

PLAIN TALKS

JANUARY, 1978



Welcome Aboard . . .

SYSTEM DEPARTMENTS

System Engineering

Patronella, Patrick W., Bmt, Engr Helper - DEC-Drftg
Wallace, Frank S., Bmt, Engr Helper - DEC-Drftg

Material Services

Miller, Deborah M., Bmt, Clerk - Overall

General Services

Caraway, Betty F., Bmt, Dept Clerk - Off Svs-Library
Poncho, Jennifer D., Bmt, Dept Clerk - Nuclear Recds
Arline, Bertha J., Bmt, Dept Clerk - Nuclear Recds
Beauchamp, Tanya S., Bmt, Dept Clerk - Off Svs-Repro

BEAUMONT DIVISION

Division Production

Rowe, Robert J., Bmt, Laborer I - Neches Sta-Lab Crws
Richards, James A., Bmt, Laborer I - Neches Sta-Lab Crws

Distribution

Torres, Christopher J., Bmt, Laborer I - T&D/Lab Crws
Kunst, William C., Bmt, Laborer I - T&D/Lab Crws
Urban, Cynthia E., Bmt, Laborer I - T&D/Lab Crws
McKeen, Michael A., Dayton, Helper-T&D/Lab Crws

Division Accounting

Kelly, Margaritte E., Bmt, Clerk - Cred & Coll
Woodall, Angela D., Bmt, Stenographer - Cust Accts

PORT ARTHUR DIVISION

Division Production

Thomas, Donovan L., Pt Arth, Equip Oper - Sabine Sta-Operns

Division Marketing

Mullenix, Denise D., Pt Arth, Consumer Service Adv -
Consum Serv

Division Accounting

Hand, Dannie J., M County, Meter Reader - Cust Accts

WESTERN DIVISION

Division Production

Leveston, Roy L., Jr., Conroe, Equip Oper - Lewis Creek-Operns

Distribution

Walters, Ronald V., Conroe, Laborer I - T&D/Lab Crws

Division Accounting

Smith, Judy D., Conroe, Clerk - Cust Accts
Wilkerson, Leroy F., Conroe, Meter Reader - Cust Accts
Wileman, Richard C., N Caney, Meter Reader - Cust Accts

BATON ROUGE

Division Production

Stanley, Richard L., B Rouge, Mech Helper - W/Glen-Test
Pfeiffer, Bruce D., B Rouge, Electrician 2/C - W/Glen-Electl
Graham, Mary P., B Rouge, Operator's Helper - La Sta-Operns
Mayeux, Ricky J., B Rouge, Operator's Helper - La Sta-Operns
Raybourn, James E., B Rouge, Laborer I - W/Glen-Lab Crws

Distribution

Farbe, Roger J., B Rouge, Shop & Field Tester - T&D/Meter

Division Marketing

Gallagher, Priscilla W., B Rouge, Consumer Service Adv -
Consum Servs

Division Accounting

Cummings, Daniel Jr., B Rouge, Meter Reader - Cust Accts
Carloss, Robert A., B Rouge, Meter Reader - Cust Accts

LAKE CHARLES DIVISION

Division Marketing

Hay, Doris A., L Chas, Consumer Service Adv - Consum Servs
Perodin, Larry, L Chas, Consumer Service Repr - Consum Servs

MANAGEMENT

Fancher, Michael L., Bmt, Engr - T&D/Engr

Koehler, Michael J., Bmt, Nucl Trng Repr - Personnel
Svs-Skills Trng

Harvin, Richard R., Bmt, Commun Repr - Sys Mktg/Public Relas

Barry, John E., Bmt, Nucl Fuels Engr - Pwr Plant Eng & Des

Lorring, David N., Bmt, Engr - Pwr Plnt Eng & Des

Wells, Don H., Bmt, Radiation Protection Spec -

R/Blend Proj/Operns Supp

Climinel, Robert J., Bmt, Nucl Oprns Plnng Supvr -

R/Blend Proj/Operns Supp

Riley, David F., Bmt, Admin Acct - Actg Svs/Gen Acctg

Nicholas, Gary W., Bmt, Asst Purchas Agt - Mat Svs

Van Nolan, William D., Traffic Repr - Mat Svs

Richardson, Kenneth W., Bmt, Nucl Tech Adv - Energy Devel

Shankle, Ellis P., B Rouge, Trng Repr - Personnel Svs-Skills Trng

PLAIN TALKS

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WELCOME ABOARD

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AN ORIENTATION TO THE GOOD LIFE

Employees soon-to-be-retired are guests at two day pre-retirement sessions in country club style.

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COFFEE CUP

ABOUT THE COVER: Employees scheduled for retirement in the near future get together with their spouses and company and professional experts to go over vital information concerning their retirement years.

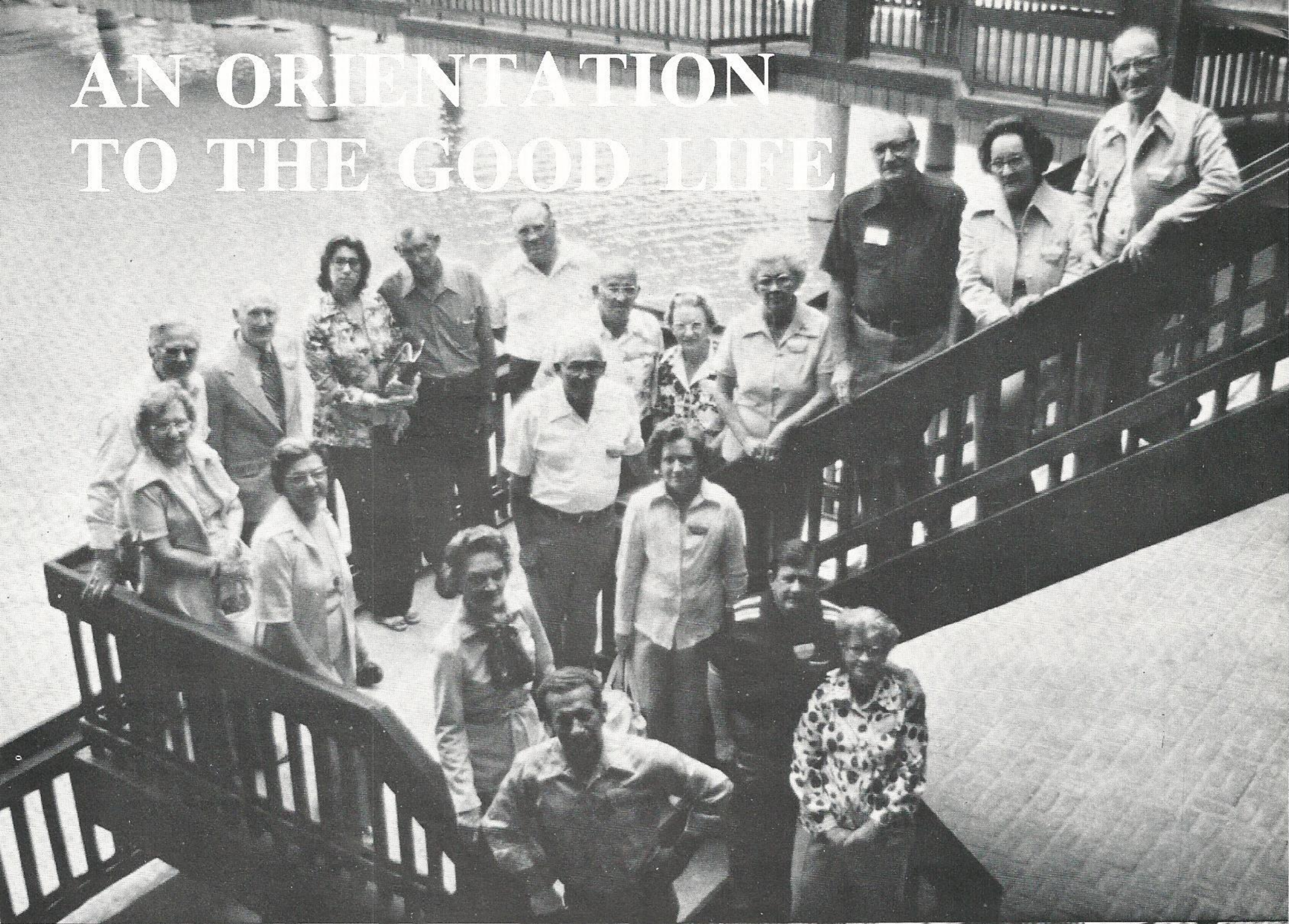
GULF STATES UTILITIES CO.

P. O. Box 2951

Beaumont, Texas 77704

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 Houston

AN ORIENTATION TO THE GOOD LIFE



When you've been working all your life to support yourself, your wife and your children, the prospect of retirement can be more than just a little frightening. You wonder about your financial situation, your health, general security for your loved ones. Does anybody really care what happens now that your days of "producing for the company" are nearly over? The answer is YES, someone does care and NO, you will not be forgotten.

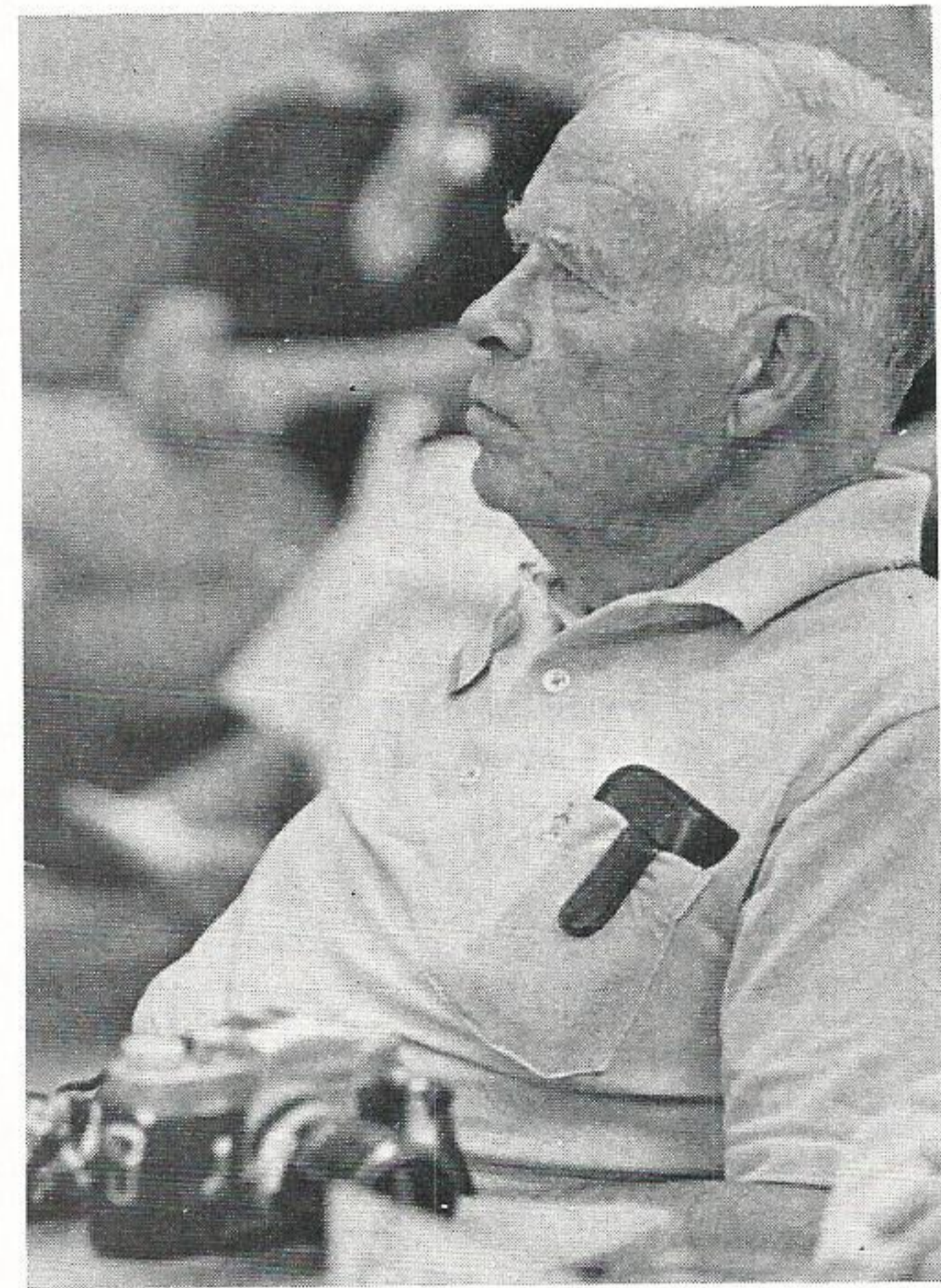
These are just some of the questions that are answered at the Company's Pre-Retirement Orientation sessions held twice a year at The Woodlands Inn in Western Division. Frances Engelbrecht, coordinator of Personnel Development, calls this program, "Personally, the most rewarding project with which I've ever been involved." It was through her efforts that the two day program came to GSU in the first place. "I wish I could claim the idea was an original. I attended a meeting of the Southwest Utilities Training Directors in April of 1976 and learned of the experience Central Power & Light Company (Corpus Christi) had had with a program for their "almost-to-retirement" employees. I was really impressed. With the support of Bill Heaner (then VP-Personnel Manager) the program outline was submitted to Mr. (Norman) Lee. Six weeks later we held our first Pre-Retirement Orientation Program."

From the onset the program was designed to be a first-class project with four basic goals: to ease the employee's transition from active to retired status; to give positive, professional information to better equip the employee for retirement; to answer their questions concerning retirement benefits through individual counseling, and, to honor not only the retiring employee, but the spouse as well. "We wanted this to be something they would remember," said Engelbrecht, "a combination of fun, relaxation, meeting old friends, as well as informative."

The Woodlands Inn was chosen as the site for several reasons. For one, it is a beautiful setting located at The Woodlands, between Houston and Conroe. The atmosphere is relaxed and the accommodations second to none. The staff at the Woodlands looks forward to the program, too. "At every session," said Engelbrecht, "I'm told the folks from Gulf States are the most friendly, happy group they have visit there — and we feel the same about the staff at the Woodlands!"

Much planning went into the first session which was held in September, 1976. Engelbrecht presented her plans to the various involved departments such as Tax Services, Payroll, Legal Services, Accounting Services and Employee Benefits.

Employees soon to be retired find their days at The Woodlands to be relaxing, informative, fun, and a time to be remembered.



Outside professional experts in the medical professions, social security, and travel were lined up to make presentations specifically geared to retirement years. It was not an easy task to bring all this together, but Engelbrecht met with favorable and enthusiastic support at every turn.

The first session was a decided success. Twenty-five people, 13 soon-to-be retired employees and their spouses, attended. And all of them left two days later with much praise for the program, and the Company that cared enough to make it available. Thomas Brooks (Jennings T&D) and his wife Mildred, pretty well summed it up in a letter, "We are proud of our Company for providing this program."

"We learned a lot, too," said Engelbrecht. "We didn't quite know what to expect before the first session. We didn't know if benefits would be the main concern, health, finances, whatever. What we did learn was that not one of them seemed very concerned about what they were going to do with their time. They all had plans for one thing or another. Redirecting their energy was something they had obviously thought a lot about already"

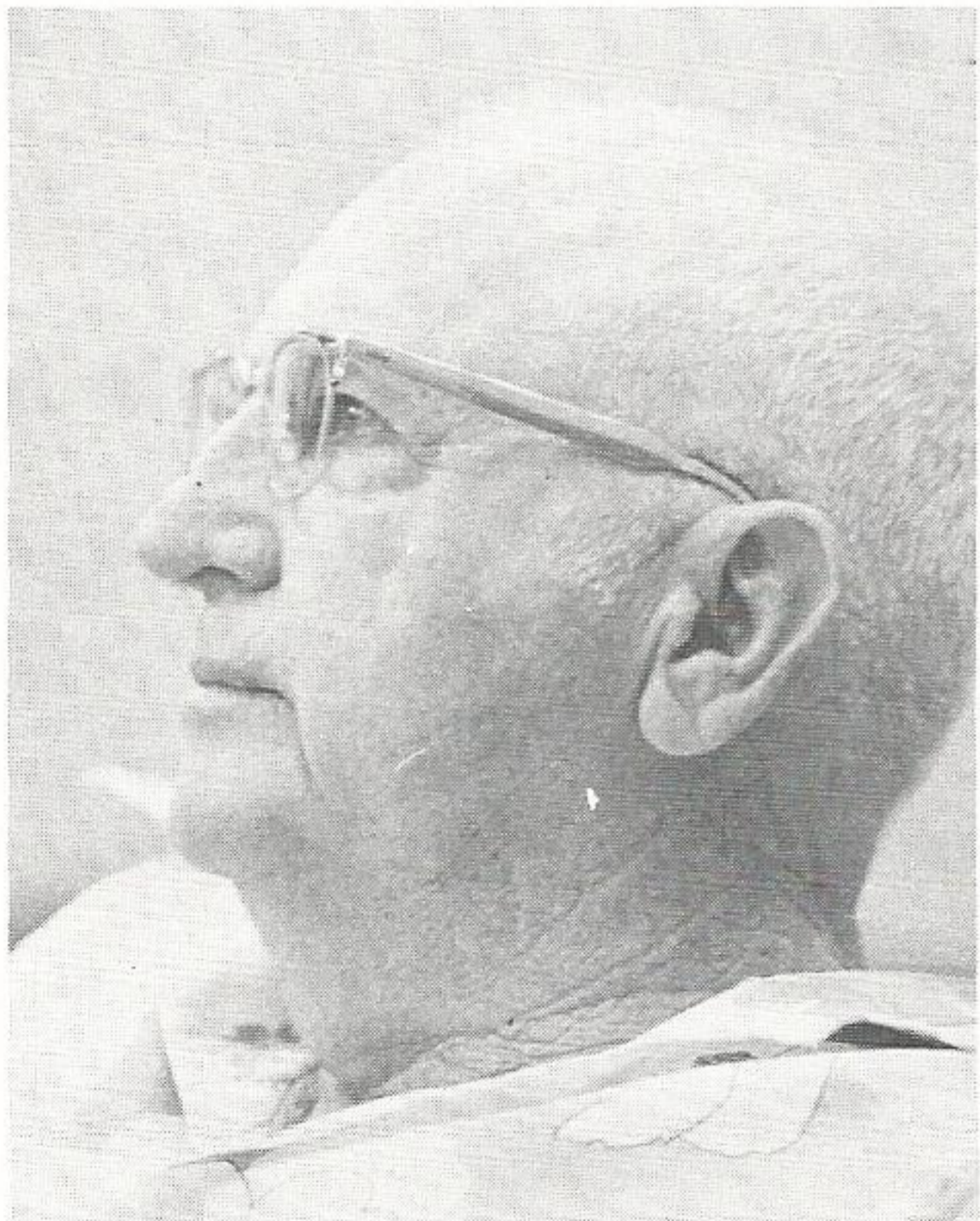
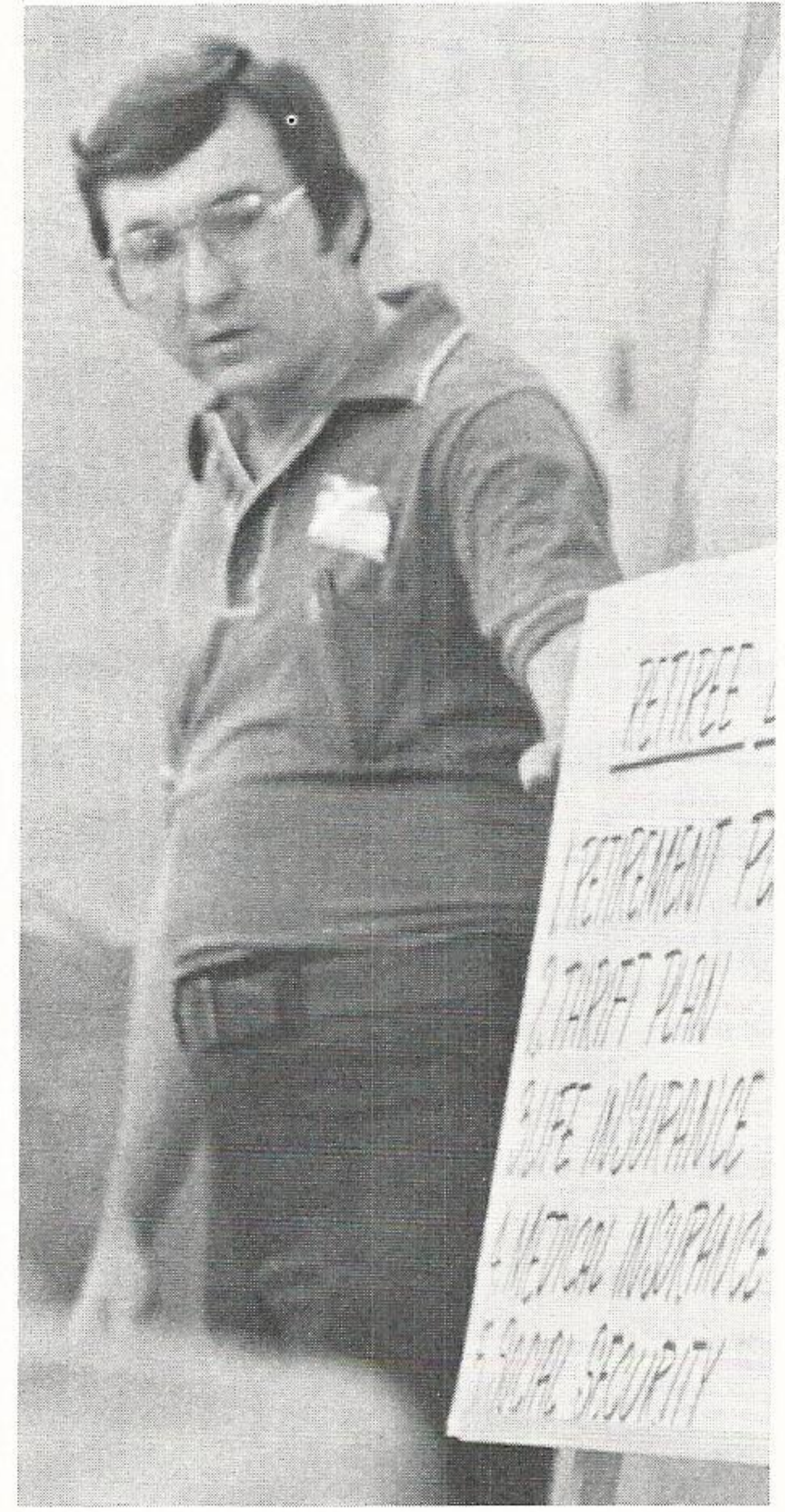
Since that first meeting in 1976, 20 more employees and their spouses have participated in the pre-retirement orientation program, and each session has been as successful as the first. Comments such as "... hated to see it end," and "... enjoyed meeting old friends again," and "... the ones that couldn't make it just don't know what they've missed," and "... the memories of sharing this experience together will be treasured the rest of our lives," have made all the effort worth while.

