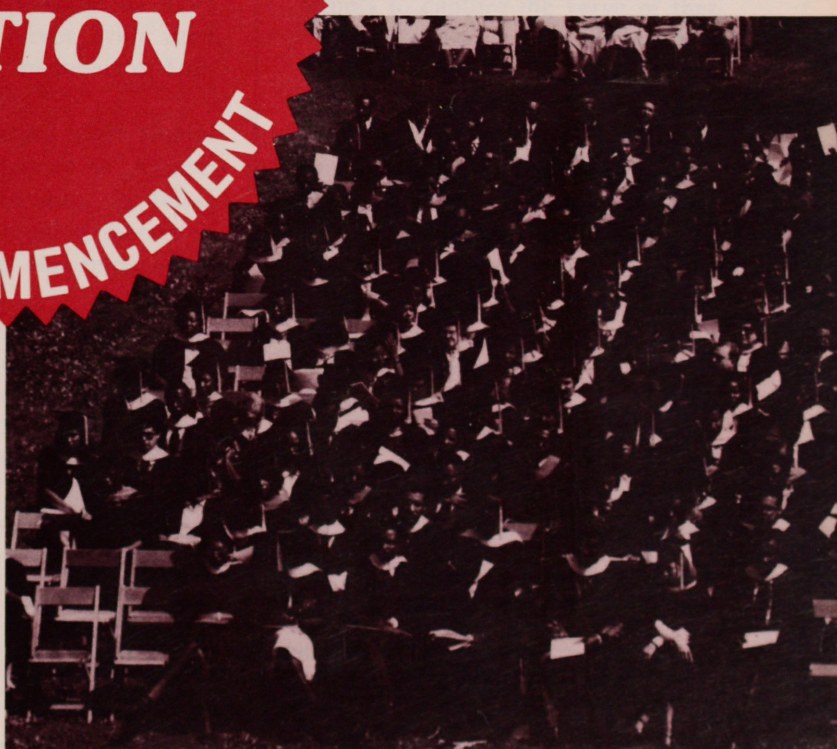
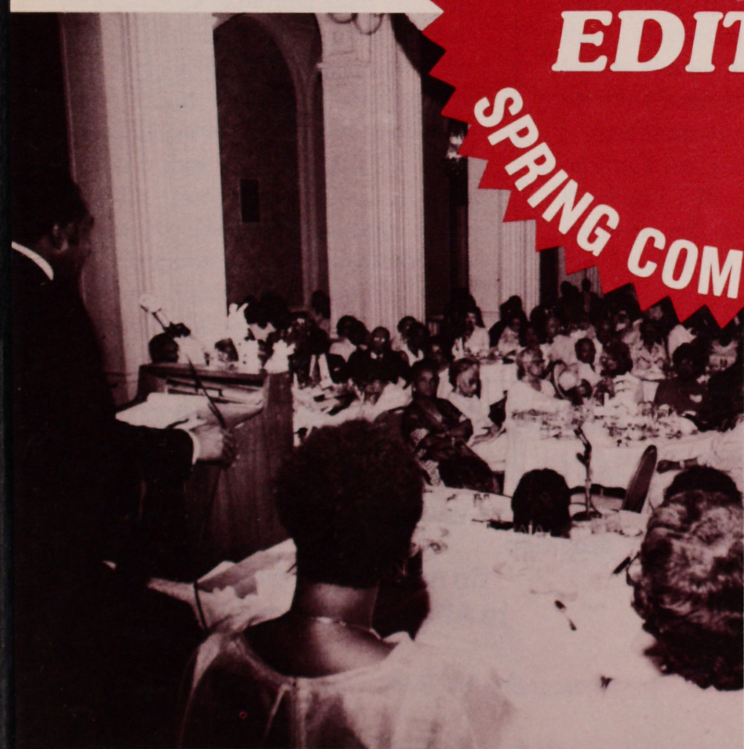


the Atlanta University Bulletin

August, 1978



ALUMNI WEEKEND '78

**SPECIAL
EDITION**

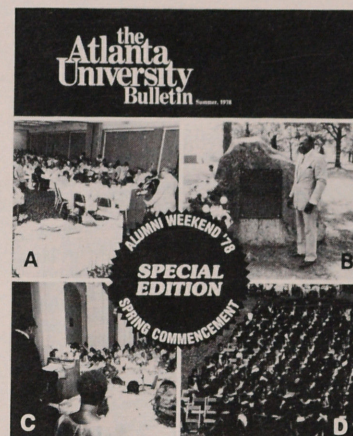
SPRING COMMENCEMENT

the Atlanta University Bulletin

SERIES IV
NO. 175
August, 1978

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ABOUT THIS EDITION

This special edition of *The Atlanta University Bulletin* is devoted to the Alumni Weekend and Commencement activities which took place May 19-22, 1978.

