as such I belong to the Fellowship. Thirdly, for the fact that, generally, women are placed at the highest pedestal in this New Kingdom and above all, women by their nature being water as opposed to men who are fire, will make this week the coolest in the year. At this period of intense heat, I cannot imagine anybody not looking forward to such a period of reprieve.

The Deaconesses are regarded as the mothers of this New Kingdom and they are the only group with a dual assignment whose emphasises are equal in all directions. First and foremost, by their biological disposition they are the good mothers to all others. And of course, all of us know the functions of good mothers in families. These are the people who ensure that the fathers and children are well-fed; their clothes are washed and properly ironed; the houses are clean and surroundings neat; the fathers and children are applauded when they perform properly or admonished when they misbehave; the economy of the homes are properly managed, infact, perform such other numerous functions which ensure happy homes.

Then by their assignment as signified by the red turban they are apostles of God. They have the function of carrying the function to all parts of the world before the end comes.

To my mind, the Deaconesses' Fellowship is the best forum for women handling such important assignments to meet. Here, they have the opportunity to compare notes and at such periods as this are afforded the unique opportunity of going back to school to recapitulate what they had already learnt and learn new things from the supernatural Teacher.

After almost 12 years of its existence, there is no doubt that the Deaconesses' Fellowship has been of invaluable help to members in these arena. Besides, it has served as medium through which the collective effort could be exerted to foster the assignment of apostleship. Take for instance the various missionary tours undertaken by members to nearly all the states in Nigeria; all the local government areas in Nigeria's Cross River State and to foreign countries as Britain and the United States. There are such

other laudable achievements as the fitting of ceiling fans in the No. 34 Ambo Pentecostal Hall and carpeting of the Father's altar which fund is being launched this week.

In my address to the just-concluded New World Missionary Fellowship Week, I had taken time off to sound a warning note to the leaderships of some Fellowships which try to divert project funds from recognized projects to those that will serve their selfish private interests. I only wish therefore to re-iterate this warning here that as Paul stated in Galatians chapter 6 verse 7 let nobody be deceived for God cannot be mocked because whatsoever a man sows, the same shall he reap.

The Deaconesses' Fellowship deserves high commendation for its achievements so far. Its members also deserve honour for standing firm in their resolve to execute their dual natured assignment. However, it is the Father that ultimately has the glory for we do not exist apart from **Him**.

Finally, while I thank Him profusely for all things, I say to the Deaconesses Bravo mothers!



SISTER I.O. OBU

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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President



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Vice President.



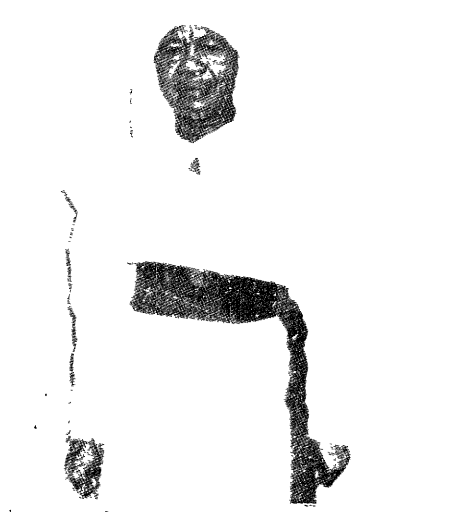
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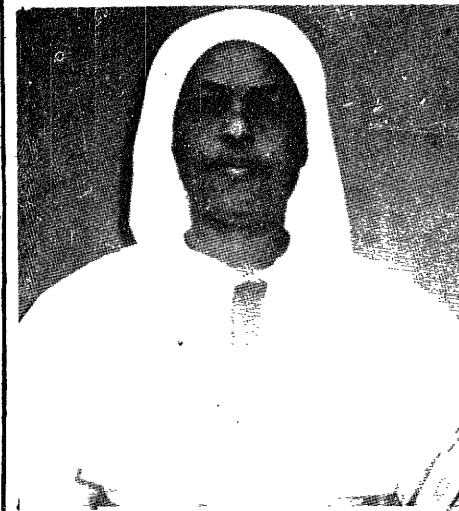
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DEACONESS A.L. ITAM

THE MOTHER OF SALVATION

Whenever the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star Deaconesses celebrate their week, my mind gets focused on Womanhood. Womanhood is the bedrock of any civilization. A corrupt Womanhood yields a corrupt generation. A well seasoned Womanhood brings forth a good generation.

In Brotherhood a blessed Womanhood has given to us a bright hope of salvation.

Our Ancestors wept and roamed the four corners of the world in quest of one to open and read the book of life for them but in vain. At the appointed time, the Queen of Womanhood was singled out and blessed. Our Queen and Mother - Ibum Olumba Obu gave birth (in the little town of Biakpan) to the Great Leader and Saviour of mankind.

Mother we hail you! May your Name continue to be remembered throughout the Universe - Amen! Except one was so destined, he may not gain this salvation as of right. Everyone has to fight and win, before he gains it. Salvation by faith is a predestination, but salvation by works is an acquisition.

"From their fruits you shall know them." This is true of our Queen and Mother Ibum, No Brotherhood today wants to find out what and how our Mother looked like. Her Gentleness, love, temperance, mercy and general excellence are all personified in the fruit of her womb. These Godly attributes render the Brotherhood's Womanhood enviable.

The Brotherhood Deaconess owes her the duty of emulation. Emulation? Yes. It is only her attributes which would help us keep the whole world one. We must aspire to follow the footprints of

our Mother. The Celebration of the Deaconesses' Week should every year bring us nearer to perfection. It should, as of right, bring us nearer to the stool of Brotherhood's Womanhood. It is a period of real contemplation. It is a period of re-dedication! The Week should fully prepare us for the great work ahead.

The fruit of Our Mother's Womb is the "Word of God." The "Word of God" is our girdle. This girdle guides and directs our behaviour and activities. The girdle fights and wins the war for us. It changes and converts the worst sinner. It tempers us down in time of temptation. It opens up the way for us when obstacles come our way. Deaconesses have a cause to really rejoice. For, with the Red Turban on their waist, they have no obstacles in life!

The Holy Father in His maiden advice to the Deaconesses' Fellowship on 13-12-73, charged in Matt. 10:26-27 "Fear them not therefore, for there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed, and hidden, that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops."

How many of us, Deaconesses have accepted and practised this noble charge? Do we not collect our Red turbans and retire to our corners, posing as earthly queens, to dictate to and suppress "the underlings"? Deaconesses, let us be alive to our charge! Whoever stops you, stops the words of God, and such will be answerable to him who gave you the charge.

The talents of individual Deaconesses were suppressed and covered spiritually and mentally. Women were to be seen and not heard.

But He, (the Lion of Judah) has come to uncover and reveal His hidden treasure in each Deaconess. What He daily tells us in our different corners, He wants us to carry same and shout on housetops, and practise them to the salvation of mankind.

The Holy Father wants the Deaconesses:

To yield good fruits to God;
To cause their seeds to multiply;
To shine as light in the World;
To lead in Righteousness:

To become New Earth - good for cultivation, so that whatever they ask of God, they get!

On bent knees and contrite hearts, the Deaconesses move into the twelfth Anniversary celebration of their Week, praying to be changed and used as vessels for His work; for the glorification of His Kingdom here on earth. Thereafter, Our Noble Mother Ibum Olumba Obu will be greatly Honoured throughout the Universe!

Thank You Father.



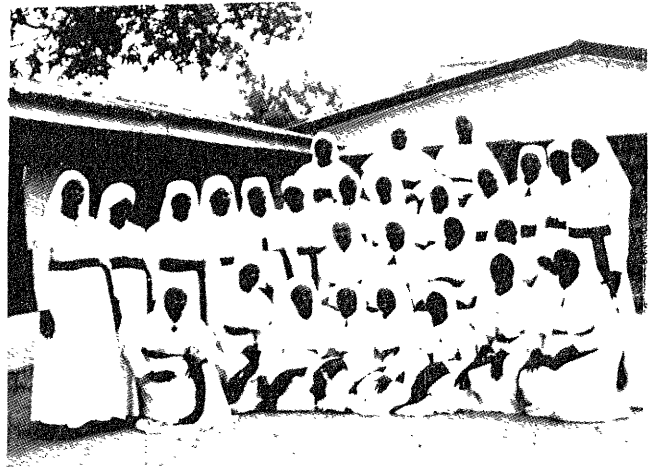
*By Deaconess Nkoyo O. Udoh
Financial Secretary*

PICTORIAL NEWS

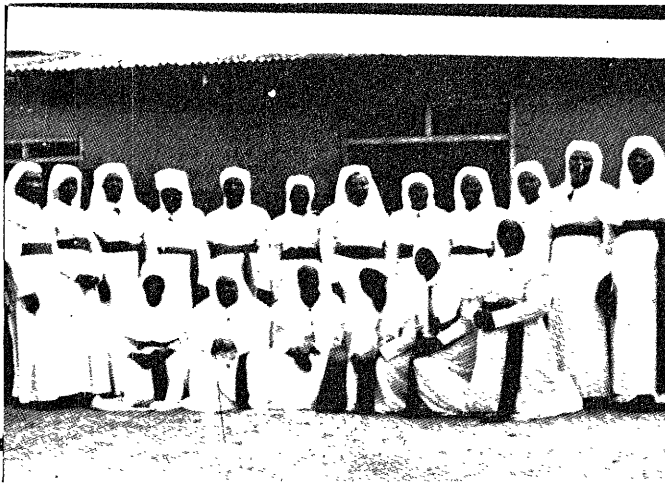
Recently, the Deaconesses in Nigeria had a meeting at Ifiayong Usok, Nigeria's Cross River State.



Picture shows Sir. Deaconess Mong (standing) addressing the meeting.



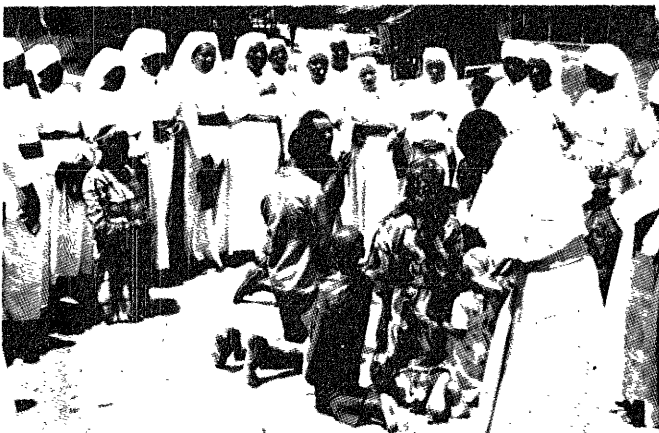
Deaconesses from Rivers State.



Then there was outing.



A cross-section of Deaconesses at Missionary work at Madrid.



Non members of B.C.S. came out for prayers.



Planning Committee Deaconess Fellowship.

DEACONESSES' FELLOWSHIP:

THE ORIGIN



Senior Deaconess M.O. Mong. One of the first two to be ordained in 1962.



Senior Deaconess Itam Awan Ibia, she was in the second batch of ordination, 1965.

The principle behind the formation of Fellowships in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is completion of a triangular relationship of God and man; man and God as well as man and man. God gives salvation to man; man gives glory to God and in the same vein man is expected to live with man in eternal love and friendship.

In other words, no matter how much man claims to worship God and serve Him, without loving his fellow man, the worship and service are incomplete.

Said Christ in the gospel according to St. John 13:34 "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." And in Matthew 22:37-40 He further said "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Since Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is God's Kingdom on earth, dedicated to practical implementation of Christ's teachings on earth, the question of love of man for his fellow stays high on the table of priority. Its practical translation therefore, is the formation of Fellowships.

Fellowships in Brotherhood of the Cross and Star then are social organizations that bring brethren of like interests together with the aim of maximizing the potentials of members in the full realization of such interest and fostering it in the service and glory of God. These organizations are normally numerically large to enable them achieve their goals.

Thus, when in 1962, the Sole

Spiritual Head, Leader Olumba Olumba Obu, ordained the first two deaconesses, Sisters Mong and Abiom, a Fellowship grouping Deaconesses together could not be created until 11 years later. Meanwhile, in 1965, the Holy Father added to the group of women with red turban, Deaconesses Ibia and Usoroh among others. And in 1969, another batch followed. Subsequent ordinations took annual postures and in 1973, the Deaconesses' Fellowship was born.

How did it all begin?

Available records reveal that arising from a necessity to present the red turbanned ladies as a single body to the Father as well as raising funds to repay the cost of transportation which took these ladies to attend the red turbanned brethren's love feast at Biakpan, the Father passed through Deaconess Elizabeth M. Asikpo to originate the idea of a Fellowship.