"We surely don't intend to stop now," said Engelbrecht. "We've received such positive comments from everyone that we know we're providing a quality program." Engelbrecht emphasized that the 1978 sessions are scheduled for May 17-19, to be followed in September on the 20-22.

As Mrs. Myrtle Boutte (wife of J. J. Boutte, shop Foreman — Port Arthur) put it, "We enjoyed the wonderful friendship of everyone . . . well deserved praise for everyone involved . . . there was nothing left to be desired."



DEC 12 '31
FORM 4868
1040 ES
SCHEDULE A & B
W-2
1040
MAXIMUM TAX
MINIMUM TAX
1040 A
EXEMPTIONS
W-2
INCOME
CAPITAL GAINS



THE SUGAR HOUSES

The cane fields of Louisiana annually provide the U.S. with much of its sugar. The harvesting and processing of this crop in the state's Sugar Houses is a story of interest to us all.

You ever meet a North Dakota Cajun?

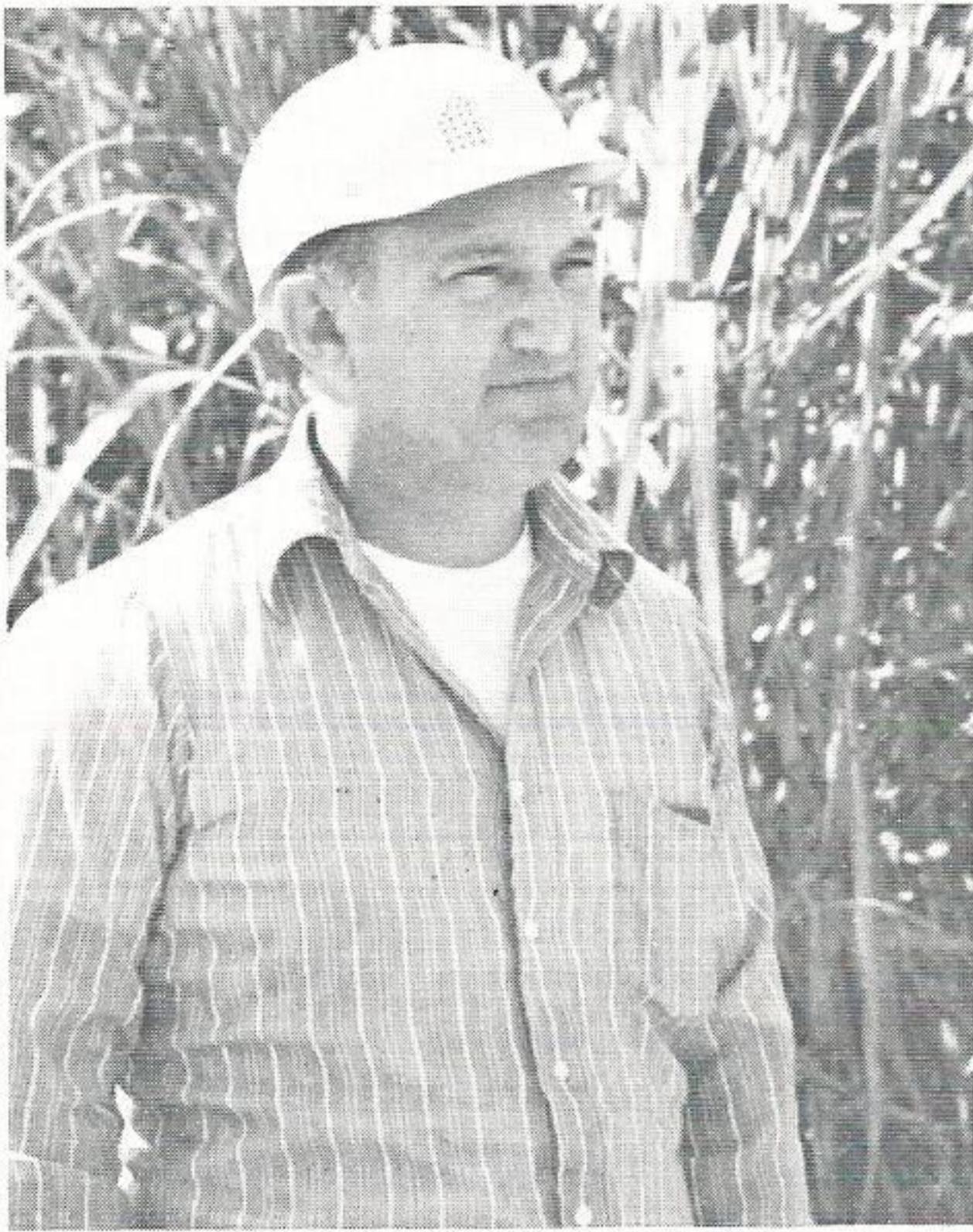
If you say there aren't any Cajuns from North Dakota you would be half right. Fact is, there is probably a little of the Cajun in all of us who have ever eaten sugar.

The sugar cane industry in Louisiana, and the sugar houses that process the state's annual crop, are major contributors to the supermarkets of this nation. Only Florida and Louisiana produce sugar cane for sugar in the United States. So each time you consume sugar in any of its forms, you are digesting the efforts of many hard working South Louisianians, and adding a little more Cajun to your system in the process.

GSU serves many sugar houses in south Louisiana, and with the harvesting of the multi-million dollar crop in full swing, Plain Talks became curious as to the process that transforms the cane into the sugar that is an integral part in the lives of 218 million Americans.

"Sugar cane is big business, really big business, in this part of Louisiana," said Earl Broussard, Area Development representative in Lafayette. Broussard suggested the story of sugar cane could best be told by Roland Hebert, general manager of St. Martin Sugar Cooperative, Inc., deep in the beautiful heart of Evangeline country near St. Martinville.

If you've never made the trip south from Lafayette to St. Martinville or New Iberia, plan to. Highway 90 is a magic carpet into the past. It doesn't take long to see that sugar cane is the dominate crop of the area and, specifically, during the months of October, November and December, by far the most visual feature of the land. These are the months of harvest, the end of a year's sweat and toil to produce a high quality, abundant product. A sign along Highway 90 directs you off the main road, past one sugar house, and onto another narrow and winding road that leads to St. Martinville. The sugar cane stands as sentinels along your way. If you look quickly you can see an old plantation home on a hill, and several of the cabins designed by an unknown hand that has become the trademark of the Cajun country; architecture unique unto itself. A left at the major intersection in St. Martinville takes you out of town along Highway 39 past more cane fields to a modern industrial facility which manufactures underwear. The St. Martin Sugar Cooperative stands behind this facility across a narrow railroad/vehicle bridge. This is the child of Roland Hebert. It's his baby, and during the harvest season it is virtually his life, and the lives of nearly 150 south Louisiana

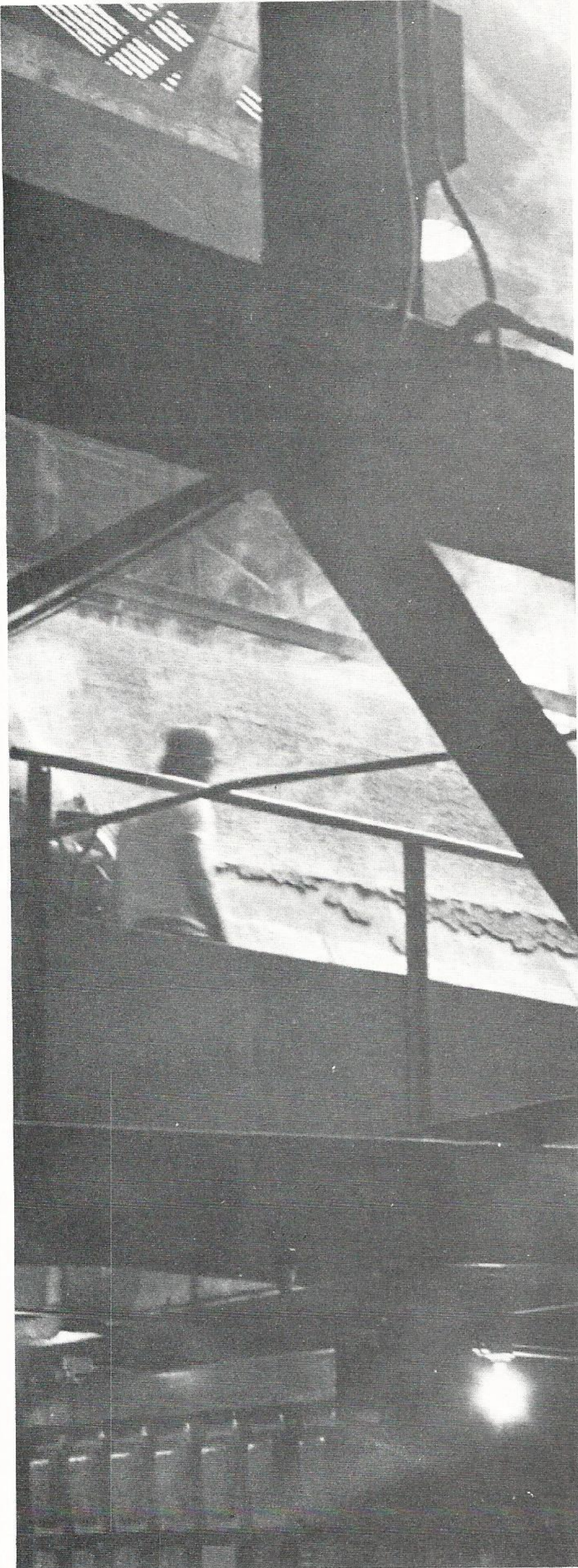


“We maintain a high quality operation. We are the first sugar house with the core sampler, and continually search for ways to improve our operation.”

**Roland Hebert
General Manager**



CARY CANE HARVESTER—This Proto-type sugar cane harvester, built by J. C. Cary of Opelousas, undergoes testing by the Co-op. It is designed to harvest some 20 tons of green cane per hour.



cane farmers who belong to, and own a share of the business.

Hebert is proud of his sugar house, and well he should be. Expensive renovation was undertaken several years ago to upgrade the electrical system of the plant to the point where the old St. John sugar house is as modern as any in the state. "It used to be we never knew when the electricity would go off around here," said Hebert, "but now with our new equipment we are much more efficient. It was expensive to install, but we can depend on it and the quality of our operation is much improved."

Quality is important to Hebert and to all the members of the cooperative. "We have a very efficient yard, everyone knows his job and does it. We work hard to maintain a high quality operation."

The St. Martin Cooperative is the first sugar house in Louisiana to utilize the "core sampler" technique on a commercial basis. Basically it is a means by which to measure the quality of the cane, the recoverable sugar per gross ton. This results in more equitable payment to the participating growers of the cooperative.

Guarded Reactions

"The reactions of growers initially to the core sampler could best be described as guarded," said Hebert. "But this anxiety quickly diminished when the growers realized the procedure was not a threat to their livelihood, but actually an incentive to reward good quality cane," said Hebert.

Fifty-eight farms are currently represented in the membership of the cooperative. During the harvest season a steady stream of tractor-drawn cane wagons come and go. The sugar house can unload some 700-800 tons of cane per hour, and processes an average of 3600 tons per day. The end product is a raw, unrefined sugar. This sugar goes to a refining plant in the state to end up as the product which is purchased by the consumer. "Most people not familiar with the sugar cane industry think the sugar we process is the sugar they buy. In reality, it is simply the raw sugar that is produced here," explained Hebert. Hebert went on to say that about 180 pounds of raw sugar, seven gallons of blaskstrap molasses and 270 pounds of bagasse are obtained from one net ton of Louisiana sugar cane. The bagasse, in turn, is used by the cooperative as boiler fuel.

The milling of the sugar cane is an interesting story. The harvested cane is brought to the sugar house in large tractor-drawn wagons. The first stop

AVERAGE DAY-The Co-op processes an average of 3600 tons of sugar cane per day, turning the crop into raw sugar, molasses, bagasse and fertilizer.

is the core sampling station. The cane is weighed by the "scale master" and then the core sampler operator retrieves a cane sample. The grower's name and farm number are recorded for testing and payment. Once the sample has been taken the cane moves to the unloading area. The sample meanwhile is sent to a lab at the mill where it undergoes extensive tests to determine the quality of the sugar cane.

Meanwhile the cane is unloaded by large derricks. The cane is either stored temporarily on the ground, or processed. If processed immediately the cane is unloaded on a conveyor system. The cane is washed and passed through a series of revolving knives which cuts the cane stalks into shorter pieces preparing it for the milling process. Heavy rollers then crush the cane and extract the juice. Another series of rollers mill the cane and more water is sprayed to wash the resulting "mat" of crushed cane. This increases the amount of juice extracted. The leftover "woody" residue is known as bagasse. St. Martin uses residue as boiler fuel, while other plants send it off to be used elsewhere to make paper, building boards, plastics and a number of other products.

After the crushing and milling of the cane, the juice is strained in juice heaters where it is limed and heated. This further purifies the juice. From the heaters the juice travels to the clarifiers where remaining impurities are allowed to settle. The clear juice then moves into the evaporators while the muddy juice at the bottom of the clarifiers goes to the filter. More clear juice is extracted at this point. The leftover residue (now in a cake like form) is hauled away to be used as fertilizer in the fields. This clear juice joins with the other juice in the evaporators.

The evaporators extract most of the remaining water in the juice turning the juice into a thick syrup. This syrup is then boiled in low temperatures in vacuum pans which causes growth of sugar crystals. This resulting mixture is called massecuite, a combination of molasses and sugar crystals. We are now in the final stages of the processing.

The massecuite is delivered to centrifuges which separates the molasses from the sugar crystals. This process is very similar to a clothes washing machine where water is forced out of the machine leaving the clothes to dry. Centrifugal force carries



CORE SAMPLER—The St. Martin Sugar Co-operative was the first sugar house in the state to utilize the core sampler. The sampler removes a small portion of each farmer's crop. This cane is then graded in an on-the-grounds laboratory to determine the quality (sugar content) of the cane prior to processing.

the molasses through perforations in the wall leaving the sugar crystals behind. The sugar crystals are then dried and are ready for delivery to a refining house. The molasses meanwhile undergoes another similar treatment to remove further crystals. After this second process, the remaining molasses, called blackstrap molasses, is used in a variety of ways such as feed stock, or for the production of alcohol, yeast, citric acid and vinegar.

Sugar cane processing is not the only area of interest for Hebert. Harvesting procedures are always under close scrutiny. "I've studied the harvesting methods used in the Texas cane fields, and that's what I call real efficiency," said Hebert. "Over there the cane never touches the ground from the time it's cut. In Louisiana we are just now coming around to improving methods of harvesting."

One such improvement involves the use of a proto-type cane harvester designed by J. C. Cary of Opelousas. After a quick trip down the highway from the sugar house Hebert turned into a section of the cane fields where the harvester was at work. "If this machine proves out the way we think it might, it will eliminate the burning stage we now go through to clear trash before cutting the cane, and

this means getting the cane to the mill faster." Hebert explained that fresh, green cane yields more sugar per ton, and that by cutting the time it takes the cane to reach the mill after cutting, the better it is for all concerned.

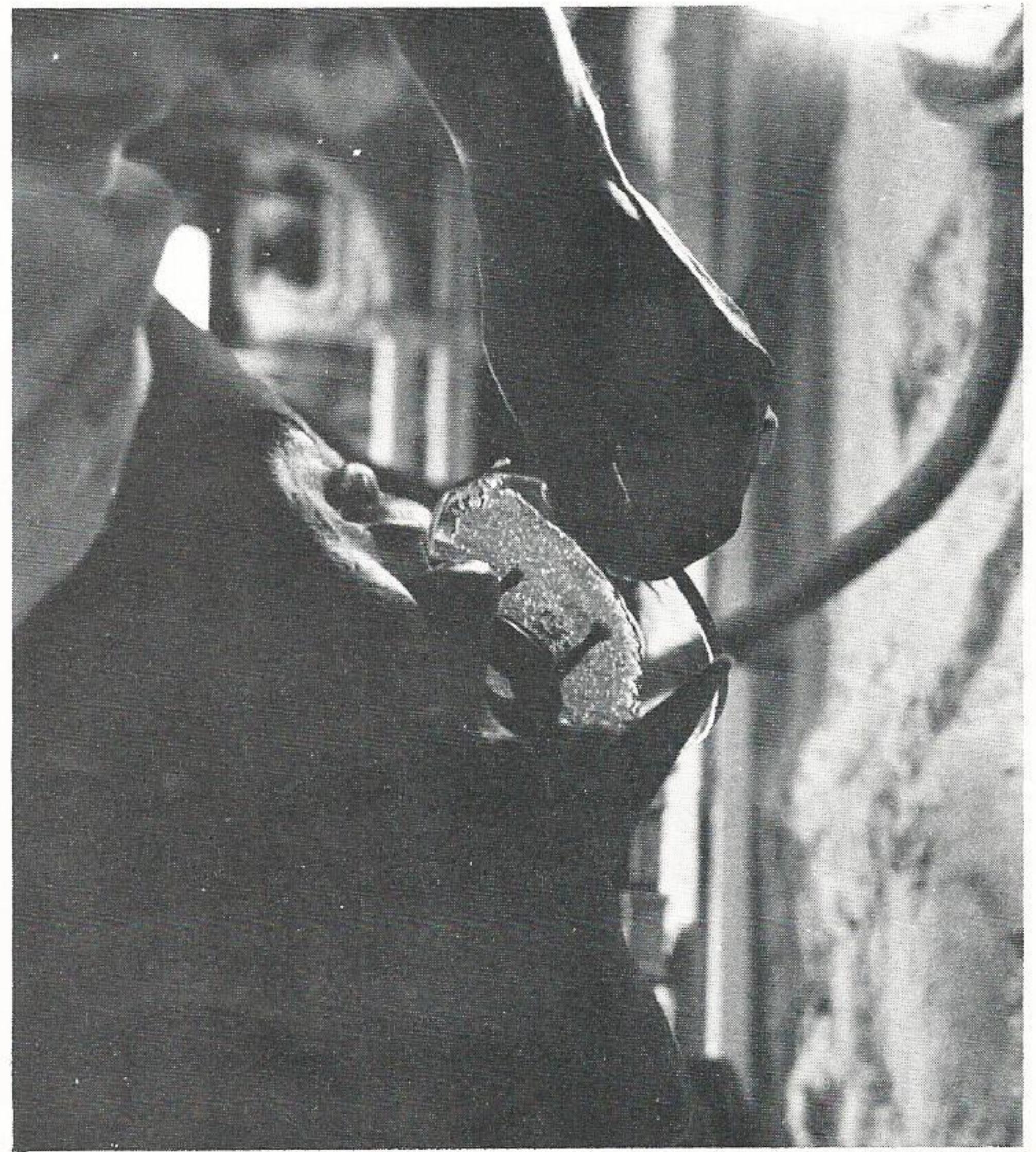
The Cary cane harvester has the potential to do just that. The particular machine being tested has the capability of harvesting 20 tons of green cane per hour. "The first time I brought it out in the fields I discovered it was too heavy and would bog down. I redesigned the front end, and took off quite a lot of weight. Now it's just a question of ironing out the kinks and she'll be ready," said Cary.

"The best thing about this harvester," said Hebert, "is that it will eliminate having to let the cane lay on the ground to be picked up. This piece of equipment cuts the cane, cleans off a lot of trash, cuts the cane into 18 inch pieces and then deposits the cane into a wagon that is driven alongside."

After watching the Cary harvester at work for a few minutes, Hebert walked back to his car. He had been away from his office too long to suit him. There was much to do. The search for a better process, a speedier harvest, the improvement in quality of cane and efficiency in operation of the sugar house are day by day factors that must not be left waiting. Sugar cane is big business in Louisiana.

