

*Madison Rural Sanitarium & Hospital*

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## *Madisonites & Friends Celebrate the Centennial Of The Founding of Madison College*

### **The Madison Centennial began with E. A. Sutherland resigning as President of EMC**

By Albert Dittes



E. A. Sutherland 1865-1955

For Edward Alexander Sutherland, 39 years old, resigning as president of Emmanuel Missionary College (EMC) in Berrien Springs, Mich., in May, 1904, culminated 13 years of Seventh-day Adventist educational reform. He had dedicated himself to following the directions as given through Ellen White, and that had led to conflict, unpopularity and productivity.

"The conservative man will

never be a reformer," he once said.

Sutherland was conservative in that he based all he did on the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Unfortunately, this trait often brought him into conflict with the top officers of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

On Dec. 20, 1907, he wrote to Elder S.N. Haskell that he had moved to Tennessee not only because he felt God could use him in a "needy field" but because "we knew that we were in a position at Berrien Springs where we could not be free to carry out the instruction given to us by the Spirit of Prophecy without great difficulty."

Some of these difficulties come to light in materials on file at the Adventist Research Center at Andrews University. Many incidents led to this dramatic resignation at a high-level church council. Ellen White tried in vain to head off trouble, but emotions just boiled over, and Sutherland shocked the assembly by walking out.

Part of the problem, according to a doctoral dissertation on E.A. Sutherland by Warren Sidney Ashworth, was that he could never

develop a good working relationship with Arthur G. Daniells, newly-elected president of the General Conference. Following a recommendation of Ellen White, Sutherland and Magan wanted to start a sanitarium in Berrien Springs after the 1901 fire destroyed the Battle Creek Sanitarium. Daniells had apparently killed the plan. Sutherland and Daniells had communicated little between September, 1903 until a month before the important Berrien Springs meeting set for May, 1904. The tension started affecting the EMC students.

He always had spoken his convictions. His differences with SDA church leaders began in 1891 at Battle Creek College. Sutherland, then a young Bible teacher, taught from Genesis 9 that eating flesh foods shortened life and recommended that the cafeteria not serve meat.

"This teaching caused a furor in Battle Creek College," he later wrote in an autobiographical sketch of himself and Percy Magan. "Twenty five of the students quit eating meat."

The college cafeteria served meat three times a day and that "provided practically all of the

protein that they had," he wrote. The issue divided the students and teachers, and the college administration resolved the situation by adding beans to the menu.

This incident set the course for Sutherland's life work, and ultimate resignation as president of the college. Dr. John Harvey Kellogg, medical superintendent of the Battle Creek Sanitarium, agreed with him and proclaimed the benefits of a non-flesh diet to the students. George I. Butler, a past president of the General Conference, disagreed. After Sutherland later taught the change of diet given to Israel during their deliverance from Egypt, W.W. Prescott, head of the General Conference department of education, called him in and told him "there was to be no more use of the Testimonies with the Bible teaching."

"Sutherland insisted that the Bible itself taught a non-flesh diet," according to the autobiography.

Uriah Smith sided with Prescott, who sent Sutherland out to Walla Walla College as president for the next six years.

"That young fellow will soon come to his senses," Sutherland quoted Prescott as saying.

Sutherland and Kellogg never resolved their differences with Prescott. Their mutual distrust would boil over at the momentous 1904 meeting

The industrial education program Sutherland started at Walla Walla impressed the delegates to the 1897 General Conference. The new president elected that year, George A. Irwin, chose Sutherland to head Battle Creek College, ushering in a "new order." Percy Magan later became dean.

Sutherland immediately vowed to follow the Spirit of Prophecy guidelines. "I feel that it would be worse than folly to undertake the work here unless the instruction given by the Lord is closely and

faithfully followed out," he wrote to Willie White soon after taking office. "If I know my own heart I have no other desire than to work in harmony with the Lord on this school question."

He started by transforming a college playing field into a garden. He also bought an 80-acre farm and rented a second farm to alleviate the cramped quarters of Battle Creek College, built across the street from the Sanitarium. He stopped granting degrees in 1899, saying they were "papal in origin and an alliance of church and state." He wanted English as well as science and bookkeeping taught only from the Bible and Testimonies.