- A. Homecoming Dinner
- B. Edmund Asa Ware Memorial Service
- C. Annual Alumni Banquet
- D. Commencement

Lisè Chandler White, Editor
James E. Powers, Alumni Editor

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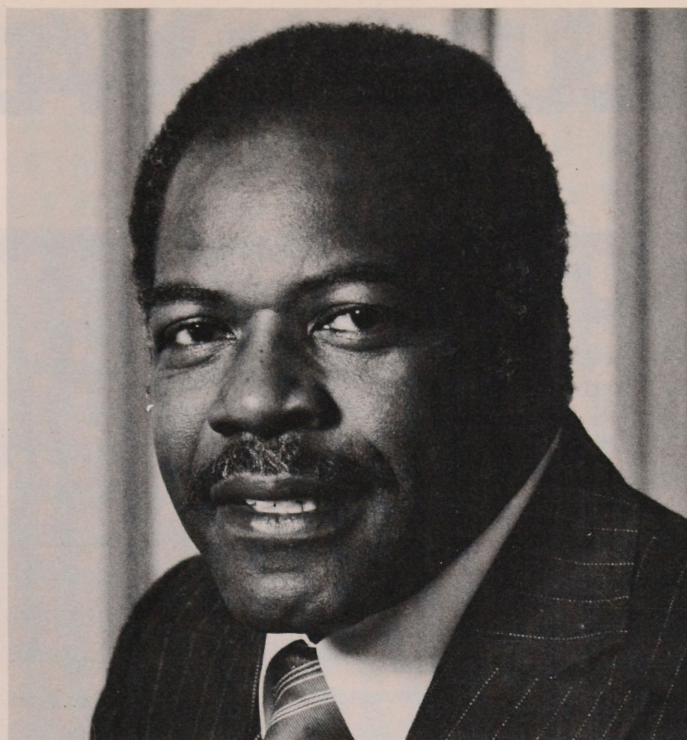
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A Message From The President



Dr. Cleveland L. Dennard, President, Atlanta University

After nearly a year at the helm of Atlanta University as the eighth president, I can look upon the Alumni/Homecoming weekend as one of my most memorable experiences, and a highlight of the Commencement season.

Rarely has a group of people so singularly oriented and dedicated to a purpose exhibited such enthusiasm and energy about their formative and developmental experiences at A.U. as expressed during the four-day period of May 19-22.

More than 200 alumni and their families congregated at Atlanta University for the first time since A.U. became a graduate school in 1929 to reminisce about life as it was over 46 years ago. Graduates and former students of classes from 1908 (70th anniversary) to 1932 (46th anniversary) returned for the Homecoming Reunion. Many of the alumni present during the weekend strolled again up the serpentine path. These men and women, all in

high spirits and great physical condition, were singing the praises and giving testimonies about the people and process of their unique Atlanta University experiences.

Alumni such as Edwina Wright Mitchell, '08, Japhus Baker, '09, Tinnie Hector Webb, '13, and Myra Hight Ware, '15—to name a few—came from coast-to-coast to share their alacritous fervor with their fellow alumni and members of University Community.

Additionally, many other alumni returned to participate in Alumni Weekend '78 activities, including members of the reunion classes of the 3's and 8's. It was overwhelming.

My participation in the events—meeting and talking with alumni—gave me the opportunity to deepen my appreciation of what an Atlanta University educational experience means to you.

Alumni, the products of an institution of higher learning, are the

true measures of the institution. Indeed, that is the case at Atlanta University. Your commitment, devotion and vows of future support in the recruiting of students who in your judgment should have an A.U. educational experience are reassuring.

This issue of the Bulletin attempts to capture the verve of that weekend and serves as a chronicle of the events from the Alumni reception to the University's 109th Commencement Exercises. It is my hope that it will be a permanent record for those of you who were present, and for those who were not with us for that commemorative weekend, an awareness of the togetherness and dedication of the group.

I invite each of the University's 9,000 alumni to exhibit and sustain the spirit that was present during Alumni Weekend '78. The University's effectiveness is directly dependent upon your energized support.

ALUMNI WEEKEND

MY REFLECTIONS

on the Greatest Alumni Weekend

By Lillian Beavers Garnett '22

The weekend of May 19-22, 1978 witnessed a gala homecoming for graduates, former students and friends who attended Atlanta University prior to 1932. Although Atlanta University emerged as a graduate school with Spelman College doing the undergraduate work for young women and Morehouse College doing the undergraduate work for young men, the students who had begun their college work at Atlanta University completed it at Spelman and Morehouse but received their 1930 and 1931 diplomas from Atlanta University.

Some members of the class of 1928 conceived the idea of a homecoming for all graduates and former students of the University when thinking of observing their fiftieth reunion. Leonia Lanier Dorsey, a member of that class and vice president of the National Alumni Association of Atlanta University, accepted the responsibility of seeking out and finding those graduates and former students. She traveled far and wide all over the country and found that the love and devotion for Atlanta University is still smothered in the hearts of hundreds. All who were able received her gladly, answered her many letters and wanted to participate.

And participate they did. They came from far and wide—from California, Detroit, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C.; from Florida, North and South Carolina, various cities in Georgia and from places too numerous to mention.

The hotel lobby of the Sheraton Biltmore was agog with persons arriving on Friday, May 19. The halls resounded with voices exclaiming

their joy at seeing persons whom they had not seen for 50 to 60 and more years ago. Hugging, kissing, embracing and loud chit chat were the order of the day. One could not hear one's own ears.

Lawyers, doctors, social workers, teachers, preachers, men and women from every profession and vocation were in attendance. Some brought their sons, daughters and grandchildren. Hearts were uplifted and spirits soared.

Judge Sidney Jones, Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Ill. in Chicago and Mrs. Hilda Davie Wilson of Atlanta held open house in their suites. It was here that every one felt free to give

vent to their emotions. Sidney's appearance had changed very little in all these years. He was just as mentally alert and his body just as agile as a person many years his junior.

