Alumni Homecoming Issue
THE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The warmth and fervor of Alumni Homecoming Weekend cheered us who live in Collegedale as much as it did those who visited. We saw through homecoming eyes the glory of autumn in this peaceful valley: the blue of the sky, the mellowness of fall meadows, the calico backdrop of hills. We saw sturdy functional buildings sacrifice has built, and the new fall harvest of friendly, enthusiastic students. We saw more. We saw a school that has made so much difference in the lives of thousands that when people come back here—even after decades of being away—they confide half shyly, as though it will explode inside them if it isn’t said—“There’s nowhere on earth I’d rather be; this is almost like visiting heaven.”

Most notable this year was that incredible reunion of 130 people who had been part of Collegedale during the first decade, 1917 to 1927, people so happy to fellowship with one another again across the years that their brunch lasted nearly six hours, people whose infectious enthusiasm, kindled a half century ago, seems to burn more brightly now than ever.

All of us privileged to be SMC Alumni are part of that spirit, whether we were able to make it “home” for the special weekend or not. SMC is more than a place, more than an institution: it’s a way of life. Wrapped up in that way of life most tightly are trust in God’s leading, willingness to sacrifice for goals, warm friendliness, and a striving for excellence in whatever is undertaken. And as stewards entrusted with a piece of that spirit, whether or not we come back often, we can remember this place in prayer, thus helping to beat back the numbing pall of the evil from around present students, administrators, and faculty. We can continue to direct young students this way. Perhaps we can contribute to the Worthy Student Fund or to the Fine Arts project. We can carry out our daily responsibilities somehow more faithfully because we have been touched with the spirit of this place.

Another contribution many of us can do for SMC is to get together with other alumni for potlucks and reunions either officially or informally in our own locality. Southern California alumni have done this frequently, as have groups in Florida and elsewhere. The large, enthusiastic contingent around Andrews University are being organized into an official chapter on November 12. Please let us know if you want a chapter in your area.

Here on campus we’re making plans already for next Homecoming. We’re sorry some could not be accommodated comfortably at the buffet supper this year; we’re arranging larger quarters for our supper, planning for you to come. There’ll be a more efficient way of picking up tickets to the evening entertainment, too, assuring that no one will be left out.

And we’re working on added enticements for those who can come for a long weekend starting on Thursday: mini-courses which you can take for fun and personal enrichment or even for an hour of credit if you preregister for a reading list and, after the weekend seminar, complete a project. Please watch for further announcements. We’re excited!

Today Collegedale is still drenched in autumn beauty. Soon will come the rains of winter, and then, spring. Another graduation: more alumni still. Another fall, when old friends gather here again, let’s be closer to heaven than ever before. Let’s let the Spirit God has poured out on Collegedale do its work in our lives. Just a little longer and we will all go home.

Minon Hamm ’66
Alumni President

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

All photographs were taken by SMC alumni for this Homecoming special issue. Richard Perry ’70 shot both covers and most of the pictures inside of the graduates and platform participants. Candids were taken by Kent Lopez ’77, and Richard Ashlock ’77, as part of their Editing and Production of Publications class. The art work in the center spread is by Kevin Pennington, a Collegedale Academy student, and by Linda Dick, a freshman English/Communication student.
"Old"—New Grads Return for Homecoming

Over 500 alumni and approximately 150 associate alumni from the 1917-27 era returned to their Alma Mater for a weekend of spiritual fellowship and alumni activities. With their spouses and children, the total reached approximately 1,500 for the weekend.

Dr. Walter B. Clark, ’27, president of the 1927 class and first president of the SMC Alumni Association, was the speaker Sabbath morning for both church services. His sermon dealt with the current problems of morality in the world with the suggested solution being training in SDA schools and churches for young people.

The Friday evening meeting featured Elder A. H. Riffel, ’52. His presentation, “Ambassadors for Christ,” had a South-of-the-border flavor as students from the Inter-American Division assisted him in the program.

Mrs. Louise Walther, ’46, pictured on the front cover with Charles Fleming, was superintendent of the Sabbath school for the day. Dr. William Pettengill, ’53, told of his experiences in sailing back to the South Pacific where mission stations had sprung up since World War II when he was stationed there. He visited the family with whom he lived during the War. Charles Fleming, Dr. Douglas Bennett, ’51, and Elder Frank Holbrook discussed the lesson.

