



**The young people
are pushing for
Adventist Schools . . .**

Let's all support them!

Focus on the Cover

The Academies of the Southwest



CHISHOLM TRAIL ACADEMY, P.O. Box 717, Keene, TX 76059, Phone 817/641-6626. A day academy for Keene, Texas, and surrounding area. An excellent new school plant, excellent teachers, and excellent atmosphere for study. Students in this area are fortunate to have such a fine Adventist academy to attend.



JEFFERSON ACADEMY, Rt. 4, Box 624, Jefferson, TX 75657, Phone 214/665-2254. A boarding academy in the northeast corner of Texas. With the new Harris Pine Mill plant, which furnishes work for students, this academy is one of our fastest-growing secondary schools. Great plans are on foot for this academy.



OZARK ADEVENTIST ACADEMY, Rt. 2, Gentry, AR 72734, Phone 501/736-2221. The largest academy in the Southwestern Union. Located in the beautiful Ozarks with Flint Creek flowing through the property, it is an ideal location for an Adventist academy. The new Callicott Education Center gives this school one of the most commodious classroom and administration buildings of any academy.

SANDIA VIEW ACADEMY, P.O. Box 98, Corrales, NM 87048, Phone 505/898-0717. Located near Albuquerque in the shadow of Sandia Mountains this school offers excellent education for the students of the Texico Conference and other places. This past year the boys enjoyed a new dormitory and the girls are anxiously waiting their turn to be in a new home this coming year.



VALLEY GRANDE ACADEMY, P.O. Box 1124, Weslaco, TX 78596, Phone 512/968-2330. Located in the semitropical lower Rio Grande Valley, this academy has much to offer in student work, friendly teachers, and a winter which is close to ideal. This academy attracts students from all over the Texas Conference and from areas where students are looking for a good academy which escapes the winter.

Spotlight on Soul Winning

107 Years Old and Still Going Strong

Recently I met Manuel Oasay at the Chalmette church, a suburb of New Orleans. One of the members commented, "That's Brother Manuel Oasay. He is 107 years old and never misses Sabbath School or church." This brought me to attention. I've been in most of our churches in this conference and he must be the oldest member attending Sabbath School and church. He was with two friends that Sabbath, William Tayamen and Mariano Daguinol. These brethren are all members of the New Orleans Central church.

Twenty years ago Brother William Tayamen witnessed to Manuel. They lived in the same apartment building. Manuel expressed an interest in Bible truth. Bible studies were begun and Manuel was invited to attend Sabbath School and church.



Left to right: William Tayamen, Manuel Oasay (107 years old), Mariano Daguinol, all members of New Orleans Central church.

After much study Manuel was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and he has been attending Sabbath School and church ever since. Manuel is a native of the Philippines, and for many years he was a trapper and a fisherman there. He says, "I've been a strict vegetarian for 20 years and am never sick." He still studies his Sabbath School lesson regularly and reads his Bible. He is quite an active person for 107. He has a good firm handshake as well.

I asked Brother William Tayamen, "How many souls have you won to the Lord Jesus during the last 20 years?" He replied, "Besides Manuel, I have won 19." That's an average of one a year. Wouldn't it be wonderful if every member in our church could say the same! The work would soon be finished!

Jim Griffin, Ministerial Secretary,
Arkansas-Louisiana Conference.

General News

19 and 20 Year-Old Men to Register

As Congress has just voted, all young men born in the years 1960 and 1961 (19- and 20-year-olds) **MUST REGISTER** for the draft during the middle of July. The exact dates to be announced will give adequate time for all to comply since registrants will be able to sign up at any U.S. Post Office regardless of proximity to their home address. Selective Service Headquarters has made it clear that this is *not* the beginning of the draft, no cards will be issued, no classifications given, it is **ONLY REGISTRATION**.

Each young man who goes to the post office will be given the Registration Form (SSS Form 1). It is brief and simple; it is expected that in a matter of minutes he can then return to the window, and before the postal clerk will date and sign the form. The registration form will ask only for name, address, date of birth, telephone number, and Social Security number.

Nothing more is done at this time. Should mobilization occur, and the draft be started, registrants will then be called for further processing, at which time information will be given and forms provided to request 1-A-O or other classifications as desired.

All Seventh-day Adventist young men should give careful attention to what is happening. They should be prompt in registering and think through carefully their personal convictions. Since Selective Service is computerized, once the draft is resumed, the process will move more quickly than before. Now is the time for decision-making before the draft is started and classifications given.

The National Service Organization has developed a special draft-preparation packet which will be available to those facing military service. It contains information leaflets and worksheets, with guidelines for personal decision-making. These packets will be provided by local conference youth directors at the end of the summer in time for careful study and thought before a forth-coming call-up. Additional information will be sent out in the near future. If questions arise, the local conference youth director should be contacted.

Other plans for assisting draft-age youth are in the making, and announcements will be made when they are ready. The church is anxious to provide the support necessary for those facing the draft.

Charles Martin.

NEWS NOTES

• Dr. Kenneth Young, president of the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA) announced last week the election of D. W. Holbrook, president of Home Study Institute, as a new member of the executive committee of the COPA Board.

• Nearly 120 physicians are needed to fill existing vacancies in medical institutions within the Adventist Health System/Sunbelt, the organization which operates 24 hospitals in the Southwest and South. The physicians working at these hospitals are overworked. If you are an interested physician or know of one who is, contact Art Bryant, Adventist Health System/Sunbelt, 2400 Bedford Road, Orlando, FL 32803, PHONE: 305/897-1919. We must meet the challenge of our mission field here at home.

• At the 1,747th meeting of the Review and Herald Publishing Association Board of Directors, held at the North Plant in Washington, D.C., George Tatum was elected secretary of the corporation. Also, Dr. William Johnson, associate director of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, was named associate editor of the *Adventist Review*. A new subscription book was announced — entitled, *Living Soul*. A feasibility committee was named to study and make recom-

Report to the People

by your Union Conference Secretary . . . Bill May

ANDERSON IS SANDIA VIEW ACADEMY PRINCIPAL. Dale Anderson, who was principal of Denver's Mile High Academy, is providing enthusiastic leadership as the newly elected principal of Sandia View Academy. Earl Adams, former SVA principal, is now principal of a high school in Reno, Nevada.

LAND-MARK SUPREME COURT DECISIONS. Recent landmark Supreme Court decisions, (1) endorsed direct payments by states to church-operated elementary and high schools; (2) forbid full-time college professors forming a labor union; and (3) sharply curtailed state and local government regulation of fund raising by charities and religious groups.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — ITEMS OF INTEREST. The May 29 Southwestern Union Conference Executive Committee voted the following items of interest:

1. To place following copy on the sign for the new office:
SOUTHWEST EXECUTIVE OFFICES
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Arkansas - Louisiana - New Mexico - Oklahoma - Texas
2. To adopt the 10 points that General Conference president Elder Neal Wilson presented at General Conference as the program for the Southwestern Union for the next five years.
3. Elected H. F. (Bud) Otis a member of the Executive Committee. He replaces Ross Wollard, who retired. Bud is well known in the Southwest. He served as publishing director just prior to Chuck Williams. Bud is now manager of the newly merged Southern Publishing Association and the Review and Herald.