The people looked grand. It was amazing how little toll time had taken.

Mamie Sapp Simpkins of the Class of '28 documented the good looks of the women by saying, their good looks and appearances were due to expensive cosmetics, foundation garments, wigs, exercises and liniment.

Reflections on the past revealed times which were good when things went well; when minds were alert and open; when hearts were happy





and gay. Spirits were high and emotions were free. Such were the days which hundreds had come to commemorate.

The Alumni Association held a reception that Friday night and the laughter, joy and gladness continued as if it would never end. In the crucible of their lives they had welded the love symbol of the words of the school song, "Atlanta, school we love, deeply graven on each heart: we thy faithful sons and daughters pledge to thee our part." Their achievements and contributions in service to the nation was a symbol of the school's motto, "I'll find a way or make one." Their attendance symbolized the same motto, one of determination. The pioneering spirit implanted by the loyal and dedicated New Englanders who founded Atlanta University in 1865 and by the four presidents, Edmund Asa Ware, Horace Bumstead, Edward Twitchell Ware and Myron W. Adams who administered the affairs of the institution prior to the affiliation, was still alive.

A city-wide tour beginning with ceremonies at the grave of the first president of Atlanta University was a part of the homecoming activities. Edmund Asa Ware is entombed under the huge boulder brought from Massachusetts on the lawn in front of Stone Hall on the old Atlanta University campus, which is now the Morris Brown College campus.

Ceremonies at the grave site consisted of the following: Mrs. Annie Ruth Hill, '27, presided. Participants were State Representative Grace Towns Hamilton, '27; Rev. Thomas Jefferson Flanagan, '26; Rev. Homer C. McEwen, pastor of the First Congregational Church; Tinnie Hector Webb, '13, who placed a wreath on the grave along with the little granddaughter of Mrs. Ruth Thomas Jackson, '29.

The tour continued with a visit to the Trevor Arnett Library of Atlanta University and to outstanding and historic homes and sights. The tour ended at Ebenezer Baptist

1 - Judge Sidney A. Jones, '28, Mrs. Leonia Lanier Dorsey, '28, Mrs. Belle Dennard and President Cleveland L. Dennard greet nearly 200 graduates, former students and friends at the reception.

2 - Mrs. Pauline J. Minnifield, '25 serenades the Alumni and Friends gathered at the reception.

3 - Memorial services at the grave of Edmund Asa Ware—the first President of A.U.

4 - Placing of the wreath at Mr. Ware's grave by Alumna Tinnie Hector Webb, '13, Yvette Wiltz, granddaughter of Alumna Ruth Thomas Jackson, '29, and President Dennard.

5 & 6 - The two earliest graduates in attendance for Homecoming 1897-1932. (5) Mrs. Edwina Wright Mitchell, 1908, daughter of Alumnus Richard R. Wright, 1876; and (6) Japhus Baker, 1909, a successful and well-known businessman in Florida.

ALUMNI WEEKEND '78 — MAY 19 - 22

Church and the grave of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Atlanta University dinner on Saturday, May 20, 1978 was the heart and center of the homecoming activities. It was held in the Sheraton Hall of the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel. Twenty-four tables seating ten each filled the room. Glamorously dressed for the occasion, the persons appointed to participate took one of the microphones nearest to where each was sitting and gave his reflections on times gone by. Mrs. Leonia Lanier Dorsey presided and Mrs. Viola Beavers

Gadsden, 104-year-old graduate of 1897, brought greetings from her father. Until the last minute her father had planned to come but found that he was unable because he is ambulatory.

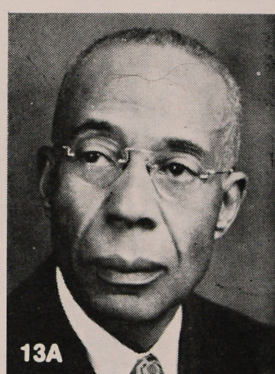
At this point in the ceremony Dr. Cleveland Dennard, the new president of Atlanta University, brought greetings to the graduates, former students, and friends. The president of the National Alumni Association, Mr. Richard A. Dent, also greeted the participants.

Mrs. Pauline J. Minnifield, '25, provided the excellent dinner music.

Tinnie Hector Webb of Atlanta, graduate of the class of 1913, in a soft voice told her sweet story of how glad she was to be there.

Lillian Lattimer Williams, '18, from Chicago introduced her two daughters and one son. She so wanted them to partake in the spirit of old Atlanta University.

Dr. James Julius McClendon of Detroit, '21, reminisced. He remembered that back before any integration came into being, it was the policy for white teachers to sit at the table with Black students in the dining room. This policy



Martin gave the invocation. Mrs. Nettie Grier Smith, former President of the National Alumni Association, gave remarks. Mrs. Emma Rush Brown pinned an orchid on Mrs. Dorsey.

After the preliminaries the fun and merriment began. Listening to the anecdotes about the pranks played on former teachers and professors was a scream. The past came alive. We were privileged to relive past experiences. It was a night to remember.

Remarks were made by representatives of classes from 1897 through 1932. Marge Gadsden Caution, daughter of Robert W.