A meeting was held on November 16, 1973 at No.34 Ambo Street Calabar, Nigeria, with the following in attendance: Deaconess R.T. Brown, Deaconesses A. Ndok, C.W. Dibia, E.M. Asikpo, O. Ekong, Margaret Bassey and G.I. Ekpenyong. An interim executive was constituted, comprising: Deaconesses Brown at the Chair, Ndok as her deputy and Dibia as Secretary.

The following day, the group decided to present the new Fellowship to the Father. Deaconess Asikpo was selected to present the request for approval to the Father.

In His response, the Father approved the establishment of the new Fellowship advising its members to demonstrate a lot of mercy, love and sympathy for others as mothers.

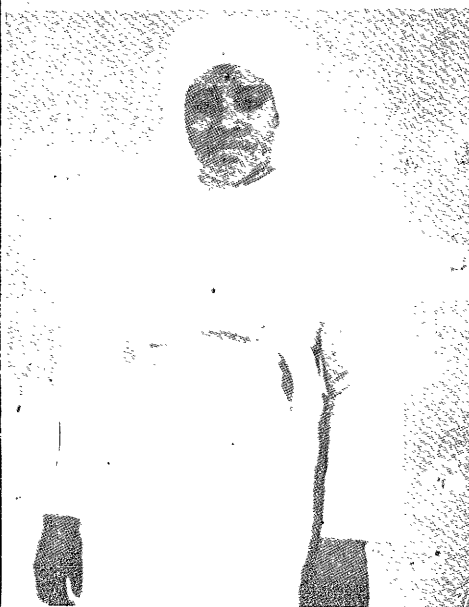
On December 31, 1973, the Deaconesses' Fellowship had its first Pentecostal meeting with the Father. It was naturally during the Christmas Pentecostal. The interim



DEACONESS EBONG



DEACONESS G. T. USOROH



DEACONESS E. N. Udoh

executive was transformed into a full executive and expanded with Deaconess C. Ekpe as Assistant Secretary, Deaconess N.O. Udo as Financial Secretary and Deaconess S. Efiom as treasurer. This executive remained in office for three years and was replaced at the December 1976 Pentecostal with a new one comprising: Senior Deaconess Mary Mong as Chairperson, Deaconess I.E. Urua as Vice-Chairperson, Deaconess Theresa Omini as Secretary and Deaconess Anne Udom as Assistant Secretary while Deaconesses N.O. Udoh and Sarah Efiom were returned as Financial Secretary and treasurer respectively.

In 1981, Deaconess Theresa Omini was replaced with Deaconess C.A. Umoh as Secretary while Deaconess C.B. Inyang took over from Deaconess Anne Udom as Assistant Secretary.

The year 1984 saw a full reshuffle with only Deaconess N.O. Udoh retaining her seat as the Financial Secretary. The new executive included Deaconess S.A. Efiom as Chairperson, Deaconess A.N. Ekanem as Vice-Chairperson, Deaconesses C.U. Ekpe and G.I. Ekpenyong as Secretary and Assistant Secretary while Deaconess I. E. Itam was made treasurer.

During this period of existence, the Deaconesses' Fellowship had to work towards its objective of harnessing the abilities of its members for mutual benefit and for the service and glory of God.

Some outstanding projects undertaken by the Fellowship towards the glory of God include the fixing of ceiling fans in the 34 Ambo Pentecostal hall and carpeting Father's altar. They also undertook Missionary assignments to Britain and the United States.

It also demonstrated solidarity among its entire membership through donations to the bereaved the sick and needy families and

Cont. on Page 12

'OBU'S ANGELS STORM BRITAIN, US'

Forty-four lady preachers from the headquarters of the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star organization in Calabar are now storming Britain in a religious crusade which is expected to last one month.

The missionaries led by Deaconess Okonanwan Udoh are said to be performing miracles in several British towns through spiritual healings and prayers.

Already many British women are reportedly declaring for the organization inspired by the miraculous performances of the lady preachers from Nigeria.

A BBC Commentator who described the women as 'Obu's angels' commended the singing ability of the women and was surprised to learn that the sole spiritual leader of the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, Leader O.O. Obu was omnipresent.

The Brotherhood organisation has several branches in America, Western Europe and India among other world cities.

(Culled from Nigerian Gong).

On the morning of August, 30 1982, 44 Deaconesses gathered at 34 Ambo to receive a go ahead blessing from the Holy Father Leader O.O. Obu. After the blessing, we set out for Port Harcourt where we finally flew off at 6.10 p.m. by Nigeria Airways flight.

At about 6.55 p.m., we landed at Lagos and as the Father would have it, our Lagos brethren came to receive us and conveyed us by Bus to Kokomaiko Bethel where we passed the night.

On 31 of the said month, we departed Lagos, with Iberia Air Line at about 10.45 a.m. and landed at Las Palmas, within a period of about seven hours. Here we were taken round in a Coach to see the town.

Las Palmas is a beautiful city with a lot of buildings made of bricks. As we drove round we saw many places such as Casablanca as well as the Hill for purifying the salty water from the Mediterrean Sea. After some hours drive we went back to the Airport where we had a lunch.

A short while later we were checked into the next plane which conveyed us to Barcelona. Bar-

celona is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. We were quartered in a Hotel called Expo; and in the morning a Coach collected us round to see the city. We saw many beautiful buildings too with designs representing some past and important events such as the death and ressurection of Christ. We even saw a Catholic Cathedral which was built in 1294. The decoration on the building is said to have been made in 1815.

A stone laid by the Romans before the birth of Christ was shown to us. The Romans went to Spain 133 years before Christ. The sycamore tree we have been hearing of in the Bible was seen all over the city of Barcelona. The Spaniards are very, very friendly and in one of their villages, we took a group photograph. After this, we had a lunch and we were returned to the Airport where we finally left for London at 5.15 p.m.

We arrived London at 7.15 p.m. on a Thursday. London brethren welcomed us and conveyed us in a Coach to the Mill Hill Bethel. We spent one day in the Bethel observing all the normal and usual routine of our worship. Pastors met us in Mill Hill Bethel and after one day stay together, we departed for London on 4 September, 1983 to Madrid and travelled from here to the United States of America. Madrid is the capital of Spain.



A cross section of the Deaconesses that went on the Missionary Journey.

From Madrid which we left at about 12.30 p.m. we landed United States of America at 10 p.m. that was about 3 p.m. American time.

In America the brethren led by Bishop James Ellerbe received us

and conveyed us in a Coach to the Bethel at Brooklyn in New York City. Here the Father's work started in earnest. After a few days, we set out for a visit to other places.



Bishop Ellerbe preparing to deliver Gospel.

ORIGIN

Contd. from Page 10

through individual and group visits to such families.

Indeed, as the Holy Father said in His advice to the inaugural meeting of the Fellowship, Mercy, sympathy and love have been the watchwords of the Deaconesses' Fellowship. Deaconesses are selected as mothers in the New Kingdom. They have a dual function of catering for the physical needs of others and themselves as well as spreading the gospel. Such physical needs include feeding, arrangements for accommodations for strangers and organizing functions concerning the Holy Mother. It is also on record that the Deaconesses' Fellowship had taken up the responsibility of helping to maintain the Christ's Students.

The Deaconesses have also taken responsibility of catering for the Father's altar-changing the blinds and renovating the altar generally.

In human relations, the Fellowship has also taken upon itself to settle disputes among brethren.

However, as usual, nobody can claim credit for carrying out all the feats that the Deaconesses' Fellowship has been able to perform. It is the Father that does everything. The Father created the idea of a Fellowship for the Deaconesses. He has used them to do everything. In the final analysis therefore, it is the Father that has the glory for everything.

It is the hope of every Deaconess that the Father will continue to show His mercy to the Fellowship and use them in working for His glory.

Meanwhile, brethren, we are urging all members of this New Kingdom to rally around us as usual and launch funds for the carpet project.

Thank You Father.

Infact, this wonderful team of Missionaries led by Bishops Roland Obu and James Ellerbe went to the Southern part of USA. The tour started from Brooklyn. New York through New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Washington D.C. Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and ending in Atlanta, Georgia.

At Atlanta, Georgia, we met all the Brethren and they all were happy to see the Father visit them through the Deaconesses, the shining Angels of Olumba. The following day we were shown round the city where we saw places like the Birth place of Martin Luther King Junior. We also saw the centre for social change for Freedom built in his honour. According to information, this was built and dedicated after Martin's death. He was born in 1929 and died in 1968. Even though he died, he succeeded in restoring freedom for the Blacks among the whites. The Father's work continued in some parks and around the city. We finally went back to the Bethel. After some

days we left for South and North Carolina: while the selected three Snr. Deaconess Mong, Deaconess E.O. Edet and Evangelist Bassey left for California - Los Angeles.

The South land is Bishop James Ellerbe's birth-place and according to him, he had always believed that the people in the Southern part of America were closer to God as they were brought up under the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. The doctrine of Love one another is also practised more in the South than in the Northern States. Infact, to confirm the sayings by the Bishop, when we got to the Southern Carolina, we were put up in the house of Brother Samuel Seward whose daughter is Sister Betty Sanders.

We were so well cared for and after the evening meal with them we assembled at A.M.E. Zion Church for a full service. Many people turned up and they all enjoyed the conduct of Brother-

hood Service.

From there, the following morning, we set out for Northern Carolina where we also had a full Sunday service with the members of African Church. The invitation was from their Bishop. We stayed on for evening worship and finally left Northern Carolina by 10 p.m. and arrived Newark in New Jersey at about 11.30 a.m. the next day.

The distance between these areas are quite long and we always had to spend about seventeen hours on the road before getting to some of these places. Since this law of Love' has been the guiding principles for all those who believe in our Lord Jesus Christ, we had no problem in meeting with none Brotherhood.

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ had promised to send a Comforter; one of whom the gentiles would trusts. This has been fulfilled in the Name and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

It is also a pleasure to note that the Deaconesses' Fellowship was the first to enter the Southern part of USA. This really created history. We heartily thank the Father for the ability given to this thirty seven Deaconesses' assignment under the good leadership of Senior Deaconess M. Mong and her supporters. We will not fail to mention also, the good help given by Evangelist Bassey to make this assignment a success.

Thanks be to God.

Well, the Father's work still continues and in addition to the places I've mentioned, Bronse and Queen's Bethels were visited. The Holy Father on our visit revealed that Queen's Bethel was a Healing Home.

In all these places, the Father passed through to baptize, heal the sick and bless all new members, especially in Newark which was the last port of our visit. Truly we will not fail to state that in order to make our effort in the Western

World a success, the Father should please send permanent preachers and improve the conditions of some of the Bethels and make them attractive. Thank You Father.

In going through the Report given to us at Atlanta Georgia, we also observed that it would be cheaper to purchase a building instead of paying rent. On this we call on Spiritual Council of Churches to look into the Report of the said Bethel which is attached to them and see what they can do to reduce the expenses on payment of rent.

On our return journey, the Holy Father blessed us through the president Senior Deaconess Mong and we set off from Newark Bethel, Thursday September 22, 1983.

We travelled through Madrid and arrived there the following day September 23, 1983. We had a nice time at Madrid and at 11 p.m. we were taken to the Airport where we boarded the plane and left at 2.15 a.m. for Lagos.

We arrived Lagos at 5.30 a.m. on Saturday September 24, 1983. On reaching Lagos, we left the international Airport to travel through the local plane to Calabar. We arrived Calabar at 6 p.m. and moved straight to see the Holy Father at 34 Ambo Street.

The Father gave us a warm welcome with much blessing. We later dispersed to our respective homes.

Thanks and praises be to the Father in the Name and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Generally, the Father really made good use of His Deaconesses. Through them He has healed the sick, comforted the afflicted and Baptised many into the fold of Brotherhood both in the Overseas countries, in Nigeria and the Universe.

Thank You Father.



Deaconess Bassey



DEACONESS I.E. URUA



Deaconess Ekpenyong

AT LONDON

Senior Deaconess Itam Ibia preached on the Holy Spirit's personification in Our Holy Father Olumba as recorded in Rev. 12: 1-6. "A woman shall give birth to a son who would rule the world with an iron rod." Ethiopia shall rise and so Africa has the turn of evangelizing the world.

We have brought you good tidings of great joy that the scripture has been fulfilled that men from all tribes and tongues shall come from North, South, East and West to sit at the foot of the Lamb to receive His teachings. The black race has been chosen in appreciation of the kindness of Joseph of Arimathea who gave his tomb and of Simon of Cyrene who helped Jesus to carry His cross.