The Collegedale church was host to the alumni and other guests for a fellowship dinner at the Collegedale Academy gym. Mrs. Carol Herrell, hostess, reported that the dinner fed 1,500 persons, the largest crowd that had ever been at such an event.

At the sundown worship with speaker W. H. Patsel, ’52, the cafeteria was so crowded that some alumni and spouses had to eat in Conference Rooms A and B, as well as in all the banquet rooms of the cafeteria. Over 800 persons participated in the supper, the worship, and the business meeting.

SMC was host for the outstanding concert given by Ferrante and Teicher, duo-piano team, for which the college furnished almost 800 tickets to the alumni and their spouses.

One of the main features of the weekend was a meeting of the faculty, staff, and students of the 1917-27 era at a Sunday morning brunch on October 16 in the large SMC banquet room. Host for the event was Dr. Frank Knittel, SMC’s president, and Walter B. Clark presided as chairman.

Clark had invited attendants of the early decade from all over the United States, Canada, and Mexico to participate in the “old-timers” brunch. The response was overwhelming with approximately 150 present.

Following the brunch, the group posed for pictures, related events that had happened to them over the years and reminisced about what life was like on the campus in their decade.

Clark has held four such meetings across the United States in the past year.
Tasba Raya Mission

Medical Missionary Work in Nicaragua

(Reprinted by permission of Chattanooga Times of October 22, 1977)

by Emily McDonald

Where the road ends in the Nicaraguan village of Francia Sirpi, the work of the Southern Missionary college medical mission to the Miskito Indians begins.

The mission house is located "at the end of the road, literally," said Dr. Floyd Greenleaf, project director and SMC history professor, and although extremely isolated, it is a hub of activity involving several Indian villages.

The mission, started by SMC in 1971, is totally supported and staffed by the college, not by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It began when some SMC students wanted to have a more intense mission experience than that provided by regular church missions, Dr. Greenleaf explained.

"They wanted to do something a little different," and they contacted former students and friends in Central America in an effort to find an appropriate place to begin. After months of evaluation and negotiation, SMC decided to establish a mission program among the Miskito Indians.

The Miskitos were dislocated from their jungle homeland because of border disputes between Nicaragua and Honduras and the Nicaraguan government resettled them in the Tasba Raya Reservation in the northeastern part of the country. The government hoped that through encouragement and provision of financial aid, the Indians could make their living by farming. Each Indian male (head of household) received title to a plot of farm land and a village lot for his home, but, noted Dr. Greenleaf, "the poverty is simply unbelievable."

Medical help was non-existent, and that is what the SMC mission went in to provide. There are five villages within the reservation. The SMC group has constructed clinics in three of them and serves the other two with mobile clinics.

Today between 400 and 700 patients are seen in the clinics each month, and the patients are treated for everything from headaches to athlete's foot. Cases that cannot be handled on the spot are transported to hospitals operated by the Moravian Church, but those facilities are several hours away.

SMC Professor John Durichek, who took the first group of students to Nicaragua, has taken groups every summer except this year. That initial group, the "Nicaraguan Nine," traveled in a double GMC truck pulling a jeep.

"You got broken to the culture" by driving, Durichek feels, and the culture shock isn't as great as if one was introduced to reservation life suddenly. The trip, covering 3,800 miles, took two weeks; by air it's a long day's flight, a night in Managua and a short flight to Waspam or Puerto Cabezas, both near the reservation.

The first summer there was no contact with the outside world, said Durichek, but now there is, twice a week, thanks to a ham radio operator in East Brainerd. The original group stayed in a government house in Francia Sirpi until, with the help of the Indians, the mission house was built. The clinics came later, as did a 175-seat Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Seventh-day Adventists are one of three denominations working on the reservation. The Moravians have been the most influential, but Catholics have played an important part by reducing the Miskito language to written form and conducting a language school.

Students are screened very carefully before being sent to Nicaragua and are briefed on mission conditions as fully as possible. Nurses, for example, learn that they will be their own diagnosticians; the closest doctor is miles away. Those doing maintenance and repair work are told the conditions under which they will work are extremely primitive.