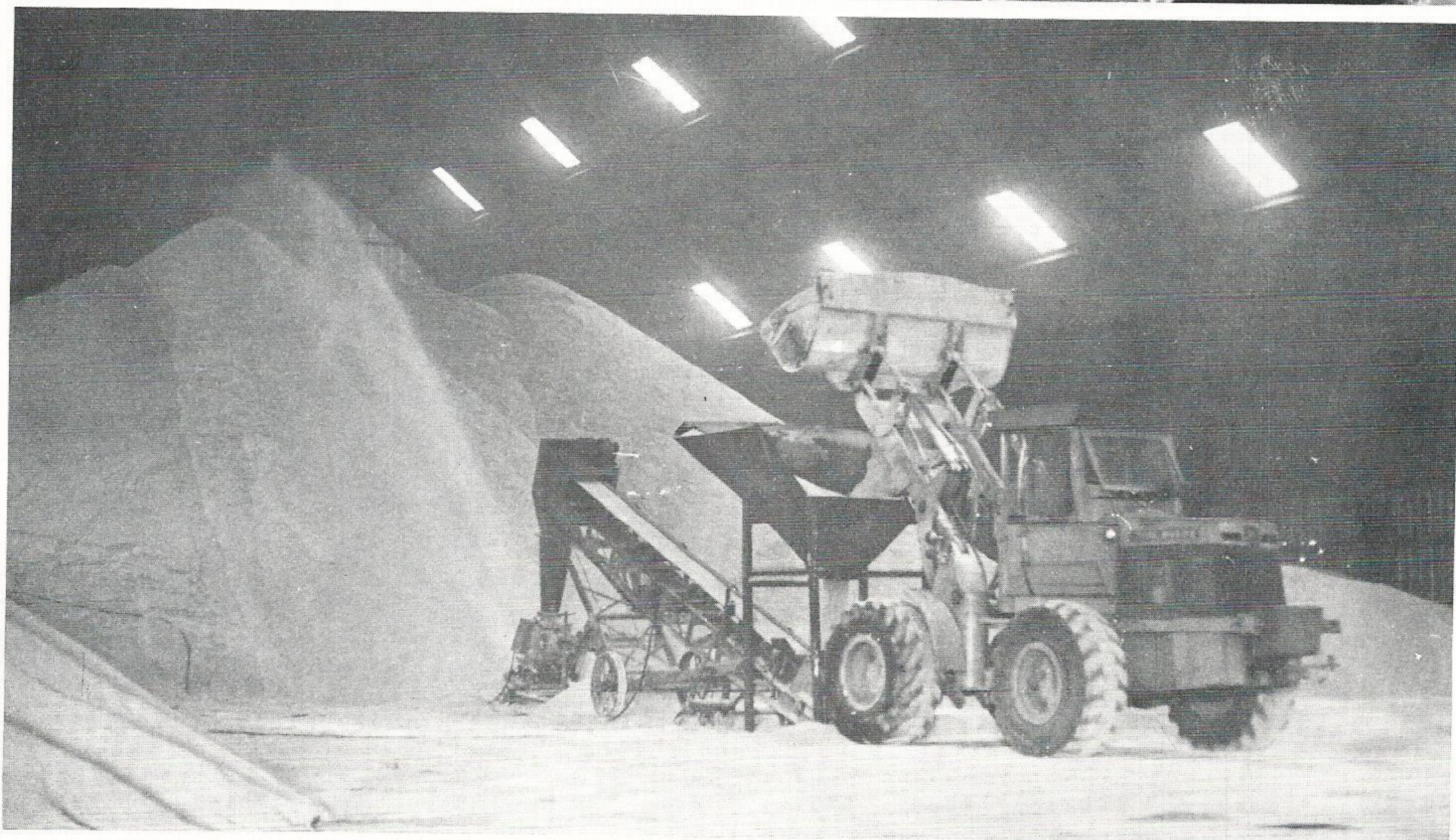
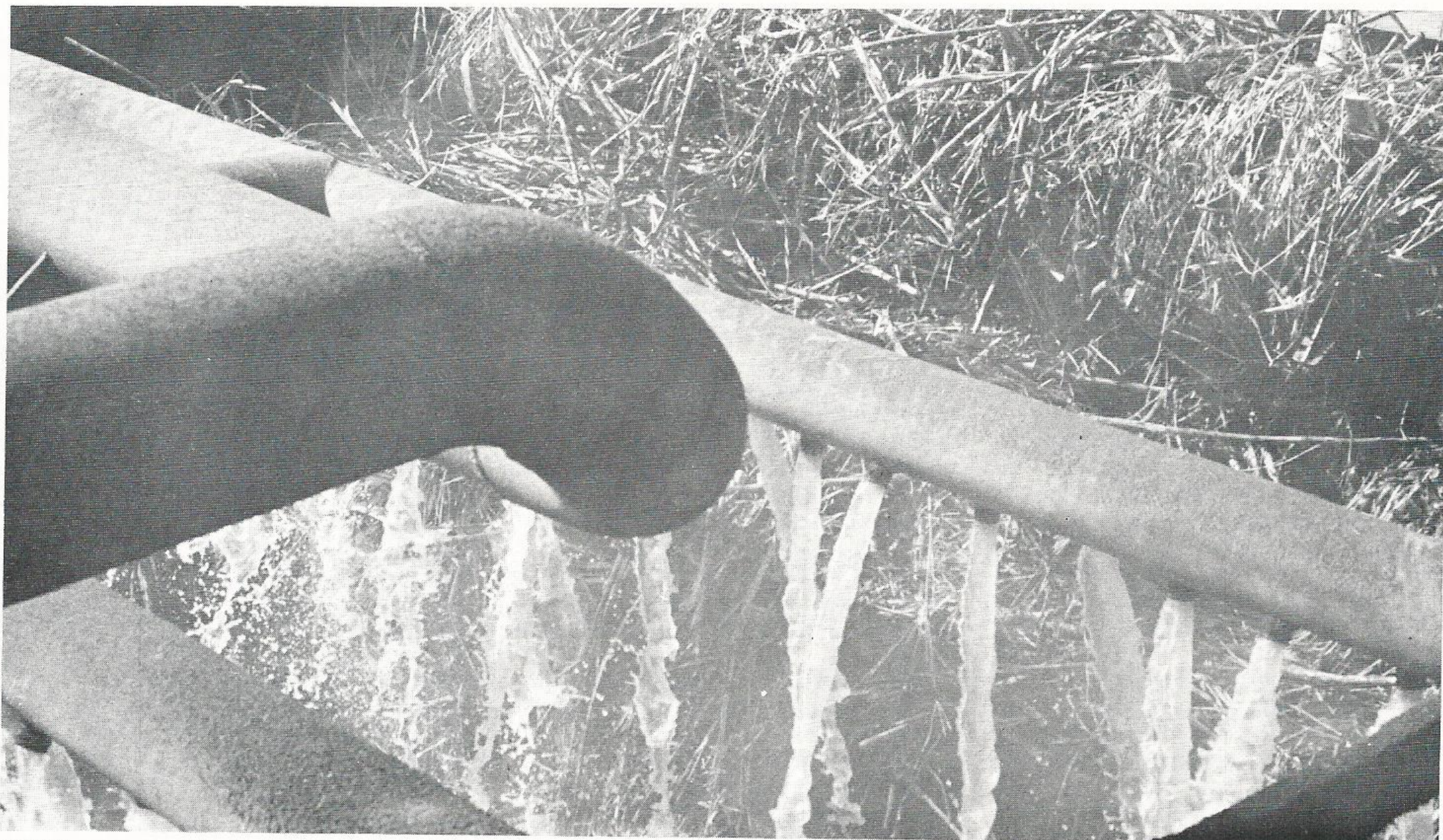


QUALITY CONTROL—Two stages of quality control the cane goes through are, left, a laboratory to determine the sugar content of a particular field,



and, right, a process wherein the sugar is boiled in vacuum pans. This boiling results in the growth of sugar crystals called massecuite.

THE BEGINNING AND THE END—One of the first processes the cut sugar cane goes through after reaching the sugar house is a thorough washing to remove much of the dirt and trash. It is the first of many “washes” the cane will go through. When all is done the raw sugar, bottom, is stored in a large warehouse where it waits for shipment to a refining house elsewhere in the state.



Retired Serviceman

M. M. MILLER: A Profile

M. M. Miller may have retired from Gulf States, but he certainly has not retired from life. In fact he is probably much busier today than ever before. The major difference is that instead of chasing down trouble as a District Serviceman in Lafayette, he is turning junk into gold, raising much of his own food, fattening up some pigs for his table, tending to his chickens, doing as much fishing as he can (which is a lot), and sipping coffee with his friends.

Much of this activity takes place on this spread between Opelousas and Sunset, and all you have to do to find his place is ask anyone within a 50 mile radius where Mr. Miller lives, the man with the old lights in his yard. They all know him.

Some 22 years ago Miller began collecting old lights of every description. "I just wanted something to do," he said. His pride and joy are several 1924 street lights which originally lighted Colfax, La. Now Miller was smart enough to know that no one is going to want a 1924 Colfax street light. Right? Wrong. Miller played with the contacts of the lights and fixed them so that they can be used with regular 110 volt outlet. He has also turned wagon wheels into nifty looking lawn decorations, turned old tractor and wagon seats into lawn chairs, made flower hanging arrangements out of insulators, and a thousand other handy gadgets out of seemingly worthless junk.

His reputation has spread far and wide though he doesn't advertise other than placing a few signs out in his yard.

Hollywood has even dropped by his doorstep to buy some of his antiques for movie sets. Some of his customers have come from as far as west Texas, Shreveport and New Orleans. Rodeo stockmen have even bought some old mule harnesses from him.

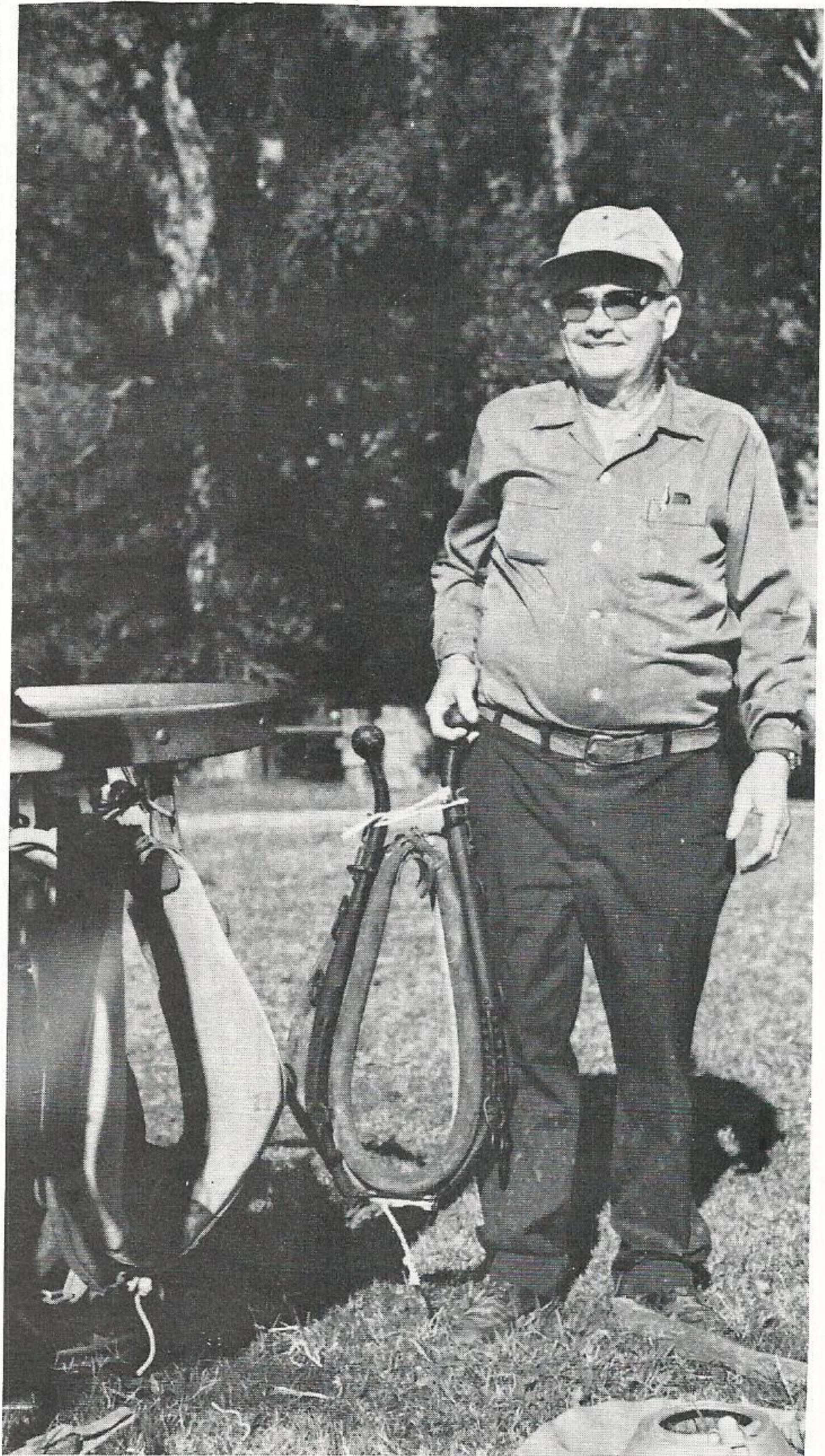
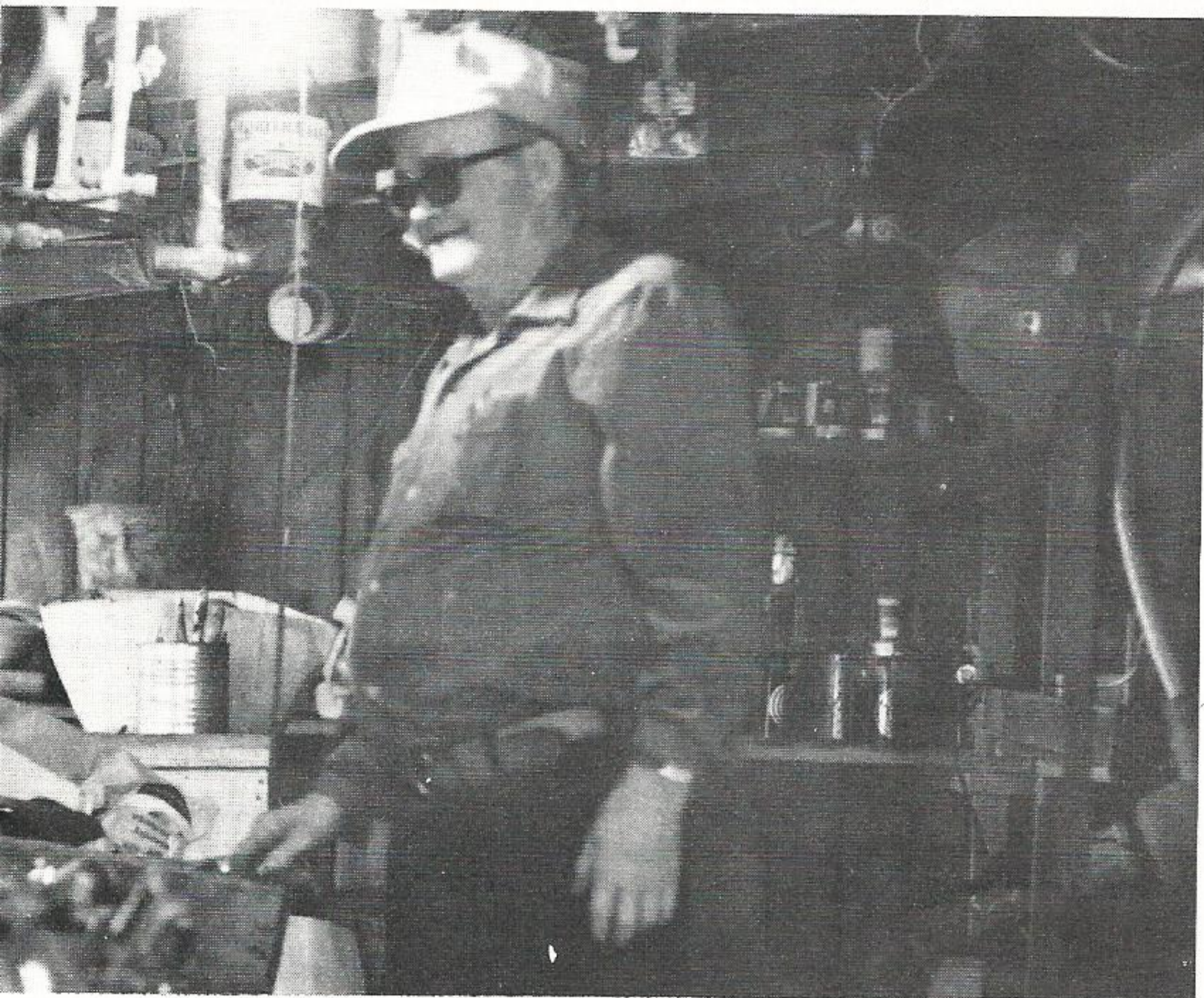
Old car wheel rims, mule drawn plows, practically anything you don't want can be turned into useful, even beautiful things by Miller and his imagination. The metamorphosis takes place in a crowded little workshop behind the barn and chicken shed, just a few yards from the pig pen and a Japanese persimmon tree. "It's amazing what you can do with a piece of junk if you just use your head," Miller states.

Miller also keeps he and his wife, Iva, in the groceries by growing vegetables and sugar cane which grew to eight foot stalks this year. He continually is fattening up his pigs with nothing but the best leavings from a local butcher shop which he boils along with other ingredients to form a sort of sow gumbo. When he is not eating something from his spread, he is frying fish. Not many men know the waters around this part of Louisiana as well as Miller, and he seldom comes home without the goods.

All in all Miller has a pretty good life. He lives it as he pleases, and it pleases him to live it to the hilt. "I do what I want to do, and right now I want to sit here in the shade, talk with my friends, and enjoy my coffee."

After 30 years as a district serviceman, he has earned that right.





ARE YOU CONFUSED?

A large number of consumers admit to being mystified about how their electric rates are computed, according to a nationwide public opinion study conducted by Response Analysis Corporation for Edison Electric Institute. Only three persons in 10 (31%) claim to have an adequate understanding of how their electric company figures rates, with women (70%) reflecting a lower level of understanding on this point than men (58%). Those consumers least critical of rates are much more likely to say they feel well-informed about rate computation than those critical of rates.

Although 71% of respondents have a favorable opinion of their local electric company, less than four people in 10 (38%) say the electric industry is really trying hard to serve the public well. Almost three in ten (28%) say the industry is not living up to its responsibilities. These attitudes can be attributed mostly to cost issues. Of those people who hold an unfavorable opinion about their electric company, 84% cited the reason as high and increasing rates.

Further findings show that the number of people who criticize the cost of electricity (15%) has risen slightly over last year (50%). In addition, of those who say their rates were raised, a larger proportion feels the increase was unjustified (36%) than those who say it was fair (32%).

Twenty-nine percent of customers believe "increased profits by the electric companies" is a major factor in the rise of electric rates. Other reasons cited by customers for the rate increases were employee wages (52%), cost of oil (51%), cost of other fuel (45%), cost of building new plants (45%), research and development (36%), pollution control (29%), increased taxes (26%), increased interest rates (18%) and inefficient company management (16%).

The findings of the study are based on 1,039 face-to-face interviews with people 18 years old and over. Interviews were conducted in 100 locations in all sections of the country.

Freedom For The Utilities In Service and Profits

Gulf States Utilities and South Central Bell are two honorable and responsible corporate citizens of Louisiana. They create jobs, pay taxes, do all the good things one identifies with community-building.

Yet, they're typical of the growing number of companies being victimized by regulatory agencies.

South Central Bell has been the tedious unsuccessful route from the Public Service Commission to the courtroom trying to get rates increased.

Gulf States Utilities finally dropped a \$350 million 3-year construction project because it couldn't get its electric rates increased.

The more the free marketplace is

restricted the more the consumer suffers. Business can't expand without money. Working conditions can't be improved without profits. Jobs can't be created without growth. Governmental services can't remain viable without the new taxes generated with the new jobs and the new expansion.

It's far better to have electric power and telephones at increased rates than to be without the services. The men and women who manage the companies are in far better position to determine the needs of their companies than some third party who would intercede between the seller and the buyer. No one regulates better than the customer. Not now, not ever.

White Castle Times

Istre Believes

Tie Rope Tied To Safety

by Calvin Hall
Lake Charles Division

At GSU, accidents involving ladders that were not properly secured have taken their toll. In 1977 one broken back (cracked vertebra), one broken leg, one broken hip, and several serious cuts and bruises have resulted from these accidents.

One of our servicemen, Stanford Istre of the Jennings Service Department, has devised a method by which the tie rope is permanently secured to the ladder. Most of the excuses given for not securing the ladder involves forgetfulness, return trips to the truck required to find a rope to tie it off, and trouble in finding a suitable rope.

Istre solved his problem of trying to remember by splicing two pieces of $\frac{3}{8}$

in. poly-dac rope approximately 42 in. long onto the top rung of his ladder. One piece has an eye spliced in it and the other is back-spliced on the free end. This provides him with the capability to cinch the rope tight around most any support. It also allows him to pass the end through a service knob if he so desires. But, most importantly, it is always there to be used.

When the rope is not in use, it can be secured on the ladder by tying it to the fourth rung of the upper portion of the ladder. When there is nothing to secure the ladder to, this keeps the rope out of the workman's way.

For this idea, Istre was presented with 5000 Safety Achievement Points at the safety meeting in Jennings.

Savings Bonds Drive Success

T. Guy Brown, left, state director, Savings Bonds Division, Department of Treasury, presents Ann Ogden, Floyd R. Smith and R. Earl White, plaques of appreciation for their efforts in the successful 1977 campaign. Smith was the Golden Triangle chairman of the drive, White served as a director, and Ogden as an assistant director of the campaign.



Just Fooling Ourselves Solar Energy Not Answer

Mike McCormick (D-Wash.), speaking before a gathering of gas and electric utility executives in Washington, D. C., said we are only fooling ourselves if we think solar power will significantly alter the energy supply situation in this country.