The baby Jesus was taken to Egypt in Africa. Jesus Christ first appeared to Mary Magdalene and sent her to tell His disciples that He had arisen and that they should wait at Jerusalem. Therefore the Holy Father had sent the Deaconesses from Africa, representing the blacks and the women to proclaim where He could be found. He is physically found in the Canaan City, Calabar, Cross River State in Nigeria. Come and live and be at rest. He is spiritually everywhere in the world. Do not miss your turn of everlasting peace to your Soul. When you hear His voice harden not your heart as they did in the wilderness and died in great number. Now is the acceptable time of the Lord. We preach the New Kingdom of righteousness of love and of peace.

Revelations 21:3 "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with

them and they shall be His people and God Himself shall be with them and be their God."

So hear ye men of the world that God has dwelt with men and we are a lucky generation.

The Deaconesses did some work of healing and visions were also given.

IN NIGERIA

When they met at Onitsha on May 7, 1977, they submerged the whole town in conducive spiritual atmosphere by going on processional outing. They set to work immediately the sermon delivered by Senior Deaconess G.T. Usoro having been concluded.

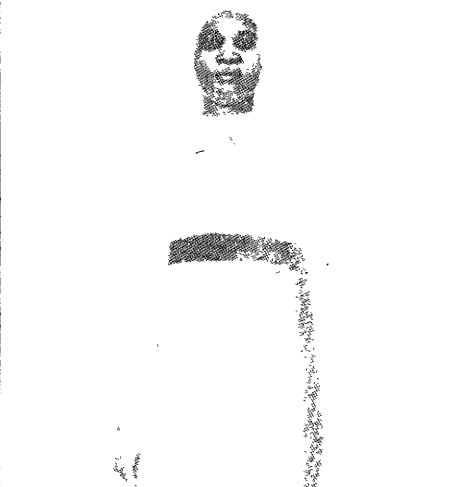
The president enjoined them to remember the role of the Deaconesses as the mothers of the Church and so their responsibility was to tend the sheep of God. She reiterated that the Deaconesses should be of one mind and one spirit as the progress of any Bethel depended on the mothers of the Bethel taking their assignment very seriously. After all the activities had been concluded and love feast enjoyed by all, the meeting ended.

Another meeting was held at No. 125 Aggrey Road Bethel in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, on July 2, 1977. The service was conducted by Senior Deaconess M. Mong after the usual processional outing and the meeting ended with love feast very successfully.

A meeting scheduled to be held at Ikom, took place on October 8, 1977. After the processional outing for the day, the Deaconesses set to serious work. The conflict which could have emanated from the wish of some Deaconesses to hold their separate meetings in the mainland part of the Cross River State and not at Calabar, was amicably resolved at the meeting. It was decided there that another evangelical ministry work should be held in Lagos on November 25



Deaconess Martha Udondem



Deaconess T.B. Inyang



Deaconess Alixa Mckintosh

1977. This was another very successful meeting.

On November 26, 1977, the Deaconesses had their evangelical Ministry Work at Apapa Bethel in Lagos. It was a three-day action-packed programme for all the Deaconesses in Lagos. The second day programme of activities included the Deaconesses undertaking processional outing again at Surulere Bethel in order to subdue all those things that would not give glory to God in the Lagos State. After love feast the meeting ended with the Father's blessings through the chairperson.

On July 1, 1978, the Deaconesses held their evangelical meeting at Enugu, the Anambra State capital. After their processional outing, the day's programme was deliberated upon very comprehensively. Deaconesses were also entertained with sumptuous love feast.

Another port of call was in Zaria at No. 30 Sapele Road Bethel in September 4, 1978. Deaconess Urua conducted part one, while Senior Deaconess M. Mong presided over the evangelical meeting immediately after the usual processional outing. After very useful discussions and love feast eaten, the meeting ended.

On May 12 1979, the Deaconesses met at Biakpan, the Holy City and the birth - place of the Universal Lord and King of the New Age - Leader Olumba Olumba Obu. Here some advance programme was made in respect of the Queen Mother's Day for November 1979. That received unanimous acclamation by all the Deaconesses who attended the meeting in the Holy City.

Warri in Bendel State was not left out in the scheme of things. All the Deaconesses visited the oil rich town to straighten everything which could have gone wrong. And this happened on September 22, 1979. The evangelical Ministry was mainly to go and destroy all satanic forces and to liberate

the children of God in that part of the world. The Father passed through the processional outing done, destroyed any influences of principalities and powers.

On October 7, 1979, the Deaconesses made a special evangelical ministry tour of Ebom and Usumutong. The ministry work was a special one in the sense that these two communities were at fierce war with one another for over a decade. But the Father used His Deaconesses and other children to pacify and reunite the two warring communities. They can now inter-marry and perform their economic activities together without let or hindrance. The constant murdering of one another had stopped.

The Sango-Ibadan evangelical ministry work which took place on January 12, 1980, was undertaken in a grand style to the glory of our Father. The Father's sermon was delivered by Senior Deaconess M. Mong. An extensive spiritual work was done at Ibadan and the Deaconesses left the place better than they met it. All satanic forces were crushed.

On February 9, 1980, the Deaconesses, went to Ohafia and Abiriba on evangelical Ministry work. The Father did a wonderful job through the Deaconesses. A number of decisions were taken in the best interest of the Fellowship, and certain areas where the advice of the Holy Father was to be sought.

The next visit was at Aba which took place on March 14 and 15, 1980, held at 205 Tennant Road, Aba, Imo State. The Deaconesses were able to reconcile the brethren there who had some misunderstanding. The meeting came to a close after love feast and the Father's benedictions through Senior Deaconess M. Mong.

In addition to the foregoing various other meetings were held at Biakpan, the Holy City several times for the smooth running of the Fellowship.

Deaconesses in Calabar have not been lazy. We always answer a clarification call from anywhere physically and spiritually.

At times we are sent to keep watch over some brothers' and sisters homes to help fight the evil forces.

The Holy Father uses us the weak vessels to do great work. No distance is too far for us. We fly by air, we move by water and go by road to save souls as the Father directs. We sometimes contribute to make feast for poor or sick ones. We bury some whose families had forsaken them because of Brotherhood.

Within these three years, we have been in Creek Town, Ikot Ekpene, Oron, Northern States - Sokoto, Kaduna-London, America etc Uyo and Ifeiyang. We go for outing; open air service and house to house ministry. We conduct feast when necessary. During Mother's week celebration we officiated happily and visited Mental Hospitals and other healing homes and presented them with gifts.



Evangelist A.E. Bassey

IN IMO

The Deaconesses' Fellowship branch in Imo State was established in 1979 when there were only seven Deaconesses in number.

The Pioneers.

The Holy Father used to establish the Fellowship are:

*Deaconess Jemimah A.N. Onumonu.

*Deaconess Clara Obianyi

*Deaconess Martha Okoroafo

Deaconess Everly Nwachukwu

Deaconess Sarah Ikoro



Deaconess Rose Ifidon



DEACONESS CAMPBELL

Deaconess Charity Olewengwa and Deaconess Chinyere Mbakwe.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

Solidarity among members.

Attendance of Deaconesses' Meeting.

Ministry Work to Bethels, Leper Colony e.g. Uzuakoli, Prisons, Hospitals, Orphanages and Healing Homes.

Aids to Bethels' and less fortunate brethren.

Organizing of Imo State Sisters' General Fellowship monthly from Zone to Zone.

Settlement of some disputes.

Provision of cooking utensils to new zones created.

There are 18 deaconesses in the executive

Names of officers

Deaconess Jemimah A.N. Onumonu (President)

Deaconess Martha Okoroafo (Secretary)

Deaconess Charity Olewengwa (Financial Secretary)

Deaconess Elizabeth Njoku (Treasurer)

Deaconess Clara Obianyi (Mother)

We pray the Almighty God to keep Deaconesses' Fellowship intact, continue to help us love one another and also make us righteous and equip us with His power to work diligently in this New Kingdom.

Thank You Father.

Deaconess Jemimah A.N. Onumonu President Imo State.

LAGOS

The branch of the Deaconesses Fellowship was established in Lagos in 1980 through the spiritual inspiration of the Father. This was done to enable us function hand in hand with the Deaconesses' Fellowship in the Headquarters in Calabar. The nucleus during the inception of the Fellowship consisted of



DEACONESS A.O.E. EKANEM

*Senior Deaconess Campbell

*Deaconess Oworen

*Deaconess Esemá

*Deaconess Ekanem

*Deaconess Glover

*Deaconess Konnu

*Deaconess & Evangelist Ita

*And very active and articulate Deaconesses in the persons of Kayode and Esera of Oyo Road Bethel also took part in the formation of the Fellowship.

Meanwhile the present strength of Deaconesses' Fellowship in Lagos area stands at one hundred and fifty members.

(Cont on Page 21)



Deaconess Peace Enyiangho

LAUNCHERS

ANAMBRA STATE

Deaconess G. Ojemeni - Enugu
Deaconess G. Chime - Enugu
Deaconess Agbakaba - Enugu
Deaconess Monica Ugochukwu - Nsukka
Deaconess Ada Njoku - Nsukka
Deaconess Arima - Onitsha
Deaconess Adirika - Oyoto
Deaconess Okereke - Ajali
Deaconess Okpala - Isulo
Other Deaconesses too numerous to name one by one and their Brothers are also launchers and supporters. All brethren are also launchers and supporters.

BENDEL STATE

Apostle and Sister P. Esewe
Pastor and Deaconess J.O. Elue
Pastor and Sister S.R. Nwajie
Pastor Ehi-Omon Zogie
Pastor and Deaconess W.U. Egharevba
Pastor and Deaconess J. Nwibo
Elder Mac Asore
Elder J. Oborevwo
All the Deaconesses from Bendel State are launchers and supporters.

LAUNCHERS FROM NORTHERN STATES -

Pastor J. Onokurhefe
Pastor Ayankop Andy
Apostle M.S.S. Mazzi
Deaconess Anita Charles
Elder Lawrence E. Okoye
Elder M.L.J. Akpan
Brother John Nwobodo
Elder Nwogu
Brother Michael Orua
Brother Samuel Anyim
Sister Theresa Aneke
Brother Peter Ugbugu
Prophet S. Okekumeta
Elder L.E. Ekanem
Elder Prince U.I. Ibeabuchi

All the Deaconesses from the Northern States are launchers and supporters.

CHIEF LAUNCHERS CROSS RIVER STATE:

Pastor C.O. Akpan and Deaconess Akpan
Pastor V.A. Essah and Deaconess Essah
Apostle B.U. Ukpog
Elder Etop and Prophetess Etop
Pastor M. Akwang and Deaconess Akwang

Senior Deaconess G.T. Usoroh
Elder I.B. Atai
Senior Deaconess M. Mong
Pastor and Deaconess G.E. Effiong
Senior Deaconess I.A. Ibia
Senior Pastor L.N. Itam and Deaconess Itam
Apostle Sunny J. Udo
Senior Pastor S.I.U. Etuk & Deaconess Etuk
Pastor O.U. Nsek & Deaconess Nsek
Pastor B.U. Usoro and Deaconess Usoroh
Apostle J.U. Etiebet
Pastor and Deaconess Inyang
Pastor L.E. Victor

RIVERS STATE

Senior Pastor E.J. Wakama
Senior Pastor K.W. Dapper
Pastor & Deaconess C.D. Clement
Pastor J.I. Iyo
Prophet T.K.O. Okorotie
Pastor and Deaconess Sunny Joe
Deaconess V.O. Lawson
Pastor & Deaconess Edward Lawson
All the Deaconesses from Rivers State are launchers and supporters.

THE LAGOS STATE WING OF THE DEACONESSSES' FELLOWSHIP LAUNCHES THE RED CARPET

Senior Pastor A.O.E. Ekanem - supported by Deaconess A.O.E. Ekanem.
Apostle Joe Brown supported by Deaconess Joe Brown.
Pastor Ejedawe supported by Deaconess M.O. Ejedawe
Deaconess A. Princewill
Deaconess Rose Ifidon
Deaconess Konnu
Pastor E.O. Ejobe supported by Deaconess E.O. Ejobe.
Pastor E.E. Joshua supported by Deaconess E.E. Joshua
Pastor J.E. Ogunyemi
Pastor M.J. Sanni
Pastor E.M. Cole
Pastor Badejoko supported by Deaconess Badejoko
Others are Deaconess Oworen, Deaconess Esemu, Deaconess Glover, Deaconess and Evangelist Ita, Deaconess Kayode, and all other Deaconesses from the Lagos State.