(Left to right)

Bud Otis
Jim Burris
Walter Meier

TEXICO ABC SALES SET RECORD. Jim Burrus, Texico's able Adventist Book Center director, reported \$32,000.00 in sales at their four-and-one-half-day camp meeting which is \$8,000.00 beyond last year, and an all-time record. Superb!

AT A GLANCE

- Texico Conference reached its goal of one baptism per day between camp meetings. The goal for next time is one per day plus one per week (417) which would be 10% of membership. Amen!
- Walter Meier, Texico publishing director, is now at the same post in Colorado. Watch Colorado literature sales go into orbit! Good-bye Walt, Mabel, and heirs.
- On the night of July 4, 1776, King George of England wrote in his diary, "Nothing significant happened today." — a solemn thought for sleepy Adventists.
- Tulsa, Oklahoma, members celebrated pay off of their school building loan on May 31. They've raised \$250,000.00 in last three years. Kudos!
- Rejoice! According to *U.S. News and World Report*, March 17, 1980, pay checks still go further in the U.S. than anywhere else in the world.
- An Ad Hoc Committee has been appointed on the union level to find solutions to funding needs for Christian education. Pray!
- City of Fort Worth considering very major air field installation next door to the new union office and Huguley Hospital. Join us in asking for God's intervention.

WE ARE ONLY 30%. 70% of all Seventh-day Adventists live outside the western world.

mendations to the board of the merged institution (the Review and Herald Publishing Association and Southern Publishing Association).

• Arnt E. Krogstad, former vice president of finance at Loma Linda Foods in Riverside, California, has been named manager-treasurer of It Is Written, an internationally syndicated telecast of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

• If you are interested in the Doctor of Health Science (DHSc) degree and would like information concerning this program, write to Admis-

Huguley Memorial Hospital

DOUG REGISTER, Correspondent

160 Attend Nutrition Seminar at Huguley Hospital

Over 160 people attended a nutrition seminar on "Unmaking Your Fat Making Habits" at Huguley Hospital recently.

Guest speaker for the seminar was Elvin E. Adams, M.D., M.P.H. "The need for food is a basic human drive, and is not bad in itself," said Adams. "However, appetite can be overstimulated by the use of spices or flavorings that make the appetite crave more food."

He said that by simply cutting down on the use of flavorings and spices people's appetites would be stimulated to eat less due to the natural bland taste of most food.

"Indulgence of appetite is one of the key factors in obesity," Adams said. He explained three methods that could be used to lose weight.

"Frequency of eating and quality of food are the two easiest methods to control; the amount of food is more difficult for most people to control," he said.

Frequency of eating should be limited to two or three times a day, and snacking should be stopped, Adams pointed out. He also said that avoiding low-quality empty calorie foods is perhaps the easiest way to limit indulgence of appetite.

Adams discussed how to avoid eating as a result of stress. He suggested substituting other defense mechanisms, such as exercise, that have beneficial effects.



Management consultant J. Owen Flynn explains "How to Be in Management and Enjoy It" at a seminar for department supervisors at Huguley Hospital. Flynn, president and founder of Wexford Laboratories in St. Louis, Missouri, described the use of communication and developing a good memory as part of practical management. The seminar was presented as part of the staff development and inservice education program of Huguley Hospital directed by Shirley Pinterich, R.N.

NAME CHANGE

General Conference Risk Management Service (GCRMS), the insurance and risk management function of the church, has changed its name to **Gencon Risk Management Service**.

Headquartered in Takoma Park, Maryland, the operation was established by the General Conference Autumn Council in 1935. A branch office, located in Riverside, California, was incorporated in 1958.



Pastor and Mrs. William Fagal read one of many congratulatory cards and telegrams received on Faith For Today's 30th anniversary, May 21. A surprise luncheon in honor of the occasion was held at Faith For Today headquarters in an assembly room decorated to resemble Faith For Today's early 1950 television studio set. The entire staff and many former employees participated.

SINGLES CAMP MEETING

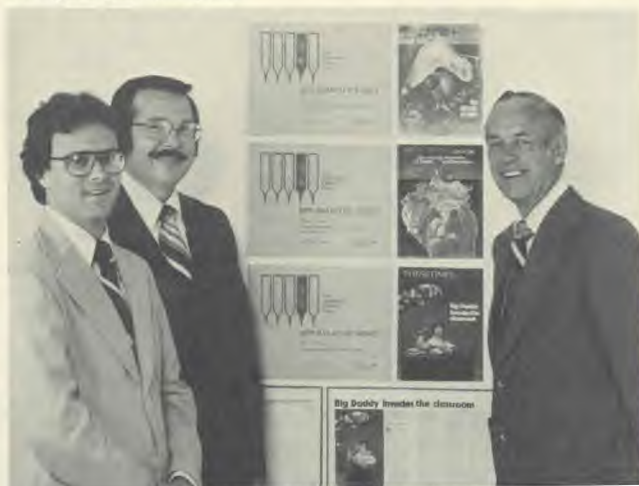
August 7-16, 1980
Southern Missionary College
Collegedale, Tennessee.

SPEAKERS — C. E. Bradford, President, North American Division, General Conference; B. Russell Holt, executive editor, *Ministry Magazine*, General Conference; A. C. McClure, President, Southern Union; John Robertson, Voice of Prophecy; Arturo Schmidt, Ministerial Association, General Conference; Claude Thomas, Oakwood College. Music will be under the direction of Sid Mills, musician for Amazing Facts program.

CLASSES — Physical Fitness: Drs. Robert & Carla Kamieneski, SMC; Inter-personal Relationships: Ed Lamb, SMC; Preparation for Marriage: Claude Thomas, Oakwood College; Nutrition: Dr. Sandi Mitchell, Montgomery, Alabama; Grooming: Marianne Sheldon, Collegedale, Tennessee; Personal Finance Seminar: Jerry Lastine, Indiana Conference. Physical Fitness Evaluation Testing Program: August 4-11, Cost \$50.

COST FOR 10 DAYS — Single room, \$125; double room \$100; Non-dorm, \$50. Deposit of \$50 postmarked by July 18 receives above discount prices. After July 18, add \$25 to above prices. Bring your own bedding and linens. No provisions for children. Send deposit to: IPC Camp Meeting, Box 4272, Takoma Park, MD 20012. For further information, contact Mildred Wagner, 3218 Fisher Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46239. Phone: 317/359-2971 between 6-10 p.m., E.S.T.

THESE TIMES staff members Kenneth Holland, editor; Ralph Blodgett, associate editor; and Tim Menees, designer, from right to left, with their four new awards from the 1980 Associated Church Press convention. These awards bring to 26 the total awards presented to THESE TIMES during the past four years.