7 - Mrs. Leonia Lanier Dorsey, '28, Mistress of Ceremonies and Coordinator of the Homecoming Reunion, welcomes the graduates and former students that she and her regional coordinators had worked so hard to locate.

8 - Homecoming Dinner—Participants fill Ballroom.

9 - Mrs. Myra Hight Ware, '15, who traveled over 2,000 miles to attend the Homecoming activities, greets the participants.

10 - Mrs. Nettie Grier Smith, '27, (past president of the Alumni Association) gives *THE OCCASION* at the Homecoming Dinner.

11 - Mrs. Pauline J. Minnifield plays the same foot stomping, handclapping and jitter bugging music that she played for some of the same individuals 53 years ago.

12 - Mrs. Mildred Greenwood Hall, '24, and Mrs. Hazel Shanks Hynson, '25, thrill the audience as they team up on the piano for a duet.

13 & 13A - Mrs. Marge Gadsden Caution brings greetings from her 104-year-old father, Alumnus Robert Washington Gadsden. 13A Mr. Gadsden of the Class of 1897.

14 - Dr. Dennard welcomes graduates and students back home to A.U. and expresses delight with the number returning.

caused the school to lose \$30,000 from the state at one time.

Emma Parks Gooden, Atlanta, of the fiftieth anniversary class gave interesting and significant memories.

High school students were not allowed to enter the front door but were restricted to the side entrance. High school graduates obtained their certificates from the office where the dean or registrar fished them out of a wastebasket.

These little requirements were to prevent students from thinking they had arrived too soon and to en-

courage them to always aspire to something higher.

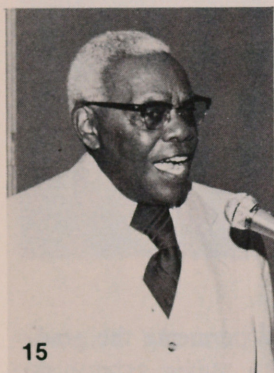
Annie Doris Hall of Atlanta, '23, introduced Mrs. John P. Whitaker, her daughter and granddaughter. Mrs. Whitaker is the wife of the late John P. Whitaker, graduate, former registrar and dean of Atlanta University and first President of the Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association.

Representatives from the classes of 1930 and 31 who graduated after the merger, told of the experiences they had completing their work at Spelman and Morehouse. They

wanted their diplomas from A.U., although they had completed their college work at another institution. One former student, Jessie Pearson Brown, ran into difficulty from Miss Read, President of Spelman for insisting on having Atlanta University invitations to her graduation.

Some others told of the then much appreciated requirements of attending chapel. Each morning an outstanding speaker brought a meaningful and inspiring message.

Much fun was generated when anecdotes were told of how stu-



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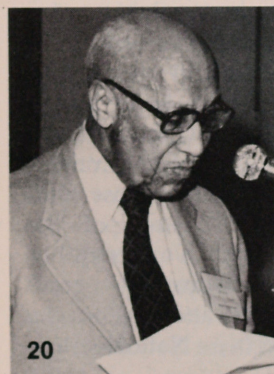
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15 - Mr. Henry J. Furlow sings a medley of songs.

16 - Mr. Richard A. Dent, '72, president of the National Alumni Association, welcomes graduates and former students from 1897-1932 and reminds them that "we are all alumni of Atlanta University, 1897 to 1977."

17 - Dr. George Singleton, '24, chairman of the Annual Alumni Fund Campaign, encourages graduates and former students to support Atlanta University.

18 - Mrs. Tinnie Hector Webb, '13, is the first of many to give her reflections of over 65 years ago.

19 - Mrs. Lillian Lattimer Williams reflects on life at Atlanta University for the class of 1918.

20 - Mr. Albert A. Edwards, '20, who returns almost every year, shares his thoughts on life as it was 58 years ago.

21 - Dr. James J. McClendon, '21, reflects on the times when white teachers were not allowed to sit at tables with Black children. This policy was not adhered to at A.U.

22 - Mrs. Marion Hill Kennedy shares her perspective on the Atlanta University she knew and the class of 1932.

23 - Annie D. Roland Hall, '25, joyfully shares her Atlanta University experience.

24 - Mrs. Wilhemina Oliver Blanks explains what happened in the class of 1927.

dents slipped into the dormitories after ten o'clock each night when all lights in the dormitories had to be out. The night watchman was required to report any lights which still burned after ten. Cooperation of other students enabled the vagrants to defy the rule.

One story was told of a young man who defied the dormitory restrictions of decorum by walking down the South Hall dormitory with nothing on but a white collar, red tie and an umbrella over his head.

Another incident was told of how a student forgot to stand when a woman teacher talked to him about a matter. He was so reprimanded

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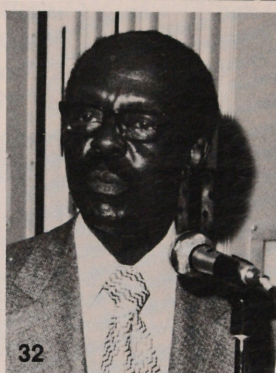
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about this mistake that he bears the scar until this day.

Old Atlanta University was not a stranger to the Klu Klux Klan which marched and threatened A.U. because white students, children of the white professors, were attending school with Black boys and girls.