Sutherland opened a broom factory at Battle Creek College, as well as facilities for dress making, woodwork, carpentry and printing.

He and Magan also filed articles at the Calhoun County Courthouse for a business to train students "in the art and business of printing and publishing whereby they may become self-sustaining missionaries."

In studying the Ellen White guidelines, Magan and Sutherland felt the need of a farm for their school and started looking for one, when time permitted, in 1899. Their friend A.T. Jones, editor of the Review and Herald, approved of their plans, but after a rainstorm sidelined them for two days in a Chicago hotel, President Irwin of the General Conference told them "there was to be no more of that." Sutherland later wrote in his autobiographical sketch that "He (Irwin) wrote Ellen White that they (we) were naughty boys."

Ellen White told them to let the issue rest for now. In the meantime, they devoted themselves to liquidating an \$80,000 debt on the college.

During these years of 1898-1900, a prominent woman, Mrs. S.M.I. Henry, a past president of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, came to the Battle Creek

Sanitarium and ultimately joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The industrial program at Battle Creek College impressed her, and she arranged for Sutherland to speak to a group of like-minded educators contemplating an industrial school in Berrien Springs. While there, Sutherland discovered a farm for sale along the St. Joseph River. The industrial school plan faded, but Sutherland remembered the farm and quietly told others about it.

Also in April of 1899, Sutherland wrote to Willie White about the possibility of starting an industrial school for black students in Calmar, Miss. He and Magan admired the work of J. Edson White and later spent a month touring the South, visiting "industrial schools" there.

At the 1901 General Conference session, Ellen White said it was time to move Battle Creek College, and the assembly approved. The selection committee chose the Berrien Springs farm as the new site.

They moved the school to Berrien Springs later that year, but Sutherland ran afoul of the conference officers again when he offered free tuition to any SDA student willing to work. The brethren felt that would cost the school money they would have to come up with.

Sutherland and Magan shocked the church and seemed to weigh in with the now controversial Dr. Kellogg when they reopened Battle Creek College as a pre medical institution in 1903 to help his medical school, now deprived of students. Ellen White discouraged Adventist young people from going to Battle Creek for their education.

The collapse of Percy Magan's wife, Ida, also aggravated the situation. Health problems had plagued the Magans during the years of working with Sutherland. A severe attack of typhoid fever with relapses and myocardial complications during the summer of 1900 cost Percy Magan most of his hair at the age of 33. Nursing him



back to health and the premature death of her brother made Ida seriously ill, and their two boys went to live with her parents in Santa Ana, Calif. "It seemed when I left my poor little children at Santa Ana that the last thing I had on earth was being taken from me, and coming back here to my home at Berrien Springs seemed almost like coming to the grave," he wrote to Ellen White.

Nobody knew who had made a false rumor out of an Ellen White statement, in a private letter, that some of the educational reforms were extreme. Ida Magan heard that Ellen White disapproved of her husband. This bad news hit her so hard she checked into a Kalamazoo, Mich., mental hospital and later contracted tuberculosis.

"It was not Brother Daniells or Brother Prescott who after the Oakland Conference came with a depressing influence, saying that Sister White had changed toward Brother Magan, and would no longer sustain him in his work," Ellen White wrote. "This is the word that was carried to Sister Magan, and it was followed by the loss of her reason. But I wish to say that those who charge this to Elder Daniells or to Elder Prescott are bearing false witness. These men are not doing that kind of work, and those who attribute it to them are doing them great injustice."

Thus, the stage was set for confrontation at a biennial session of the Lake Union Conference set for May 18 - 26, 1904. Also attending would be the Auditing Committee of the General Conference as well as the Review and Herald Publishing Association and Emmanuel Missionary College boards of directors. Arthur G. Daniells then served as president of the Lake Union as well as the General Conference.

Delegates to the Lake Union Conference session arrived Tuesday, the important meetings began Wednesday and Ida Magan died Thursday.

A.T. Jones conducted her

funeral the following Sabbath afternoon.