Arkansas-Louisiana

J. WAYNE HANCOCK, Correspondent

Highlights from the Literature Evangelist Strawberry Rally

Located in southern Louisiana — 30 miles east of Baton Rouge — Hammond, Louisiana, is known as the Strawberry Capital of Louisiana. So the Hammond Adventist church was chosen to host this year's annual Literature Evangelist Strawberry Rally.

Literature evangelists and their families from districts two and three, their leaders, and conference and union publishing leaders met there May 10 and 11. The Lord blessed us with two of the most beautiful spring days imaginable.

During the church service local Hammond members, as well as all the visitors who attended the rally, were blessed by the inspiring and thrilling soul-winning experiences shared by our literature evangelists. The Lord has given our team a 45% gain in sales over last year, which is the largest percentage of gain for any conference in the Southwestern Union. We also have a gain in baptisms over last year with a total of 11.

One of the key highlights of the day was a nature walk through beautiful Zemurray Gardens Sabbath afternoon. The other was our Commission Service conducted by Elder Chuck Williams, Southwestern Union publishing director, as the sun was setting. What a delightful way to close a wonderful Sabbath!

Sunday morning after our sales clinic, we ended with the main event — eating strawberries for lunch! This year the strawberries were something special! Mrs. Laverne Broussard of Gonzales raised our strawberries. She told me that God wanted us to have these berries. Although 12 inches of rain fell north, south, east, and west of them, only one and one half inches fell on her berries. Then hail fell all around them, but none of her berries were damaged. So this year's strawberries were God's special gift to

The group who received great blessings at the Literature Evangelist Strawberry Rally in Hammond, Louisiana.

His literature evangelists, His delicious way of saying "Thank you" for what they have accomplished for Him so far this year.

The May 1980 Strawberry Rally will remain in my memory as one of the best rallies we have ever had.

Jerry Fletcher, *Publishing Director, Arkansas-Louisiana Conference.*

Magnolia Guest Day Doubles Attendance

Although small in number, only 19 members, the Magnolia, Arkansas, company is large in enthusiasm and friendliness. A recent guest day doubled their usual attendance with 16 guests present to enjoy the special program which had been planned.

Among the visitors were Brother and Sister Emmett Sanders and their two grandchildren. About 15 years ago Sister Sanders suffered a stroke which left her unable to talk or walk, and consequently she is not able to attend services very often.

Pastor John Sisk's sermon was a challenge to each one present to dig deeply into the gold mine of God's work and search out the treasures to be found there. Sharon Mitchell and Laurie Sisk from the El Dorado church and the Eason family from Magnolia had planned a very fine musical program which everyone enjoyed.

The fellowship dinner was another very important part of the day's activities which everyone enjoyed. Singing together in the afternoon praising God for His goodness was a wonderful way to end a very happy Sabbath.

Flo Cloud,
*Sabbath School Superintendent,
Magnolia Company.*

Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary Honored

At a time when many marriages are ending in the divorce court, it is refreshing to see couples who have walked hand in hand for many years. Such a couple are Mr. and Mrs. William Berg of Gentry, Arkansas. The Bergs were married 60



Mr. and Mrs. William Berg were honored on their 60th wedding anniversary.

years ago in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on May 15, 1920.

A surprise reception was given in their honor in the Gentry Seventh-day Adventist Church. Approximately 60 guests and relatives came to celebrate the happy occasion, among them was their daughter, Mary Fransisco of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Another daughter, Erma Kluber of Shelby, North Carolina, was unable to attend. The Bergs have five grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. JoNell Hays of Gentry baked the three-tiered cake trimmed in yellow and green and was hostess for the occasion. Nelda Hays acted as photographer.

Mr. Berg is a retired plumber having had his own plumbing shop for many years. They were baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Tulsa in 1922. Mr. Berg is a native of Minnesota and Mary was raised in the Coffeyville, Kansas area. They have been members of the Decatur, Arkansas, church since 1966.

Seed Planting in Empire

"Haven't you had enough teaching for this year? Do you really enjoy conducting vacation Bible school every year?" This question could very well be asked of Gordon and Jessie Pendergrass, teachers in our Beacon Hill Junior Academy and members of the small, 22-member Empire, Arkansas, church.

"Yes, we really enjoy working with boys and girls, and we feel that this is one way we can reach the non-Adventist children in our community."

This is the eighth year that the Pendergrasses have conducted a vacation Bible school for this small community. This year 50 boys and girls, only three of them from Adventist homes, enjoyed the singing, special music, refreshments, and Bible stories that make this special school one of the favorite community projects.

Not only do the Pendergrasses work with the children of the community, they also involve the adults. Of the 13 helpers this year, eight were non-members. They worked faithfully in the various jobs assigned them. Some helped with





Seed was planted in the hearts of 50 boys and girls in the Umpire, Arkansas, vacation Bible school.

the crafts which consisted of plaques, snack trays, decorative shelves, spice ribbons, magnetic butterflies, pencil holders, and plaster hand prints. Others helped serve refreshments and lead out in games and other activities.

"We plant the seed, and God will give the harvest," is the way the Pendergrasses sum up their vacation Bible school work.

Tena Neptune, Pastor's Wife,
DeQueen District.



ADA EVANGELISTIC MEETING — From May 9-24, the Oklahoma Peace for Life team, Evangelist H. B. Petry, and his associate, Brother Randy Yates, joined with Pastor Frank Jenkins for an evangelistic crusade in Ada. In spite of the frustration of losing the meeting hall on Friday afternoon of the day of the opening meeting, which necessitated moving into the church, four have been baptized and two rebaptized. Others continue to study.

Oklahoma

NEVILLE HARCOTTE, Correspondent

Following Counsel Rewards Faith

"In all our churches there should be schools, and teachers in these schools who are missionaries." *Counsels to Teachers*, p. 168. Back in November, 1978, the Claremore church had a business meeting where it was voted to open a church school in Claremore, with the first two teachers who would be willing to come. The church felt that two teachers were needed to meet the needs of their young people. Also, the church felt these teachers must be willing to support the church program and be missionaries. At the time of the business meeting in 1978, 11 children were being bused to Tulsa, 30 miles away. Even though the church was behind in its payment of monthly tuition

for its children's Christian education, an urgent need to have its own church school was felt.

In April, 1979, Elder Beaman Senecal, Jr., director of education, secured commitments from two lovely Christian teachers to come to Claremore to serve. Miss Kathy Schaefer and Mrs. Joda Consuegra started planning the new school year to begin in August, 1979, with 19 students enrolled.

During the summer of 1979, one of the faithful members of the church, Mrs. Ina F. Reese, donated a beautiful five-acre tract of land that was in the country, but only about two miles from Claremore, to be used for a new school building. Plans were drawn and construction began. Because of the difficulty in acquiring utilities the school was not completed until May, 1980. Meanwhile, the students met in the classrooms of the church and in the Community Service Center owned by the church.