A standard of excellence in scholarship was maintained. A student who failed two subjects over two consecutive years had to leave. Many left and graduated from other institutions. Morality and character were emphasized. Girls were chaperoned and boys attending socials at regular intervals could march with, but not dance with, the girls. One of the requirements of a boarding student was to bring a Bible with him.

Vivacious and alert as ever, Mildred Greenwood Hall, '24, and Hazel Shanks Hynson, '25, electrified the audience with a beautiful duet. Mildred spoke endearingly of the late Altona Trent Johns, a musician who had once been the other member playing with Hazel. Mildred had taken the place of Altona. Altona had graduated in 1925 with the highest honor ever

bestowed by Atlanta University, Magna Cum Laude.

Atlanta University was the school of James Weldon Johnson, composer of the Negro National Anthem—"Lift Every Voice and Sing," and his brother Rosmand who wrote the music.

Although words cannot adequately describe the spirit of this homecoming, the spirit is deep and profound and memories will never die. Hopefully the spirit of the old Atlanta University as a high school

and college will permeate the graduate school.

The homecoming activities pinpointed the fiftieth anniversary of the class of 1928 and ended with worship service in a body at the First Congregational Church on the following Sunday. The First Congregational Church holds a close relationship with the history of the founding of Atlanta University.

"Old Atlanta University" graduates turned their attention to the Atlanta University National As-

25 - Mr. Marion G. Hill, '28 share his reflections of 50 years ago.

26 - Judge Sidney A. Jones gives a detailed account of the good times and hard work of the class of 1928.

27 - Mrs. Mamie Sapp Simkins, '28, tells audience that expensive make-up, liniment, etc., had all the ladies looking and feeling good.

28 - Mrs. Emma Parks Gooden tells it like it was with the Normal Class of 1928.

29 - Mrs. Olivia Moore Clark, '29, is having a good time telling about the good time she had over 49 years ago.

30 - Ms. Margh S. Johnson of the Class of 1929 tells her A.U. story very meticulously.

31 - Mrs. Jessie Pearson Brown, '32, recalls what it was like during the time that A.U. made its transition to a graduate school.

32 - Mr. Glanville A. Lockett, '25 and '27, A.U.'s track star, explains that he had to find, catch and return a rooster as a part of his fraternity initiation.

33 - Mrs. Marion Bryan Wilson recalls vivid memories of her high school and early college years at A.U.

34 - Mrs. Ella M. Donald Sharpe shares what life was like in A.U.'s Prep School, where she also began to study music.



sociation Alumni Awards Banquet on Sunday night.

It was Sunday night May 21, 1978. The time of day was 7 p.m. and the place was the Crystal Ball Room of the Sheraton Biltmore Hotel. Graduates and friends of the University, as well as faculty and staff were assembled. Gaiety, joy and happiness filled the spacious auditorium. A large bouquet of flowers graced the rostrum and speakers table. Richard Dent, recently elected president of the Na-

tional Alumni Association presided. Reverend Barbara King of the Hillside Chapel and Truth Center, gave the Invocation. Frederick Browne, '27, introduced the speaker, President Cleveland L. Dennard. It was Dr. Dennard's first major address to the alumni since he was inaugurated the eighth president of Atlanta University, succeeding Dr. Thomas Jarrett, who retired last August, and other former presidents of the graduate school, Rufus E. Clement and John Hope. Friends

and well wishers tuned their ears to hear what the new president had to say. The new president knew that to a certain extent he was on trial and he was at his best. His opening remarks concerned a conversation with Edwina Wright Mitchell of the class of 1908 — seventy years ago — who is the daughter of Richard R. Wright of Philadelphia, who had finished in the class of 1876. She had made a worthwhile contribution to the Alumni Fund. He then began by

35 - Mr. Richard Dent, president of the Alumni Association, presides at the Annual Alumni Awards Banquet.

36 - Mrs. Ella Gaines Yates, '51, toast the graduates from 1897-1932 and the reunion classes of the 3's and 8's.

37 - Ms. Latrissa Gordon, '78, responds to Mrs. Yates' toast.

38 - Mrs. Mildred Greenwood Hall, '24, and Mrs. Hazel Shanks Hynson, '25, team up again and play some classical music for the banqueters.

39 - Alumnus Fredrick D. Browne, '39, presents President Dennard to the alumni for the banquet address.

40 - President Dennard began his first major address to the Alumni since his inauguration.

41 - Over 250 graduates, former students, faculty, staff and friends listen intently to President Dennard.

42 - Mrs. Leonia Lanier Dorsey, '28, receives the Alumus of the Year Award from President Dennard with thunderous applause from the audience.

Annual Alumni Meeting

The annual meeting of the National Alumni Association was called to order by President Richard A. Dent on Friday night at 8:00 p.m. during the two hour break between the Special Reception and the Hospitality Hour. The mood was shifted from fun to business.

Dr. Cleveland L. Dennard shared some of his plans for "Moving Atlanta University Forward" with the graduates and former students.

He indicated that the Alumni Office would be responsible for establishing chapters in over twenty-five cities in 1978-79.

The following nine reports were reviewed and approved: President's, Treasurer's, Annual Alumni Fund, Board of Trustees Representative, Homecoming Reunion, Awards, Nominations, Scholarships and the Constitution and By-Laws.