Living is family style in the mission house, and the director and his wife oversee the work of the six students comprising the mission staff. The Nicaraguan experience gives students a taste of what mission life is like, and it is a less costly way to see if a student is suited for it than is sending a family to a mission station for a three-year term, said Durichek.

However, the fact that the students stay only a year (or just three summer months) is one drawback to the project as it is organized now. Having a new group every year doesn't provide much continuity. The current director, his wife, and their new baby (at the mission) are planning to stay three years, however.

The college does fund raising for the mission and solicits students, faculty and staff for voluntary contributions. Donations come from other sources, too, and all are earmarked for the Nicaraguan endeavor. The mission budget is approximately $20,000 per year, Dr. Greenleaf noted.

Supervision is provided by Dr. Greenleaf and others at SMC, and periodic visits are made to the mission. "It is my impression," he said with a smile, "that the kids like to have visits."

Eventually SMC would like to turn administration of the project over to the Seventh-day Adventist Church organization in Nicaragua. The church has approximately 2,200 members in the country, and the work there is part of the church's overseas mission program.

"We feel it will be an accomplishment for SMC" when that happens (possibly by 1980), said Dr. Greenleaf, because it would mean a project developed from a student idea survived and flourished enough to be recognized by the entire church.
**Year at Mission Station**

**Training Put to Test**

Pam Bleich completed the two-year registered nurse curriculum at Southern Missionary College and then put her training to the test for a year at the SMC mission in Nicaragua. She returned to the SMC campus in fall to complete the two additional years necessary for a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

“I had my occupation already,” said Pam, but the Nicaraguan experience introduced her to many different aspects of nursing. She singlehandedly delivered three babies, “no one else was around,” dealt with TB and malaria cases and sutured many wounds caused by an machete blade.

Most Indian women wanted to have their babies in their homes, and it was a real breakthrough when one woman went to the clinic to have hers, Pam related.

**Hard Task**

The Nicaraguan government provides a school for the Indian children, but the SMC students try to educate 6th children and adults about health and nutrition. That’s pretty difficult in an area where the people have sanitary facilities.

“We get up when the toucan crows,” which is pretty early, said Pam of the daily routine at the mission. Cooking is done on a cast iron, wood-burning stove (made by the Brown Stove Co. in Cleveland and donated by a Luther listener) and on an Army field stove.

“We have some food we are not used to,” she noted, but there is a great deal of excellent fruit available. Some interesting dishes can be concocted from fruit; for example, fried green bananas taste somewhat like potatoes. Every noon the mission staff eats what the Indians eat, red beans and rice.

**Little Free Time**

There is little free time on the station noted Pam, but occasionally one finds time to sew or to read. Sewing is done on a small treadle machine, and the students make outfits for the babies they deliver.

Pam, who is from Pennsylvania, had never even been to Florida, so Nicaragua’s tropical climate was a real surprise. Even more of a shock, however, was the pace of life, which is so much slower than Americans are used to. In fact, Pam noted freeway noise bothered her when she first came home. “Generally,” she added, “it was more of an adjustment to come back than to go.”

Contributions from readers will be gratefully appreciated by Southern Missionary College and the workers on the Tasba Raya Mission. Checks in any amount, small or large, may be sent to Dr. Floyd Greenleaf, Nicaragua Project Director, Southern Missionary College, Collegedale, Tennessee 37315.

Dr. Floyd Greenleaf ’55, chairman of the history department at SMC, and Pam Bleich, R.N., who worked for a year on the Mission and has now returned to complete her B.S. in Nursing. They talked with a reporter from the CHATTANOOGA TIMES, who prepared this story.
Betty and Dale Collins, '53, spent 25 years with the Inter-American Division, and led the Spanish-speaking students to the platform Friday night, as they held the "Torch of Service."

Mrs. Andres Riffel, wife of the speaker for the service, played on her accordion "Mas Alla del Sol," as all the Spanish-students sang.

Jake Atkins '49, international Alumni president, introduced the speakers at each service during the weekend.