The grand opening was held May 8, 1980, at 2:00 p.m. The keynote speaker was Dr. Darrell Beyer, superintendent of education for the Oklahoma Conference. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was shared by four people: James L. Jones, president of Rogers County Bank; Mrs. Ina F. Reese, church member; Elder Robert D. Rider, president of the Oklahoma Conference; and Dr. Darrell Beyer. Other guests present were: Elder Beaman Senecal, Jr., principal of Ozark Adventist Academy; Elders Max A. Trevino, V. O. Schneider, and Larry

Schneider from the conference office. Guests from the community included a state representative, a county commissioner, the mayor of Claremore, the Rogers County superintendent of public schools, president of the Claremore Junior College, a banker, ministerial alliance members, a news reporter from the Claremore *Progress*, real estate people, builders, and many others, along with members of the church.

Now the Claremore Seventh-day Adventist Church has a new school building valued at near \$100,000, but more importantly, a place where its young people can be trained to be workers for God so that Jesus can come soon. The school has operated in the black all year which has meant sacrifice on the part of the church members, even those who do not have children. The school operation is included in the combined budget plan for the church. The key to this success story is found in the willingness of God's people to follow God's counsel in exercise with great faith.

Cecil Harlin, *Pastor*.

OKLAHOMA NEWS ROUNDUP

- Tithe gain of 39.93% for the month of May over May of 1979. Even though it is a five-week month compared with a four-week month, it is still an excellent gain — praise the Lord. The gain for the year is 16.20%

- The Weatherford church was organized May 24, 1980, and the Yukon church will be

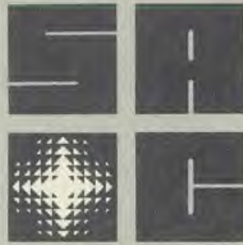
Keynote speaker is Dr. Darrell Beyer, superintendent of education for the Oklahoma Conference.

Ribbon cutting for the new Claremore Seventh-day Adventist School.

Plans have been made to build a room and board facility at the Summit Ridge Retirement Center. Construction on the first wing, which will have 32-bed capacity, began in early summer. The second wing will hopefully be built in 1981.



Why Young People Choose S



When I was senior in academy, it came time to decide what college to attend. I heard many good things about Southwestern Adventist College — the spiritual emphasis, the friendliness, the willingness of the faculty to help you and work with you — so I decided this was the school I wanted to attend.



I feel the school, my friends, and the faculty, have had a definite part in my spiritual growth. When I've had problems they were always there to help. I have found it to be a very friendly school. Choosing Southwestern Adventist College is one decision I do not regret.

Judy Fehlenberg
Senior
Home Economics

Sharon D. McKinney
Junior
Home Economics



Christian education is an expensive investment. In order to receive the full benefit from my parents' sacrifices, and from my own work programs, I chose Southwestern Adventist College.

Because of the expense I wanted to attend a school where the quality of education was well worth the cost. SAC has taught me not only the things necessary to pass the required classes, but also it has been influential in helping me to pass the "class of life." For if we go through school and learn only the ideas of others concerning the world and never develop our own ideas and solutions to life's problems, I feel we have lost the true benefits of education.

So if you are a budget minded person who wants to receive your money's worth and time's worth, all in Christian surroundings, then come join us here at SAC. We would love to have you.

Mark Ruybalid
Sophomore
Health Care Administration



I'm grateful that God led me to choose Southwestern Adventist College. Here I've had the chance to discover how other Seventh-day Adventist young people view their purpose and mission in the world. This has led me to examine my own views, and to reach my own conclusions about what my purpose and mission should be.

Southwestern isn't perfect. No school can make that claim. But I believe that the opportunity is here to grow and to become the person you want to be. This is why I have chosen to continue my education here at SAC, and why you should, too.

Southwestern Adventist College



Dean Turk
Senior
Secondary Education

Life at Southwestern Adventist College has really been great in my three years here. I know of no place that could provide a better Christian experience and education combined. Being editor of the *Mugshots* and also an R.A. has provided me with the opportunity to become acquainted with other Christian youth, and this has been one of my greatest joys.

Southwestern offers a wide variety of activities in physical, mental, and most importantly, spiritual areas. On this campus it is the students who are in charge of the intramural sports program, and students are also in charge of all religious activities. I'm proud to be able to attend Southwestern Adventist College.



Robin Houghton
Senior
Theology

Of the four Adventist colleges I have attended, Southwestern is definitely my favorite. Why?

Southwestern is small enough that I was able to become acquainted with just about everybody. I found the teachers and administration to be very personal, taking time for a one-to-one relationship with me as a student. It was at Southwestern that I began my preparation for the ministry, and received a call. It was here at Southwestern that I proposed to Debbie Nystrom who is now my wife.

But Southwestern Adventist College offers even more. The campus is beautiful. Any student who wants to work is guaranteed a job. And of special interest to the men, Southwestern is one of the few schools left with flat-rate meals. This saves you money, plus gives you all you can eat.



Sue Uhrig Peugh
1980 Graduate
Elementary Education

It was a joyous occasion for me this spring when "Pomp and Circumstance" rang out over the Keene church. My four years at Southwestern seemed to have sailed by.

I paused at graduation to reflect on my college experience. At times I was not sure whether I would be able to meet the financial obligations, and sometimes classes and work seemed too heavy a load. But I see now that these years have strengthened my faith and increased my dependence on God.

This fall I have a job teaching in the elementary school in Keene while my husband completes his last semester at SAC. We are happy here. This is a friendly campus. I invite you to come to SAC and grow with us.

Ask for your SAC Bulletin today
Southwestern Adventist College
Keene, Texas 76059
Phone 817/645-3921



THE WORD OF TRUTH — The month of May was busy time in the Claremore-Cincinnati Hills district. The churches had simultaneous meetings with the Word of Truth Crusade team members, Elder Dan Collins in Claremore and Pastor Jerry Mayes in Cincinnati Hills. Only eternity will tell the results. God blessed these churches with baptisms and rededicated church members. Pictured here are some of the people that were baptized during the meetings, along with Evangelist Dan Collins, his wife, Kay; and Pastor Cecil Harlin.

organized July 12, 1980. The Weatherford church will soon begin construction on a community services center which will temporarily serve as a church sanctuary. Yukon has purchased a lot with an older home which is being remodeled into a church.

• **WORKER CHANGES:** Elder Denton James accepted a call to the Texas Conference as publishing director . . . and Brother Barry George from Texas is our new publishing director, his new assistant for the OKC area is Brother Bob Carmin who has already

moved to Edmond. Elder Dan Collins has accepted a call to the Amazing Facts radio program. Our new conference evangelist is Elder Jerry Willis from the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. . . . Elder Neville Harcombe has accepted a call to the Potomac Conference as communication and stewardship director. Pastor Cecil Harlin will move to the Okeene district July 1.

