sionary Society. During Dr. Heath's administration, the society was restructured and the programs were revitalized to make them more relevant to the needs of the day.

Other Leaders

R. MARY E FRIZZELL, director of Promotion and Missionary Education who had taken a very active role in the work of the Restructuring Committee, was elected president in Los Angeles in 1971. Under Dr. Frizzell's administration, Research and Status of Black Women came into being as one of the Standing Committees. A Special Missions Committee was added and the Overseas Missions Committee was changed to the Rural Missions Committee.

The highlight of this period was the Sickle Cell Project which enabled the society to make a \$44,000 presentation to Dr. Roland Scott, director of the Howard University Center for Sickle Cell Disease. Overseas directors were elected to give continuity to the work in Africa and the Caribbean.

At the 1980 Quadrennial Convention, held in New Orleans, Mrs. Wilhelmina Lawrence, former Connectional Young People's Division (Y.P.D.) director, was elevated to the presidency. Mrs. Lawrence, who was honored with a Doctor of Humanities degree from Wilberforce University on April 12th, has brought a new dimension and involvement to the work of missions. She has expended herself in many ways in seeing that A.M.E. women are kept abreast of all issues and activities affecting the lives of women and children.

Dr. Lawrence's most recent achievement was receiving, on March 18, 1985, approval from the United Nations Committee For Non-Governmental Organization, NGO status for the Women's Missionary Society with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in a consultative category. This action then went before the Assembly for ratification.

Many firsts have been achieved under Dr. Lawrence's leadership. The focus has been on strengthening the work of the committees and emphasizing the local societies. Also, in this quadrennium, the organization will be stressing the digging of wells in Africa, as well as other concerns that impact on the lives of people.

Missionary Education Through the Years THE primary objective of the Department of Promotion and Missionary Education (P.M.E.) is to develop, distribute and promote educa-

tional resource material for study in Christian mission.

To Mrs. Mayme A. Sims belongs the credit for adventuring and carrying forward the establishment of the Missionary

Education Department. Mrs. Sims worked with this department until September 1947, at which time Mrs. Heath appointed Dr. Frizzell as chairperson of the Promotion and Missionary (Continued on page 8.)

CUSPENSION

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