"It is imperative that we do not oversell solar," said McCormick. "It will not remotely approach being the only answer to the nation's energy problem." He explained that solar collectors are about as efficient as they are going to get, and that even with concentrating collectors, it will still take one-half to one-third of a square foot of collector surface for each square foot of space to be heated. "And more than that for solar cooling."

McCormick said the price of collectors will get cheaper, but never to the extent that they can provide any significant advantage over conventional cooling and heating systems.

"There is just no way solar can contribute a significant amount to this nation's energy supply problems in this century or the next.

Write Your Congressman

Have you ever wanted to write your elected representative in Washington? You have the right, even an obligation, to do so when you have something to say. And your representative wants you to write. That is one of the primary ways they have to learn how their constituency wants them to vote.

How to Address Those Who Represent You

The Envelope: The Honorable _____
United States Senate (or House of Representatives)
Washington, D. C. 20510

In Letter (Salutation) Dear Senator or Dear Congressman

Senators from Texas

John G. Tower (R) Lloyd Bentsen (D)

Representatives from Texas (GSU area only)

Charles Wilson (D) Orange
Olin E. Teague (D) Bryan
Bob Eckhardt (D) Houst-Northeast
Jack Brooks (D) Bmt-P. A.
W. R. Poage (D) Waco area

Senators From Louisiana

Russell B. Long (D) J. Bennett Johnston (R)

Representative from Louisiana (GSU area only)

Richard E. Tonry (D) Plaquemines
W. Henson Moore (R) Baton Rouge
John B. Breaux (D) L. C.-Lafayette
Gillis W. Long (D) Central La.

CONTACT: Questions & Answers

Q. How long will the United States coal supply last? How much coal does Gulf States Utilities have?

A. Nearly half the known coal reserves in the world are in the United States. There are approximately 3.5 trillion tons of coal in the U. S., with 215 billion tons of it that can be easily recovered with conventional mining methods at an acceptable cost. That is enough to meet U. S. energy needs of the next 100 years. (Source: Booklet "Coal and the Energy Crunch" put out by Reddy Communications)

Gulf States has contracted with Kerr-McGee Corporation for a supply of 50 million tons of low sulfur Wyoming coal. This is enough coal to satisfy all of the fuel requirements of the company's first two coal-fired generating units for approximately 20 years from the time the first such unit was originally scheduled to go into operation, in 1985 or 1986. Negotiations with Kerr-McGee for this coal are still going on. (Source: "Preliminary Prospectus dated August 23, 1977, GSU Company").

Q. What's the scoop on synthetic oil?

A. For generation of electricity, synthetic oil is not suitable. Present oil-burning units must have the "real thing" of fuel oil to operate properly.

Q. Why can't GSU train its employees to work in nuclear?

A. Right now, neither plant (River Bend or Blue Hills) is near the stage where employees to operate it are needed. In the future,

however, GSU employees will be trained to run these plants. Also, through programs like CONTACT, employees are being taught about nuclear power.

Q. What does a year's supply of fuel oil cost GSU now? What would a year's supply cost if we had no natural gas to burn?

A. Gulf States will wind up spending an estimated \$157 million on fuel oils and approximately \$100 million on natural gas in 1977. If no natural gas were available and all of our generating facilities had the capability to burn fuel oil (which they currently do NOT have), the amount of fuel oil equivalent to that \$100 million worth of natural gas would cost \$384 million. That would make the total fuel oil bill \$541 million in 1977.

Q. What is the coolant made of?

A. The coolant used in Boiling Water Reactors (BWRs) such as planned for River Bend is water.

Q. What was the nuclear reactor crisis in Russia?

A. You can understand that news of this type is very difficult to document in Soviet Russia. Recently, one of Ralph Nader's groups reported that they had heard from credible sources (presumably former Russian scientists) that 15 and 20 years ago there were two accidents involving radioactive waste which caused damage to areas within Russia. Since it was that long ago, the waste probably resulted from Russia's military weapons programs. As has Russia, the U. S. government has

been storing large amounts of radioactive waste from our weapons program for about 30 years. There have been no deaths to the public in the U. S. due to the operation of commercial nuclear power plants. Whether the Russian accidents — if actual — caused any injuries or fatalities is unknown to the free world.

Q. How many people have been exposed to radiation which produced disability while working in a nuclear plant?

A. In 20 years of nuclear plant operation, not only have there been no radiation-related fatalities, there have been no reports of any disabling injuries at such a facility. One of the greatest fears is an increase (beyond normal probabilities) in cases of cancer. Nothing like this has occurred.

For example: A study of 48,000 radiation workers at Oak Ridge and Hanford national nuclear laboratories shows that so far, there is no greater incidence of cancer than in the general population. Source: Atomic Industrial Forum

Q. What is the latest River Bend construction cost estimate?

A. \$2.1 billion. Source: "Gulf States Utilities Company, Preliminary Prospectus" Dated August 23, 1977, p. 18"

Q. What is the size, in megawatts, of the nuclear power plants Westinghouse manufacturers in Jacksonville, Florida?

A. These units, some of which are in use in various parts of Florida, range from 728 megawatts to 1140 megawatts.

MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

He is a man for all seasons, a man who happens to love kids, sports and statistics. Just take a look at what Robert Graves, storeroom assistant-Baton Rouge Division, has done for the past few years to prove all that.

Start with basketball. Robert has refereed high school basketball games in the Denham Springs area for the last four years. He has also refereed youth games on Saturdays for six years, helping with statistics at the same time he was refereeing.

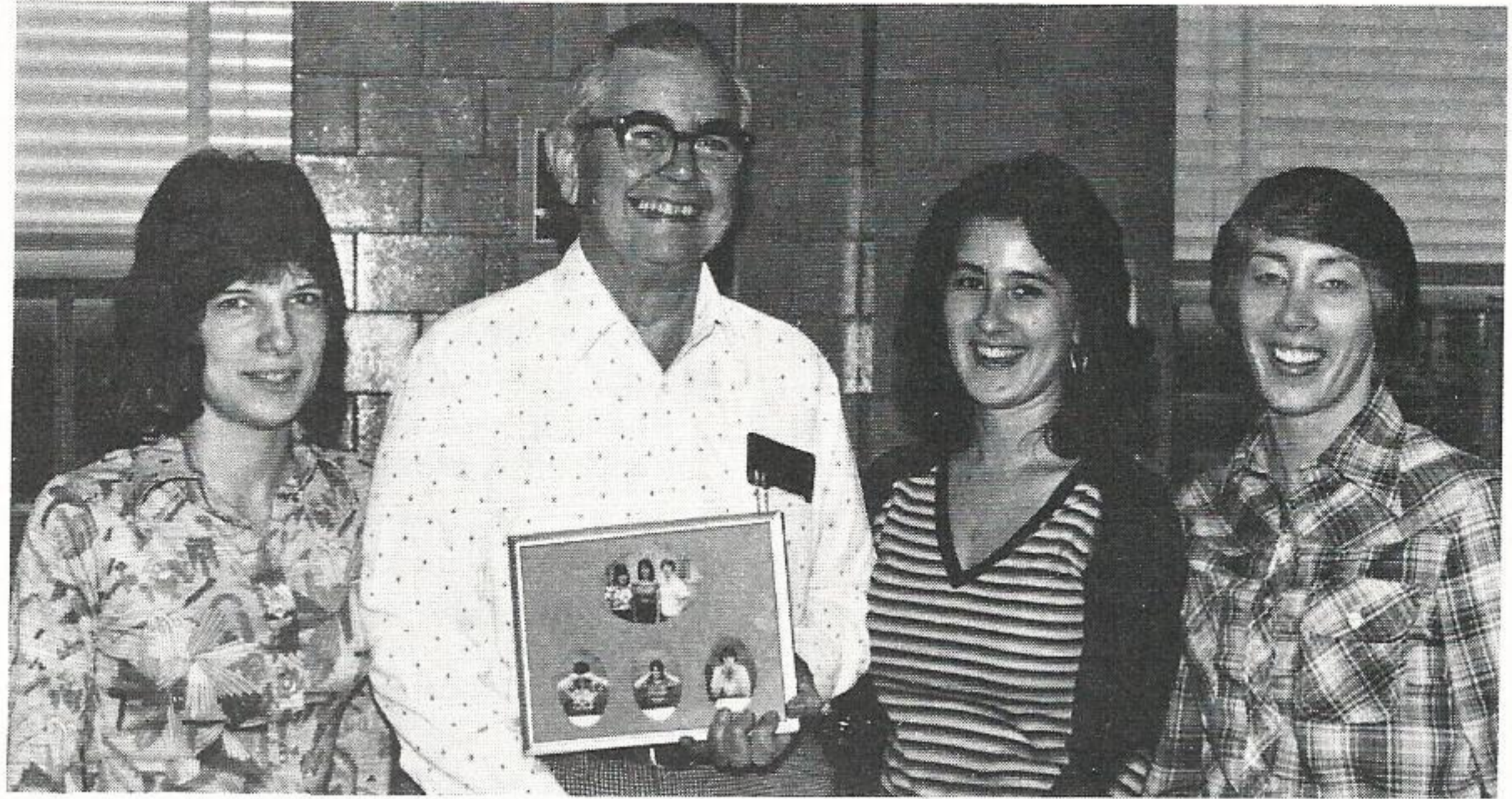
Follow the bouncing ball to the Spring and Summer and you'll find Robert again. He umpires youth baseball and softball games for the Denham Springs Parks and Recreation Department.

Then comes Fall and football. You guessed it . . . Robert is right there, keeping team and individual stats for the Denham Springs High School Yellowjackets. Does he do a good job? Listen to some people who should know, as reported in the **Denham Springs News**.

Coach Bobby Satcher says of Graves, "To our coaches, his value is insurmountable because of his efficiency and accuracy in team statistics, which can be used as a motivator to team and individual players."

Coach Dwayne Biley adds, "Robert's ability to supply us with this information is only superseded by his industriousness, dedication and loyalty to our program." The reporter covering the story, Pee Wee Day, received a copy of Robert's stat book, commented on it by saying, "There's no doubt if a state championship was awarded to the best statistician, Robert would win by a great distance."

Yes, Robert Graves does enjoy working with the numbers when it comes to sports . . . and he enjoys working with the **people** involved even more.



CONGRATULATIONS SAM—Sam McKenzie, recently promoted to coordinator of nuclear records at River Bend Station near St. Francisville, was given a going away party by some of his friends at Louisiana Station. With Sam, left to right, are Gail Guice, Vickie Buhler and Marilyn Nicholson.

Retirement Age Determined Back In 16th Century

Raising the mandatory requirement age from 65 to 70 is a major development now facing the nation.

Which brings up a question, notes the American Council of Life Insurance: how did age 65 come to be the accepted retirement age in the first place?

The idea of a regular retirement age goes back at least to the 16th century when the working population was considered to consist only of those persons under 50, an age that only about one out of 40 people reached. But the first compulsory old-age and invalidity legislation scheme of general coverage was adopted in Germany in 1889. This act was improved in 1899 and again in 1911, when salaried employees' insurance was introduced which paid retirement pensions at age 65.

It was Otto von Bismarck, the "Iron Chancellor," who established 65 as the threshold of old age, according to Cyrus S. Ching, labor-management consultant. In a report to the New York State Joint Legislative Committee on Problems of the Aging in the 1950's, he noted:

"The magic age of 65 for retirement

was first established in Germany by Chancellor Bismarck when it became politically expedient to do something for people who were no longer able to support themselves. It was found at that time very few people lived to or beyond the age of 65, and therefore this was established as the arbitrary retirement age."

Later developments in Great Britain followed the same pattern. In 1908, a noncontributory pension was established for "aged and deserving poor" citizens 70 years old or more. In 1925, a compulsory insurance measure was enacted, the Widows', Orphans' and Old-Age Contributory Pension Act, under which pensions became payable on or after January 2, 1928, for eligible persons 65 and over.

Over the intervening years, most pension plans established 65 as the normal retirement age to match that set by the Social Security Act. So it would seem that the traditional retirement age of 65 is based more on habit and custom than on any specific scientific or sociological grounds, the Council notes.

IBEW Journal

Are Nuclear Power Plants Needed? Yes!

Summer is that time of the year when lighthearted activity prevails. Perhaps this is due to the rapid rise of temperature and humidity which grips much of the nation, thus giving pause to weighty matters. This past summer some lighter fare was provided by those who demonstrate against nuclear power.

Nationwide protests which took months of advance planning by obstructionists were scheduled for the 32nd anniversary of Hiroshima. These proved not to be explosive events (as were Hiroshima/Nagasaki) but more of a fizzle.

At Browns Ferry, obstructionists were outnumbered by reporters 10 to 1 (2 obstructionists-20 reporters). At Diablo Canyon, Captain Plutonium II swam ashore to take over the facility! He was merely arrested for trespassing. This is hardly the stuff martyrs are made of. More like getting a ticket for overtime parking. At Oyster Creek, obstructionists released black balloons tagged with radiation warnings. Immediate counterattack was launched by the "good guys" (utility employees) who raised white balloons advertising the benefits of nuclear power.

A similar happening occurred at Duke Power facilities. The Charlotte Observer covering these demonstrations promptly headlined them "Nuclear Issue Becomes Battle of the Balloons."

And, so it went, hō hum!

All summer activity was not as frivolous and the atom was hard at work doing what it does best, making electricity.

The summer of 1977 saw extreme high temperatures across much of the nation. It was the exact opposite of winter 1976-1977, which saw extreme low temperatures. Both extremes produced increased demand for energy and especially electrical energy.

Electric demand for the first half of the year was 7.1 percent over the previous year! A week in mid-July saw electric production reach 46 billion kilowatt hours, the highest ever. The atom nationwide provides 12 percent of the electricity produced.

Regionally the atom plays a greater role in the production of electricity. Let's take a look at what is provided during July, the hottest month of the year:

The average availability factor for the first half of the year was 74.7 percent for the power reactors. The average capacity factor was 65.8 percent.

The atom has well proved itself during the extreme weather conditions that have prevailed in the past year and for this very reason the obstructionists are experiencing less and less success with their reasoning tactics that nuclear power is unsafe. The facts tell another story.

Until recently the struggle against nuclear power was centered in the United States. However, obstructionists have now moved operations north of the border in an attempt to stop Canadian nuclear power development. An obstructionist is an obstructionist regardless of citizenship. His goals are the same: stop industry, achieve zero growth, and increase unemployment.

Recently they went after the mining of uranium in Canada's province of Saskatchewan. The scene was the meeting of the Saskatchewan Federation of Labor special convention concerning uranium mining and the topic was necessity of the uranium as a vital component of the nuclear fuel cycle.

Tactics are the same on both sides of the border; they use emotion, not logic. Labor must be convinced to commit suicide. What the obstructionists don't realize is that the hard hats belonging to IBEW members do not cover soft heads. For IBEW goals to be achieved, there must be growth, Fuzzy thinking obstructionists are not going to convince us otherwise. Unemployment rates in both nations are too high. No growth means no jobs.

Nearly 30 percent of Canada's known uranium reserves are located in the Province of Saskatchewan. To date there has not been large scale development of this resource.

Needless to say, the Cluff Lake Project at almost 60 degrees north latitude is in an undeveloped area of Saskatchewan. The resident indigenous population is located in an economically depressed area remote from amenities most of us take for granted. Canadians, too, have aspirations and expectations which, to be fulfilled, must depend upon growth.

In the ground uranium is useless. Uranium is good for only one purpose. That use is to burn as a fuel in a power

reactor. Uranium has no other commercial application. Several thousand new jobs would be created in Saskatchewan by mining uranium. Revenue generated for the province by this mining operation would range up to \$3 billion between now and 1990. This means jobs.

During October, 1977 the Saskatchewan Federation of Labor held a special convention concerning uranium mining. Saskatchewan's organized labor pointed the way. The Federation invited speakers from government, industry, and labor to present various views on the nuclear fuel cycle. The convention lasted two days.

All aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle were debated. Resolutions were then presented to the convention on the issue. In Canada as in the United States there are obstructionists in labor. Obstructionist labor delegates proposed a mining moratorium. After much debate, it was defeated by a vote of the convention.

A resolution was then introduced to the convention which called for uranium development. It was adopted. Organized labor pointed the way.

As usual the obstructionists are disappointed with labor. Labor did not follow their advice; we spoiled their plans. We will not be their power base. They will not be our spokesman.

The president of the Saskatchewan Federation of Labor is John MacLeod, also business manager of Local 2038. MacLeod played a pivotal role in the defeat of the moratorium resolution and the passage of the resolution in support of uranium development. Delegates from Locals 319, 529, 2038, and 2067 gave their assistance in support of this progrowth resolution.

Again the IBEW played a major role in support of nuclear power. The IBEW continues to support the expansion of the nuclear industry as a means of solving the world energy crisis. It is the IBEW's opinion that nuclear power is safe reliable, environmentally acceptable, and the most economical way to meet the electrical needs of our two nations.

Reprint from IBEW Journal
December 1977

RETIREMENTS



Mildred O. Nunez, senior clerk in Customer Accounts in Lake Charles, retires Feb. 1, after 31 years of service.

Nunez began her career in 1946 in Customer Accounting. She became a senior customer clerk in 1950.

Nunez is a graduate of St. Charles Academy and attended Victory College.



James W. Hebert, meterman in the Beaumont Division, has retired after nearly 42 years of service.

The Sulphur native began his career in 1936 as a groundman. He is married to the former Lois Janicke of Beaumont, and the couple has two children. They are Rodney W. Hebert of Omaha, Neb., and Mrs. J. Douglas (Vonda) Sharron of San Antonio.

Hebert is an active member of the Knights of Columbus Council No. 4172. He is a past Grand Knight, past District Deputy, past Faithful Navigator. He is a 4th Degree Knight of the DeLaSalle General Assembly.



GOOD WORK ED—Edward Barnes, first class lineman in the Sulphur District, is awarded 5000 Safety Achievement points for his invention of a safety rail for use on line trucks. Barnes was featured in **PLAIN TALKS** and later in **ELECTRIC WORLD** magazine for the invention which was designed to prevent falls. With Barnes are Gene Mullin, district superintendent, and Mike Durham, right, director of safety for the company.

THRIFT PLAN

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities Company stock made by the Trustee during November 1977, covering employee deductions and Company contributions through October, 1977, were as follows:

Type of Stock	Number of Shares	Total Cost	Average Cost per Share
Common	7,944	107,244.00	\$13.50
\$4.40 Preferred	32	1,808.50	\$56.51

Gulf States Utilities Company Common Stock:

2,494	13 1/2	\$33,669.00
5,450	13 1/2	73,575.00
7,944		107,244.00

Gulf States Utilities Company \$4.40 Preferred Stock:

30	55 1/2	1,695.00
2	55 3/4	113.50
32		1,808.50

The Trustee deposited \$94,109.47 with the Savings Department of the First Security National Bank.

We get letters . . .

Mr. Jack Worthy
Vice-President
Gulf States Utilities
446 North Boulevard
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Dear Jack:

I just wanted to take a moment to express my support of both Gulf States' nuclear advertising and the manner in which it was defended when a petition condemning it was filed recently with the Public Service Commission.

As a stock-holder, I've been extremely pleased with the way Gulf States has explained to the public the reasons and thoughts that went into the decision to build a nuclear plant in this area.

As an engineer, I've been impressed by the ads explaining how nuclear energy is used to generate electricity and, most recently, those dealing with safety. Based on all that I've read, I feel they accurately, yet concisely deal with the issues. They're telling the public what they need to know about nuclear power.

However, when Mr. Irving and Mr. Tapp presented their petition to Mr. Lambert, I was even more delighted by your spokesman's response. He hit the nail on the head when he said they were trying to cloud the issue and create fear and that they were challenging Gulf States' right to inform people.

I sincerely hope Gulf States will continue to hold its ground when dealing with the vocal minority and not feel intimidated by their actions.

I also hope you'll continue the informative advertising program you now have.

The result, I believe, will ultimately be to the benefit of our entire community.

Sincerely,

F. Drew Mayfield

Mrs. Carolyn Joyce
Service Advisor
Gulf States Utilities
Conroe, Texas 77301

Dear Mrs. Joyce:

Thank you for the very informative and enjoyable presentation on Energy Management November 14, in Trinity.

I join you in the satisfaction gained from the apparent interest and questions posed by this group. I don't know if it's because I am currently building a home, but I felt I had a vital interest in everything you were sharing and became aware of all the information which was new for me.

Thank you again on behalf of Houston-Trinity County, Region VI Educational Service Center and Area IX Vocational Homemaking Education.

Sincerely,

Gwen Moser, Area Consultant
Vocational Homemaking Education

Mr. Victor R. Norvell, P. E.
Marketing Superintendent, Western
Division
Gulf States Utilities Company
P. O. Box 158
Conroe, Texas 77301

Dear Vic:

Thank you very much for your time and effort in helping me arrange a Rotary program for our Caldwell Rotary Club. As always the program was informative and timely. I am looking forward to continued good relations with you and your organization.

Sincerely yours,

William L. Broaddus, Mayor

Mr. Aubrey Sprawls
Division Manager
Gulf States Utilities
Box 158
Conroe, Texas 77301

Dear Sir:

Mr. Joe Bailey from the Huntsville Gulf States Utilities office discussed power rates and costs before my electrification class here at Sam Houston State University. Besides doing an outstanding job in this respect, he also arranged for the class to visit your Lewis Creek generating station. Mr. D. O. Gipson, Mr. Bill Linnenhan, and Mr. Horace Taylor made the class's visit enjoyable and informative through their hospitality and openness.

Some of the students were surprised to find out that fuel bills could be understood while others were made aware that energy is not bountiful and is becoming more expensive and scarce.