• Baptisms to the end of May total 188, compared with 169 for 1979.

Southwest Region

W. C. JONES, Correspondent

Southwest Region Conference 34th Annual Camp Meeting

Deep spiritual-oriented sermons, meditative music, outstanding serminars made up the old-fashioned camp meeting held at Lone Star, June 13-21. We used as our theme "By His Spirit". The eight days were fully packed with events such as:



C. E. Bradford, vice president of the General Conference, opened with a profound keynote address, Friday evening; then he presented other messages Sabbath morning and Saturday evening. Pictured are C. E. Bradford with O. A. Jackson and J. C. Hicks in the background.

Clyde Allen and Walter Arties from the Breath of Life in California are commended by Doris Jones, center, for the outstanding music they presented the first weekend.



Mrs. Jessie Pritchett expresses commendations to Ms. Ellen Anderson of Oakwood College for an outstanding lay Bible workers' seminar.

Dr. W. Abernathy was overjoyed to serve as camp physician. He is a new convert, and is also enlisted in the U.S. Army stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Pictured are Dr. and Mrs. W. Abernathy.



Dicky Barron from the General Conference M. V. Department; Danny Davis, Columbia Union M. V. director; and E. W. Shepperd gave invaluable help to the well-planned youth program that Bill Wright had geared for the youth.



During the first Sabbath camp meeting activities, the Sabbath School director, J. Ford, honored the superintendents for their faithfulness during the year. The superintendents were presented with shoulder banners representing each individual Sabbath School. They paraded with the banners and flags of the states where they are located. Not only did they make a colorful and impressive scene, but impressions were made on hearts with greater determination to do more to finish the work. Brother and Sister Floyd Jones ably presented the lesson study.



An unusual devotional service began our convocation with Pastor M. M. Young, for not only did he deliver a dynamic message, but his choir from the Tulsa church was also present at the 6:00 a.m. devotion hour.



Tulsa's quartet also presented music at 6:00 a.m. along with the choir.

Elder J. E. Roache and Pianist Andrews were added features along with the Oakwood College Quartet. Likewise, Dr. Don McAdams promoted Southwestern Adventist College.





A group of ladies displayed their garments at a gathering Thursday evening. These articles were made in the sewing class which was conducted by Mable Sterling, home economics instructor of Southern University in Baton Rouge.



The following served as ushers: Brothers Hammond, Cox, Jones, and Purvis.



City Temple choir from Dallas served as guest choir the first Sabbath.



The Sabbath School department held classes for the children and also has a program Friday evening. There was also boating, swimming, horseback riding, and other recreation.



The last Sabbath was filled with spiritual enthusiasm as Dr. Benjamin Reeves of Oakwood College administered the spoken word.



W. C. Scales of the General Conference ministerial department was another highlight for the nightly evangelist services. Pictured Pastors E. L. Howard, W. C. Scales, W. G. Downes, and A. R. Carethers.



John McKinney, who has contributed over \$30,000 in the last 10 years in investment for the cause of Christ, was awarded a beautiful plaque by James Ford, Sabbath School director. John's 1979 investment contribution exceeded \$6,000. He loves the Lord and does not intend to terminate his partnership with Christ. Pictured are Pastor P. Williams who received the plaque in the absence of John.



I wish to express a deep appreciation to G. N. Wells, our Camp superintendent; each committee chairman, F. Battles who led out in the construction; and each worker who worked untiringly making this convocation a glorious success.

W. C. Jones, Reporter.

Texas

WARREN SKILTON, Correspondent

Jefferson Academy Offers Outstanding Work Program

Jefferson Adventist Academy is on the move. The past school year witnessed one of the best enrollments, totaling over 100.

Harris Pine Mill is furnishing work with top wages for a large number of students who need to be employed to receive a Christian education. Marion County Hospital, operated by Seventh-day



The Shepherdess Club (above) honored 29 pioneers (below) of the Southwest.





Two of the many students at Jefferson Adventist Academy who meet their financial needs by working at Harris Pine Mill. They are left, Charles Bauder of Jefferson; and right, Kris Rabun of Elgin, Texas.

Adventists, employs a number of students.

Since a high enrollment is anticipated for next term it is recommended that applications be sent in as soon as possible to insure work and a room in the dormitory.

Send for information and applications to: Jefferson Adventist Academy, Rt. 4, Box 624, Jefferson, TX 75657, or call: 214/665-2254, 214/665-8234, or 214/665-8614.

Texas Calls Denton James to Head Publishing Work

Here is good news — Denton James became our Texas Conference publishing director the first of June.

Denton has been in the ranks of the literature evangelist ministry for the past 22 years and relates an amazing story of Divine providence.

He discovered an old *Bible Readings* in his attic and decided to find the church that followed that book.

Denton was baptized in the summer of 1958 and one week later, almost before the water was dry, he became a full-time



Denton James

REMEMBER . . .

**Texas Expansion
Texas Evangelism**



Give 1% of Income Monthly

literature evangelist. Five years later the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference invited him to serve as director of the Baton Rouge district. After three years Oklahoma got into the picture and called Denton to be director of the Tulsa district. Arkansas-Louisiana didn't take this setting down and won out by calling him back to their field. He served for two more years in Arkansas-Louisiana when the "tug-o-war" commenced again and Oklahoma called him to be their publishing director in 1970.

Now, 10 years later, Texas gets into the picture and he is heading south to the Lone Star State.

The James family is completely dedicated to the literature ministry. Betty, his wife; two daughters, Patsy and Gail; and their son, Denny, all have served in the LE ranks. That's not all. He has three grandchildren and they are surely headed in the same direction.

Denton is super positive, loves his work in working with LE's and for others. He has been used of God to sell over \$1,000,000 of our "good old SDA" books and rejoices in 37 baptisms to date.

Denton is known as one of the "top" sales persons in the denomination and will be a great help and inspiration to our literature evangelists here in Texas.

Let's give the entire James family a big Texas welcome.

Cyril Miller, *President.*

Trust Services Moves to New Office Complex

The Trust Services Department of the Texas Conference recently moved to larger quarters in Keene. The recently donated Bedford KOA campground office was remodeled and is now being used by your trust services officers. They invite you to visit them one mile east of Keene on U.S. Highway 67. The telephone numbers are: 817/645-8375 and 645-6203.



Elder Cyril Miller, president, left; and Lamar Allred, director and secretary of the Texas Conference Association, preside at board meeting in new office building.



New trust services office building on Highway 67, east of Keene.



Mrs. Joan Boggess is the receptionist at the new trust services office.



Muriel Allred in her new office.



Betty Scott in new office at trust services in Keene.



Board members in board room of new Association offices in Keene.



Outdoor swimming pool at new offices in Keene.



One of three offices used by the officers of the Texas Trust Services Department.