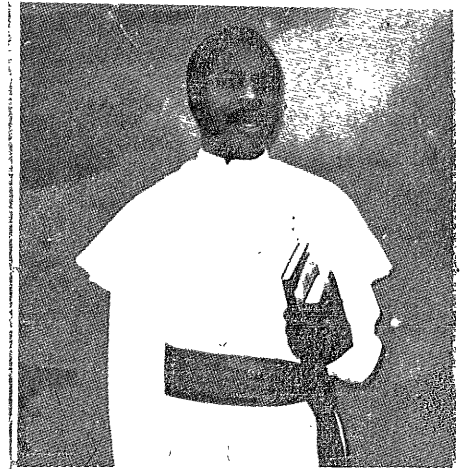
LAUNCHERS



Pastor A.O.E. Ekanem



Deaconess A.O.E. Ekanem



Apostle J.B. Agu



Pastor M. Akwang



Apostle E.E. Etop



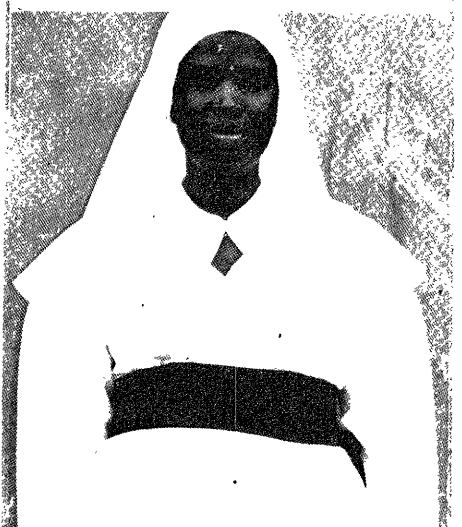
Deaconess J.B. Agu



Deaconess A.M. Akwang



Pastor V.A. Essah



Deaconess E.E. Etop

LAUNCHERS



Pastor C.O. Akpan



Senior Deaconess M.O. Mong



Pastor B. U. Usoro



Senior Deaconess G.T. Usoroh



Pastor M.O. Ejedawe



Senior Pastor S.I.U. Etuk



Senior Deaconess I.A. Ibia



Deaconess M.O. Ejedawe



Deaconess V. A. Essah

PROGRAMME

FOR THE 12TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEACONESSSES' FELLOWSHIP AND
THE LAUNCHING OF THE N250,000.00 FATHER'S ALTAR'S RED CARPET FUND

HOLDING ON SATURDAY 1ST JUNE, 1985

PART ONE

JUNE 1, 1985, DIVINE SERVICE AT 10.A.M. TO BE DELIVERED
BY THE SOLE SPIRITUAL HEAD, LEADER O. O. OBU

PART TWO

1. *Prayer by the Holy Mother*
2. *Introduction of Master of Ceremony, Apostle V.E. Ekpenyong by Apostle Fabian Obot*
3. *Opening Speech by the Chairman, Senior Pastor A.O.E. Ekanem and Senior Deaconess M. Mong.*
4. *Special Song by Lincoln Standard Choir*
5. *Recitation by Sister Theresa David King*
6. *Song by Abasi Obori Choir*
7. *Launching of the N250,000.00 Father's Altar's Red Carpet Fund*
8. *Light Refreshment*
9. *Return of Invitation Cards or Envelopes by Individuals.*

BETHELS, ASSOCIATIONS, FELLOWSHIPS, ORGANISATION ETC.

10. *Duet by Deaconess C.A. Umoh and co.*
11. *Introduction of the Deaconesses' Journal - The New Kingdom Deaconess*
- 12 (i) *Launch by the Chief Launcher - Apostle and Deaconess Joe Brown*
(ii) *Launched by Co-Chief launchers - Pastor and Deaconess M.O. Ejedawe*
(iii) *Launched by Apostle and Deaconess E.E. Etop*
(iv) *Launched by Senior Pastor and Deaconess S.I.U. Etuk*
(v) *Launched by Senior Pastor and Deaconess A.O.E. Ekanem*
(vi) *Launched by Pastor and Deaconess Opala Williams*
(vii) *Launched by Prophet and Sister Prince T.K.O. Okorotie*
(viii) *Launched by Pastor and Deaconess M. Akwang*
(ix) *Launched by Pastor and Deaconess E.O. Ejobe*
- (13) *Other launchers, supporters, Bethels, Associations, fellowships, Individuals etc.*
- (14) *Vote of Thanks by the Chairman of the occasion*
- (15) *Handing over the house to the Holy Father for blessing*
- (16) *Closing Remarks*
- (17) *LOVE FEAST.*

MISSION TO FOREIGN LANDS



By Irene Ulaeto

First of all I thank Olumba my God for His love and protection over me and my children since 1972 until now. I thank Him for having elected me (a sinner) as one of His missionaries and sending me abroad for His works.

It was revealed to me in 1979 September, to go to Ghana and rescue some of our Brethren there. I was a bit afraid owing to the fact that the coup that occurred in Ghana at that time made life there unsafe.

On my arrival in Ghana, the Holy Spirit directed me to our Brother's house and that was the first time of our knowing each other I had an implicit faith in Olumba that He

would be in front and behind. When the brother saw me, he was astonished and immediately asked me: "what message has the Father for me?"

I told him, let's pray so that I may be spiritually connected with the Father. While praying, the Father dashed in saying, "Deaconess; Tell my son that the war in Ghana was facing him at that moment; that He has come in the person of Deaconess Ulaeto to save him. Put in prayers for the soldiers will surround his house tomorrow morning by 8.30 a.m. for an intensive search. To avoid any trouble on you, call members of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star and make a full feast this evening in your house, that the feast will be used in taking away your troubles."

Brethren without any hesitation, the feast was hurriedly prepared that evening. The following morning at the exact time of 8.30 a.m. as prophesied by the Holy Spirit, some soldiers surrounded the house of brother Tei. They searched the whole house but nothing was found. Brother Tei was the right hand man of General Acheampong. You could imagine his situation at that time.

After the soldiers had searched brother Tei's house, the children of God went and conducted another feast at the brother's business place.

Brethren, Acheampong had already been detained pending the day he was to be executed. On the second day, a voice from the throne of God whispered to me that all indigenous contractors in Ghana will be arrested and detained and that Brother Tei would be arrested on Saturday. "This must come to pass so that my glory will be manifested in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ

(Contd. from Page 16)

The Executive consists of the following:-

- *Senior Deaconess Campbell. Chairperson.
- *Deaconess Iquo Inyang - Deputy Chairperson.
- *Deaconess Oworen - Secretary
- *Deaconess Badejoko - Treasurer
- *Deaconess Johnson - Financial Secretary.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

It is a pleasure to report that the Father has passed through the Deaconesses' Fellowship in Lagos to achieve a lot in the promotion of his work. These are some of the outstanding ones.

*We visited and distributed to the necessity of the inmates of the children's Homes, S.O.S. Village at Isolo, the old People's Home at Yaba, the Handicapped Children's Home, etc, and on each occasion the Father passed through us to pray and bless them.

*We have a well and fully functioning Maternity Home at Ojo Road, Lagos, which is exclusively supervised by the Lagos Zone's

LAGOS

Deaconesses' Fellowship

*We have undertaken evangelical Ministry work to Port Harcourt, Ibadan, Warri, Calabar as well as Biakpan, the Holy City and the birth place of our Holy Father, Leader O.O. Obu.

*Besides that, we have achieved a lot by accompanying other Deaconesses to go on evangelical Ministry tour worldwide to London in 1982, and the United States of America in 1983.

And above all, we have conducted meetings as a sort of ministry work in individual homes, firstly to ascertain their problems and secondly to spur up and enliven our members especially those who are weak or are backsliding. This house-to-house ministry work also promotes the spirit of love and togetherness as well as minimize individual problems spiritually and morally.

Thank you Father.

By Deaconess A.O.E Ekanem Lagos.

Amen," He said.

On the said Saturday all the contractors were arrested and detained. After that the Father ordered me to observe a three-day dry fasting that if I start on Friday, on Saturday being the second day of the fasting, Brother Tei will be arrested; then on the third day of my fasting which was a Sunday he shall be released. I was instructed by the Father to conduct a full feast with my money for the children on that Sunday by 7p.m. before the children would finish fasting, Brother Tei would be released. When I told Brother Tei's sisters the vision I had, they doubted it, saying, it was not likely that after having arrested him on Saturday, that he would be released on Sunday, a day that no officer goes to work until Monday. I answered them saying, "The glory of God must be manifested because God has every access to any difficult situation."

Brethren, Our God never fails; brother Tei who was held and locked up on Saturday, was re-

leased on Sunday as revealed by the Holy Father in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

While the children were eating the feast we had a telephone call from Brother Tei proclaiming "Hallelujah! Olumba, has released me". Not quite long after Brother Tei arrived at the house without wasting time, he carried me shoulder high and said: You are really a great visioner of God.

Your Ministry work does not end in Ghana; I am sending you to Overseas for holidays in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

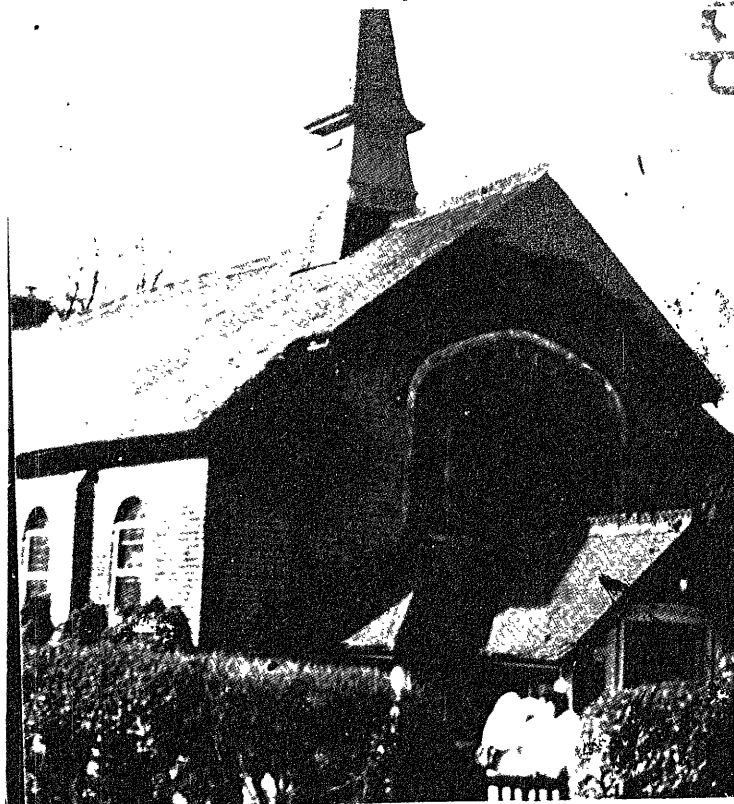
I was surprised and mummured with myself. "Eh- Overseas"? Not quite long I recalled the statement the Father made to me in 1978, when I wanted student Ime, Student Olumba, Student Comfort and myself to go to Overseas countries; but since there was a lot of hindrance and trouble, He called me and said. "Deaconess, go and relax, since you people are refused visas to travel, the time I shall send you abroad, you will not know, I will take you by surprise.

TOUR OF AMERICA.

On the September 16, 1980, I boarded the British Caledonian flight to London. The itinerary of my tour included London, America and Liberia. After landing in London on the evening of September 16, 1980, I left for the United States of America on September 23, 1980 I first of all stopped at New York where I spent four months. The bethels of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star were duly established in New Jersey and New York.

My first appearance was at the underground train station, where I felt, I would see many people who were none members. It is not a simple task to go into the midst of those you have never met before and get them convinced of your faith and belief, as far as religion is concerned. But through the power of Olumba in visions and prophesies, they were all converted to the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star. While we were in the underground train, I suddenly felt some sensational charge from the Holy Spirit. I tried to control myself. The Spirit started to swing me here and there and I worship God. The Father passed through me and released visions and prophesies to them. The whole train was plunged into a confused state but since the people realized the truths of the visions they were rather weak to react otherwise, but only to kneel down thanking God for such a glorious day for them.