Thanks to these persons of your company who added something extra to an important subject. I personally thanked these mentioned at the time of contact but I wanted you to know that these amenities from your personnel are appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Yack Moseley
Assistant Professor
Sam Houston State University

Ms. Harriet Babin
Gulf States Utilities Company
P. O. Box 2431
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Dear Ms. Babin:

On behalf of Exxon Chemical Company and myself, I would like to express appreciation to Gulf States Utilities and Mr. Sammy McKenzie for the authoritative presentation on "Electrical Home Safety" at our October safety meeting.

All present agreed that Mr. McKenzie's presentation was excellent and contained many outstanding points on electrical hazards in and around the home.

In closing, we again thank you.

Very truly yours,

Ralph D. Day
Electrical Distribution Supervisor

Mr. Walter F. Wright
c/o Gulf States Utilities Company
446 North Boulevard
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Dear Walt:

As program chairman for the Baton Rouge Board Of Realtors, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your excellent presentation on the energy efficient home at our monthly noon luncheon October 21, 1977.

The opinion expressed by the more than three hundred brokers and associates present, was that this was the very best program presented to us this year.

Yours truly,

Kenneth E. Deason, Jr.
President

Ms. Carolyn Theobald
Gulf States Utilities Company
285 Liberty
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Ms. Theobald:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for the splendid job you did Career Night.

It is very gratifying to know that there are citizens in our community who care enough about our youth to give of their time to help them.

I have received many favorable comments from students and parents and much of the credit goes to you and the others for your help and concern.

Again, thanks for a job well done.

Sincerely,

Jerry Mallett
Principal, Forest Park H. S.
Beaumont

Miss Mildred Tribble
Gulf States Utilities Company
P. O. Box 2951
Beaumont, Texas 77704

Dear Miss Tribble:

We would like to thank you again for participating in our Awards Day Luncheon. It is the feeling in the State Home Economics Office that the luncheon was a tremendous success and that it truly honored those students and advisers who worked so hard for the honors and awards.

Sincerely,

Lila C. Coenen
Supervisor
Gwendolyn J. Robinson
Supervisor

Mr. Jack Worthy
Vice President, Baton Rouge Division
Gulf States Utilities Company
P. O. Box 2431
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Dear Mr. Worthy:

On behalf of the ASHRAE, Baton Rouge Chapter, I would like to express our sincere thanks to GSU and especially to Ms. Harriet Babin and Mr. Bill Hays for their presentations on "Energy Management" and the "Energy Efficient Homes" at our October 19, 1977 meeting.

As you are probably aware, Energy Conservation is a subject of prime importance to ASHRAE; when setting up our programming for this year, we wanted to listen to an "Energy Vendor's" version of the story.

Those who attended the meeting enjoyed an outstanding, well-prepared program, presented by two very knowledgeable individuals. Their professionalism and enthusiasm generated such audience attention and participation that we finally had to call a halt to questions from the floor and adjourn the meeting, due to the late hour. **After the meeting was adjourned, they continued answering individual questions.**

It was one of our best programs in years and quite a credit to Gulf States Utilities Company, as well as to Ms. Babin and Mr. Hays. Thanks!

Yours very truly,

Ronald R. Lacoste
Vice President & Program Chairman
ASHRAE, Baton Rouge Chapter

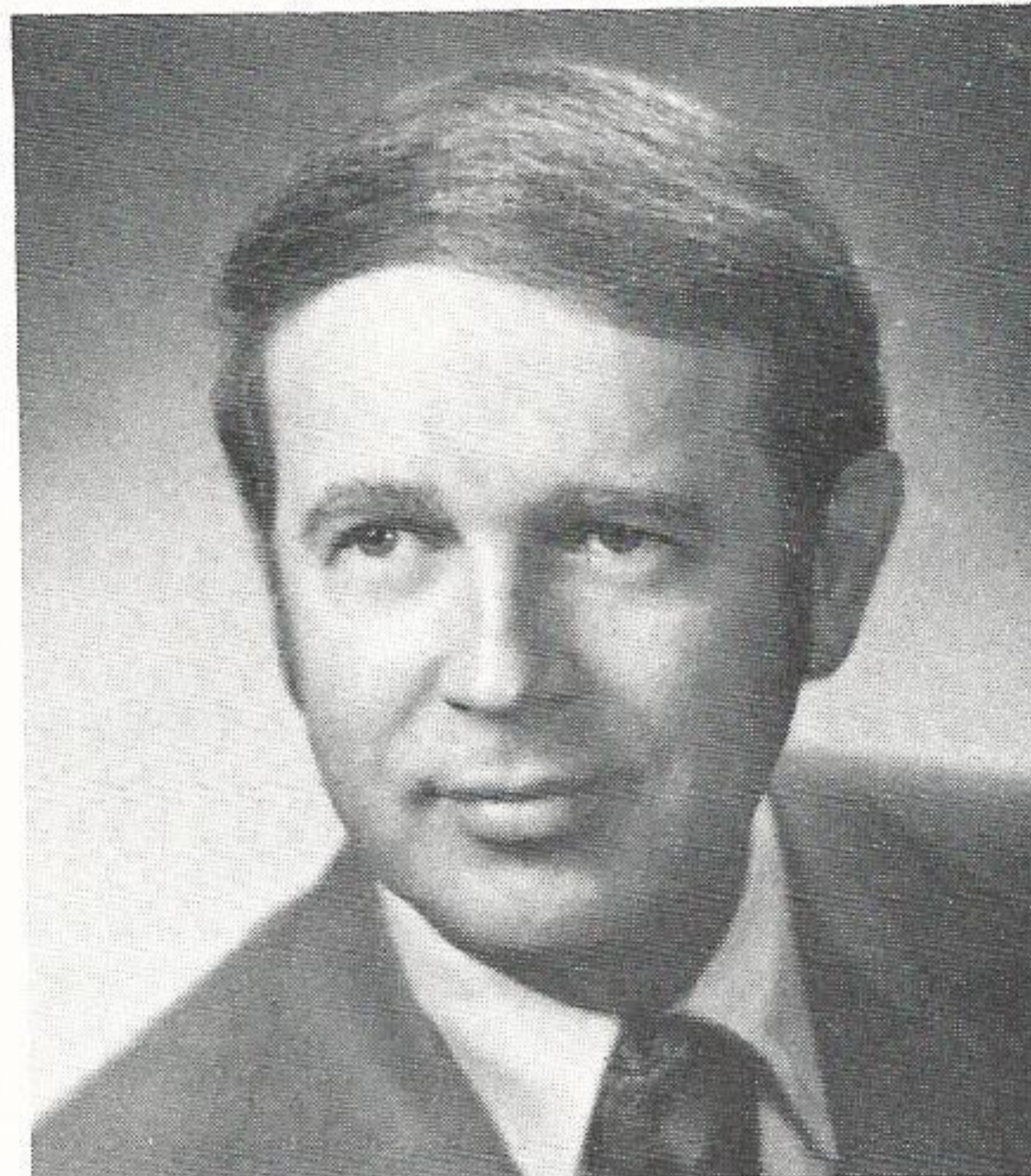
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

James F. Hudson, supervisor-nuclear records, General Services Department, has been transferred to the Quality Assurance Department and promoted to project quality assurance supervisor.

The Baton Rouge native began with Gulf States as a nuclear staff assistant in Beaumont in 1973. He became a supervisor in nuclear records in January, 1977.

Hudson is a graduate of Robert E. Lee High School, and holds a B. S. degree in Industrial Technology (Nuclear) from LSU. He served in the U. S. Air Force from 1966-1970.

He is married to the former Kay Walker of Abilene.



Booker

Priscilla A. Dumas, former senior clerk in plant accounting, Accounting Services Department, has been promoted to administrative assistant.

Dumas, a native of Lubbock, began with the company as a stores clerk in accounting in 1953. Later that same year, she became accounting clerk. Dumas became a clerk in Accounting Services-general accounting in 1957. Later she was named senior clerk, then senior clerk in plant accounting.

A graduate of Stark High School in Orange, Dumas currently lives in Beaumont.

Carl E. Courtney, laboratory assistant at Louisiana Station, has been promoted to water treatment foreman.

The Doyle, La., native began his career with the company as an operator's helper at Louisiana Station in 1952. In 1954, he became an auxiliary operator at the water plant and the following year he was made water plant operator. Courtney became turbine plant operator in 1968 and become laboratory assistant in 1969.

Courtney is a graduate of McKowen High School in Jackson, La. He is a veteran of the U. S. Air Force.

Courtney and his wife, Phyllis, presently live in Baton Rouge.

Florabelle "Fran" Sattler, former tabulating machine operator, Beaumont, has been promoted to section head in data systems operations, Information and Data Services Department.

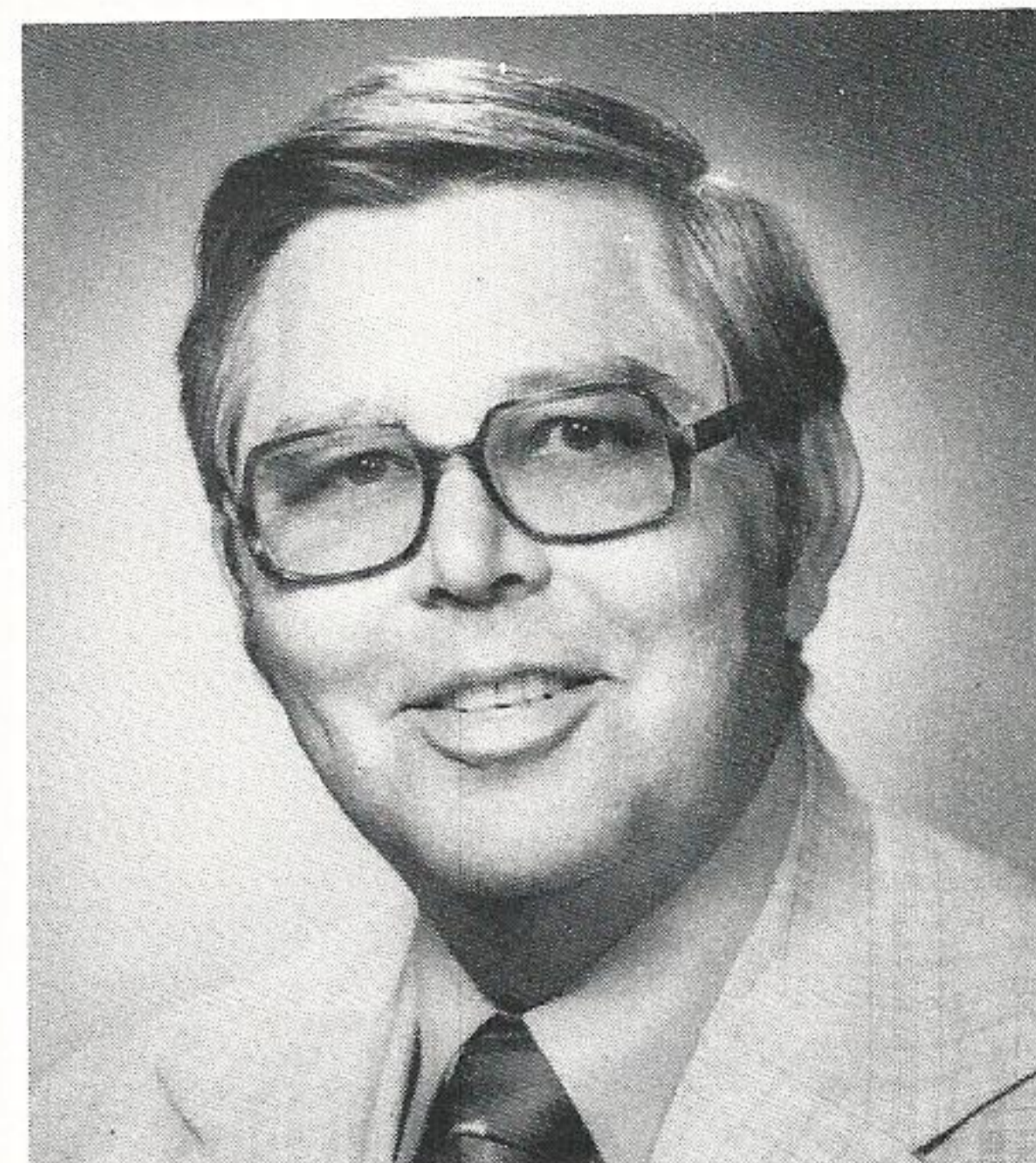
Sattler, a native of St. Martinville, began with the company as a keypunch operator in 1967. She advanced to senior keypunch operator and tabulating machine operator before gaining her new position.

She attended Evadale High School and received her certificate in a keypunch course at Lamar University.

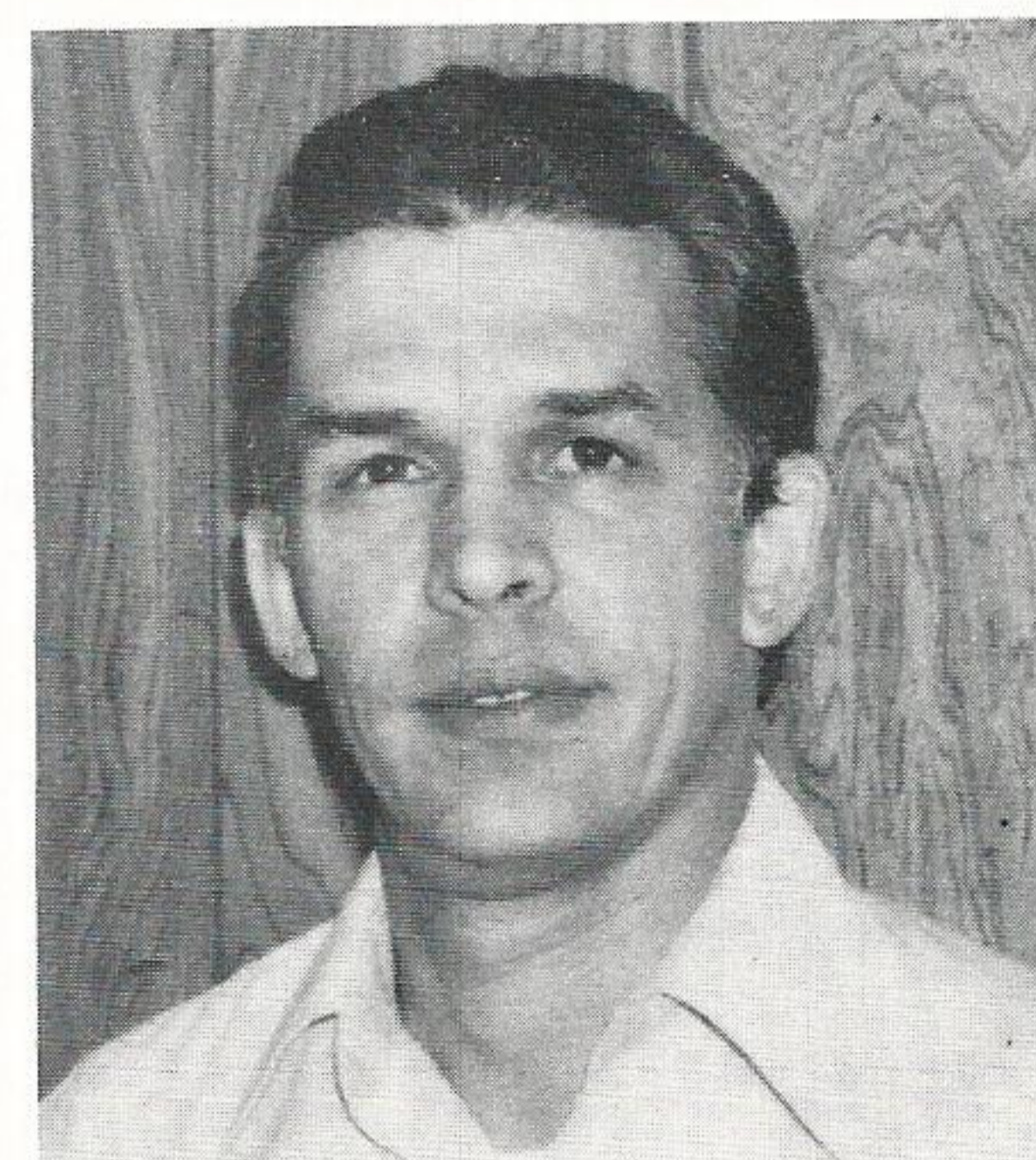
Jimmyly Syme, section head in the Beaumont data IDS, has been transferred to Nuclear Records and promoted to nuclear records representative.

Syme started with Gulf States in 1960 as a clerk in the System Treasury Department. In 1967 she was made a departmental clerk in Information and Data Services, and in 1972 became an administrative assistant, and section head in 1977.

A native of Belton, Tex., Syme lives with her husband Weldon in Vidor. They have one daughter, Debbie.



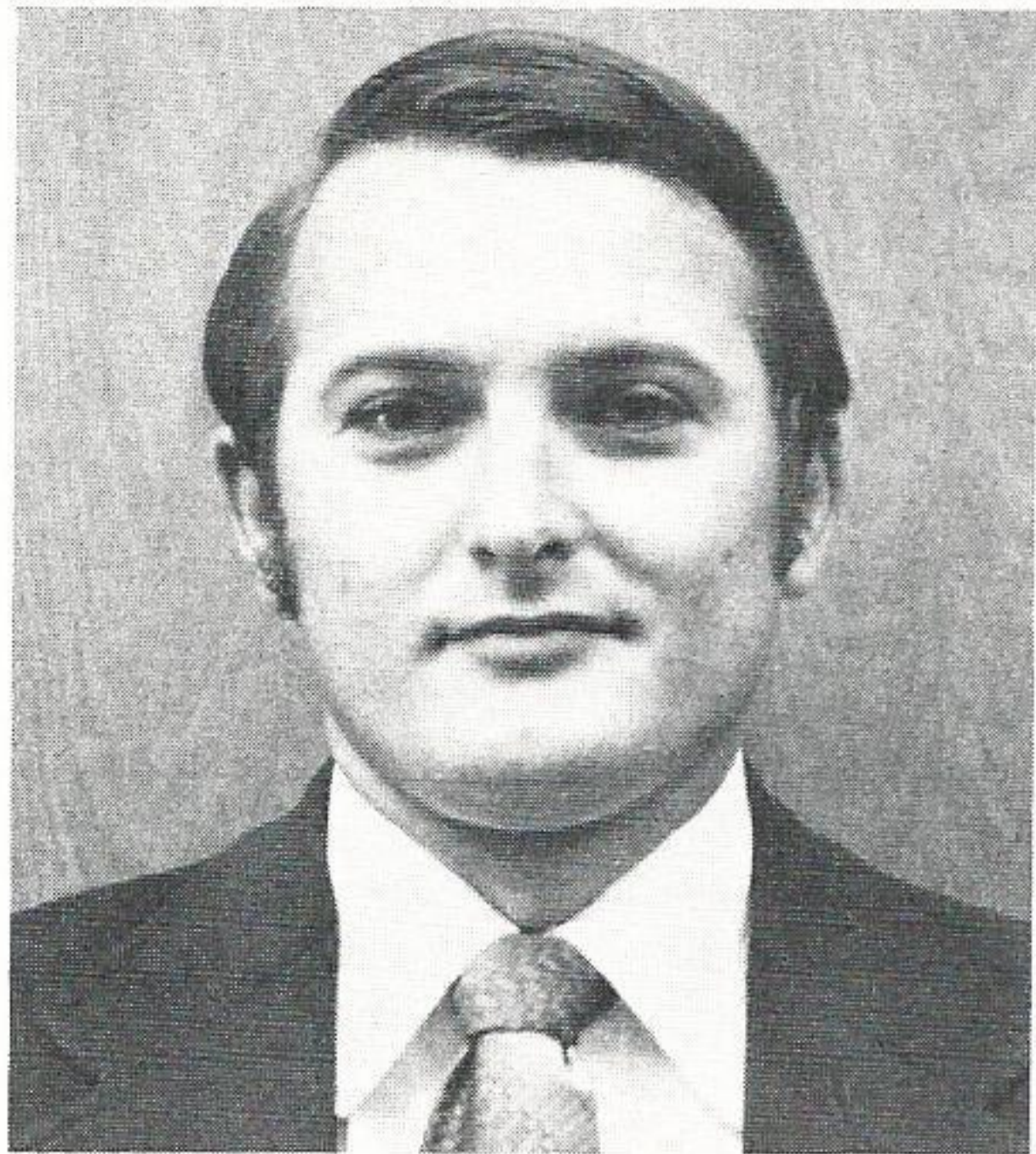
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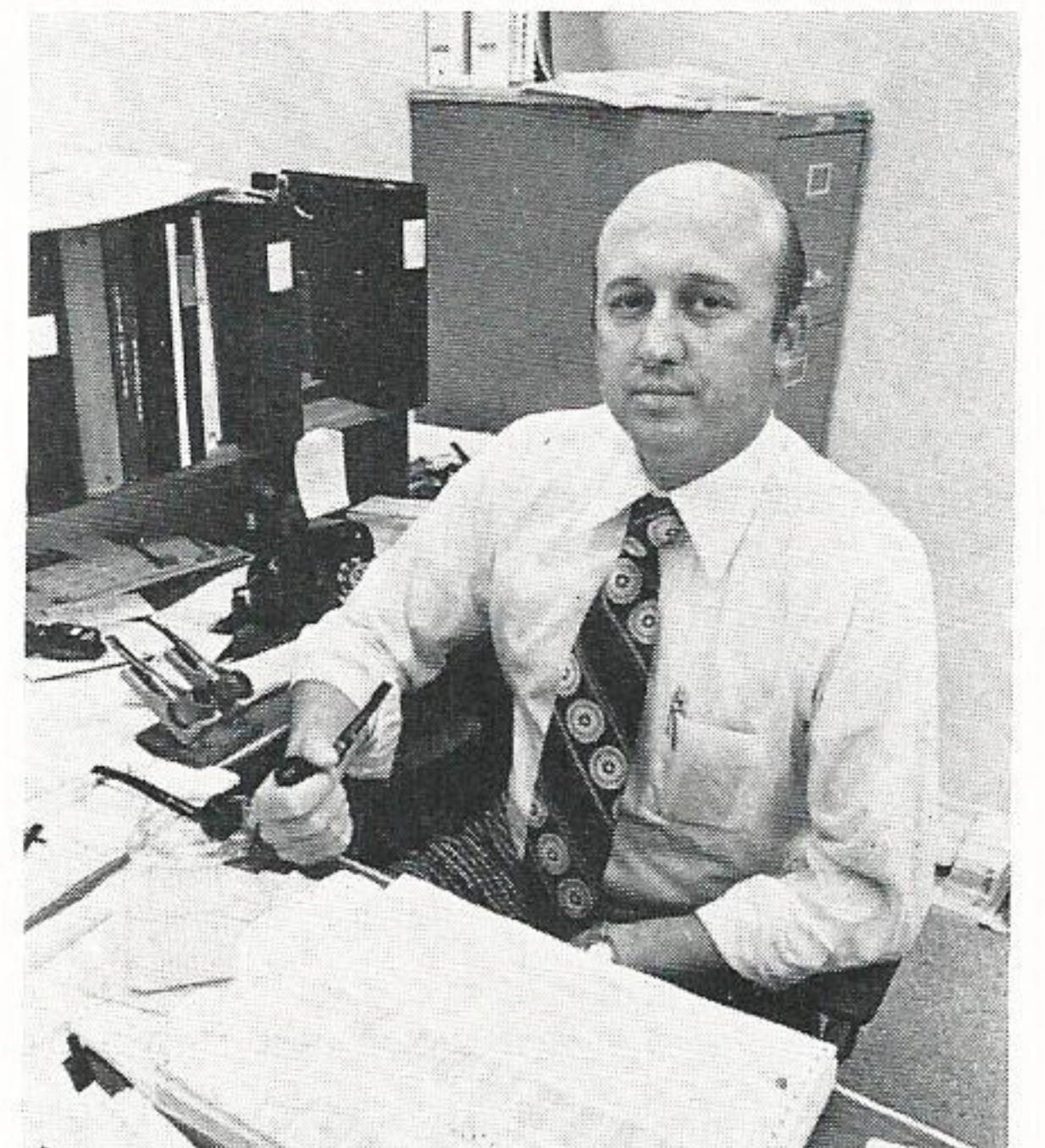
Champagne