Mrs. Sarah Bush, '78, was elected to the
(continued on page 11)

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saying, "It is time that we get a clear perspective of how we look to others. It is time that we recognize our need to 'come right' with Atlanta University. Atlanta University has paid its dues. The nation owes a debt to Atlanta University. The city and the state owe a debt to Atlanta University. The doors of Atlanta University have been open to slaves and freed men from the beginning.

"The University has got to find a way to present its case. The faculty and staff must find a way to render a service commensurate with the needs of society.

"First there is a need for an increased interest in research. Second, a need for finding the solution to technological problems, and third, the concern about the institutionalization of American society not only on policy but on services as well. There should be an interest and involvement with the political process. Fourth: Interest should be manifested in the problems pertaining to transportation."

To be responsive in the above areas is what he means about "coming right." He said that through the capabilities we possess we must be able to sell services.

Dr. Dennard was saying that

education needs to enlarge its horizon to include not only intellectualism, but humanism as well. The need is to teach the whole man. Society is a laboratory in which man should be able to develop to his full potential. The school should be involved in teaching the expertise for solving the problems in life which will and are now confronting humanity. Disease, crime, unemployment, politics, morality, equal rights, prejudice, injustices are some of the problems. Hospitals and prisons are other concerns with which an institution should be involved.

Awards were presented to the following persons:

1. The Alumnus of the Year

Award to Leonia Lanier Dorsey.

2. The Most Outstanding Service Award to James Powers.

3. Meritorious Awards went to Paul I. Clifford, Minnie Edwards, Verdree Lockhart and Ernest Wright.

4. Faithful Service Awards went to Uneeda O. Brewer, Cleopatra Love, Tinnie Hector Webb, Hilda Davie Wilson, Eva O. Connor (posthumously) and Thomas J. Henry (posthumously).

5. Outstanding Student Awards to JoAnne B. Bailey, Gay Francine Banks, Dillion Tong-Ting Chen, James Leon Knox, Vera Regulus McEady, Sharon Kaye Spence, and Dorothy Cowser Yancy.

Mrs. Lillian Beavers Garnett is the author of a column, "My Reflections in the Humanities," which appears regularly in **The Atlanta Voice**. She is also the author of two books, **Tower of Strength** and **My Reflections**.

43 - Mr. James E. Powers '74 is presented the National Alumni Association's Most Outstanding Service Award by the Association's president, Richard Dent.

44 - Mr. Paul I. Clifford, '48, receives Meritorious Award on his 30th class anniversary.

45 - Dr. Verdree Lockhart, '57, Alumni representative to the Board of Trustees and immediate past President of the Association, is presented the Meritorious Award by Mr. Dent.

46 - Mr. Ernest Wright Sr., '62, Georgia State Labor Department official, receives Meritorious Award.



- 47 - Mrs. Tinnie Hector Webb, '13, receives the Association's Faithful Service Award and explains her delight in having given her service.
- 48 - Mrs. Hilda Davie Wilson, '28, chairlady of the Homecoming Committee, receives the Faithful Service Award with surprise and joy.
- 49 - Ms. Jean S. Porter, '58, accepts the Meritorious Award presented posthumously to Ms. Eva Connor, '14.
- 50 - Mrs. Thomas J. Henry accepts the Meritorious Award presented posthumously to her husband, Thomas J. Henry, '13.
- 51 - Dr. George Singleton, Annual Alumni Fund chairman, expresses concern about reaching the goal and appeals for support.
- 52 - Mrs. Lillian Lattimer Williams, '18, presents her 60th class anniversary gift.
- 53 - Mrs. Iona Humbert Dukes, '19, celebrates her 59th Class Anniversary.
- 54 - Mrs. Alva Brown Whitaker, wife of the late John P. Whitaker—graduate and former registrar and dean at Atlanta University—chats with many admirers and friends of her husband.
- 55 - President Dennard receives pledges of support and approval of his plans to "Move Atlanta University Forward," after his banquet address.

Board of Directors, to represent the School of Business. Dr. Cleopatra Thompson, Mr. Jacob Henderson and Mrs. Annie Ruth Hill were renominated for additional terms of office.

Board of Directors Meet

The Board of Directors of the National Alumni Association met on Saturday morning.

During their meeting the Board: (1) approved the goals and objectives for 1978-79; (2) approved chapter applications from Jackson, Mississippi and Miami, Florida; (3) reviewed and approved the Annual Alumni Fund Campaign strategy for 1978-79.

A detailed report on the actions of the Board will appear in the next issue of the *Bulletin* or the Newsletter following the meeting of the Executive Committee.

ALUMNI WEEKEND '78 — MAY 19 - 22



56 - School of Social Work Class of 1953 presents their class gift of over \$1200 to President Dennard. Right to left: Fannie Cox Cole, Walter C. Levi, Louis Bronson, President Dennard, Eileen Levi, Arthur Allen.

Attending but not shown: Cleopatra Albury Johnson, Mildred Dotson Mayberry, Doris Duval Oglesby, Arthur R. Owens, Anderson W. Pollard, William Shepperson, Wanda Goodwin Thomas, Marion Sutton Walker, Samuel Wallace, Barbara Saunders Williams, Gloria Wiseman.

57 - Mrs. Doris Duval Oglesby and Mr. Walter C. Levi, Coordinators of the School of Social Work Class of 1953, spend a few moments with Dr. Dennard.