I gave them the address of our Bethel in New York and many of them attended and became baptized. The Bethel was so packed full that it would not contain the new converts. Other people started to insinuate by telling them that I was using the power of Belzebub and not of God that the motive behind all my actions was to destroy their lives. As a result they started to backslide. I was so sad and worried. Irrespective of



Mill Hill Bethel, London

THE RED CARPET

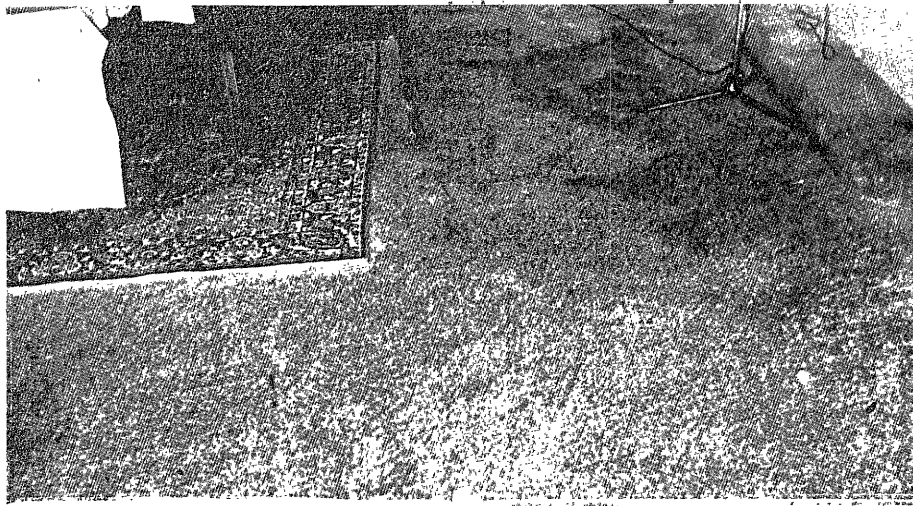
At secular level, the red carpet portrays the overwhelming importance of a person who walks on it. If it is a visit by one head of state or government to another country, what is termed 'red carpet reception' could be likened to a hero's welcome from the wars.

In the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, the colour red signifies the gospel and is only used by the Sole Spiritual Head, Leader O.O. Obu or whoever He authorizes to make use of it.

When, at the close of 1983, a vision came through Xt's Student Uwemedimo Otu to the Deaconesses' Fellowship to drape the floor of the Leader's altar with red carpet before January 1, 1984, the significance of the idea of red carpet was a matter of conjecture.

However, Leader Olumba deserves a hero's treatment and He is also the word of God. Therefore, the red carpet for Him to stand on is quite apt.

This week, the Red Carpet Fund is being launched. All members of B.C.S. who share the views of the Deaconesses' Fellowship on this matter are required to come out and launch this fund.



this, the Father did not relax in us. He always took us out at different corners of the states, to spread the Gospels of God. I was instructed by the Father to be on three days of dry fasting. I started the fasting and on the second day of my fasting, one of the outstanding rich men who after being baptized, promised to buy a very big house for the Father, (Bethel) but later back-slided due to the propaganda, telephoned me by night saying; "Sister Ulaeto, something has happened which I cannot understand. I am partly afraid and partly filled with joy". He said that, at about 2 a.m. while he was sleeping he heard a voice calling his name

"Tony, Tony my son, Why are you wasting time, I Olumba Olumba Obu the God of the Universe was calling you.

"I have sent this my missionary to save you people here and you will be saved in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen". He said, while this man was talking to him he opened his eyes and saw physically and transparently a man in a red garment, then he knelt down and prayed for forgiveness. The man after having this revelation came back to the fold as a member. Later on I was invited by some Europeans to visit them at Atlanta Georgia which I responded with joy. Many Europeans were conver-

ted and baptized by the Father and a new Bethel was opened by the Father for the members in Atlanta-Georgia.

At New Jersey, a lot of people were also baptized by the Father. At New Bronsiac, the Ibos as many as a whole village were converted by the Father through me and were very eager to come and see the Holy Father so as to be authorized to build their own Bethel. The Father passed through me and did a lot of Spiritual work in London on my way back to Nigeria.

I thank the Holy Father immensely for His love and guidance and pray for continual fortification of me, physically and Spiritually. For God to use a sinner like me for His glorious works on Earth is nothing but the fulfilment of the prophecy as recorded in the Book of Revelation 21:3-7 "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And He said unto me, it is done...."



Deaconess Guy O. Turay

'YOU ARE APOSTLES OF GOD!'

The Deaconesses are mothers and should show mercy, sympathy, and all the virtues of God towards all those whom they lead.

I am very happy to see how you are zealous about the kingdom and your love for the work of the Holy Father. I owe you nothing but blessing.

Since you started the Deaconesses' Fellowship have you been preaching? The turban is not blood but the word of God. Is there any Pastor who does not preach? You are chosen that you may preach. Calling you a Deaconess is one thing but have you been preaching? You have to preach and practise what you preach. Since you attained your present rank have you done your work?

The Spirit of God directs you to form this fellowship. You have to spread the gospel not only in your homes but also outside Nigeria. Consider women like Mary Slessor. She was not better than you. If you go on outing people would be envious to see women preach. Your main duty is to preach.

Have you ever asked yourselves the meaning of the red turban you use in common with the Apostles and Evangelists? I use red soutane.

I was delighted when you came and requested for the opportunity of having a Deaconesses' Fellowship. We lack nothing in the Brotherhood but the gospel does. You are selected because you are the gospel. Therefore, you should preach the gospel to the whole world. Do not be afraid of men, when you go to preach do so with zeal and God will use you to convert people. Read Matthew 10:26-27. "Fear them not therefore, for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed and hid that shall not be known."

"What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the house tops."

It appears you appreciate the gospel more than the men. You are mothers so go and preach without fear. Anyone who is conscious about God does not need a lot of advice. Always allow the spirit of God to direct you

Deaconesses are those who should be strong in the work of God; they should have all the virtues of God. They should always help to maintain the Church. From the beginning of the world the women who had faith in God were those selected to take care of the Church. Some men are more convinced when a woman preaches to them than men.

Your parents deny you but God takes you and you are making a joke with yourselves. You should spread your love evenly to everybody and have in mind that you are real Deaconesses.

Your name has appeared in the scriptures and any Deaconess who holds fast to her faith in working earnestly for God, the same book will be given her. You should not come to this meeting as women Fellowship, you should come with full mind to plan and work for God, for you all are mothers.

Your good works should be shown also outside; do not fight, do not quarrel do not tell lies, do not hate or cause division anywhere. Do not speak foul words from your mouth.

If you can take good care of your husband, children, neighbours, you can take good care of the Church.

There are so many who are anxious about this Red Turban and wish to have it from me. It is the way we do it that people are jealous about us. Philippians 2 Verse 2-3. "Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind, Let nothing be done through strife, or vain glory; but in lowliness of mind, let each esteem other better than themselves".

You all should take this lesson home, be of one heart, one mind and do not think that you are better than others. Look first to your name as a Deaconess for this is the greatest thing for you.

When I come to you, I want to see everybody rejoicing. The Kingdom of God is happiness and joy. Do not shine only while here. Do you not know that the Red Turban you wear is the Red clothe I wear which is the word of God? Most men do not practise the word of God, but you women do. You can arrange and pair up yourselves for open air service to Port Harcourt or anywhere you choose, to win souls. That is what I want from you.

Your work is to do the work of God, to preach to men and women and bring them to the fold. I do not want you to say that I am a woman. If you call yourself a woman, give back my turban to me. There is a reason I elect you as Deaconesses because men are tricksters and fornicators, so I have chosen you to practise the gospel for men to see. Your position is equivalent to the Apostles. Do you not see, you are mere women and I give you Red Turbans?

In spirit, you are all men. You are prophets of old who were killed for the gospel. All of you Deaconesses, your husbands are in your pockets. That is why I choose you to challenge men because you are strong and obedient. I told the Pastors to be prepared so that you may not pocket them. You have faith and are lovers of God.

What worries you is the saying that women should

not preach but you forget that with the Red turban you are free to preach.

I get many letters requesting for women workers. If you get twenty men believers and a woman believer, the only woman would win more souls than twenty men. Do not allow my hope in you to be in vain for I boast about Deaconesses. You should not only be hearers but should practise the word of God, (Romans 16:1-2).

I am happy to see you being so bright. I am also happy about your outing and the way you started your meeting. If I were not a Deaconess I could have lamented. Think on how to spread the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star in the world. Do not be an eye-servant, be of good behaviour before me. (Roman 8:6), and at all times.

That is the advice I want to give to all the Deaconesses.

A servant cannot serve two masters. When I arrived, I heard you talk about trading. I told you not to mix up the serving industry with Deaconesses' meeting. To think about things of the flesh is death but to think of spirit is life and peace. Do not talk about monetary affairs. If you had discussed spiritual things the house could have been lively. If you want to trade, tell me and I give you money. When you come to the Deaconesses' Fellowship meeting, I want you to discuss spiritual matters to awaken your spirits. Now I want a powerful spiritual song to shake the house so as to drive away the spirit of money and materialism.

If you want to do the work of God I will support you. There is no trouble in your meeting only I want you to think spiritually and not think of the flesh, no matter the gravity of your problems. All other businesses are under the Globemaster. There, everything about money is discussed. In this meeting, do not talk about money.

Last time I asked you what red turban signified. Is it not the gospel? How many stations have you Deaconesses opened? What colour of the turban do the Apostles and Evangelists use? It is the same gospel. Have you been doing the work of the Evangelists? You should go out on missionary work and open up new bethels, here there is no Brotherhood. If you do not want to preach, I will change the colour of your turbans. Your place is higher than that of the Pastors. You are like the Apostles. I want you to preach and not to talk about money. Do you know that I parade you as a challenge to men? The women have tried but the men sit back to say we are saved by grace. If a woman does not fornicate, tell lies, indulge in charms and secret societies, what stops you from spreading the Gospel? Was Mary Slessor not a woman? She had no Holy Spirit but you have. Yet you cannot spread the gospel. Stop talking about



LEADER O.O. OBU

money.

Many people begin to count all that they have done for God. What can you do for Him? He is the owner of everything in the universe. What then can you do for Him? I have heard you singing one chorus "The wonderful name which is written at the hem of His Garment, Leader Olumba, King of Kings." I would like to hear it once more (song and blessing)

Deaconesses are those who have great love for God. Do you not see the verses read to you from the Bible - (Romans 16: 1-3)? It is all the same thing because you are Deaconesses of old who have come again to rule in the present world. Therefore, I thank my father for the wonderful outing they have done today.

What I have done emanates from the depths of my heart. You should not only perform this before me but show the same activities to the outside world for you all shall have your reward sooner or later. Hannah begged God for a child and when it was at the fullness of time, God fulfilled His promise.

Deaconesses do not make mistakes for they do everything accordingly and peacefully. Why I said that Deaconesses do not make mistakes I meant that men are filled with arguments and tricks. But God gave the following virtues to women: Love, Patience Humility, Kindness, Meekness and all the good virtues enumerated in the "First Step to God." Whenever I hear a man abusing a woman normally I feel like weeping because I really value women.

Men are likened to fire while women are water. Any time a man is highly infuriated and when once a woman goes near and talks peacefully to him with sweet words of advice, the man will cool down immediately. That is why a woman is able to Rule England more smoothly and peacefully than a man.

It was because of Esther's humility that she was selected among the lot and made a Queen, then a crown was put upon her head.

Every woman is born with a crown on her head but when she comes, she commits all sorts of sins and as such she misses that crown. That is why I come to remove you from all your tribulations, for you were not meant to suffer in such ways. If you visit prison cells you will see a few women but men are in thousands..

Please if you are having a grudge against anybody, remove such a person entirely from your mind and ask God to forgive you and give you patience and endurance. God has entered the body of women to reveal His work.

You have been given power to go to the market square and other places for God knew you were fit to do it before He calls you. If you were called as a Queen, you are now made a messenger of God. You should not complain that you are a woman for in Christ there is no man or woman but Christ is all and in all. If you look at the Deaconesses, you will see that they are the pillars of their family.

You should not think that I did not know you before I called you.

Men have been preaching but you women must preach for most men are converted through your preaching. If anybody knows what is right to do and refuses to do it, it is a Sin. Read 2 John Verse 9-10.

"Whoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there comes any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed."

The teachings you have received from Christ hold fast to it, for it will be through this gospel that your husbands will be called to God.

You are to be humble to your husbands. Do not listen to any strange teachings, that you and your husband are equal, then you use this chance to do him what you like. A good Deaconess in BCS must be submissive to her husband.

The purity I see among the Deaconesses' Fellowship is great, if only you can see yourselves the way you shine. The greatest thing in this New Kingdom of God is purification. It is from you that the men will change.