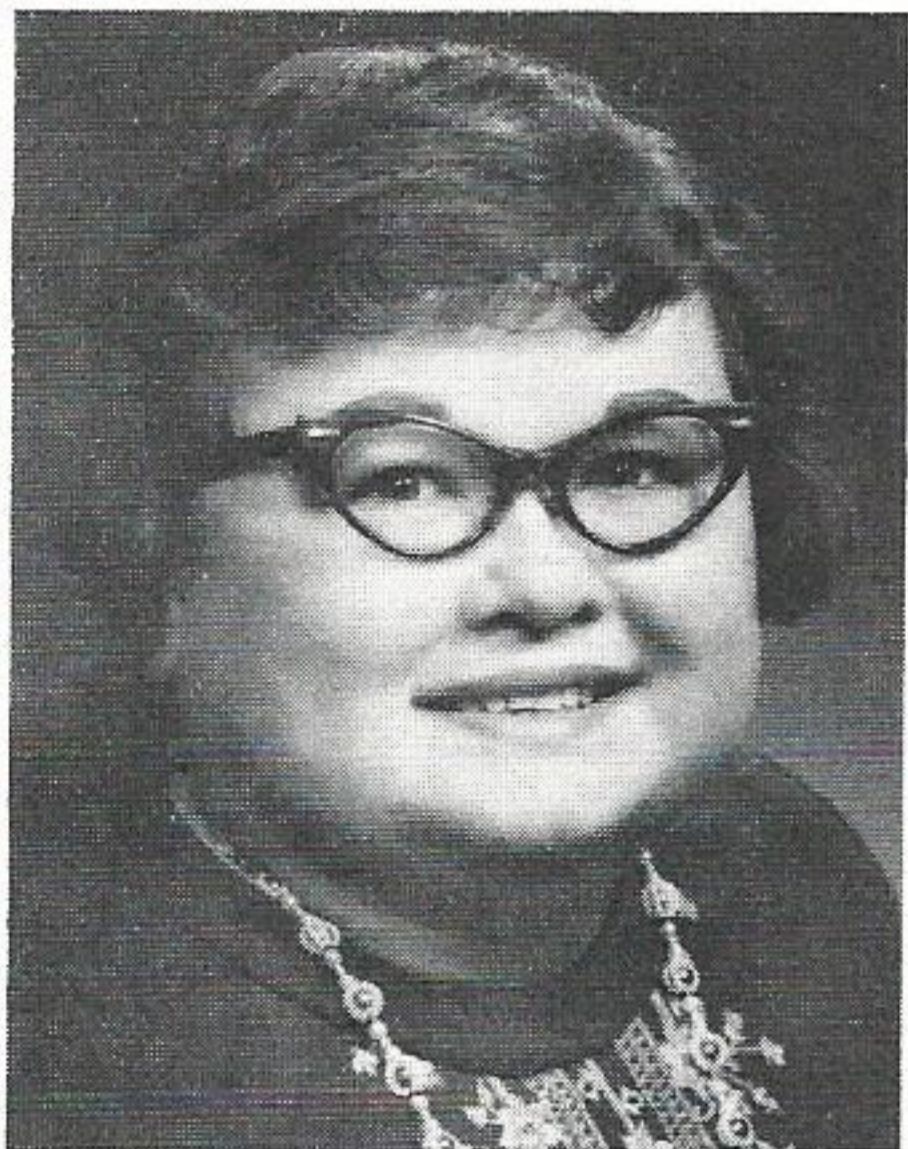
Hickman



Byars



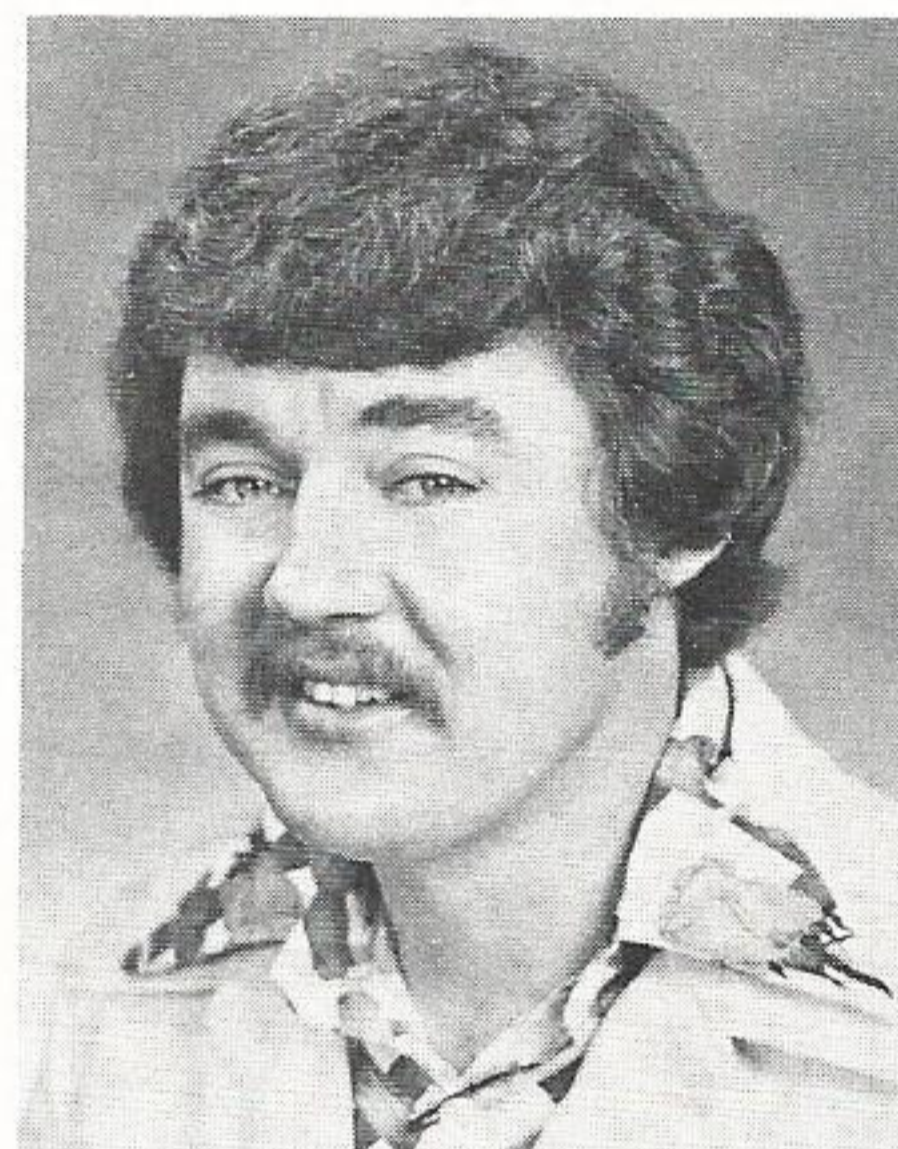
Amerine



Dumas



Syme



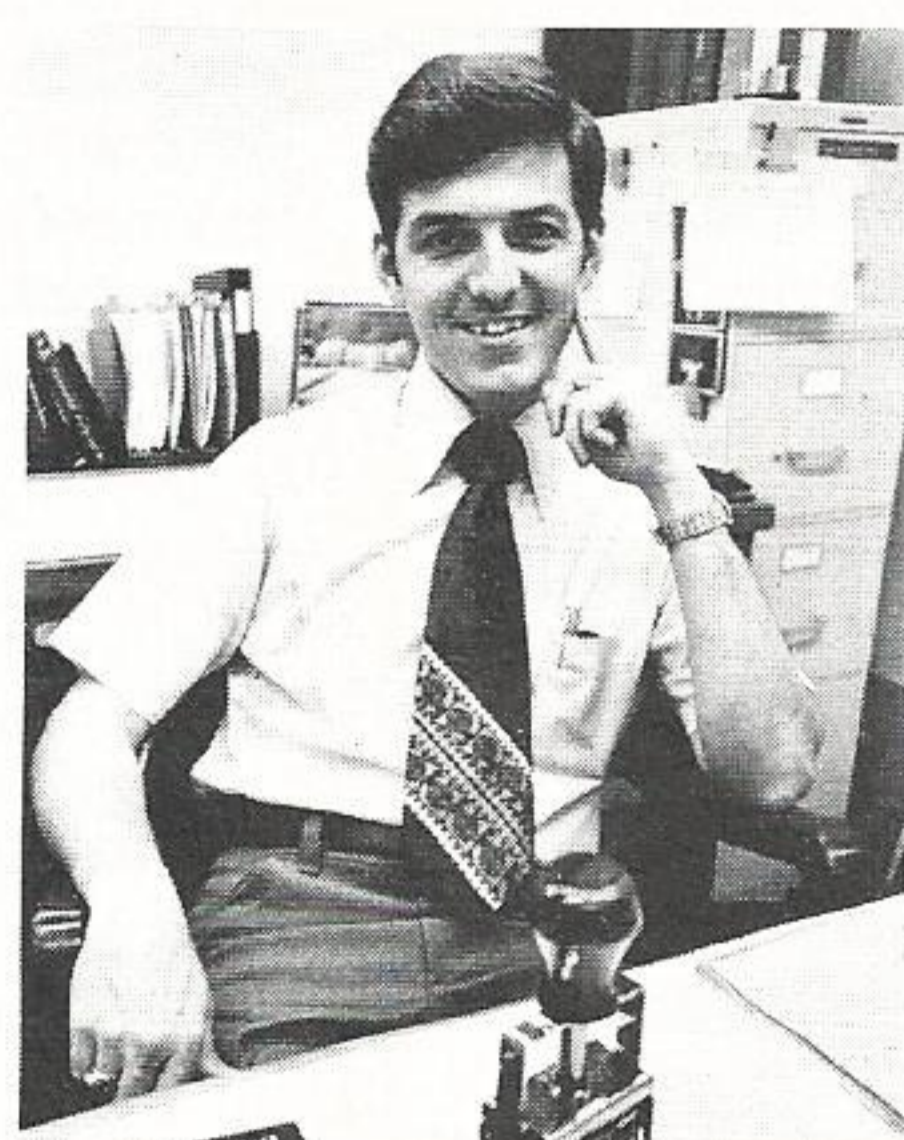
Mason



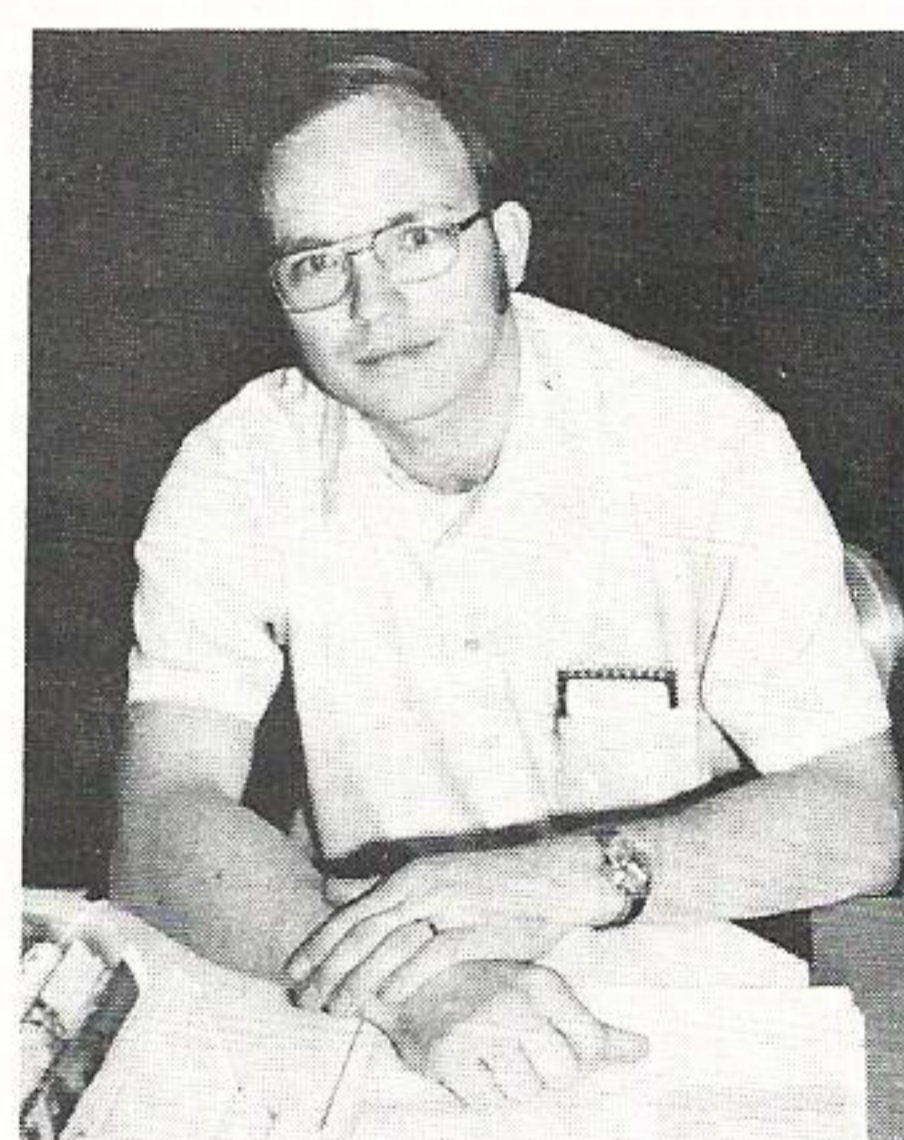
Courtney



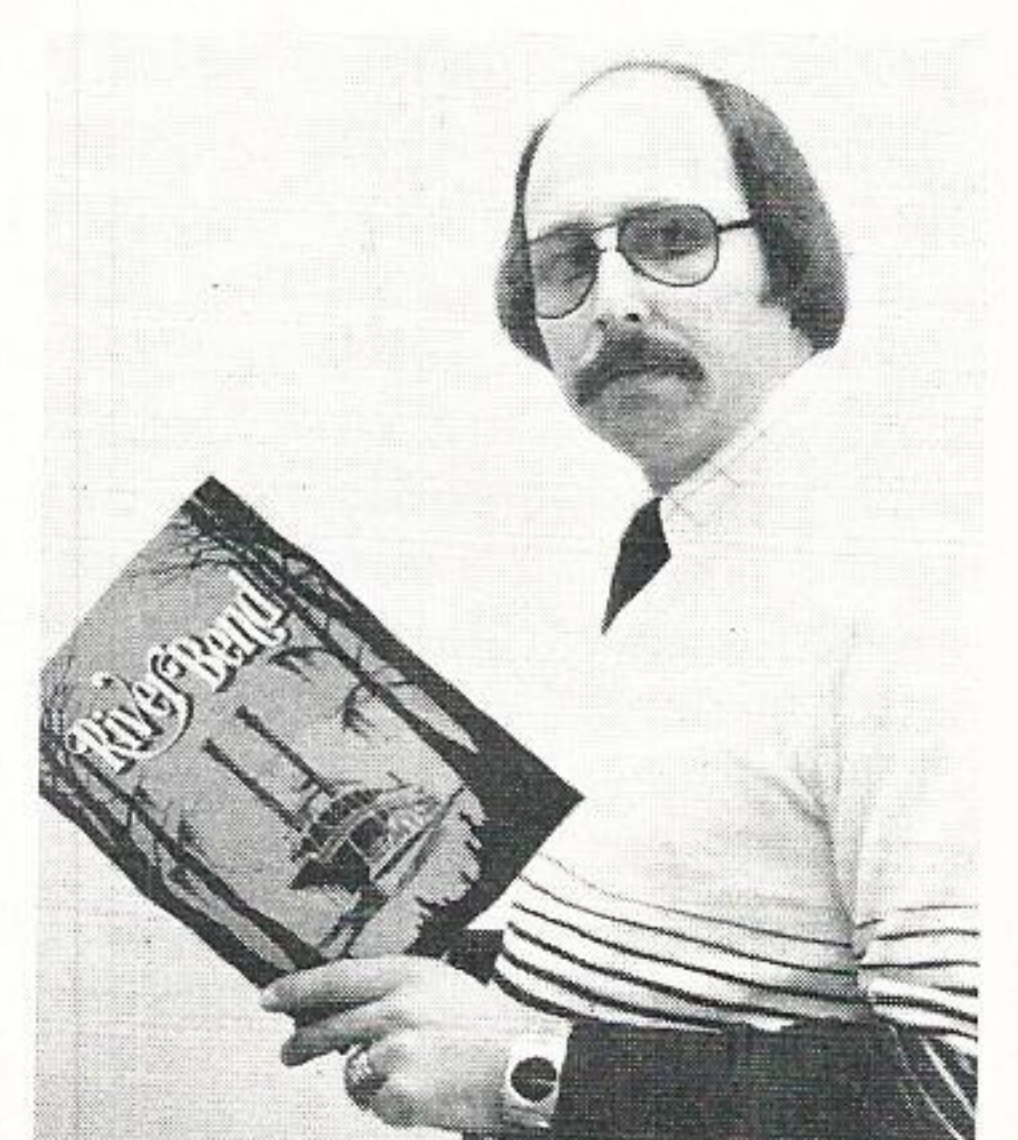
Sattler



Sandberg



McLaughlin



Hudson

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

James E. Booker, Amery J. Champagne and Bennie D. Hickman all have received promotions within the Power Plant Engineering and Design Department.

Booker, director of nuclear licensing, has been promoted to director of power plant licensing, Champagne to director of nuclear services, and Hickman to assistant project engineer.

A native of Hemphill, Booker has been employed since 1956 as a junior engineer following his graduation from Lamar University with a degree in mechanical and industrial engineering. He has held various engineering assignments and was promoted to supervisor-Records Management in 1971. He became Quality Assurance coordinator in 1972, and licensing engineer in 1973.

Booker is married to the former Merle Merritt of Beaumont, and the couple has three children, Sherrie, Cynthia and Bryan.

Champagne, a native of St. Martinville, joined the Company in 1973 as a nuclear staff assistant. He was promoted to supervisor-Technical Services in 1974. Champagne is a 1965 graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana with a bachelor's degree in physics, and received his master's degree from University of New Orleans (formerly LSUNO) 1967. He is a four year veteran of the U. S. Navy.

Champagne is married to the former Teetsie Bienvenu of St. Martinville, and the couple has three children, Ann, Stephanie and Thomas.

Hickman is a six-year employee, having started in 1971 as a civil engineer in System Engineering-Construction. He became civil design engineer in 1973, and in 1976 was promoted to supervisor-site engineering at River Bend Station.

Hickman is a native of Alexandria and a 1966 graduate of McNeese State University with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering. He obtained another bachelor's degree, from LSU, in civil engineering in 1971. He is a three year veteran of the U. S. Army.

He and his wife, the former Tillie Coffey of Lake Charles, have two

children, Robert and Robin. Hickman is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Concrete Institute.

Thomas E. Amerine, senior systems analyst in Information and Data Services, has been transferred to the General Services Department and promoted to supervisor-nuclear records.