"Sister Magan worked with her husband, struggling with him, and praying that he might be sustained," Ellen White commented Monday. "She did not think of herself, but of him. And God did sustain them, as they walked in the light. From her small store of money, Sister Magan gave five hundred dollars to erect the Memorial Hall. She strove untiringly to maintain a perfect home government, teaching and educating her children in the fear of God. Twice she had to nurse her husband through an attack of fever while she herself was becoming diseased. She suffered for months, and the husband suffered with her. And now the poor woman has gone, leaving two motherless children. All this, because of the work done by unsanctified tongues."

Ellen White spoke against some of the problems with The Living Temple the first day of the conference, and W.W. Prescott wanted to denounce pantheism. Ellen White initially told him to go ahead but then changed her mind and wrote him to do all he could to save Dr. Kellogg. This latter note never reached Prescott.

According to a summary of this meeting by Adventist historian E.K. Vande Vere, Prescott preached a withering denunciation of pantheism that Friday evening, with Dr. Kellogg in the audience, reading from a book looking like The Living Temple. At the close of the meeting, in a dramatic flourish, Prescott threw the book to the floor. The Kellogg followers picked it up, discovered it was not The Living Temple and cried foul.

At the Monday early morning devotional, A.T. Jones lashed back at Prescott.

"Did you write that?" Jones would ask, listing the specific charges against Dr. Kellogg and showing that Prescott himself had written the same things in the Review & Herald.

After Prescott would admit that he had, Jones asked, "Do you believe what you wrote?"

Prescott protested that he had changed his mind.

"When did you change your mind?" Jones demanded.

This blistering attack continued for three hours, with Jones trying to prove Prescott and other ministers the sources of Dr. Kellogg's ideas.

The session erupted into charges and countercharges, with Dr. Kellogg saying he had written nothing out of harmony with the denomination and Ellen White.

Sutherland then startled everyone by getting up and saying, "I have done my best work with the denomination. Now, Elder Daniells, you are driving me out of the organized work. Well, you hereby have my resignation. I believe the Lord is calling me to establish a school in the South."

Percy Magan and Bessie DeGraw did the same.

"Brother Sutherland spoke words that were untimely," Ellen White wrote two months later. "For him to present his resignation at a time when so much was a stake, at a meeting in which the ministers had assembled for prayer and confession, to seek for unity of spirit, was an unfortunate spirit, and showed that a strange power had come in to influence his mind, and lead it away from the living fountain to the brackish streams of the lowlands. He said that to which he would not have given utterance had he not been talked with and wrought upon. He spoke at a time when silence would have been eloquence."

Ellen White had not opposed the idea of going South when Percy Magan mentioned it to her on a Sunday afternoon drive, and she publicly affirmed their decision.

"If Brethren Sutherland and Magan shall leave Berrien Springs, and I believe it is their duty to go, I beg of you, for Christ's sake, not to follow them with criticism and







developing a planned community in Celo, N.C., then taught at Highland, Enterprise and Campion Academies until a growing disability forced her to stop working in 1975.

They retired to Portland, Tenn. in 1977. Surviving are her husband, Ben Brost and a foster daughter, Jean Davis, of Lincoln, Neb. Her burial is in Old Brush Cemetery, Portland, Tenn.

**Burks, Robert Erle** passed away on Feb. 12, 2004 after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Mary Pevahouse Burks; 4 sons: Robert Justin Burks '82, Richard Erle Burks '94, Phillip Anthony Burks '00, Jeffery Todd Burks '02; 1 daughter: Sandra Burks Schwartz '86; 2 brothers: James William Burks II, John Edward Burks; 1 sister: Mary Louise Reasonover; and 6 grandchildren.

**Carlock, John Douglas**, BS '45, expired Aug. 28, 2003 in Canyonville, Ore., where he lived. He was born November 24, 1905 in Livingston, Tenn.

He was in poor health for several years before his death. He was married to Esther Eldenburg for 55 years. They met at Madison. John graduated from Madison College with a BA in Education. He is survived by his wife, Esther, one daughter, Mary Dimcock and husband Dave of Bend, Ore., one grandson, Matt Derby, Tempe, Ariz., one sister, Edith Freeman, Cookeville, Tenn. One brother, Carey Carlock, Livingston, Tenn., Nieces, Nephews and host of friends.



**Davidson, Ralph M.**, 92, BS '34, the next-to-last president of Madison College, died Feb. 15, 2004 in the Intensive Care Unit at the Portland, Tenn., campus of Tennessee Christian Medical Center.