At the close of Elder Riffel's appeal on Friday evening, Betty and Dale Collins pass the "Torch of Service" on to volunteers who will continue mission service. Answering the call were Vanessa Greenleaf, daughter of Alumnus Floyd Greenleaf, '55, and John Henson, son of J. W. Henson '54.
Student Missionary Commitment

Student and faculty commitment to mission service extends back through the years. Elder and Mrs. J. Franklin Ashlock lead the Parade of Missions in Sabbath school. They have served in India for several terms.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Aikman worked in the Press at Middle East College in Lebanon.

Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Sines served in Africa.

Mrs. Joy Roe and Mandy Barratt served in India at Spicer College for many years.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles von Henner give relief short-term service often. Here they wear the dress of Uganda, the country of their latest service.
The Quiet Life

by Vanessa Greenleaf

(English-Journalism Major '80)

Arranged As Poetry From Desire of Ages.

The childhood and youth of Jesus
were spent in a little mountain village.
There was no place on earth
that would not have been honored by His presence.

But He passed by the homes of wealth,
the courts of royalty,
and the renowned seats of learning
to make His home in obscured and despised Nazareth.

As a child, Jesus manifested
a peculiar loveliness of disposition,
a patience that nothing could disturb,
a truthfulness that would never sacrifice integrity,
the grace of unselfish courtesy.

With deep earnestness
the mother of Jesus watched
the unfolding of His powers,
the impress of perfection upon His character.

With delight
she sought
to encourage that bright, receptive mind.

Through the Holy Spirit
she received
wisdom to co-operate with the heavenly agencies
in the development of this child
who would claim only God as His Father.

As He grew in wisdom and stature,
Jesus increased in favor with God and man,
He drew the sympathy of all hearts
by showing Himself capable of sympathizing with all.
The atmosphere of hope and courage that surrounded Him
made Him a blessing in every home.

His quiet, simple life,
even the silence of the Scriptures concerning His early years,
teach an important lesson.

The more quiet and simple the life of the child,—
the more free from artificial excitement,
the more in harmony with nature,—
The more favorable is it to physical and mental vigor
and to spiritual strength.
LOST RACES REDISCOVERED IN
RENE NOORBERGEN’S NEW BOOK

by Debra Gainer
English Journalism Major ’80


The book deals with the increasing number of mysterious archeological and historical findings classified as “out-of-place-artifacts” also known as “oobjarts.” These items display a technological sophistication amazingly far beyond the known capabilities of the ancient people. Two examples cited in the book: a Hindu account of a nuclear explosion in or around 2400 BC, and a planetarium computer found in ancient Greece.

Noorbergen theorizes that there were once civilizations with technology beyond that of our own day. He logically contends that the loss of this knowledge was partially due to the decreasing length of generations after the Flood, and before the invention of a written language. Also, there appears to have been some indication of a fusion between technological and occult powers which led to the ultimate destruction of these civilizations.

“There is no doubt,” comments Rene Noorbergen, “that these civilizations were built using knowledge that came across the Flood with Noah, for even Ellen White indicates that the society that existed before the Flood was vastly superior to the one that followed it.”

To assist SMC’s building fund in its campus expansion plans, Noorbergen has offered to donate part of the profit of his latest two books to SMC. (see announcement on inside back cover of this issue.)

WSMC-FM To Carry NY Philharmonic Symphony
by Carlos Haylock

WSMC-FM began broadcasting the 1977-78 season of the New York Philharmonic and Chicago Symphonies starting the first week in October.

To promote the new season of symphonies, WSMC is sending out informational brochures to 5,500 names on the Allied Arts mailing list. Included in the brochures is information on the season of symphonies, some of the guest artists, and a schedule of broadcasting times for the symphonies. Also included is an invitation to this select group of listeners interested in fine arts and classical music to help WSMC with its financial needs.

The New York Philharmonic Symphony and the Chicago Symphony can be heard on WSMC’s Evening Concert which is broadcast Sunday through Thursday at 8 p.m. On Monday evenings there is the New York Philharmonic and on Thursdays, the Chicago Symphony. Other evening concerts in WSMC include the Cleveland Orchestra from Ohio and those concerts programmed by WSMC personnel.

Enrollment Increase Brings $50,000 To Nursing Dept.

by Mark Rumsey

The Division of Nursing has received notification of award of nearly $50,000 in capitation grants from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Qualification for the grants is based on enrollment increase over the 1974 base year.