In any function you are invited you must attend. Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is the New Kingdom of God. It is not a Church. 1st Timothy 2:12. I do not want you to teach your husbands. Your preachings cannot convert them. For a woman to preach to a man is likened to filling a basket with water. It is your patience humility that will change your husbands. I know you want your husbands to

be good but God has not given you the ability to reform them. Let your good manners be your weapon. Stop talking too much to him, surrender all your problems to God in prayers.

A woman's voice can be annoying to his husband. If your husband and you have no patience, with your red turban you will be fighting and quarrelling. I will be at a corner in your house watching both of you. It is written that women will suffer torments in flesh in the hands of men. You have to bear your difficulties.

This meeting was founded before the foundation of the world was laid.

I am very happy with you. Any one who has a child that obeys him such a fellow is proud of that child. I am proud of the Deaconesses for you hear my voice and hearken to it.

I know most of you, your husbands are obstacles to you and even your children. Do not worry yourself for they all will be good, because of you.

You should not be tired of doing good. You should not relax in your work saying that you are now a Deaconess or a mother in Brotherhood. Do not be slack because people whom you help are ungrateful to you. Even when we are abused while doing good we should not be tired. You do not gain anything good from doing evil. Do not relax your efforts simply because you are a deaconess. The saying that goes thus, "The first shall be the last and the last shall be first" refers to those after doing good, sometimes because of persecution and false accusation turn to practise evil. One can be living in sin for 99 years and towards the end he or she repents, there would be great joy in heaven. Likewise if you are doing good for 99 years and then you start doing evil, you will be punished. My advise to you is not to be weary in doing good.

The public will be pleased to see the Deaconesses' bus. Well, that is not the only goal. What matters most is how you live in your homes with your neighbours, in your offices and people around you. I expect more progressive ideas from you. Each and everyone of you should use the talents given to you in serving God. All I want from you is love, happiness etc.

When you get home ponder over this, that what the Father wants from all these fellowships are those who love God with all their hearts.

Why must divide-and-rule tactics be found among you? It is so that the Father will know those groups who serve Him with one mind. Each group has its own messages and assignments. Do not, because you are a Deaconess, fail to attend other meetings, for if you do so you will have yourself to blame. The Father does not sleep so His children should not sleep.

Read Matthew 17:12. To be called a Deaconess or

a Sister is not enough. Whatever you want that people should do for you, do same for others, for that is the law and the prophets. If you do not attend other fellowships, nobody will attend your own. If you say you are mothers but relax only to pass orders to people, you will fail in your assignment. You can only find that in the world. This message is not only for you but for the entire world. We are all debtors, we have to reap what we sow. There is no person whose reward is evil when she is good.

You have forgotten that when you plant a seed you must reap at the harvest time.

Another person will reward you even though it will not be the very person for whom you did some good. The person who avenges for you is not necessarily your brother. As mothers; as Angels in this New Kingdom, whatever you expect from others, you first do the same to them. Nothing will be bad for us, so long as we continue to do to others that which is expected of us. You should not look at others, such a spirit is common among the sisters. Why do you fear accusation? If the deaconesses knew what the Holy Father had done for each and everyone of them, they would buy so many buses. Look at how the Holy Father has reformed most of your stubborn husbands. However, you have witnessed God's glory in your children and the entire homes. If you want greetings, greet people first, visit them, love them, and all will come back to you.

My advice to you is that never you grumble against the Holy Spirit. Whatever you see in your life give thanks to Him. Anybody who abuses the Son of man will be forgiven but anyone who grumbles or blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. It is the worst sin for one to commit but this same is common among the womenfolk. It is even better for one to commit other sins than murmur or blaspheme against the personified Holy Spirit.

Do you not remember when Job's wife tried to force the husband to grumble against God but Job refused. He said that whatever God does is good and perfect. He came into the world naked and naked He would return. In your own case, God called you out of His own grace to enjoy this New Kingdom, but the slightest happening, you blaspheme against, the name of God. What a chic for you to murmur against your Creator! This message is not only for the Deaconesses but for the entire world.

You receive a lot of punishment because of this particular sin. You have heard what happened in the time of Noah, when flood came and destroyed the whole world. God saved only eight people. Who questioned Him? During the time of Lot He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah and saved Lot and his family. Who questioned Him? Any family who question Him will never go without being punished. If Christ grum-

bled against God I do not think He would have resurrected from death.

Some of you boast about wealth, some children, some say that they are from royal families. Do not glory over wealth and good health of this life for all these do not belong to you. You should not be proud because your children are in the university. How many of you are proud because they have done that duty for which they were sent to do?

I want to compare the things of this world with the Heavenly things for you. There was a widow who had four children, two boys and two girls. God told her that she had an assignment but she pleaded that God should wait for her to train her children first, build a family house and take care of all other worldly things.

She trained her four children and all graduated. She pleaded with God to provide them with good wives and husbands and to settle them in their families.

After that she wanted to build a family house for the four children. She became a centre of attraction.

One night when she came back from her parties, God called her soul and that was the end of her life. She was thrown into hell fire for not accomplishing her assignment while she lived. After two weeks, her first son died and was also placed among the unbelievers because the mother refused to obey God. One after the other the four children died within two months. They were all thrown into hell because their mother failed to do the work of God.

Tell me then, upon all their education and worldly wealth, they all perished and their souls also perished. You struggle for husbands, wives and children which will take you to nowhere. I boast in the word of God and not in these worldly things. If all your hopes are based on your children, husbands and every other worldly thing, search your minds whether you have done what you were sent to do.

In Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, there are different worlds. Some are in prison, some in hospitals, some are suffering tribulations and while some are very happy and things are moving well with them.

This is so because the other person who comes to Brotherhood, hearkened to the voice of the Lord and forsook all sins, while the other group buried themselves deeply in sin. Both cannot be in the same world. Women weep a lot. At any slightest problem you weep thereby grieving the Holy Spirit in you. I have injected love into you and this will make you not to cry. Weep no more for your saviour is here with you. It is for this that I have come.

Even if you are sick, hit your forehead and call upon the great doctor, He will certainly heal you in a twinkling of an eye. Your problem is lack of faith. When you see Christ, you also see the Father and when you see the Father you see the Son. The

(Cont. on Page 29)

THE REAL DEACONESS

Unity is Strength. This is an age-long human philosophy. It is one thing to become a member of any organization like a Fellowship and another to participate fully and actively in that set-up for the overriding interest of all. But in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Father, love is the pivot on which other virtues of God revolve.

In love, there is no darkness and no occasion of stumbling on the way. It is not just enough to obtain a red turban from the Holy Father, and then refuse to utilize it judiciously. It is said that faith without work is dead. Unproductive deaconesses are just a liability to the Fellowship. No single person can really feel that he or she is indispensable or that he or she has a monopoly of all virtues including wisdom. It is only God that has them all.

The age long tendency in our female folks to be jealous of one another should completely be eschewed from the deaconesses otherwise it would be a trying task to mix old wine with a new one. Jealousy, acrimony, backbiting, pettiness, hatred and discrimination

should not be found among the Deaconesses. A good Deaconess should be a wife to only one husband and not one wife to many husbands. Anything short of this, such a Deaconess deserves no place of honour.

From time immemorial, it had been the duty of the women to take care of the church and at this time of the end of the world the Deaconesses ought to even work harder.

A good Deaconess should know that she is the bride of God, while the Father is the Bridegroom. The bride, therefore should do all she can to please her Bridegroom, hence a bride is supposed to be devoid of vices and should keep pure at all times.

The Deaconess of the New Kingdom should be a model of modesty and good conduct. She should be an embodiment of all good virtues and of exemplary disposition. If you find yourself incompatible among the red turbaned Deaconesses, and your subconsciousness tells you to vacate this Fellowship, do so or you turn over a new leaf.

It is the duty of a good Deacon-

ess to always contribute towards ameliorating the wants of the less fortunate ones in the fold as well as support the full-time workers in the vineyard. A Deaconess who is worthy of this position should neither use it as a position of dishonour nor perpetrate tribalism and racial acrimony. She should always think of what she could do to please God and man. She should not lord over a man no matter his position in life, and should reserve herself only for our Lord Jesus Christ. She should live in a family or home which is stable and God-fearing and peaceful.

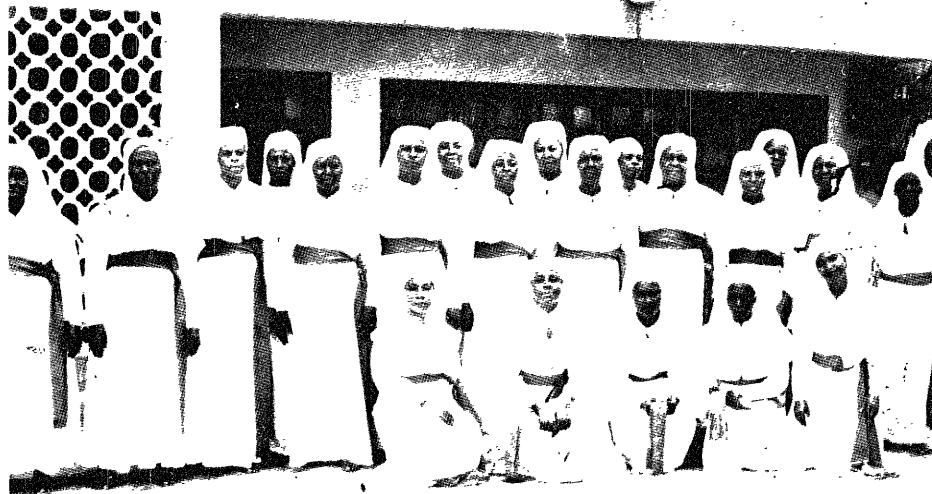
A Deaconess should adjust herself properly to suit the prevailing economic condition of a country or place she lives in order to avoid problems. Any Deaconess who puts all these and lots more of the Holy Father's teachings into practice is on the right track, but anybody who does not do so should ask the Father to give her the ability to practise them, because our Holy Father is ever ready to assist all willing souls. He listens to the prayers of those who practise His words, but turns His face from those who are not willing to practise this injunction, (1st Peter 3: 10-13: 2nd Peter 3:9).

BENEFIT

I cannot count the blessings I have received from God the Father since the Father gave me the responsibility of writing for this great Fellowship.

One of the benefits, if I can mention a few, is going on Ministry work Overseas. Who could have made it possible for me to join in this wonderful journey but for the love of God. Here a lot has been learnt and I have been much enlightened. I even had the opportunity to see those places I did study in History in school.

May thanks and glory be to God in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



PRESS COMMENTS:

OBU'S HUMBLE AS ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH

Moved by the growing popularity and fanatical acceptance of their music infatuated with the charisma of their newly acquired image, John Lennon, the Leader of one of Britain's top pop groups, the "Beatles," is reported to have said that "If Jesus Christ came back to the world, He would for sure not be as popular as the Beatles."

For this statement, a lot of upbraiding and not spleen were unleashed on the group. In the end, the Christian world accused Brotherhood of the Cross and Star or John Lennon of Blasphemy. Yet the Beatles with childish oneness remained adamant and showed no remorse for their leader's outburst.

It is however an irony of history that this once popular group should have crashed to the petty ranking of 'gutter-sweepers' with the same fan-fare which saw them rise to 'olympian heights.'

In popularity and world acclaim, Olumba Olumba Obu is equal only to the defunct antithetical professional Beatles Rock Group. Mesmerising and enchanting, His charisma stirs riot among His many adherents.

But whereas the Beatles claimed superiority to Christ, Obu is as humble as the Ethiopian eunuch.

And whereas the Beatles preached pop revolution, Obu preaches the sermon of the Brotherhood of man.

Hanging loosely above these congruencies and dissimilarities is whether or not, Olumba Olumba Obu will like the Beatles end up like a "blasphemous" prophet. Because despite His denials many have put forward several allegations all testifying to His claim of being the Christ reborn.

To this end, He has been visualised as one of the

(Contd. from Page 27) **APOSTLES**

trouble with the entire world is that they feel Christ was only the Son of Mary and do not believe in Him. He is the only way through which we can see God.

Call on the Lord at all times and you will see the glory of God. I have never taught you about Bethels, you are the Bethel and He is always in you. Listen

to God's words for He knows all things. Before anything happens to you, the Lord knows. Can you recall that time He was in the boat, that boat is you. So He sees and knows everything about you. He only chooses to keep quiet. The injunction is hereby quoted: Knock and it shall be opened. Always pass through Him for all things are under His control, Heb. 7. 24-25.

Christ is the middle man between God and man. This is why we always pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

false prophets which the Bible had earlier predicted. Some call Him another 'Jesus of Oyingbo.' while to a great many fake 'Jesus,' to warrant scepticism of the real expected Son of God.