FORMER STUDENTS AND GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 1928

Normal and College

Viola Beavers Martin
Wilhelmina Thomas Robinson
Clinton Gibson
Hilda Davie Wilson
Florence Robinson Sims
Leonie Lanier Dorsey
Sidney A. Jones
Ruby Oats Dunagen
Mamie Sapp Simpkins
Hannah Tolbert Reid

Not Shown But Attended

Mildred Carmichael Smith, Rosa Allen McCrae,
Marion G. Hill, Henry Lyons, Prentiss Q.
Yancey, Sr., Emma Rush Brown, Irma Jackson
Wertz, Emma Goodsen Parks.

Other Members Not Attending

Maceo Peek, Beatrice Alva Morris Alston, Dollie
Latimer Perry, Mercedes Douglas Felton, Ed-
wina Dugas Elliott, Fredrick Weathers, Eleanor
Gambrell Goodwin, Brainerd Burch, Elizabeth
Garlington, Rachael Flemister, Theresa Monroe,
Florence Sengstake Collins, Alva Miller Young,
Angelyn Tatum McLilly, Sarah Montgomery,
Emma Davie Lindsey, Rosalyn Griffin, Willie
Mae Capers Watson, Gomez Buggs Myers, Irma
Robinson Clement, Marian Pharrow Moore.



1929 College Graduates relived memories as they
posed with some of their 1926 Freshman class-
mates after the Homecoming Reunion Dinner.

Left to Right

1. Olivia Moore Clark
2. Josephine Allen Richardson
3. Jennie Douglas Taylor
4. Louise Stirrup Davis
5. Dr. Ernest C. Tate
6. Ethel Wyche Martin
7. Margh Johnson
8. Robert McLemore
9. William D. Long
10. Sadie Douglas Moore
11. Ruth Thomas Jackson
12. Veoria Wormsly Shivery
13. Anita Taylor Beacham
14. Marian Bryan Wilson



Not shown in photo but attended:

India Amos, Margaret Samuel Ware, Ellen
Jackson Brooks, Harold Hill, Edward Simeon.

Mrs. Leonie Lanier Dorsey (right) and Mrs.
Hilda Davie Wilson (left) pose with
Reverend Homer C. McEwen, pastor, First
Congregational Church, following church
services which was attended by the
Homecoming Reunion participants.

Alumnus Dies During Weekend

Miss Alice Diffay, '27, returned to Atlanta
University for the first time in 51 years to
attend the Homecoming Reunion. There
was joy and excitement among her class-
mates and friends on Friday. They were all
delighted at seeing each other. She left
Atlanta on Saturday morning to visit her
hometown of Birmingham, Alabama, prom-
ising to return on Sunday to rejoin in the
festivities. Miss Diffay died while deplaning
in Birmingham. She resided in Greensboro,
N. C.



Commencement on the Quadrangle

Two hundred sixty-eight graduate degrees were conferred upon 267 men and women at the 109th Commencement Exercises on May 22 to culminate a weekend of joyous activities.

This was the first class to graduate under the administration of President Cleveland L. Dennard, who came to the University on Sept. 1, 1977. The Commencement was also an historical occasion for the Atlanta University Family: President Dennard conferred a master of arts degree upon Miss Barbara A. Peebles, the 10,000th person to receive a degree from Atlanta University since it became devoted exclusively to graduate education in 1929.

Foreign Service Officer Speaks

Terence A. Todman, assistant secretary of state for Inter-American Affairs, spoke on the challenge for Black leadership in U.S. foreign policy. He gave several reasons why foreign affairs has not been a field to which many young Black Americans have turned.

"[Young Black Americans] have felt a responsibility to turn their talents to problems closer to home in their own communities." The career foreign service officer said, however, that "to cope with the realities of our interdependent world, what our country really needs

is to draw heavily on newer resources and talent from all classes, races, sexes and segments of our society. We need people whose passion for justice, equality and human dignity has been forged in the crucible of their own lives, and who are prepared to share the fruits of their own struggles with others.

"This is the type of passion and commitment that has made Black leadership a major force within American society. It is a moral outlook that has particularly characterized the young men and women, Black and white, who have emerged from predominantly Black institutions of higher education. This is what our country recognizes is needed today."

Todman told the candidates for graduation that the doors to participation in foreign policy making are no longer closed, partly because of the recognition of that need.

"You are wanted," Todman said, telling of the State Department's increased interest in the hiring of minorities. "Black and other minority citizens and organizations are among the constituency groups our government is now actively seeking to involve in the policy process. We recognize and value your leadership role in public opinion."

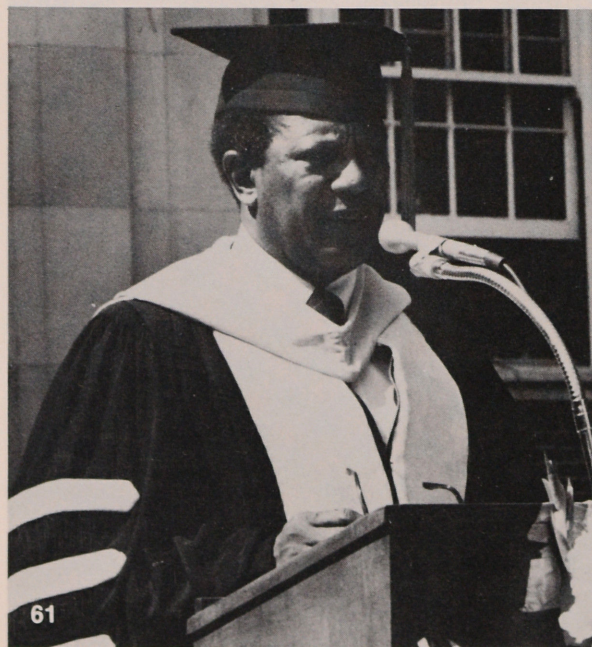
Mr. Todman is now U.S. Am-

bassador to Spain.