He had lived with his daughter, Virginia Sellars, of Portland, for almost four years.

Davidson was born Aug. 2, 1911, in Auglaize Co., Ohio, near the town of St. Marys. He graduated from Mount Vernon Academy, Mount Vernon, Ohio in 1929 and went on to Madison as a student in 1930.

"They put me to work the first day picking beans at 10 cents an hour," he said. "Then they put me in the cannery, and I helped make peanut butter. Then they put me on night watch. "The second year I started teaching mathematics.

After finishing college, he went to the University of Tennessee and earned a Master's degree, with a major in mathematics and minor in physics and chemistry.

He returned to Madison and taught mathematics until transferring to Walla Walla College in 1940.

He recalled Dr. E.A. Sutherland as being "an excellent administrator. He had something to do with starting all those units all through the south. I don't think I have ever worked anywhere where there was a better administrator than Dr. Sutherland. He knew how to handle people. He knew how to deal with students. He was fair. He told

them the truth, and they knew he did."

He taught math at Walla Walla College for five years, then became treasurer of Southern Publishing Association in Nashville. He went to Woodbury, Tenn., as administrator of Good Samaritan Hospital and started an accounting firm in nearby Murfreesboro in partnership with fellow Madison alumnus, Kenneth Knight. "We first called it Knight and Davidson, because we had two offices, he in Springfield and I in Murfreesboro," he said.

The Murfreesboro part of the business now operates under the name of Hall, Davidson and Associates.

He also started the accounting program at Southern Adventist University and went from there to be president of Madison College.

"They wanted me to be president because they thought Madison was at a crisis," he said. "It was going down hill and was just about as low as you could get. That is why, the first day I got a phone call from the State of Tennessee saying we will give you one year to build a new hospital building or we are going to close it down. I didn't know what to do. If the hospital closed, it would wipe out the college."

He wound up negotiating a \$2 million bond issue to build a new hospital building. "We changed the college to an academy, and the churches could support that," he said.

After leaving Madison, Davidson worked 13 years at the General Conference, retiring as head auditor in 1976 and moved back to Woodbury, Tenn.

During that time he developed an accounting system for Loma Linda University acceptable to the accrediting body and persuaded the General Conference to designate Ingathering funds either "donated" or "solicited" on the tithe envelope.

Surviving him are four daughters, Virginia Sellars of Portland, Tenn.; Ann Pettey of Prosser, Wash.; June Hendrickson of Echo, Ore. and Joan Rouse of Sunnyside, Wash., four step children, 13 grandchildren, five step grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

He married Dorothy Mae Foote in June, 1933. She died Sept. 23, 1992. He then married Eunice Bisalski in November, 1994. She died in September, 2003.

He was buried with his first wife in Woodbury, Tenn.

**Hicks, Bettie J. Knott, 55**, died March 5, 2004 in Ellijay, Ga. Following post surgery complications for cancer. She was born at Madison Nov. 6, 1948 to Cecil B., MCA '47, N '41 and Marie E. Knott.

She is survived by her husband, Gene Hicks; brother and sister-in-law Tim Knott and Patricia Veach, Davenport, Iowa



**Hoover Sr., William R. (Bill), M C A '54**, died May 24,

2004, vanquished by cancer. Preceded in death by father and mother; wife, Evelyn Marshall Hoover MCA '57, 1997. Bill is survived by his Wife, Jean, Daughter, Louise Hoover, MA '78; Son Bill Jr., MA '80, daughter-in-

law, Angie Bell Hoover, MA '80;; sisters Patty Hoover Jones, MCA '52, Leota Hoover Connolly, MCA '53, Sallie Hoover Sullivan MCA '57, Peggy Hoover Moore, MCA '61; Granddaughter, Malorie Hoover, MA '04, and Grandson, Will Hoover, MA '07.

**Knott, Mrs. Marie E.**, 85 of Ellijay, Ga., died March 6, 2004. She was born September 11, 1918, in Detroit, Mich., the daughter of Henry and Orilla Mae Laubaug Pfeifle. She was a teacher of education.

