

York. A year later, the Federal Government completed the Ballard Locks in Seattle making it possible for ships to go into Lake Union. And, in 1917, the canal between Lake Union and Lake Washington was completed.

In the year 1925, Rev. W.D. Carter resigned in favor of a younger man. On his recommendation, Rev. J. Sterling Moore was called to pastor the membership. Records show that Rev. Carter later accepted a call to pastor the Friendship Baptist Church of Pasadena, California.

The year is now 1925. Rev. J. Sterling Moore came to Mount Zion from Iowa. The church is heavily in debt in the amount of approximately \$30,000. But through his guidance and programs, the mortgage is paid off within a 2-year period.

With the departure of Rev. Carter, the membership has dropped to approximately 150 members with only about one-half of these on the active roll. In working out a plan towards paying off the mortgage, the church was canvassed and then divided into groups. Each group was responsible for bringing in a certain amount of money.

The groups were patterned after the U.S. Army, with the overall groups being the Infantry and Calvary. These were subdivided into smaller groups. The members worked hard and the groups, although competitive, maintained their Christian spirit.

Rev. J. Sterling Moore was a man who allied himself with not only churches of other faiths, but other racial groups, as well. He was described as a fiery preacher. His physical characteristics are compared by some to those of Cab Calloway.

During this period, because this was the largest community facility, many outstanding artists were brought to Mount Zion for appearances. Such persons include Roland Hayes and A. Phillip Randolph. Many civic and community activities were held at Mount Zion to accommodate the numbers. During this period, an outstanding quartet was organized and became very popular. They accepted numerous singing engagements throughout the state of Washington.

Rev. Moore served a total of 6 years. Mount Zion was again without a pastor. This time the period was for approximately ten months.

1932...the Franklin D. Roosevelt year. The year for initials: WPA...NYA...the year of promise to rebuild a nation. The Depression hit the country earlier but it was keenly felt in the Northwest in the early 30's. Things are rough but somehow Mount Zion continued to be a mainstay in the community.

Rev. T.M. Davis came in 1932 when the economy was down: the spirit of the community was down; the spirit of Mount Zion was down!!

Rev. Davis, a graduate from Lincoln University in 1901 and a theological Seminary in 1904, brought with him his talented wife Lillian, and two of his children, Justicia and Taylor. Mrs. Davis was a recognized elocutionist and musician. She gave of her talents freely to the church, though briefly, for she passed on about two years later.

Rev. Davis' main changes in the church began with the children. He first changed the Sunday School hours from afternoon to morning. He firmly believed that the children of the church should receive their religious training on the level of a child's thinking...in a simple and clear manner. Because of this strong belief, the Junior Church was born.

The man, T.M. Davis, was not the most dynamic or forceful in

manner, nor did he possess eloquence in speech, but this man kept the church together despite all of the odds that were against him. When just living was a chore, Rev. Davis was always there when he was needed. He gave a type of security that was needed...the religious security.

Rev. T.M. Davis, of all the previous ministers, was the only one to enjoy the unique distinction of being married in his own church.

Rev. and Mrs. Fountain W. Penick came to Mount Zion on February 5, 1940. The church was in serious financial difficulty and for this reason Rev. Penick suggested that he be given a three month trial before receiving a set salary. He so inspired the membership that within the three-month period the offering grew from less than a hundred dollars a month to over \$600 per month.

During the pastorate of Rev. Penick, the "Good Will Tour" came in fruition. This brought for the first time, the National Baptist Convention leadership to the great Northwest. The whole community assisted in hosting this distinguished group.

Also during Rev. Penick's pastorate, the lots where portions of the new sanctuary stands, were acquired from Mr. Kenneth Coleman for the sum of the unpaid taxes.

The Men's Brotherhood, known then as the Emanuel Club was organized.

Mrs. Vivian L. Penick was a leader in her own right. Mrs. Penick worked hard in leading and inspiring the women of the church and personally directing many outstanding money raising projects.

Rev. Penick resigned in 1942 and founded the Peoples Institutional Baptist Church and led that congregation for 20 years.

The year...1942. Seattle is now a bustling city with a population well over 400,000. Civil Defense Wardens are commonly seen rigidly enforcing the familiar "Black-out Law". Women, some housewives, some mothers, some girls, trying to keep the "Boys up front" by taking their places at Boeings, the shipyards, and other places of employment, are busy working at jobs formerly held by men. Military men in uniforms of all branches of the service are seen everywhere. It is necessary to secure a "pass" to travel in any area of the waterfront. There are ration stamps issued for meat, butter, canned goods of all kinds, gasoline and other commodities too numerous to mention. Many new arrivals in the city are introduced to the tax token for the first time. By this time, every Seattleite is fully aware that the country is at war...World War II. And...

Again, Mt. Zion Church is divided and without a pastor. A tall, thin, handsome young man in his early thirties hails upon the scene. A little awe-stricken at first perhaps by the exotic beauty of the Pacific Northwest, the grandeur of Mt. Rainier, the loveliness of the lakes, parks and waters of Puget Sound, the Reverend F. Benjamin Davis arrives in Seattle accepting the pastorate of Mount Zion on July 1, 1942. The membership grew rapidly under his able leadership despite the fact that so much of his time is spent at the various camps with the servicemen ministering to their needs through preaching and teaching. Often Sundays, Mount Zion resembled a fort with so many servicemen in the audience. The service personnel enjoyed the interest the pastor showed in them.

Under the leadership of Rev. Davis, all of the regular departments of the church were stimulated and some new ones developed. Among the new ones were Loyalty Month in August, with classes for youth