Five-Day Plan in Killeen

Franklin House, Joe Anderson, Tom Shaffer, and Kathy and Tom Matthews conducted a Five-Day Stop Smoking Clinic at the Killeen Metroplex Hospital. The clinic was held for five consecutive days with 27 participants.

At the first meeting a survey revealed that the group was smoking a total of 950 cigarettes a day. The daily total five days later had dropped to 15 cigarettes.

Franklin House gave a testimony during moments of sharing on Sabbath morning about the beauty of this method of witnessing to the public about the health message.

The plan was followed up with a victory banquet the following week attended by the elders of the church, their wives, and 10 happy non-smokers.

Philip A. Marley,

Church Correspondent.

Denison Vacation Bible School

By faith, Denison had a vacation Bible school this summer! The big step of faith was on Sabbath, June 7! There were only two persons who had promised to help; one a teacher and the other said she would help a teacher — for three classes! By faith the announcement was made at church, "We are one in Christ, one in love, one family — let's do it! If you can come only one day, please do."

Monday there were 17 children with three teachers for each of the three classes! And several members came one or two days as they were off work, to help.

Elder States, the pastor, told the open-

ing devotional story and held the junior class. Sister States led the singing and helped in kindergarten. The director led the pledges and played the piano, and two of the youth of the church prepared things for the crafts and the refreshments.

Only five of the 22 children came from Seventh-day Adventist families. God had 16 little souls to be introduced to His love who, perhaps, could only hear about it in vacation Bible school; and He provided the books, and impressed the members to help. The Denison church members are thankful they could be used of God in this vacation Bible school, and for the blessing it brought to them as well as the children who attended.

Jane Montgomery.

Jack Allen Receives M.D. Degree

Jack Allen, son of Dr. and Mrs. Charles G. Allen of Itasca, received his M.D. degree June 1, 1980, from the Loma Linda University School of Medicine at Loma Linda, California.

During the month of June he practiced medicine with his father in Itasca. Beginning July 1 he started his residence in family practice in Waco at the Hillcrest and Providence Hospitals.

He is the third member of the family to receive a degree from the medical school. His father, Charles, graduated in 1948 with the M.D. degree; his brother, Larry, received his D.D.S. degree in 1975, and practices dentistry in Phoenix, Arizona.



Dr. Jack Allen

Attention Valley Grande Academy Alumni. Alumni Days will be October 30 through November 1 at Valley Grande Academy. Watch for further details.

NOTICE: PROSPECTIVE DENTISTS

Dr. Smith called and reported that:

Texas State Board of Dental Examiners will be giving the September Board on September 4, 5, 7, and 8, thus Seventh-day Adventist dentists will be able to take this not having to attend on Sabbath. Those interested please contact Carl Hardin, Jr., Executive Director, Texas State Board of Dental Examiners, 718 S. W. Tower, 7th and Brazos, Austin, TX 78701. Phone 512/475-2443.



Denison vacation Bible school

Texico

DON SULLIVAN, Correspondent

Photo Review of 1980 Camp Meeting



Pastors Ernesto Aeschlimann, Robert Martinez, Mike Welch, and Rafael Perez help pitch family tents.



Texico's goal between camp meeting 1979 and camp meeting 1980 was the baptism of 365 new members. Elder Ernesto Aeschlimann baptizes the 356th one during camp meeting.

Josephine Cunningham Edwards discusses one of her books with Connie Sanders of Hobbs, New Mexico.





(Left) Navajo children provided the special music for Sabbath School in the adult divisions. They came from La Vida Mission. (Right) A Navajo girl was among those baptized. Elder Max Martinez, conference secretary, officiated at her baptism.



Highlighting the Sabbath afternoon program was the ordination of two pastors. Left to right: Elder George Vandeman, Elder Bill Liversidge, Robert and Shirley Corley, Felicia and Lamar Phillips, Elder B. E. Leach, and Elder D. K. Sullivan.



(Left) Elder Bill Liversidge brought messages each evening to the entire assembly. (Center) Raul Villanueva was in charge of the evening messages in Spanish. Elder Villanueva is from the Pacific Press. (Right) Dr. Jerry Mitchell from Huguley Hospital, Fort Worth, Texas, presented timely health information to camp meeting attendants.

Spring Series in Silver City Reaps 10 Baptisms

Ten new members joined the Silver City church through baptism or profession of faith following Art Swinson's evangelistic series. The meetings were held throughout the month of March in the United Veterans Center building. Please pray for these new members as they seek to walk closer with their Saviour.



Left to right: Pastor Robert Corley, Tom Jagers, Karen Jagers, Jean Jagers, Jena Jagers, Charlie Sanders, Bonnie Sanders, Gabriel Lopez, Helen Lopez, Orlando Ortega, Pete Swatzel, Louis Ortega, and Evangelist Art Swinson.

At Rest

BRESHEARS, Sankford L., was born Jan. 20, 1918, in Chelsea, Okla., and passed away May 4, 1980, in Muskogee, Okla. Brother Breshears was a faithful member of the Muskogee church until the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Stella; one stepdaughter; one brother, G. W. Breshears; two granddaughters, and two great-granddaughters. Brother Breshears was laid to rest in the Fort Gibson National Cemetery to wait for the call of Christ. Forrest Tenbrook.

CALDWELL, Henry E., was born Nov. 10, 1889, at Garden Planes, Kan., and died March 2, 1980, in a

Tulsa hospital. He was married to Pearl Gaylord in 1908, at Talogo, Okla. To this union, nine children were born. One son preceded him in death in 1929. He joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1922.

Surviving are his wife, Helen; his children: Thelma Mayes, Elwin, Genevieve Haddock, Russell, Marie Meyerhoff, Jean Hoesman, Carroll, and Arlene Hendricks, one step granddaughter; 36 grandchildren, 71 great-grandchildren, and 13 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Dan Collins and assisted by Pastor Jerry Mayes.

FOOTE, Henry Bryan, was born in Jay, Okla., March 1, 1900, and died April 27, 1980. He was married to Edna Bacon in 1925, at Vinita, Oklahoma.

To this union five sons were born; two sons preceded him in death. Mr. Foote was a member of the Ketchum Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Surviving are his wife, Edna; three sons: Herschel, Ray, and Marvin; four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

G. L. Burton.

HOUSER, Chloe Adeline, was born March 21, 1893, in Pueblo, Colo., and died May 21, 1980, in Oklahoma City. She married Hilton C. Houser in 1910. This happy family was blessed with eight children, five daughters and three sons.

Mrs. Houser, from her youngest childhood, was reared in the Seventh-day Adventist faith, and was baptized in 1909 and has been faithful to her Lord and her church through these many years.

For many years Chloe worked in food service at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City. Mrs. Houser was preceded in death by her husband, her son Leslie; and daughter Marie.

Surviving to mourn her passing are her children; Etta Fletcher, Dora Bodine, Marvin Houser, Grace Wagner, Evelyn Hernandez, and Russell Houser; her mother, Mrs. Rosie Taylor; her brothers and sisters, many grandchildren, and other relatives and friends.