She is survived by son and daughter-in-law, Tim Knott and Patricia Veach, sister Ellen Jordan, and brothers, Richard Pfeifle, Robert Pfeifle, Gerald Pfeifle, David Pfeifle, and sister-in-law, Virginia Pfeifle.

**Luzader, Dewey Merle, S'53-'56**, age 69, expired April 18, 2004 in Madison. In February 2003 Dewey was diagnosed with cancer of the prostate and after a courageous battle he succumbed to his metastatic bone cancer and complications thereof at his home with his family around him.

He is survived by his wife, Taffi of 51 years; two daughters, Diane Roosenberg and Vickie Lounsberry; 7 grandsons; and two great-grandchildren.; Brother Richard, Sisters Glenda Luzader, Maxine Kimmey, Mary Duskin.

Dewey and Taffi met as students at Ozark Academy, graduating in 1953 and came to Madison to attend college.

At Madison they decided that they wanted to marry which required the permission of the faculty. Dewey made application for them to be married during Christmas break, but they turned

him down. He went to work on a plan and listed all of his and Taffi's expenses on a sheet of paper as well as what it would cost them to live together. When he demonstrated that two could live cheaper than one, the faulty relented and gave their permission.

During these early years, Dewey worked for D. W. Swindle Broom Company, a trade he learned at Ozark Academy.

The girls, Diane, 1954 and Vickie, 1956 were born at Madison Sanitarium & Hospital.

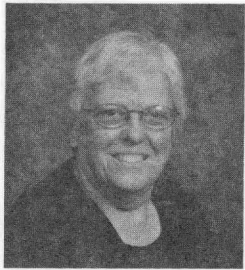
During the ensuing years Dewey had a wide and varied career. While working at Hinsdale Sanitarium & Hospital he completed courses in accounting and computer programming. He became a consultant to a variety of companies. Later when he was working for BCBS of Tenn. He was hired as assistant Administrator of a hospital in Arkansas.

When Dewey became an independent consultant he managed to acquire a real estate license, real estate broker's license, and nursing home administrator's license.

During the years Dewey had time to share his love for music, singing in the Chicagoland Seventh-day Adventist Metropolitan Chorale. He also sang in two different men's quartets.

Before he became too ill to continue, Dewey and Taffi were serving as host and hostess in the emergency room one evening a week at at Tennessee Christian Medical Center, Madison campus **Nivison, Mark H., S '35-'37**, Age 86, passed away at his home in New Smyrna Beach, Fla. Sabbath morning Nov. 15, 2003. He is survived by his wife, Esther, two

daughters, Carol Jean Burleson, of Tampa, Fla. and Marsha Clark of Gatlinburg, Tenn.



**Schaber, Carol Cruzen** (class of 1960). Carol expired Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004 after

an extended battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband, Ralph Schaber, Lincoln, Nebraska; Mother, Delores Cruzen; sisters, Zoe Cruzen Nelson (class of '59), Lou Ellen Cruzen Petty (class of '67), Judy Cruzen Tomlin (attended '64-'65)) and her brother Gerald (class of '63) all are graduates of or attended Madison Academy.

**Wilson, Walter H. (Bud)**, 81, MCA '47, Lab '49, formerly of Smyrna, TN, died May 16, 2004 in Desloge, Mo. The Ray Wilson family moved to Madison in the early '40s. Bud served in the Navy

during WW II and graduated from



Madison College Academy in 1947. Bud took the Laboratory Course at Madison and then

opened and maintained his own lab for many years in Madison, Tenn. and other locations in the area. He is survived by daughters, Susan E. Zitter, Desloge, Mo., Cynthia D. Turek, Nashville, Tenn.; brother Lloyd (Joe) Wilson, Madison, Tenn., Six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by wife Ruth Woodward Wilson, (1994); his father, Robert Ray

Wilson, (1977); mother LaVerne Myers Wilson, (1979); sister, LaVerne Ray Wilson Krantz, (2000); brother, Lt. John Robert (Bob) Wilson, killed in action over Germany, in 1944; all of the Wilson children served in the U. S. Armed Forces.

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Albert G. Dittes

President/Editor

Bob Sutherland

Managing Editor & Executive

Secretary

Home Phone: 615-859-5181

Office: 615-865-1615

Toll Free 1-888-524-1615.

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