The amount of the grants is calculated according to the number and classification of students. Two hundred and fifty dollars is allowed for each two-year student, and $400 for each full-time B.S. degree student.

The income from the federal grants may be used for such expenses as an extra teacher’s salary. The funds may not be spent for capital improvement.

W. H. Taylor, Director of Alumni Affairs, interviews Walter B. Clark, president of the Class of 1927 at the Saturday supper meeting of the Alumni.
There was a time, not too long ago, at that, when vegetarianism was usually associated with eccentric food faddists, and members of extraneous religious cults. But attitudes have changed. Nowadays the university operates a meatless menu at Lower Cloister, which is drawing hundreds of undergraduates away from the standard American cuisine. And according to Food Services Director William Hickey, vegetarian dining is clearly on the rise.

Part of the reason for the special facilities' popularity is the sheer novelty of offerings, which range from mushroom stroganoff and soybean casserole to wide assortments of omelets, soups, salads. Some students, however, truly believe that eating "natural" foods, particularly fruits, nuts, and grains, is more healthful because these are not contains artificial preservatives. As one health food enthusiast said, "You're not going to get cancer by eating too many figs." Others are attracted by their concern about the food shortage. A Lower Cloister regular explains, "I go here because production requires large quantums of grain."

To be sure, many of those who eat "aggie" are not actually vegetarians, they may simply want a change of pace or an escape from an especially unappetizing Commons meal, perhaps a chopped breaded meat of unknown origin. (University dining contract holds the choice of punching their tickets at either vegetarian or conventional facilities.) Besides being more nutritious, the meatless offerings are usually served by some of the better prepared and more interestingly seasoned cooks, Lower Cloister does not have to work so hard to attract the vegetarians. Fish and poultry entrees, verboten foods for faddists, occasionally appear on the menu. "There are many levels of vegetarianism," says Gilbert Van Houten, assistant director of contract operations. "We're trying to hit a cross-section."

Originally, Commons had provided a low-calorie dining option, but the alternative menu was changed in dietary to vegetarian in 1973. In those early days a student could sit down and enjoy a quiet, leisurely meal in a low-key atmosphere. Now Lower Cloister is packed at noon, and finding a seat can be a problem. Lines move slowly, due largely to the self-service system, and students start queuing up as much as a half-hour before the dining hall is scheduled to open.

The trend has spread to Prospect Street, where several eating clubs have initiated vegetarian programs. Three years ago, Terrace became the first to offer a meatless option, and now 35 of the club's 85 members hold vegetarian contracts (priced $150 less than regular contracts). The latest convert is Colonial, which is beginning its meatless alternative this spring. Stevenson has at least 15 full-time vegetarians and serves a hot meatless entree for both lunch and dinner in its non-Kosher facility. In addition, about half of the meals at its Kosher facility are meatless.

Some students have expressed concern over the cholesterol content of the vegetarian regimen, in which eggs and cheeses substitute for meat as the chief source of protein. "There are mixed feelings about cholesterol since the body itself produces it," says Food Services Dietician Joan Gallagher. "Meat is also high in cholesterol, and it contains saturated fat as well."

Yet many students do not have health considerations uppermost in their minds as they spoon out a broccoli casserole or reach for a blueberry blintz. Confesses a sophomore woman, "There's one reason I eat at Lower Cloister—Granola." Another says, with a yoghurt grin, "I eat here because there are no deserts to tempt me." In fact, Lower Cloister's dietary appeal has attracted enough women to make it one of only two dining facilities on campus where the male-female ratio approximates one-to-one (the other is Cloister Inn). Which led one male student, obviously neither a dyed-in-the-wool vegetarian nor an isolated case, to confide: "I'm only here for the girls."

Ed. Note: Some students are just catching on to the idea that the vegetarian diet is a good one. We reprint the article on this page by permission of the Princeton University Alumni Weekly.
ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Enjoying a humorous moment at the Saturday night supper were hosts for the evening Charles Fleming, honorary alumnus; President Frank and Helen Knittel, and Alumni President Jake and Beverly Atkins.

Two weeks after the alumni weekend festivities were over Dr. Di Walther and his wife Louise were on their way to Haiti for a Gen Conference teaching assignment. He will be teaching church history; she will be teaching English at the Franco-Haitian Adventist Semin. Boite Postale 1339, Port-au-Prince, Haiti. They expect to be there year and will welcome letters from their friends.

