Bus Trip To Forest Hill Honors Dr. Eartha M White

Dr. Eartha M. White, Doctor of Humanities, founder-president of Clara White Mission, 611-13 West Ashley St., Jacksonville, was the only passenger in a bus tour to Forest Hill and Lowell Correctional Institution, Sunday. The trip was sponsored by the officers and members of Clara White Mission, the New Testament Baptist Church, Rev. Dennis A. Rhodes, pastor; and members of the Friendly Association, Deacon D. H. Jackson, president, Naaman Calhoun vice president, Mrs. Christine Provost, founder-president.

The group toured all sections of Forest Hill of Girls, and Lowell Women's Correctional Institution, both colored and white. As they passed through the corridors, many of the residents called out, "Hello, Miss White. You did come back to see us, and reached to share with us the love and support you brought in their spiritual portions. She gave Mr. McCoullough, the senior matron at Lowell Women's Correctional Institution, the following guide at the request of Mr. West, the superintendent, identical reception of letters, religious articles and other articles of distribution to the 300 women there. At Forest Hill, the distribution was made by the Rev. Mrs. Moseil Cooper of Tallahassee, director of education, who was on duty in place of Mrs. A. Wooten, supervisor, and acted as hostess to the visitors.

Mrs. Zora Bradley of Interlachen, Florida, was on duty as summer relief house mother when Mrs. Cooper arrived the day before last, as was the Clara White Maidspine House as the model for the other structures named for Mrs. Inez Austin Beyer of Ocala, Dr. Theodore A. Tampa and Dr. Frank W. Moster Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star; Mrs. Alice G. Hickens, of West Palm Beach, Florida, representative of the United States Treasury Department, Savings Stamps and Bonds division, Mrs. Minnie L. Rodgers of Jacksonville, and Miss Maude E. widow of the late Dr. Garfield Deove Rodgers, former president of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs. Dr. E. F. Garrett, Hampton of Ocala, Marion County, Florida, a former physician, civic, social leader; and the late Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, founder-president emeritus of Bethune Cookman College at Daytona Beach. Florence, a former president of the National Council of Women, thirteen years counsellor to the late president Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Mrs. H. Delano Roosevelt, Representative of the State Department of the United States of America at the formation of the National Council of International Women.

The group was also shown the Florida Federation Room furnished by the president of Mrs. Fanny Ayer Ponder of St. Petersburg, in addition to visiting the education, amusement, recreation, beauty culture, housing, dining room and other features of Forest Hill Institution.

Mrs. Ponder, a world traveler, pioneer educator, vice-president of the National Council of Women, from the Florida State Correctional Institution at Raiford, Fla., August 1st, 1967, received food, clothing, money and clothing, and was granted through the Clara White Mission regardless of color. Some were passing through Jacksonville and others were there, but were aided at the Mission.

As her key to success and happiness, Dr. White administered the girls that they should (1) obey their parents (2) keep the commandments of God and His righteousness and all other things that are desirable to do, and (3) avoid and abide by the scripture as found in St. John's 15:7, that "what so ever you want shall be given you."

The age group, not too old, and a counselor advised the girls that "Your coming here was God's way of using you for some purpose, and may you come to an institution like this without leaving a better person. Everyone can do something for God. You have to decide how you are going to use the grace and get into it. There is something every one can do for God as found in St. Matthew's, 26th Chapter, viz: "Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, comfort the distressed, visit the sick, and attend those in prison."

She concluded her address by announcing her intentions to see a state supported home for orphaned and destitute children in any way under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court for any law violations.

As Miss White finished her speaking, Dr. Ray directed the audience to sing the National Negro Anthem in tribute to her. After which the choral group sang, "It's No Sin to Do Good," and one of the residents sang a solo, "The Last Mile of the Way." The original poem was read by Rev. Joseph Eugene Bolman Ray, public relations counsellor and co-coordinator, expressing the hope of thousands that Dr. White "Shall Have Eternal Life. The visitors were served a luncheon of fried chicken, salads, beans, cake and cold drinks.

Among those representing the three sponsoring groups on the committee were Rev. and Mrs. Dennis A. Rhodes and daughter Miss Patricia M. and Dr. E. F. Garrett, of Jacksonville. P. H. Jackson, Naaman Calhoun, Willie George, Peter Adams, Mrs. Arelia Johnson, Mrs. Anna Rod- ders Mrs. Althome, Mrs. Ruby Oliver, Mrs. Ada G. Mur- ray, Mrs. Daisy Hodges, Mrs. Christine Frasie, Mrs. Caroline Soule, Mrs. Arelia Johnson and daughter Miss Henrietta Clark and little master Clark. Miss Winifred Bradock, Miss Beall, Miss Arline and Miss Michelle Braddock. Mrs. Lee Lewis, Master Tyrone Cooper, Master Harold Cooper, Master Alphonso Merritt, Master Teddy
As a climax of the trip Dr. Andrew Reynolds Raiford of Ocala, mutual friend of both, was asked to volunteer as chaplain for the regular 3:30 p.m. Sunday religious services at Forest Hill, was master of ceremonies of an impromptu program in tribute to Dr. White, in appreciation for his interest in girls and women through which he is lobbied at Tallahassee to obtain legislation and appropriation for the establishment of Forest Hill. Rev. J. P. Franklin of Starke, Florida; Rev. H. B. Reddick of Raiford, Florida, to Lowell; Mrs. A. D. McPherson, Superintendent who presented a class of 26 candidates for baptism; James A. McPherson, superintendent of the Autism, summer teacher in elementary subjects; Mrs. Alexandria Dixon of St. Petersburg, minister of music, who is reportedly using this branch of the fine arts in the rehabilitation program of the institution.

Rev. Dennis A. Rhodes, pastor of the New Testament Baptist Church, of Raiford, was inspired by the occasion and spoke from St. John 14:1: “Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe in God, believe also in me.” The class of candidates for baptism seemed as a form of benediction of Dr. White’s long effort to save souls and aid young and old to find the “better way of life.” thru the facilities of Mount Hope Springs and the direction for evangelistic campaigns, baptisms, community educational projects, etc. Mr. Brown will receive, through the recommendations of the educational commissioner, department of the Clara White Mission, a list of 20 free correspondence Bible study courses such as are used at Raiford All Souls Church under the chaplaincy of Dr. Thompkins, to be offered the girls.

In her discourse, Dr. White modestly disclaimed any credit for her accomplishment during “the long years of her life,” but sought to place the praise upon the shoulders of the public officials, co-workers, philanthropists, and beneficiaries of her many-fold efforts. Mrs. White left the hospital for un-weded mothers, day nursery for working mothers, mercy hospital with 79 beds certified by the State of Florida, with trained registered nurses on duty 24 hours daily; home for aged; prison mission service including evangelism, training, guidance, housing, clothing, feeding, institutional visitaion, and skilled nursing; child education; child welfare; civic and religious education, all of which are coordinated under the Claré White Mission with Dr. White as director and Mrs. Grace M. Battie as executive officer.

Dr. White reported that seven of the 119 men who were released