Amerine is a 17-year veteran of the Company, employed in 1960 as an engineering helper in System Engineering. Amerine worked as various assignments in survey, relay and communications and in planning before being promoted to systems analyst in 1967.

A native of Houston, Amerine is a two-year veteran of the U. S. Navy and is married to the former Katherine Ann Spafford of Beaumont. The couple has two children, Mrs. Reynold Fanese of Beaumont, and a son, Ralph. Kathy is employed in the Beaumont office in IDS, and Amerine's father-in-law, Ralph Spafford, is System Marketing coordinator in Beaumont.

Glenn R. Mason, former relayman first class, T&D Department, Port Arthur, has been promoted to relay foreman.

Mason, a Port Arthur native, began with Gulf States as helper in the Port Arthur T&D in 1966.

Mason attended Lamar University, and Port Arthur Business College.

Charles L. Byars, engineer in Division Production at Sabine Station, has been transferred to Louisiana Station in Baton Rouge and promoted to electrical and test engineer.

Byars, an employee since 1970, began his career in Lake Charles as an engineer in Transmission and Distribution. He transferred to Beaumont System Engineering in 1972, and in 1974 transferred to System Engineering Planning. Following

assignment in System Production in 1976 Byars was transferred to Sabine Station late that same year.

A native of Warren, Ark., Byars is a 1970 graduate of Louisiana Tech with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He is a four year veteran of the U. S. Air Force and is married to the former Elizabeth Jean "Betsy" Sheppard of Quincy, Mass. The couple has three children, Paul, John and Melissa.

Raymond L. Audilet, supervisor of scheduling in Engineering Services, has been transferred to the project control staff of the River Bend Station Project department and promoted to planning analyst.

Audilet is a 20-year veteran of the Company, employed in 1957 as an engineering helper in the survey department in Beaumont. Over the years he served in various capacities within System Engineering. In 1969 he was promoted to materials scheduler, and in 1970 was promoted to supervisor.

The Beaumont native is a three-year veteran of the U. S. Army and attended Lamar University. He is married to the former Jo T. Angelo of Beaumont, and the couple has two children, Steve and Ron. Audilet is active in the Lions club and served as president of the Northwest Lions, District Hearing Conservation Chairman, past Zone Chairman, past Deputy District Governor.

James A. McLaughlin, electrical maintenance supervisor at Louisiana Station, has been transferred to engineering standards and applications in System Engineering in Beaumont and promoted to application engineer.

A native of Beaumont, McLaughlin is a 1972 graduate of Rice University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He is a veteran of the U. S. Army, and is married to the former Frances Sturdevant of Paris, France. The couple has three children, Michael, Cliff and David.

McLaughlin is a member of the

Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers.

Ronald J. Paille, quality assurance representative at River Bend Station, has been transferred to Willow Glen Station and promoted to system mechanical supervisor in System Production.

Paille was employed in 1966 as a mechanic's helper at Louisiana Station. After progressing through various classifications he was promoted to his former position in February of this year.

The Dutchtown native is married to the former Maxine Reeves of Baton Rouge, and the couple has two children, Shuntel and Ronald, both honor students in the Baton Rouge school system. Paille has successfully completed various schools including the GSU Management Training Program and a course in air conditioning and refrigeration from the Baton Rouge Trade School.

Kenneth R. Sandberg, project quality assurance supervisor, has been transferred to System Production and promoted to results and reliability engineer in Beaumont.

Sandberg is a six-year veteran of the Company, employed in 1971 as an engineer in Beaumont. He transferred to Power Plant Engineering & Design in 1972 and later that same year to quality assurance. In 1976 he was promoted to his former position.

A native of Austin, Sandberg is a 1971 graduate of the University of Texas with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He is married to the former Janice Simpson of Austin, and the couple has one son, Stephen. Sandberg is an associate member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and is a registered engineer-in-training in Texas.

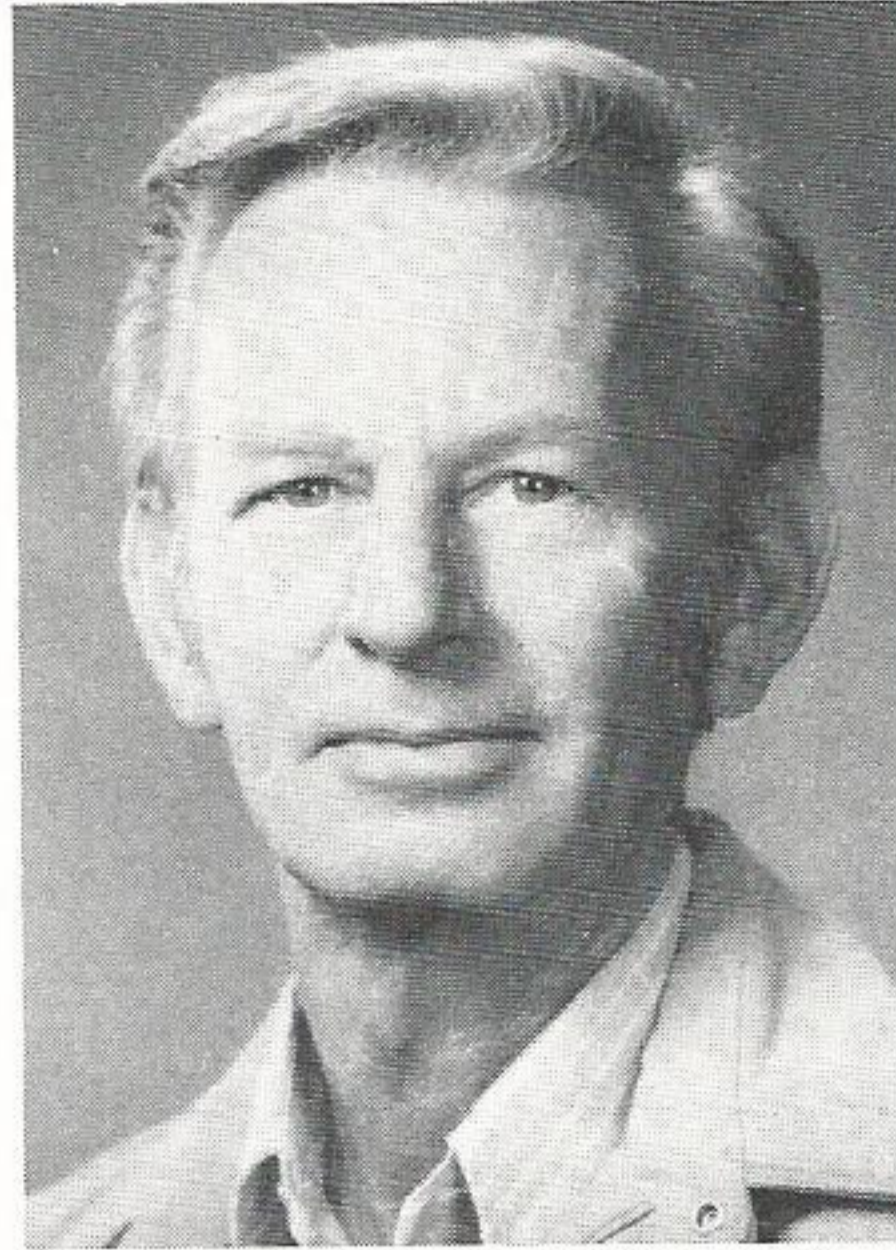
ALSO . . .

Denby, David G., Bmt, Promoted, Sr Eng Asst - Eng Stds & Appl
Arlene, Cornelius, Bmt, Prom, Spec Laborer - Sys Operns-Bldg & Grnds-MO
Randall, Darlene S., Bmt, Prom & tr fr Fin Servs/Overall, Proj/Overall Engr
Helper-Prov - Eng Sys/Sched
Hancock, James G., Bmt, Prom & tr fr T&D/Eng, Engr Asst - Pwr Plant Constr/Overall
Radley, Sandra H., Bmt, Prom, Mech Helper - Neches Sta-Test
Landry, George, Jr., Bmt, Prom, Mech Helper - Neches Sta-Test
Jones, Fred D., Bmt, Promoted, Turbine Oper - Neches Sta-Operns
Johnson, Ellis, Jr., Bmt, Prom, Helper-T&D/Lab Crws
Thompson, George E., Jr., Bmt, Prom, Helper-T&D/Lab Crws
Rachal, Michael E., Bmt, Promoted, Lineman 2/C - T&D/Line
Page, Johnny L., Bmt, Promoted, Lineman 4/C - T&D/Line
Sanchez, George, Bmt, T&D/Line Prom & tr fr T&D/Line, Apprentice-T&D/Line
Provost, Jacob, Jr., Orange, Promoted & Coll, Lineman 4/C - T&D/Line Cred & Coll
Ray, Glenn E., Pt Arth, Promoted, Test Tech 2/C - Sabine Sta-Test
Homme, Thor W., Pt Arth, Prom, Mech Helper - Sabine Sta- Mechl
Moore, William E., Pt Arth, Promoted Line, Elec 2/C - Sabine Sta-Electl
Montgomery, Tommy G., Conroe, Promoted, Cred & Coll Master Elect - Lewis Crk-Electl
Gilford, Otis, Conroe, Promoted, Lineman 4/C - T&D/Line
Stuart, Lloyd K., Conroe, Promoted, Lineman 4/C - T&D/Line

Mayes, Dimitri, Conroe, Prom, Helper-T&D/Lab Crws
Wortham, Robert L., Conroe, Promoted, Lineman 4/C - T&D/Line
Snoe, Herman E., Conroe, Promoted, Lineman 3/C - T&D/Line
Watkins, Michael G., Conroe, Promoted, S/Sta Mech 3/C - T&D/Substa
Bammell, Herbert A., Jr., Conroe, Prom, Apprentice-T&D/Line
Grisby, Edward C., Conroe, T&D/Line Prom, Helper-T&D/Lab Crws
Reedeo, Venoy, Conroe, Prom, Helper-T&D/Lab Crws
Borski, Darrell J., Nava, Promoted, Garage Mech 3/C - T&D/Garage
Skorupinski, Billy R., Calvert, Promoted, Serviceman 1/C - T&D/Service
Bangs, Wayne O., B Rouge, Promoted, Auxiliary Oper - La Sta-Operns
Foster, James R., Jr., B Rouge, Prom, Helper-T&D/Lab Crws
Sterba, George M., B Rouge, Promoted, Lineman 4/C - T&D/Line
Pollins, Stanley J., B Rouge, Promoted, Serviceman 1/C - T&D/Service
Elliott, Danny R., Gonzales Promoted, Lineman 2/C - T&D/Line
Wynn, Janice S., B Rouge, Prom, Consum Serv Repr-Sr - Consum Svs
Jones, Leslie C., B Rouge, Prom, Stenographer - Div Actg/Cust Accts
Malveaux, Anthony, L Chas, Promoted, Lineman 2/C - T&D/Line
Gautreaux, Louis W., Sulphur, Prom, Apprentice-T&D/Line
Sonnier, Joseph C., Lafay, Prom, Apprentice-T&D/Line
Clark, Melvin J., Lafay, Prom, Apprentice-T&D Line
Melancon, Russell B., Lafay, Prom Line, Apprentice-T&D/Line

SERVICE AWARDS

30 YEARS



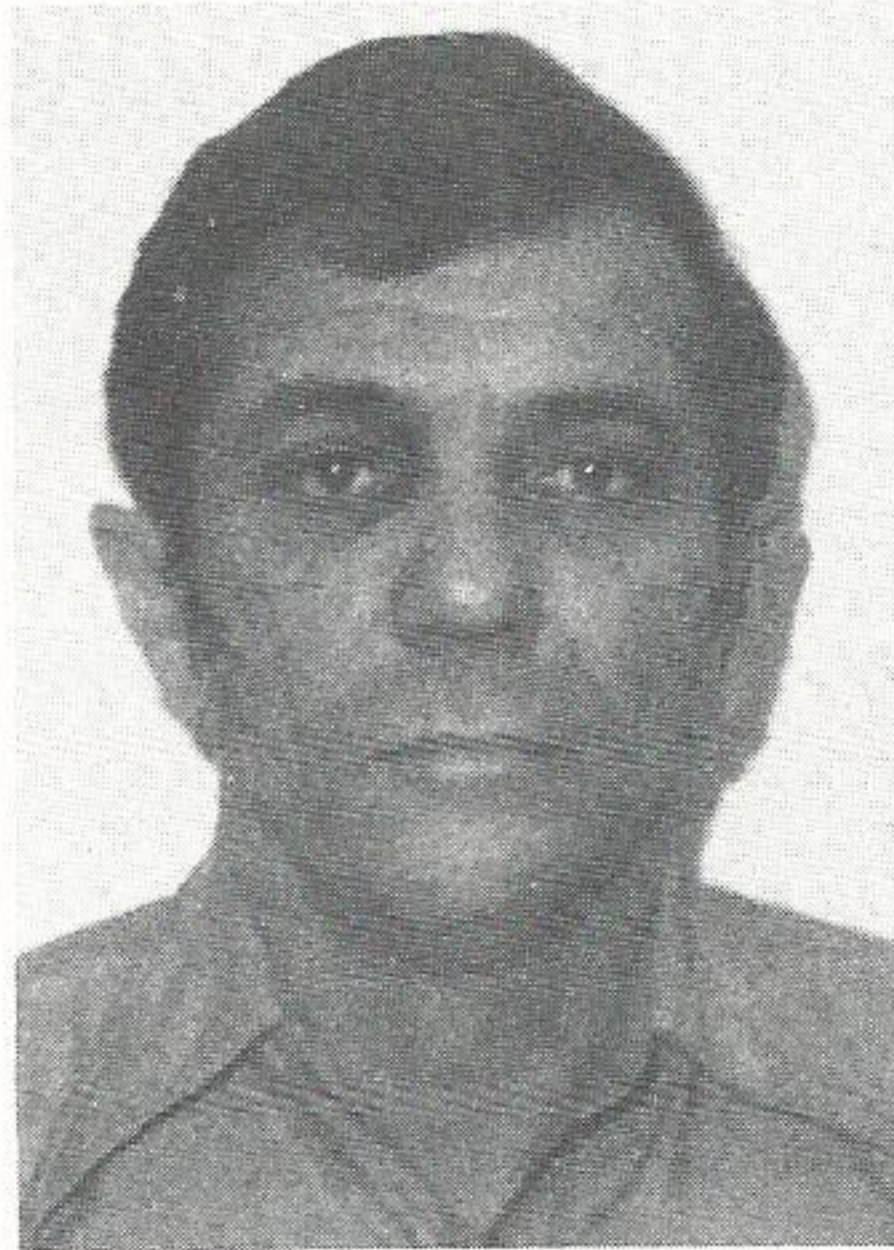
L. P. Cammack, Jr.
Electric T&D
Beaumont



Edward J. Sanchez
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Julius B. Smith
Division Production
Lake Charles



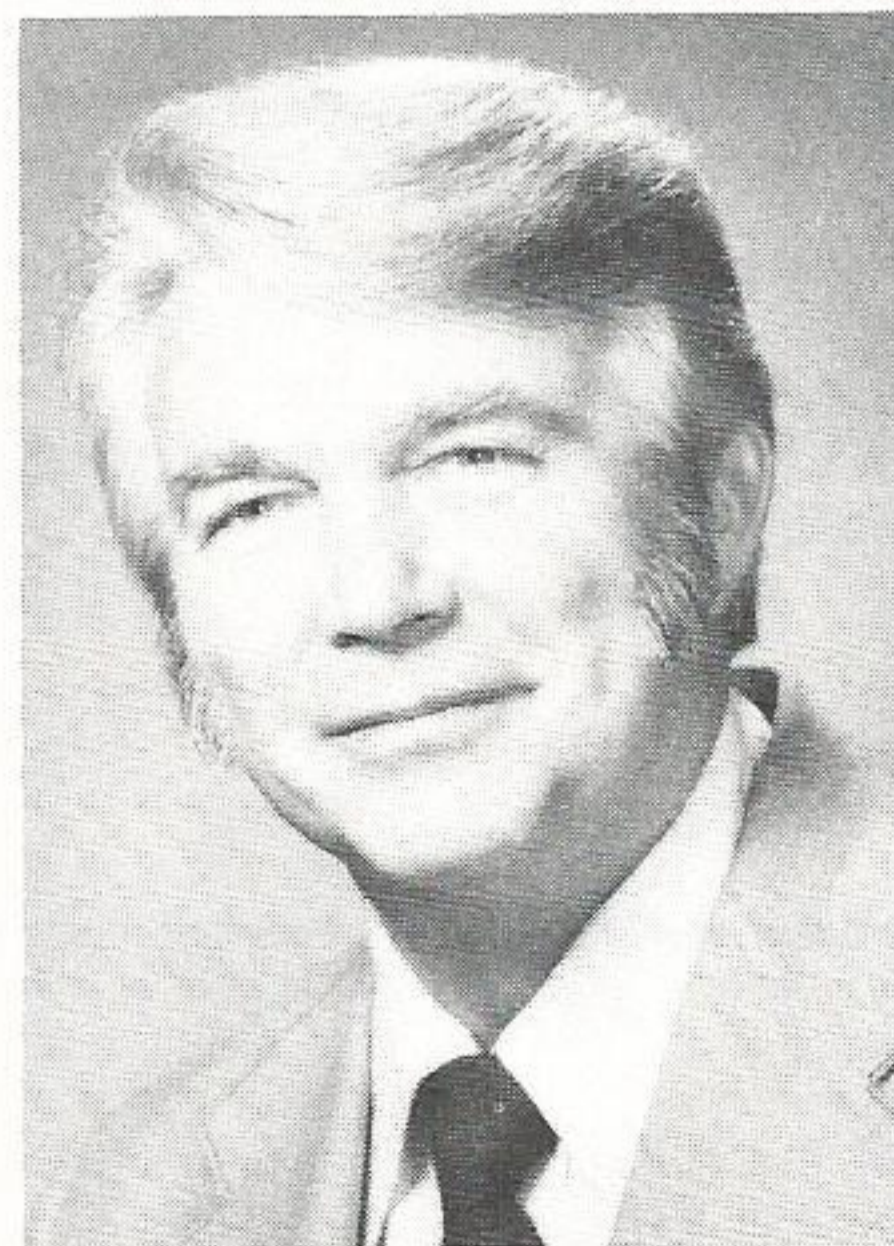
Millard K. Smith
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Leroy Winbush
Division Production
Lake Charles



William R. Echenhofer
Division Production
Beaumont

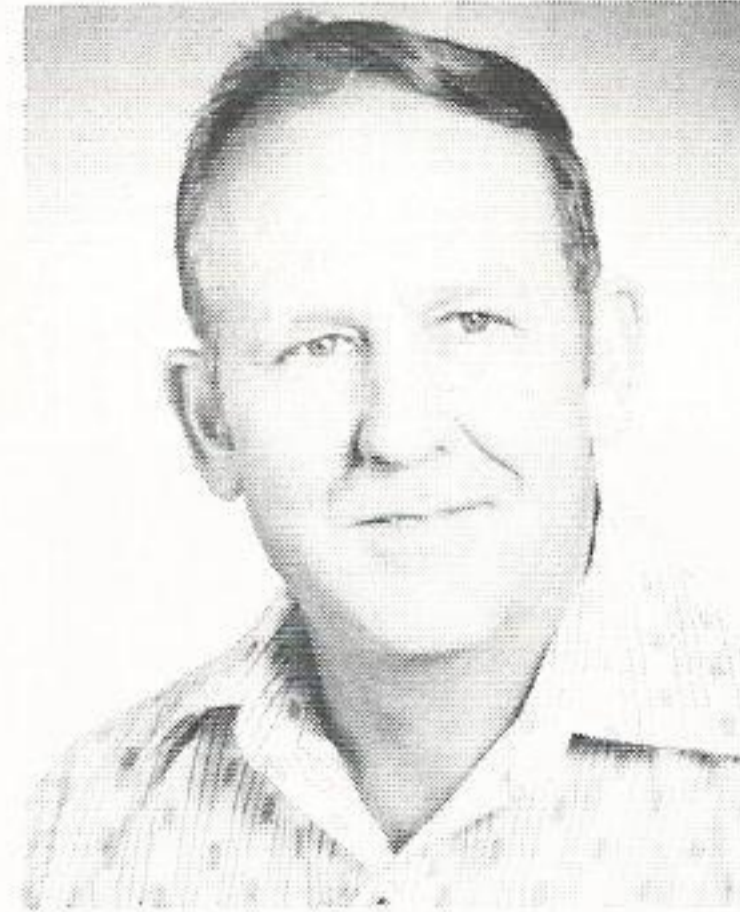


William L. Simpson
System Engineering Design
Beaumont

20 YEARS



Gilbert L. Anderson
Information and Data Services
Beaumont



Jude L. Rabalais
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Lawrence N. Saltzman
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