Alumni officers for 1977-78 are: Marian Kuhlman, secretary; Ruth Higgins, assistant secretary; Jake Atkins, past president; Minon Hamm, new president; Robert McCurdy, treasurer; Frances Andrews, publicity secretary and editor of SOUTHERN COLUMNS.

Participants in the program of mission activities on Friday evening were: Charles Lindsey '67, Elder Andres H. Riffl '52, main speaker; Caroline Christensen '62, John Durichek '58, Robert Peeke '71, and Jake Atkins '49, Alumni president.
Participants in the first church service were: Howard McClure '27, Laura Gladson '63, President Frank Knittel, Dr. Walter B. Clark '27, who preached the sermon, Alumni President Jake Atkins '49, Phil Hunt '74, Elder Jim Herman '67, and Dennis Steele '67.

Leading out in the second church service were: SMC President Frank Knittel, Alumni President Jake Atkins '49, Elder Moore Webb, Colledale pastor, Frances Andrews '49, Robert McCurdy '63, Dr. Walter B. Clark '27, Louis Waller '39, and Elder J. Frank Ashlock '25.

The bath school was conducted by physician Frank Holbrook, Dr. Douglas Bennett '51, John Neff '67, Superintendent Louise Walther '46, Harriet Bill Pettengill '53, Charles Fleming, and Donald Vollmer '67.
Old songsters return and form a quartet for Sabbath school: Dr. Richard Larson, tenor; Donald Crook, second tenor, teacher at Collegedale Academy; Lane Schmidt, baritone, teacher in Orlando; and Larry Blackwell, bass, Collegedale resident.

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation
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(Signed) Frances Andrews, Editor

RUSSELL

Elder Ray C. Russell, an alumnus of Southern Missionary College (Theology 1952) died Sunday, October 24, 1977, in Greeneville, Tenn. He was 50 years old. The funeral service was conducted October 25 in the Banner Elk Seventh-day Adventist church in North Carolina. Elder Russell's wife Miriam was also a student at SMC and active in the musical organizations on campus. There are two sons, Randy and LaDon, and a daughter, Dianne. The eulogy was delivered by Elder L. O. Coon, and the funeral sermon was preached by Elder E. S. Reile, president of the Carolina Conference.

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Announcing:

SECRET OF THE LOST RACES
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two new books by best-selling author Rene Noorbergen

In SECRETS OF THE LOST RACES, Rene Noorbergen explores a revolutionary new concept—namely the idea that our civilization is nothing but a poor imitation of a number of super civilizations that preceded us, and that their technology was far superior to ours. Fantastic? Not if you read the facts supporting this idea. Using thus far unexplained archaeological discoveries as basis, Rene Noorbergen—aided by his researcher Joey Jochmans—talks about the highly sophisticated technology that went into the vessel known as Noah's Ark; he reveals the origin of electric power, the secrets of flight as known by the Pharaohs and the Chinese, the magic transmission lines that directed psychic power around the globe starting at the Tower of Babel, and describes the unbelievable horror that was felt by the Ancients when they saw the Agnaya weapon explode, ending their way of life in a pillar of fire, topped by a mushroom cloud . . . .

THE SOUL HUSTLERS is the account of a modern investigation into the claims of today's psychics, mediums, astrologers and faith healers, using the latest computerized lie-detection instruments. The book is based on an extensive survey conducted among 50 of the leading occultists, and is the first scientifically oriented blow to their highly debatable credibility. Known widely for his best-sellers on psychic phenomena (Jeane Dixon — My Life & Prophecies, etc.) Rene Noorbergen's THE SOUL HUSTLERS probes their secret world and shows the deep penetration modern-day occultism has made in the main-line churches. The psychics hate this book more than any other because it exposes their beliefs to public scrutiny. Its probing pages lay bare the fallacies, the misconceptions and outright deceptions that form the basis for their billion-dollar operation.

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-turned for Alumni Homecoming 1977

Class of 1927

Left to right: Howard E. McClure, Maurine Shaw Boyd, Forrest L. Bishop, Lucile White Clark, Walter B. Clark, president of class.