Interment was in Sunnyside Cemetery in Del City, Okla. Pastor Jake Knight officiated at the services.

PUTNAM, Anthony and Andria, were born in Cleburne, Tex., to Jere and Karen Putnam on April 14, 1975. They died as a result of a freak accident; Anthony on February 18 and Andria on February 21. The twins were greatly loved by family and friends, and the love and prayers of the community (Keene) for this family has given the parents the buoyancy and courage to meet this crisis in their lives.

The coming of Jesus has greater meaning than ever as it shall be then that they shall be united, taking up life where it left off, with Anthony and Andria flying to Mother and Dad, to continue to grow up in a world made new with no heartaches, pain or death.

Anthony and Andria are survived by their parents, a sister, Marissa; and brother Jere.

Warren Skilton.

Business Notices

Send all business notices to your local conference office for approval. Rate: 40 words or less, one insertion \$7.50. Each additional word, including names and addresses, 20¢ per word. Payment must accompany copy. No refund on cancellations. One ad only per person or company per issue; 80 words maximum. Some display ad space available at higher rates.

DIRECTOR OF NURSES and R.N.'s — Coalgate, Okla., church school available as well as a new church in a very friendly community. Phone: 405/927-2327, Administrator Charles Hinckley or P.O. Box 742, Coalgate, OK 74538. p15-1t

NEED A CAR, truck, tractor, airplane wholesale? Now available: Honda LX, Citation, Tornado, Cadillac, Cutlass Diesels, Datsun, Toyota, Mercedes, Peterbilt Ford. Will find any vehicle at real savings. Financing available. Global Auto Buyers, 104 Old Betsy Road, Keene, TX 76059. 817/645-3720, 645-3023, 458-3401. p15-1t

TEACHER WANTED — Missionary-minded man or woman to settle in Hugo, Okla., to help educate five to eight children of church members in this young and thriving congregation. The new church and school is beautifully situated in one of the fastest growing towns in the Southwest. Write: Box 821, Hugo, OK 74743, or call 405/326-7537 or 405/326-7222. p15-1t

WANTED: S.D.A. family practice doctor; doing OB to share new clinic and rotate time off. Church school here and 25 miles from academy. Beautiful country living; opportunity for medical evangelism. N. D. Mullins, M.D., Box 296, Bentonville, AR. 501/273-9081. p15-1t

Book Center Special for July-August

Introducing the 24-volume BibLearn Series of Books

People from the Old Testament and the New Testament have been described by superior writers and portrayed by excellent illustrators. Based solely on events related in the Bible, each book is sound Christian material for children in grades one through six.

The BibLearn books make excellent reference and resource materials with the Sabbath School lessons.

Regularly priced at U.S. \$105.00. Special introductory offer only U.S. \$74.95.

Please add tax and 10% to cover postage and handling. Send your order to your local Adventist Book Center or to ABC Mailing Service: Western U.S.—1350 Villa St., Mountain View, CA 94042; Eastern U.S.—6856 Eastern Ave., N.W., Washington, DC, 20012; Canada—Box 398 (1156 King St., E.), Oshawa, Ontario L1H 7L5. Prices subject to change without notice.



FOR SALE: 35-acre farm with home, secluded. Large spring, part open land. Or would consider selling part to retired Adventist family. J. E. Lafoy, Star Route, Timbo, AR 72680. Phone 501/746-4253. p15-11

REAL ESTATE — Moving to Oklahoma? Church school, Hidden Canyon Youth Camp (1029 acres) for sale, beautiful Illinois River and Lake Tenkiller. Complete service for Oklahoma. (Dorothy) Wilcox Realty, 111 East Shawnee, Tahlequah, OK 74464. Office: 918/456-5432, Res.: 918/456-1484. p9-10t

1981 MERCEDES-BENZ 300 Diesel. Join 45 SDA's at Factory Driveaway leaving September 10. Enjoy Oberammergau Passion Play. Veggie meals. Believable savings. Contact factory franchised Auto Martin (ASI Member) Bx 1881, Grants Pass, OR 97526. 503/474-1881, Eves 503/479-4411. Closed Sat. open Sun. p13-4t

LOOKING FOR EXTRA \$\$\$ without sacrificing present employment? Market gas-saving, engine-extending, synthetic AMS/oil lubricants for cars, trucks, and farm equipment. More money possible in your spare time than your present business or job. Free literature. Louis Rosenthal, 10548 Harvest Ave., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670, Phone 213/863-2942. p13-3t

FILL YOUR MAILBOX WITH FRIENDSHIP! Pen pal with Seventh-day Adventists across the nation and the world. All ages welcome! For information send self-addressed, stamped envelope to Christian Fellowship for Adventists, P.O. Box 796, Silver Spring, MD 20901. p10-6t

Sunset Schedule

| | July 25 | Aug. 1 | Aug. 8 | Aug. 15 |
|------------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|
| Abilene, Texas | 8:42 | 8:37 | 8:31 | 8:24 |
| Amarillo, Texas | 8:56 | 8:50 | 8:43 | 8:36 |
| Brownsville, Texas | 8:20 | 8:16 | 8:11 | 8:06 |
| Dallas, Texas | 8:31 | 8:26 | 8:20 | 8:13 |
| El Paso, Texas | 8:08 | 8:03 | 7:57 | 7:50 |
| Fort Worth, Texas | 8:33 | 8:28 | 8:22 | 8:15 |
| Galveston, Texas | 8:16 | 8:11 | 8:06 | 8:00 |
| Gentry, Arkansas | 8:29 | 8:23 | 8:16 | 8:08 |
| Keene, Texas | 8:33 | 8:28 | 8:22 | 8:15 |
| Little Rock, Arkansas | 8:17 | 8:11 | 8:05 | 7:57 |
| Muskogee, Oklahoma | 8:31 | 8:25 | 8:18 | 8:10 |
| New Orleans, Louisiana | 7:58 | 7:53 | 7:48 | 7:41 |
| Oklahoma City | 8:40 | 8:34 | 8:26 | 8:19 |
| San Antonio, Texas | 8:31 | 8:26 | 8:21 | 8:14 |
| Santa Fe, New Mexico | 8:15 | 8:09 | 8:02 | 7:54 |
| Shreveport, Louisiana | 8:18 | 8:13 | 8:07 | 8:00 |
| Tulsa, Oklahoma | 8:35 | 8:29 | 8:22 | 8:14 |

Church Missionary Calendar — 1980

AUGUST

- 5 **Ten-Min. Service** — Local Planning and Experiences
- Church Service** — Unentered Areas Evangelism
- Offering** — Church Lay Activities
- 9 **Ten-Min. Service** — Oakwood College
- Offering** — Oakwood College
- 16 **Ten-Min. Service** — Prison Ministry
- 23 **Ten-Min. Service** — Community Services
- 30 **Ten-Min. Service** — Witnessing

Communications or copy not originating in a local conference of the Southwestern Union should be addressed to the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, P.O. Box 606, Keene, Texas 76059. ALL COPY, SUBSCRIPTIONS, ADVERTISEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE from church members in the Southwestern Union should be addressed to the LOCAL CONFERENCE OFFICE.