* * *

Members of the platform party were Dr. Linwood D. Graves, director of the Summer School; the Rev. Dr. James S. Chavis, minister, Dunwoody Baptist Church; the Rev. Barbara L. King, minister, Hillside Chapel and Truth Center; Dr. Benjamin F. Hudson, dean, School of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Virginia L. Jones, dean, School of Library Service; Dr. Prince E. Wilson, vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Cleveland L. Dennard, president; Dr. Huey E. Charlton, dean, School of Education; Mr. Richard A. Dent, president, Atlanta University National Alumni Association; Dr. Charles W. Merideth, acting chancellor, Atlanta University Center, Inc.; Dr. Robert C. Vowels, dean, School of Business Administration; Mrs. Genevieve T. Hill, dean, School of Social Work; and University Marshals Mrs. Lucy C. Grigsby, chairman, Department of English, Mrs. Miriam H. Jellins, Nathaniel P. Tillman associate professor of reading, and Dr. Cleon C. Arrington, executive director for university relations and development.

A reception at the president's residence concluded commencement activities.



61 - Terence A. Todman, Speaker



62 - The Processional—Candidates march to their seats under blue skies, ready to be awarded their graduate degrees.



63 - Graduates and former students display their memorabilia during the special reception and at the Homecoming Dinner.



64 - These expressions sums up the reactions to alumni weekend '78 - Joy, amazement, exhaustion, etc.

ALUMNI WEEKEND 78 COMMITTEES

GENERAL COMMITTEES

ANNUAL MEETING	Richard A. Dent
ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARDS BANQUET	Nettie Grier Smith
AWARDS	Fredrick D. Browne, Sr.
HOMECOMING REUNION	Leonia Lanier Dorsey*
HOSTESS	Willie B. Thomas Johnson
FOX TROT AND DISCO	Francis "Frank" Brown
NOMINATIONS	Annie R. Simmons Hill

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS⁽¹⁾

Jennye Cobb Brown	Sara Kellog Lowrie	Addie L. Sloan
Katie Goosby Crumley	Hilda Colbert Lyman	Evelyn Gantt Smith
Betty Dabney	Nannie Holcum McCormick	Essie J. Stanley
T. Stewart Greer	Eloise Murphy Milton	Olga Williams Taylor
Allene Henderson	Annie Lillian Riggsbee	Cleopatra D. Thompson
Robert Jennings	Ruby Arnold Rowe	Maggie Walker
Flossie Armstrong Jones	Katie Shakespear	Ella Gaines Yates
Verdree Lockhart		

(1) Homecoming Committee Members listed below.

*HOMECOMING COMMITTEE

Leonia Lanier Dorsey — Coordinator
Hilda Davie Wilson — Chairperson

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Josephine Allen Richardson	Georgia Hall Harper	Victoria Lark Wilson
Selman Willis	Roberta McLemore	Effie Hill Brown
Ethel Wyche Martin	Glanville Lockett	Albert Patterson Thweatt
Margh Johnson	John Leake	Hilda Davie Wilson
Wilhelmina Dibble Rettig	Cleopatra Love	Beatrice Elaine Watkins

HOMECOMING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Emma Rush Brown	Registration
William Long	Finance
Ruby Arnold Rowe	Reception
Annie R. Simmons Hill	Memorial Ceremony
Nettie Grier Smith	Homecoming Dinner
Myrtle Wilcox Lyons	Souvenir Packets
Nell Fisher Blackshear	Tour Guides
Emma Parks Gooden	Decorations
Casper Jordan	Heritage Room
Fredrick Browne, Sr.	

ASSISTANTS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Allen, Elsie M.	Hagins, Pauline Perry	Parks, Hattie Brookins
Belcher, Nell Hall	Hall, Annie D. Roland	Pharrow, Jasper
Blackshear, Nell Fisher	Hamilton, Grace Towns	Potter, Sadie Watson
Bowden, Minnie Lee Perry	Hamilton, Nell Marie	Riggsbee, Annie L. Hendrix
Brown, Jennye Cobb	Jackson, Ruth Thomas	Robinson, Evelyn Ross
Brown, Z'Venia Jackson	Johnson, Willie B. Thomas	Smith, Evelyn Gantt
Collier, Hazoline	Lowrie, Sara Kellogg	Taylor, Olga Williams
Crumley, Kate Goosby	Lyman, Hilda Colbert	Thweatt, Albert Patterson
De Lorme, Grace Holmes	Lyons, Henry	Tuggle, Mattie Mae
Furlow, Henry, Jr.	Marshman, Katherine Ragland	Walker, Charles
Gibson, Edythe	McCormick, Nannie Holcum	Wheeler, Mittie N. Lynch
Gibson, Clinton	Minnefield, Pauline J.	Wolf, Mabel King
	Mitchell, Helen Foster	Yates, Mae Maxwell