But who and what really is Olumba Olumba Obu? Calabar, the capital of Nigeria's South-Eastern State now Cross River State is noted for its religiousness so much that the town has to its credit nearly 300 religious organisations. One of these, is the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, whose Sole Spiritual Head is Olumba Olumba Obu.

Born in the little village of Biakpan in the northern division of the State, Olumba said He had the divine call at the age of 5.

Biakpan as a town is said to have the setting of the Biblical Bethlehem where Jesus was born. Many stories allegedly testify to the peculiarity of Biakpan as the "Chosen place". One of such stories speaks of the existence of a "Garden of Eden" with all types of fruits (except perhaps the forbidden fruit) to which no one has established ownership.

All these His adherents purport and with relevance to Olumba's wonderful performances that He must according to the place of His birth be the rightful image of the second Christ.

Many testimonies have been given about these wonderful performances. These range from small healing to the raising of the dead.

The credibility of His "divine" knowledge and power have strong support from the quality of His followers. Permanent secretaries, doctors of philosophy, clergies from other denominations, leaders of governments and high ranking citizens form the ecumenical hierarchy of the organisation.

The organisation itself has branches in almost all the continents of the world, while its bishopric includes American, English and black pastors.

When I arrived at the premises of the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star at 34, Ambo Street, Calabar there was electric movement everywhere. The Brotherhood school, the Brotherhood Press and the Evangelical School of Practical Christianity were all agog with activities.

An usher, a fair lady in her twenties, and bare of feet met at the reception hall, where the clerks on duty were seriously engaging themselves on the topic of "death" between the rattling of the type-writer and the ruffling sound of the duplicating machine. One of them handed to me a copy of the Leader's sermon entitled "Glorify God and not man". I read through the four-page document without the usher bringing me word as to the possibility of my meeting

with the Spiritual Head.

When all hope was nearly lost, as I had been told how difficult it was to see the Leader on such a short notice and coupled with the doubt that the "Father" might not approve of my interview with Leader Obu, the girl reappeared and conducted me and cameraman De Opus into the Leader's private home.

I did not believe my eyes as I was offered a seat in the room. Was I before Leader Obu? Then I remembered a popular Efik saying that "heroes normally don't possess huge legs".

Obu is a very slim man with oval face. There was nothing gorgeous in His carriage nor in His attire. He wore a sleeveless singlet and a loin cloth and was reclining on a small vono bed.

Then the dialogue.

CHRONICLE: "Good afternoon Sir, I wish to have a chat with you concerning your church.

OBU: Welcome, but I have no church.

CHRONICLE: I am talking about the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star.

OBU: Ours is no church, nor a religious denomination. It's just Brotherhood and all of us including you belong to the Brotherhood. But I wonder what you want to know more. You have heard and you have seen, what next? I will not tell you further, because there is nothing you are going to write that will change the world. I don't need any publicly

CHRONICLE: Do you mean that I should judge you from what the public say and think about you and the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star?

OBU: Who are you to judge anybody? People are entitled to think differently and there is freedom of speech, so anyone is free to say anything.

CHRONICLE: Leader Obu, You are rather rhetoric in your reply. Could we face the realities of the situation in a more lucid language. For example they say you were a native doctor before now. Is that right?

OBU: Native doctor? I have never been a native doctor. I was a trader. That's why I said, there is nothing you can write that will change the world. These rumours are the work of evil people. Please refer to Matthew 12 verses 34-37 (The beautiful usher girl turned the pages of a Bible) and read: "You brood of vipers, how can you speak good when you are evil? The good man out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgement men will render account for every careless words they utter".

That's what the Bible says and it should not surprise you that people will say all bad things against

me, because they are evil.

A native doctor believes in juju, which I don't. If I were one, I shouldn't have done what I am doing. And mark you I am not a Christian convert. Being a convert is different from being born into a faith.

CHRONICLE: You have said that Brotherhood is not a religious sect, what does it really mean?

OBU: You can pray to a stick or any monument, that becomes your religion, but Brotherhood means God, Christ and the Angels. It means the people of this world, the fishes in the water, the trees in the forest, the grass that grow in the fields. It means the ground on which we walk. Brotherhood means the sky, the wind, the moon, the sun, the stars. It means the worms, the ants, the birds. Brotherhood means, every four footed animal and every creeping thing. In short Brotherhood means everything created by God. Brotherhood means oneness. God and everything created by Him put together are Brotherhood.

CHRONICLE: What is the origin of this teaching of yours?

OBU: Except you want to know the origin of God. Brotherhood was not founded even by Christ. Angels or men. It was founded by God Himself. God the founder is LOVE. Brotherhood thrives on Love, truth, good manners, mercy and patience. It is humility, meekness, unity.

CHRONICLE: What of the Cross and Star?

OBU: Christ said anybody who wants to follow me but does not want to take up the Cross after me cannot be my follower. Carrying the Cross does not mean carrying a piece of wood on your shoulder. The Cross can be light but it could also be heavy. For the world to be in perfect peace each of us should agree to carry the Cross.

By what means does one convert a smoker, a snuffer, a fornicator, a thief, a murderer, a back-bitter or a liar? It is by carrying the Cross.

The Cross means bearing one another's burden without complaining, tolerating all kinds of sinners. If for example, one accuses you falsely yet you stand firm with Christ, then you are carrying the Cross. The Star is Christ. The Star is the revelation of God and indicates the reign and the glory of Christ. The Star does not refer to the whole constellation group above. The Star is the peace of the Almighty God that governs the universe. It is not just enough for any person to be a Brotherhood only or carry the Cross. To be worthy children of the kingdom of God we must be of the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star. The Star indicates those who will rule and are ruling with Him. The Ruler of Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is the Star.

CHRONICLE: (interruptedly): Is that yourself?

OBU: Not me. That is Christ and Christ is not alone. We worship the Star, which is Christ and not the Cross which exists in the world. The Star is the glory that reigns over the world.

In His first coming, Christ passed through pains and tribulations. The primary aim of His second coming is to rule in glory.

He has arrived with the Father to live with men on earth.

It is worthy to note that the wise men did not ask where was Jesus or Christ. They did not do so because they did not know Him by those names. There have been so many Christs or Jesuses, for example Bar-Jesus. The wise men saw His Star. Therefore if you call Him Star, you are correct. Do not call Him Christ. Many are fighting about His name.

CHRONICLE: Have you been to school or a theological seminary?

OBU: What has given rise to that question? In any case I have never attended any theological institute but I went to school as a child.

CHRONICLE: Leader Obu, how old are you and who are your parents?

OBU: Please refer to Matthew 23 verse 9 and 10. What does it say?

The girl usher read the portion, this time louder: "Call no man your father on earth, for you have one father who is in heaven. Neither be called Master, for you have one Master, the Christ". You can also read Matthew 12 verse 46-50.

CHRONICLE: Then it means you came into the world in a strange manner?

OBU: I came through a channel. That is my carnal Father. It is now 20 years since I visited Biakpan where I was born.

Now that I have mentioned Biakpan. Why not go there and see things for yourself?

CHRONICLE: Leader Obu, many of your adherents say that you are Christ, and this statement has led to many charges against the Brotherhood blasphemy. Are you really the Christ?

OBU: It is true that many of them have said such things arising from the wonderful acts which have been performed here. We have cured several sicknesses, even hernia. A dead man has been raised after seven days lying in state. All these are baffling achievements. But it is the Father who has been doing all these works.

The entire world is my witness, even to the angels I have never said that I am God. For you to say that a man is God or that Olumba Olumba Obu is God, puts you off gear through the gospel. I have warned that no one should make such a statement that Olumba

Obu is Christ. Anyone who makes such a statement is a stumbling block to others.

CHRONICLE: Why are you called Leader?

OBU: To call me a Leader this is true, because God has provided a living example for you in me, in order to lead you to God's Kingdom.

The qualities you see in me are for you to imitate. I am a model. I don't smoke, drink or worship juju, you can come into my bedroom. (I followed him into his bedroom). Do you see any candle, cross or image here? (I nodded approval and we returned to the outer room).

CHRONICLE: You don't smoke or drink. Is it not ironical that your own children smoke, drink and patronise the hotels? Infact they don't even attend your worship?

OBU: Have you ever seen me smoke, drink or go to the Hotel? Answer me. (I said "Never"). Right, if I may ask, who are my children? My friend I have no children. You all here are my children. Anybody who hears my words and does what I say is my child. In any case what does Galatians Chapter 6 verses 4-5 say - "But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbour. For each man will have to bear his own load."

Those people you call my children, well, I am only a channel whereby they have come into the world. Every man will be judged according to his own work. Do you understand?

CHRONICLE: Going back to your definition of Brotherhood do you mean that even murderers, fornicators and rogues are members of the Brotherhood since they are all God made?

OBU: Young man, you are consumed in your intelligence. Indeed it was the wish of the Father that I should talk with you, otherwise I couldn't have. You ask intelligent questions. If only the world will understand. Well, murderers, fornicators and so on are all in the Brotherhood, but they are the lost sheep. Therefore, you have to help them but by carrying the Cross which I had earlier explained.

Remember "All of us like sheep have gone astray it is our duty to pray for the lost sheep."

CHRONICLE: It is alleged that you are a member of the "EKPINON" cult and that you sacrifice some of your members to enrich your powers. To back up this allegation, it is said that you never attend the burial of any of your dead members in keeping with the law of the cult.

OBU: (with a big laughter): It is all false. I do not belong to that cult. The membership of the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star is very large. If I attend one burial without attending the other, I

will be accused of partiality. I have many pastors to administer to the needs of members. In any case, why should the world attach so much importance to death?

CHRONICLE: What do you think of death and re-incarnation. Leader?

OBU: Can we hear what the book of the 1st Corinthians Chapter 15 verses 35 and 36 says on this (The girl read out): But some one will ask, "How foolish man! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies." Don't you see that we die to live? People often confuse physical death with the spiritual death or slumber as I may call it, that is when a person is no more breathing. He lies inactive and mute. He is not alive because the generator which activates the cells of his body and makes it move is withdrawn.

During physical death, it is the flesh which is generally affected. The spirit is taken off the man by the owner (God) and is sent out on another errand, perhaps to the Soviet Union where he is translated from his spiritual existence to mortal and is called a mortal name. This is the physical death which is the one heard daily here and there.

There is nothing at all like death speaking frankly, but transformation of beings for assignment in other planes. Anyone physically dead must physically re-incarnate. All living at present today on earth are parents of the past ones. Each one of us has undergone several physical re-incarnations unknown to us but known to the Supreme Power (God). Therefore whether you cry or not you must undergo this process as many times as may suit the Supreme of the spirits.

THE WOMAN AND B.C.S.

The universally accepted concept that a body without the spirit is dead holds true also of this other truth that any organization without the visible role of women is virtually incomplete.

Ideally, in the Brotherhood of the Cross and Star, the doctrine of equality has been emphasized. The personified Holy Spirit enjoins that all men and women should work together in all spheres of their daily lives as the integral combination of both. Incidentally, a man is only one half and the woman is the remaining half. To this end a man may be a fierce motivator while the woman could be a cooling activator in the peaceful and stable development of the human system.

Apparently, there are not many successful things that can be done without the participation of well meaning women. They are after all the channels through which great men, women, spirits, angels and even God Himself pass into the world. We have been privileged to come to the realization of the truth that God is a consuming fire and in view of this He can only come into this world not as fire which burns, but through the

womb of a woman which is a cooling system.

The age long biblical concept and the societal norm of human behaviour towards women is that women are the weaker vessels. Carnally, this concept holds true of the feminine situation, but spiritually women and men are equal before God.

For every successful venture including home management in spiritual and in mundane world, there must be women. A woman is conceived to be a concomitant factor in progress of any development. This holds true of the dream of Joseph when he was yet young he saw in his dream the sun, the moon and eleven stars bowing down to worship a single star. This single star represented himself. The father was symbolized by the sun the mother the moon, while the children were represented by the stars, (Genesis 37: 9-10). Hence the role of women in any organization cannot be over-emphasized.

Right from time immemorial, women had been having remarkable roles to play in the creation of human history and in most, if not in all cases, they have been the

cause of the rise or fall of great empires and governments. In secular and in celestial circles, their presence or absence can always make a very big difference.

That is why the organisational pattern in the Brotherhood fold is unique simply because the women who are mainly the inevitable moderators are given their rights of place. In several situations, they introduce certain concepts and the men copy from them and the Holy Father's ratification follows. For



By Elder E.U. Ette.

instance they first started through spiritual inspirations the annual celebration of the birthday of the Universal Queen Ibum Mba Olumba Obu. The men copied and followed up with Father's Day anniversary celebration which now forms part of annual Calendar of events of this great Kingdom.