COPY DEADLINES

| Announcement Events on Weekend of | Should Be in Local Conference Office by |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Aug. 23 and 30 | July 23 |
| Sept. 6 and 13 | Aug. 6 |
| Sept. 20 and 27 | Aug. 6 |
| Oct. 4 and 11 | Sept. 3 |

SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE DIRECTORY

P.O. BOX 606
KEENE, TEXAS 76059

President B. E. Leach
Secretary Bill May
Treasurer; Stewardship
Director V. L. Roberts
Assistant Secretary;
V.P. Corporation, ASI K. C. Beem
Assistant Treasurer Deryl Knutson

Departments

Communication Richard Bendall
Community Services Richard Bendall
Education Boyd Olson
Associate Education;
Elementary Supervisor Frances Clark
Health Fred Murray
Lay Activities Bill Liversidge
Ministerial Bill Liversidge
Religious Liberty and
Public Affairs J. N. Morgan
Sabbath School Bill Liversidge
Temperance Wayne Shepperd
Youth Wayne Shepperd

Trust Services

Trust Services; Secretary
Corporation Cecil Reed
Trust Services Associate
Director; Treasurer Corp. W. V. Wiist

Home Health Education Service

Director, HHES; ABC C. L. Williams
Associate Director;
Treasurer W. B. Robinson
Associate Director Richard McKee

LOCAL CONFERENCE DIRECTORY

ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA — W. H. Elder, Jr., President; W. J. Griffin, Secretary; B. Page Haskell, Treasurer; (P.O. Box 5548) 333 Southfield Rd., Shreveport, Louisiana 71105.

OKLAHOMA — Robert Rider, President; Max A. Trevino, Secretary-Treasurer; (P.O. Box 32098) 4735 N.W. 63rd St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73132.

SOUTHWEST REGION — W. C. Jones, President; M. Baez, Secretary-Treasurer; (P.O. Box 226289) 2212 Lanark, Dallas, Texas 75266.

TEXAS — Cyril Miller, President; Charles Griffin, Secretary; Franklin Moore, Treasurer; (P.O. Box 11620) 2838 Hemphill, Fort Worth, Texas 76110.

TEXICO — Don K. Sullivan, President; Max Martinez, Secretary; Edward Stacey, Treasurer; (P.O. Box 7770) 4909 Canyon Dr., Amarillo, Texas 79109.

Those desiring to make wills, trust agreements, and annuities, should make them in favor of the legal association rather than the conference. Write your conference Director of Trust Services for further information.

RECORD prepared by Southwestern Union Department of Communication.

Volume 79, Number 15



on the record

a heart-to-heart chat with your union conference president

“Risk” Is the Word

There are some things you risk; there are some things you don't. There are some risks you have to take; there are some risks you don't have to take. Life is full of risks. But people in their right mind don't go out looking for dangerous risks in order to be able to go around telling how they survived.

A United Airlines Instruction Booklet declares that the greatest risk in air travel is in landing and taking off. You are safest while in the air. If there were some way to get aboard a jet after it is airborne, you could save yourself a lot of risk! Of course, you don't *have* to land with the plane; you could parachute to earth, providing you had a parachute — and if you could slow the plane down (stepping out of a plane doing 500 or 600 miles per hour could mess up not only your hair but also your bone structure!) But even then some of the landing spots are not ideal! So you take the risk of take-off and landing as a calculated decision because actually the chances of a crash are pretty remote. Statistics prove that. I believe their statistics. So I still fly around the country even in DC-10's although I am fully aware that some of their bolts attaching the engines to the fuselage have been known to release the engine on take-off! I just pray we have a good strong bolt that has been properly tightened.

I also cross bridges over ship channels — even though a ship knocked a 1500-foot span right off its stilts recently and sent a Greyhound bus, plus several cars, plummeting into Tampa Bay (although I do gawk around to see if any ships are headed toward the bridge!). And I will still ride a bus even though that bus in Arkansas went careening and crashing on Route 7 killing 20 sightseer passengers and the driver. And I still drive my Olds around the Southwestern Union. I haven't stopped walking, even though I know cars and pedestrians run a certain amount of risk. But I'll tell you this — when I see a bad wreck or a pedestrian who has been hit, it makes me more cautious because I value my life. I'm not among those daredevils who can rationalize, “Well, I'm going to die someday” or “you die when your number comes up — so what,” and proceed to enter a busy freeway going the wrong way. The answer to that “so what” is that statistics do not favor the continuance of life by those who drive down a freeway going the wrong way!

We have some daredevils — some “spiritual Evel Knievels” — in our church today. They take deliberate risks with their most precious possessions that are enough to blow your mind. They make fateful decisions that *do* spiritually blow the mind of their priceless children and youth! It is enough to make you

wonder about the spiritual sanity of these guardians of boys and girls and youth who have the potential of a great and good life on earth and eternal life with Jesus or a life of uncertainty on earth and eternal death at the end. Why would anybody who had his spiritual senses take such a chance?

The risk is devastating. We *know* that children who are sent to the schools of the world will go to the world. Statistics prove that 80% or 90% of them will wind up out of the church and in the world. The chances of their staying in the church are about as good as traveling the freeway going the wrong way.

We also know that 80% to 90% of those children and youth who are enrolled in God's schools and kept there from kindergarten through college will stay in the church.

Then tell me why anybody who is spiritually thinking straight would even consider taking such a terrifying risk? The only thing in this world we can take out of this world is our children and youth. They are precious in the eyes of God and God holds us responsible for them. In the judgment we are going to have to give an answer for our stewardship of the children God has entrusted to us. God has placed them in our custody. They are *His* children — loaned to us. Our greatest challenge, our greatest privilege is to prepare them for eternity, the greatest responsibility of life. Those who take that responsibility seriously and *do everything in their power* to have them ready for heaven will have no fear of the judgment. But those who take a casual, indifferent attitude toward our God-given duty to prepare our youth for eternal life are going to be shattered as they face their Maker.

When God asks that searching question, “Where is the flock that was given thee, thy beautiful flock?” (Jeremiah 13:20) there must be only one answer. “They are here, Lord God, everyone of them are here.”

If you plan to give your God the *right answer* then — don't risk their eternal future *NOW*.

Keep your children in the Lord's schools. RISK is the word. Don't risk their eternal future. That is a risk you don't deliberately take. You *are* responsible. You will be *held* responsible.

Yours for the salvation of all our youth,

B. E. Leach.

INSPIRED . . .

“All the youth should be permitted to have the blessings and privileges of an education in our church schools, that they may be inspired to become laborers together with God.”
Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 197.

GOD HONORS FAITH