In the biblical era, as could be recapitulated in the following testimonies, women had had very serious roles to play without which things could have gone wrong. There was this case of Mary Magdalene anointing the feet of our Lord Jesus Christ with very costly spikenard of sweet scented aroma and fragrance. Women were the first to go and see the body of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the sepulchre and to ascertain whether or not He had arisen from death as predicted. Similarly, Rahab the harlot, a woman of great repute saved the lives of the spies from Israel who went to the walled city of Jericho for espionage. In another development, it was a widow who fed Elijah during his mission to Zarephath of Sidon to perform God's assignment, (Mtt. 12:3; James 2:25; 1 Kings 17:9-24).

The roles of the women ordained priests, otherwise called the Deaconesses in New Kingdom of God are many, and cannot be sufficiently enumerated here. But suffice to say that they have contributed so much in the general development of the New Kingdom of God on earth. They have successfully undergone the evangelical trips to various parts of the world, and as a matter of fact they were the first women from black Africa to tour Europe and United States of America for evangelical crusade, to mention just a few. Conversely, history has taken a different dimension in this last age. Formerly it was the whites who came to evangelize Africa which they called the dark continent. They dominated all fields of human endeavours, but in this last and lucky generation, it has been

the turn of the blacks in fulfilment of the recorded words of God (Genesis 27:38-40) which went thus that at the end of age, the blacks shall take dominion over the entire world. The situation in South Africa cannot be said to be the work of the flesh and blood, but that of the Father, the God of reconstruction.

The Deaconesses have not been left out in the general implementation of physical projects. They have successfully carpeted the front of the Holy Father's altar in the Headquarters with the latest model of red rug carpet. They are at present embarking on another very important but inevitable proposal of going on evangelical tours abroad to fish out all the lost sheep of God roaming about in various parts of the world.

As the Holy Father has ascertained that He would give spiritual and material support to any proposal which is good, we implore Him to use His Red-turbaned (signifying the Word of God) Deaconesses as sweet mothers, the instrumentality of salvation to the lost souls scattered all over various parts of the world before the end comes, hence everybody in Brotherhood must support them.

Thank You Father.

TESTIMONY

Death To Life

I was dead and the Father brought me back to life. This was a clear proof to me that Olumba Olumba Obu is God and controller of life and death.

I was dead and as I was taken to the other world, I saw myself standing at a very big gate. There at the Gate, there ensued an argu-

ment between me and the gatekeeper. He ordered me to get back as my work on the earth plane was not completed.

I said 'No', and after a long argument, the Holy Father appeared and asked me to kneel down and as I knelt down, the Father ordered some grey bearded Prophets such as Adam to pray over me.

After the prayers, the Father held me by the hand and handed me over to Pastor K.E. Bassey who brought me back to the physical world.

At this point, I came back to life again.

Thanks and Glory be to the Father in the Name and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

By
Deaconess C.A. Umoh
Gen. Secretary Deaconess Fellowship.



DEACONESSSES IN B.C.S.

1. Senior Deaconess M. Mong
2. Senior Deaconess G.T. Usoro
3. Senior Deaconess I.E. Ibia
4. Senior Deaconess G.I. Ekpenyong
5. Senior Deaconess V. Wilson
6. Senior Deaconess E.M. Asikpo
7. Deaconess A. Ndok
8. Deaconess S. Efiom
9. Deaconess Edak Cambell
10. Deaconess I. Edem
11. Deaconess Nkoyo O. Udoh
12. Deaconess Arit Nasari
13. Deaconess C. Dibia
14. Deaconess Caro. I. Ekpe
15. Deaconess F. Edet
16. Deaconess Jessie Egbe
17. Deaconess Rebecca A. Asiak
18. Deaconess G.I. Dapper
19. Deaconess Offiong Ekong
20. Deaconess Emilia N. Udoh
21. Deaconess Bernadette M.A. Oworen
22. Deaconess E. Davies
23. Deaconess I. Obong
24. Deaconess Umo B. Mkpang
25. Deaconess Ikwo A. Essienum
26. Deaconess Ekaette E. Ekpo
27. Deaconess Felicia G. Efiom
28. Deaconess G. Ekpe
29. Deaconess Nya E. Nakanda
30. Deaconess A.S. Johnson
31. Deaconess B.E. Eyibio
32. Deaconess Bassey Ubeh
33. Deaconess Iquo Essien Udoh
34. Deaconess Essienanwan Essien
35. Deaconess Afiong B. Etuk
36. Deaconess Anne J. Udom-Eshiet
37. Deaconess C.H. Millington
38. Deaconess G.B. Offiong
39. Deaconess M.U. Eko
38. Deaconess M.U. Ekoi
39. Deaconess Clara Obianya
30. Deaconess M.O.K. Ekpo
41. Deaconess Grace O. Ekpenyong
42. Deaconess Irene C. Ulaeto
43. Deaconess Patience Udi
44. Deaconess Mary U. Umoh Eshiet
45. Deaconess Bassey Emah
46. Deaconess Esther Obu
47. Deaconess V. Inok
48. Deaconess Ananwan Itam
49. Deaconess Theresa O. Omini
50. Deaconess Arit Efiom
51. Deaconess Christiana James
52. Deaconess A. Moffat
53. Deaconess Florence Sam
54. Deaconess Grace U. Ankrong
55. Deaconess Mathews
56. Deaconess Margaret Edemeka
57. Deaconess Agnes W.S. Uku

58. Deaconess Alice M. Akwang
59. Deaconess Naomi James Edimo
60. Deaconess Eno O. Edet
61. Deaconess Bassey Edet
62. Deaconess Ekanem Efiom
63. Deaconess Jenny Glover
64. Deaconess Jenny Ikpe
65. Deaconess Uta U. Otu
66. Deaconess Bassey M. Asukwo
67. Deaconess Asikpo O. Ani
68. Deaconess Lucy Agbor
69. Deaconess Theresa E. Duke
70. Deaconess Afiong E. Inyang
71. Deaconess Inyang E. Urua
72. Deaconess Sarah O.E. Utak
73. Deaconess Helen Eteng
74. Deaconess Margaret A.E. Edem

75. Deaconess Jenny E.O. Bassey
76. Deaconess P.A. Ukpe
77. Deaconess Abasi O. Mkpnam
78. Deaconess Dorothy Efiom
79. Deaconess Ekanem Efiom Inyang
80. Deaconess Mammy B. Essien
81. Deaconess Bassey Efiok
82. Deaconess Ime A.J. Etuk
83. Deaconess Elizabeth Offiong
84. Deaconess Franca O. Ikpi
84. Deaconess Franca O. Ikpi
85. Deaconess Adiaha O. (Antigha) Antia
86. Deaconess Arit E. Nkereuwem
87. Deaconess Mary A.E. Okure
88. Deaconess Arit Vindah
89. Deaconess Patricia Mbah
90. Deaconess Mayor Esen

GREETINGS

Sweet Mothers of the Deaconesses' Fellowship, greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I feel much honour to be a part of your week.

In the past, women had played a very important part in the work of God on earth. From Sarah, the wife of Abraham who fervently believed and relied on the promise of God to give her a child to Mary the mother of Christ who suffered her child to be crucified and her contemporaries such as Mary Magdalene, Martha, etc. Such other names as Hannah, the mother of Samuel, Queen Esther, Ruth and Elizabeth have been outstanding female personalities that have worked with God.

Our great mother and queen, Ibum Olumba Obu, the greatest of all has been the mother of man's salvation.

Today, you are no exception in this great assignment. I pray the most High Father to help you ensure a happy week.



*Pastor Offu Ebongo
Leader's Secretary.*

DEACONESSSES IN B.C.S.

91. Deaconess Emeh B. Ituen
92. Deaconess Theresa E. Ekpenyong
93. Deaconess Grace B. Udouwa
94. Deaconess Mary Bassey
95. Deaconess Martha J. Umana
96. Deaconess Odo E. Bassey
97. Deaconess Nkese Edet
98. Deaconess Okonanwan Okokon
99. Deaconess Nkoyo Ikot Idem
100. Deaconess Inyang U. Inyang
101. Deaconess Victoria Sukai
102. Deaconess Agnes Efiom
103. Deaconess Esther A. Bassey
104. Deaconess Akon Otu Etim
105. Deaconess Edem E. Efiom
106. Deaconess Jemaimah Oke
107. Deaconess Alice S.I. Etuk
108. Deaconess Victoria Odudu
109. Deaconess Phebian John
110. Deaconess Margaret Ekpo
111. Deaconess Grace Ojemeni
112. Deaconess Akon Williams
113. Deaconess Margaret E. Asukwo
114. Deaconess Irene Isere
115. Deaconess Efiom Oku
116. Deaconess Rebecca J. Akpan
117. Deaconess Ekaette Essien
118. Deaconess Florence R. Itam
119. Deaconess Agnes Ekeng
120. Deaconess Grace B. Ekong
121. Deaconess Rosemary Inok
122. Deaconess Alice Ebong
123. Deaconess Veronica Vidah Edem
124. Deaconess Nkese Offiong
125. Deaconess Lucy Otong
126. Deaconess Sarah T. Douglas
127. Deaconess Iquo E.J. Udo
128. Deaconess Margaret Otuaha
129. Deaconess G. Enem
130. Deaconess Ekepyong E. Akpan
131. Deaconess Alice Honesty
132. Deaconess Emah Antigha
133. Deaconess Sarah Godson Wiko
134. Deaconess Essienanwan Efiom
135. Deaconess Bassey Efiom
136. Deaconess Glory Essah
137. Deaconess Eno Essien
138. Deaconess Eno Edet Okokon
139. Deaconess Matilda Umoh
140. Deaconess Atim Okon Otor
141. Deaconess Nkanga
142. Deaconess Okang Ekong
143. Deaconess Afiong Utibe
144. Deaconess Afiong Ebong
145. Deaconess Grace Nsek
146. Deaconess Umoh Akpan
147. Deaconess Ade Brownson
148. Deaconess Rose Udok
149. Deaconess Angela O. Udofia
150. Deaconess Adiaha Akpan Udoh

151. Deaconess Evelyn Nwachukwu
152. Deaconess Obo Ikpe
153. Deaconess Francisca Usen
154. Deaconess Afiong Archibong
155. Deaconess Victoria Kennedy
156. Deaconess Dorothy U. Ibanga
157. Deaconess Juliana Ekpenyong
158. Deaconess Afiong G. Eno
159. Deaconess Afiong Brown
160. Deaconess Highness Michael
161. Deaconess Martha Okoroafor
162. Deaconess Alice O. Ekanem
163. Deaconess Nkoyo C. Etim
164. Deaconess Grace Chime
165. Deaconess Ikwo Inyang
166. Deaconess Ronke Kuti
167. Deaconess Gloria E. Ekpe
168. Deaconess Arit I. Umoren
169. Deaconess Monica Nwokekoru

170. Deaconess Duonyi A. Iyanam
171. Deaconess Akon Edet Bassey
172. Deaconess Rosemary C. Akpan
173. Deaconess Felicia K. Owamaho
174. Deaconess Jenet Konu
175. Deaconess Margaret Etim Ekpenyong
176. Deaconess Rosemary Archibong
177. Deaconess Catherine Essien
178. Deaconess P.J. Bassey
179. Deaconess Stella T. Clement
180. Deaconess Eno (Innocent Ating) Dan
181. Deaconess Elizabeth A. Ukut
182. Deaconess Afiong B.U. Anyang
183. Deaconess Myra Utuk
184. Deaconess Eno Kayode
185. Deaconess Florence Erekosima
186. Deaconess Nkoyo Archibong
187. Deaconess Elsie A. Iyo
188. Deaconess Grace Ekerete

'ASSOCIATE DEACONESS'

What should we call Xt's Student Esther Olugbemi? She is not strictly a Deaconess because she has not yet been physically turbanned. But she has contributed immensely to the success of the Deaconesses' Fellowship since its inception. Infact, she is one factor that the Father has passed through to get this Fellowship to where it is today.

Contributors of money, don't get us wrong. We don't say she has contributed thousands of naira. But her advice and subtle link between us and the Father in the physical sense has been one great factor that ranks thousands of naira.

No wonder she merits our thanks. We give her associateship in our Fellowship.

Associate Deaconess Esther Olugbemi!

Thank You Father.





DEA. PATRICIA SMITH
LONDON



DEA. B. MARTS
AMERICA



DEA. FREDRICK
WEST INDIES



DEA. ALIXA MCJNTOSH
JERUSALEM