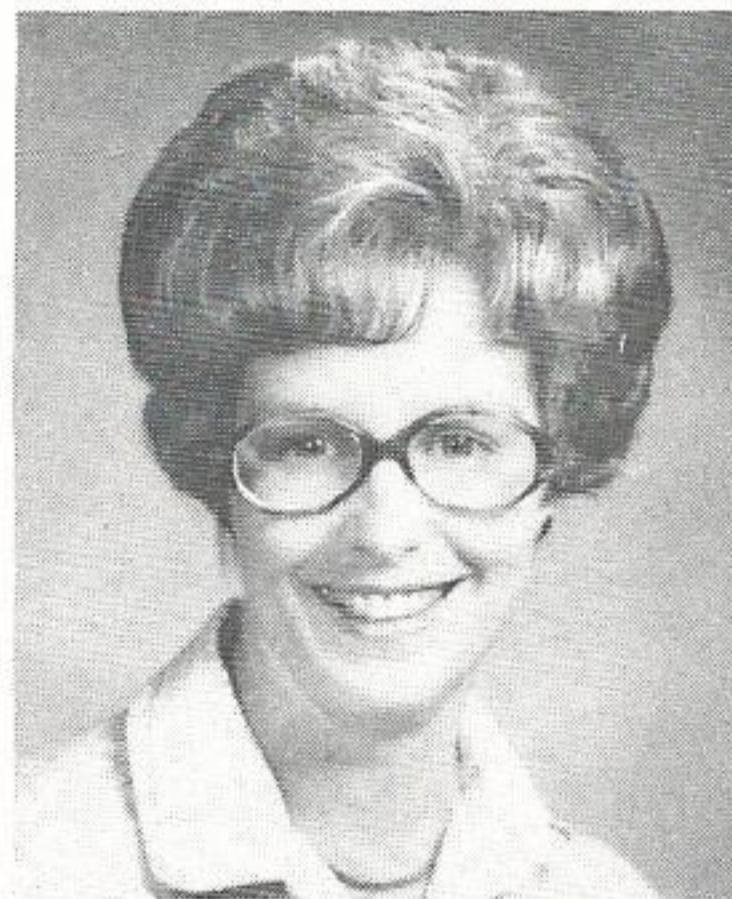
Eugene F. Sarver
Electric T&D
Lafayette



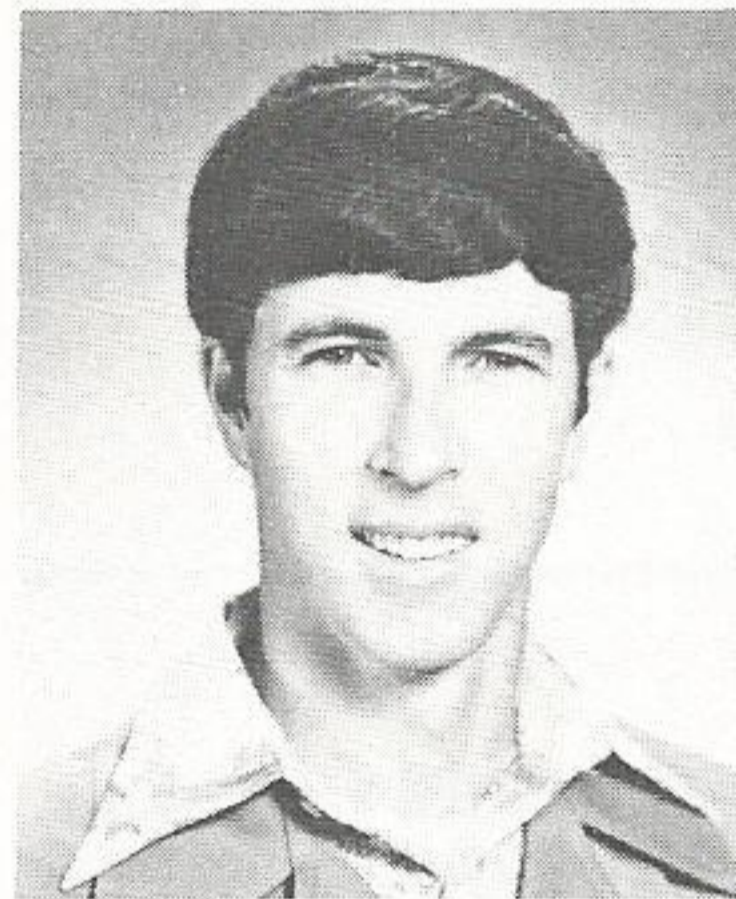
Robert L. Stewart
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



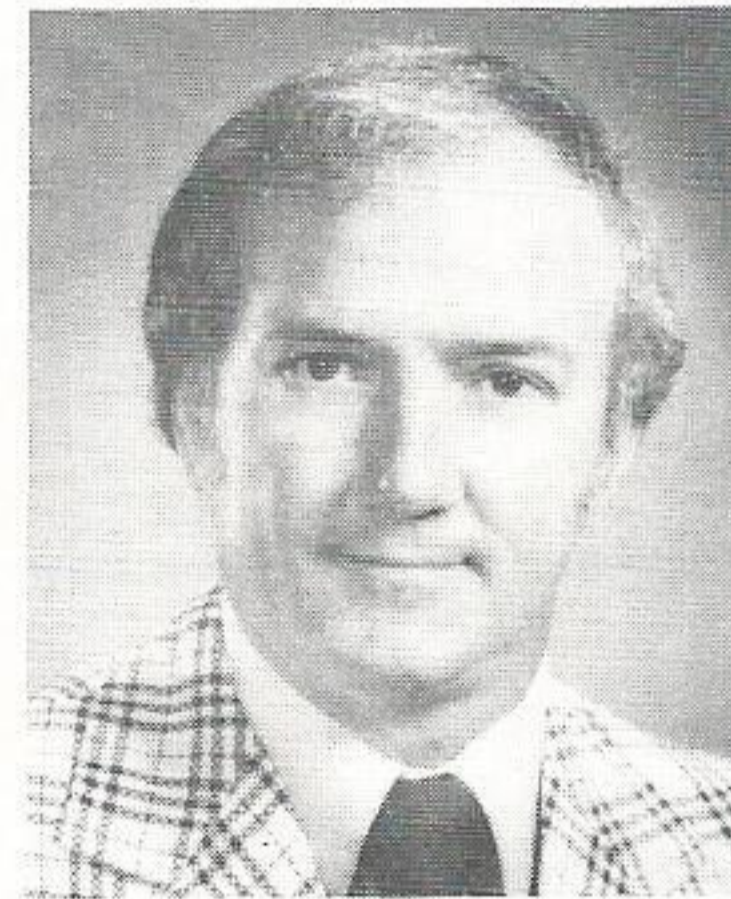
David H. Thornhill
Division Production
Baton Rouge



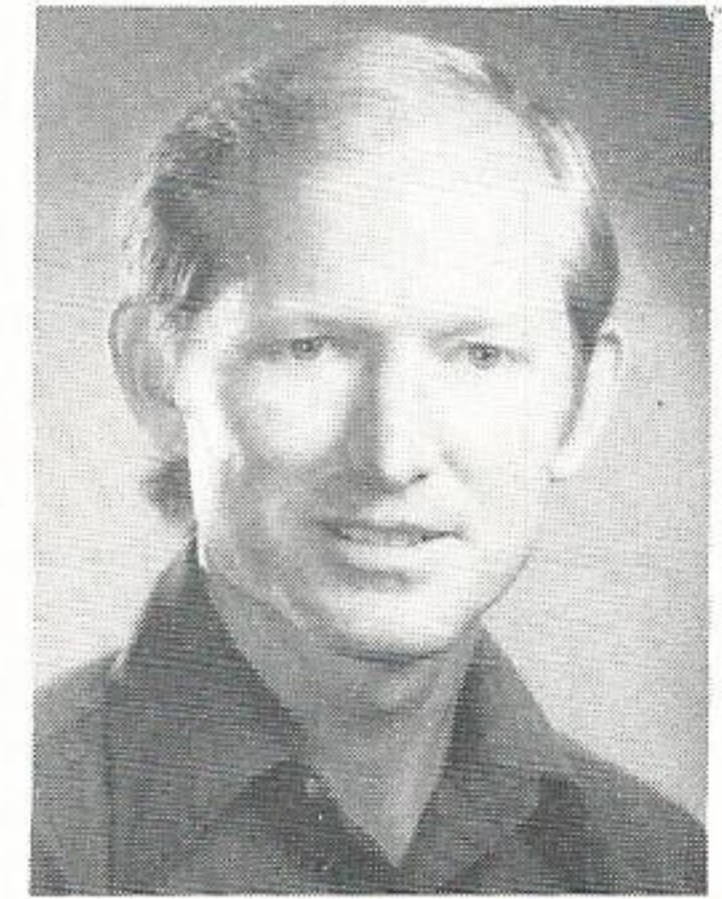
Cheryl Y. Cunningham
Information and Data Services
Beaumont



Thomas W. Fabre
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



DeWitt C. Hollingsworth
Division Marketing
Beaumont



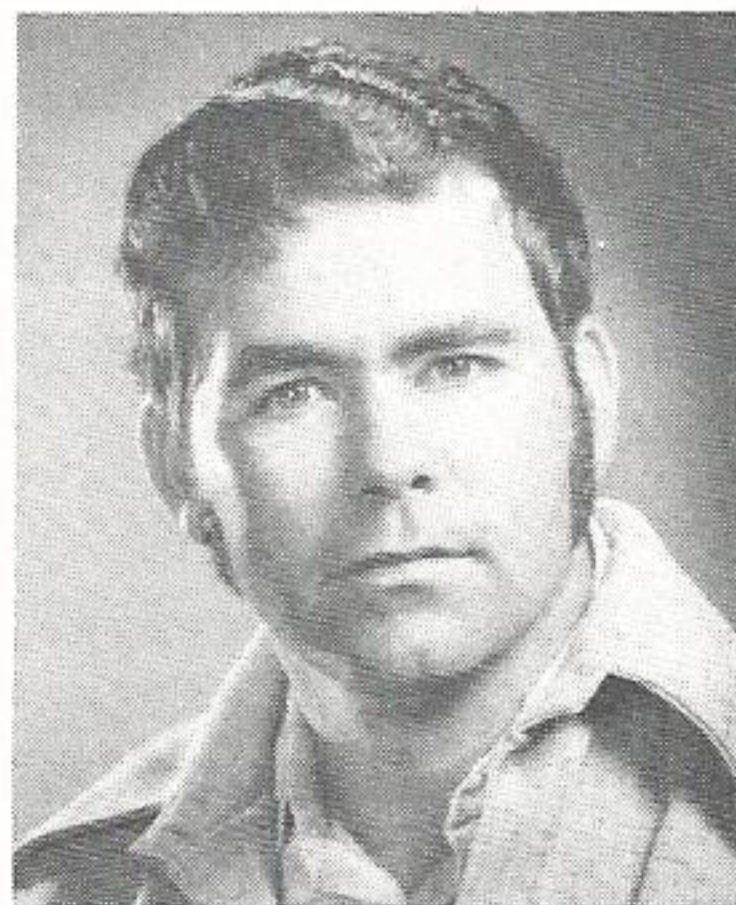
Dale P. Jannise
Electric T&D
Beaumont



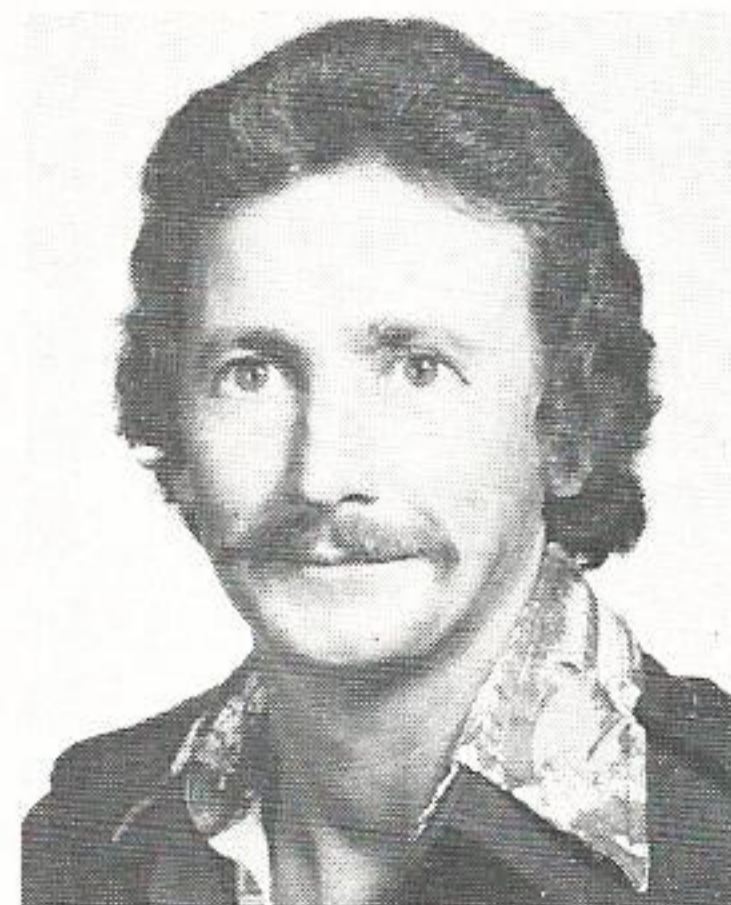
Kenneth E. Knowles
Electric T&D
Beaumont



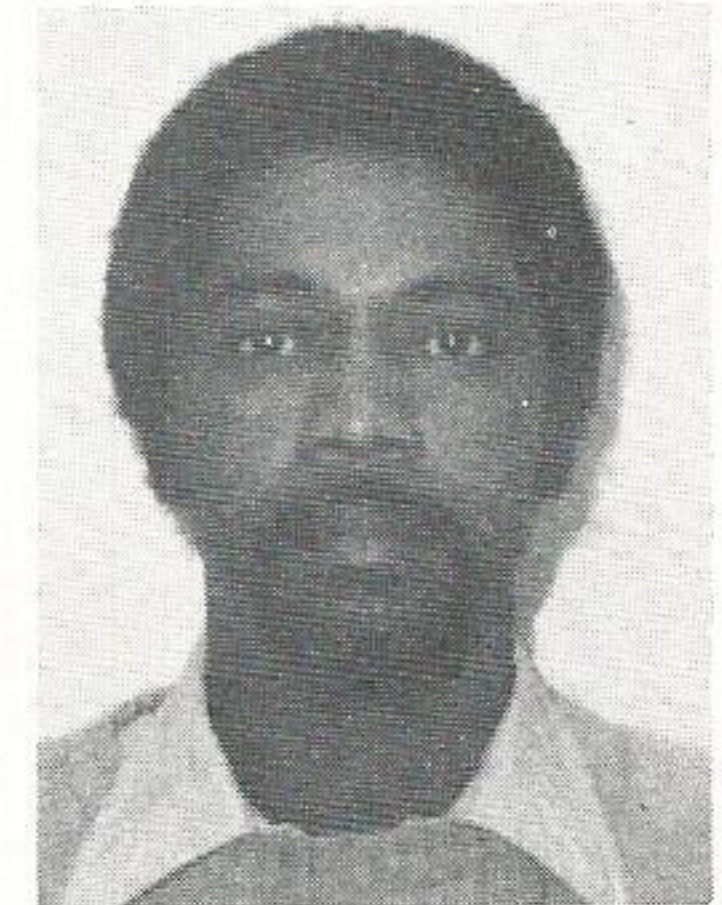
Edythe S. Mathews
Personnel Dept.
Beaumont



Jerry L. Skiles
Electric T&D
Beaumont



Joseph L. Stelly
Electric T&D
Lafayette



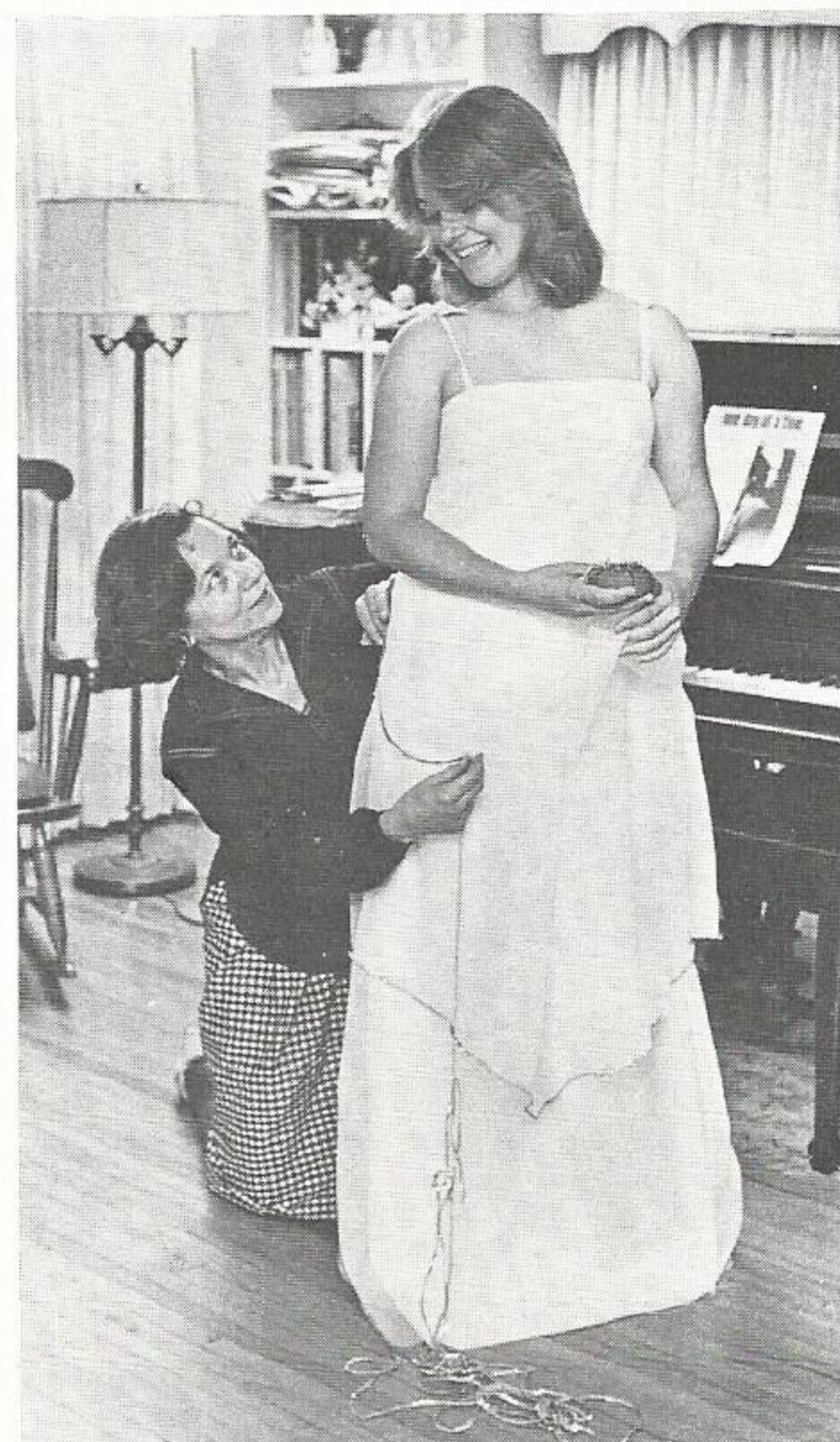
Clarence J. Washington
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

10 YEARS

COFFEE CUP



TENNIS ANYONE?—John Conley left Port Arthur well prepared to meet all challengers. His friends and co-workers presented him with two new tennis rackets, tennis balls and carrying cases to go along with his new job as operating superintendent of the Beaumont Division. Atop the decorated cake, to the caption of “H-e-e-r-r-e-s Johnny,” appeared a weird little figure on roller skates, complete with dark glasses, safari hat with a propellor, scarf blowing in the wind and headed toward swinging doors marked “Beaumont.” (from Loraine Dunham)



DEBUTANT BALL—Mary Tynes, daughter of Lannis Tynes, design engineer, was recently presented in the Beaumont Symphony Debutantes’ Ball. She was also featured in the local newspaper due to the fact that she makes all her clothes. Her mother, Rose, is pictured helping her with the trim.

Reporters

When you have any news or a story you think would be interesting to other Gulf Staters, contact the reporter nearest to you, or write or call the **PLAIN TALKS** editor, Pat McMeel, in Beaumont. Notify **PLAIN TALKS** reporters of any event that is happening in your area that the magazine should cover. A complete list of reporters and their locations is given below. If any persons named are no longer active reporters, please contact Pat McMeel. Persons wishing to become **PLAIN TALKS** reporters should also contact the editor. We can never have too many reporters.

BATON ROUGE: Margie Force (T&D); T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), GERALYN WILLIAMS (Gas), Glenda Boyd (Acct.), Mary Smith, Robert Graves (Storerroom), Susan Wilks, Debbie Lynn (Engr.), Linda Nelson (Meter), Rhonda Cheek (Govt. St.)

BEAUMONT: Bill Toups (S.C.), Carolyn Motl (T&D), Ann Ogden, Edy Mathews, Dorothy Nowell, Carolyn Thaggard, Gene Russell.

CALVERT: Betty Dowell.

CLEVELAND: Edd Mitchell.

CONROE: Frances Elliot, Marilyn Key, Pat Jones.

DENHAM SPRINGS: Lenelle Juban.

GONZALES: Billie Fortenberry.

HUNTSVILLE: Karen Morley.

JENNINGS: Earl Mayfield.

LAFAYETTE: Mona Burris.

LAKE CHARLES: Billie Belvin (Garage), Edith Patterson (T&D), Janet Followay.

LA. STATION: Marilyn Nicholson.

LEWIS CREEK: D. W. Rutherford.

MADISONVILLE: Jean Tinsley.

NAVASOTA: Betty Dickschat.

NECHES STATION: Terry Bond, Ed Foster.

NELSON STATION: Martha Caldwell.

NEW CANEY: Diana Winkelmann, Paul Mosley.

ORANGE: Doris Womack.

PORT ALLEN: Adele Vavasseur.

PORT ARTHUR: Sue Williams, Lorraine Dunham (S.C.)

SABINE STATION: Darlene Faires, Fred Kressman.

SOMERVILLE: Mary Brock.

SULPHUR: Pearl Burnett.

WILLOW GLEN: Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

WOODVILLE: Alene Cole.

ZACHARY: Myra Ponthier.



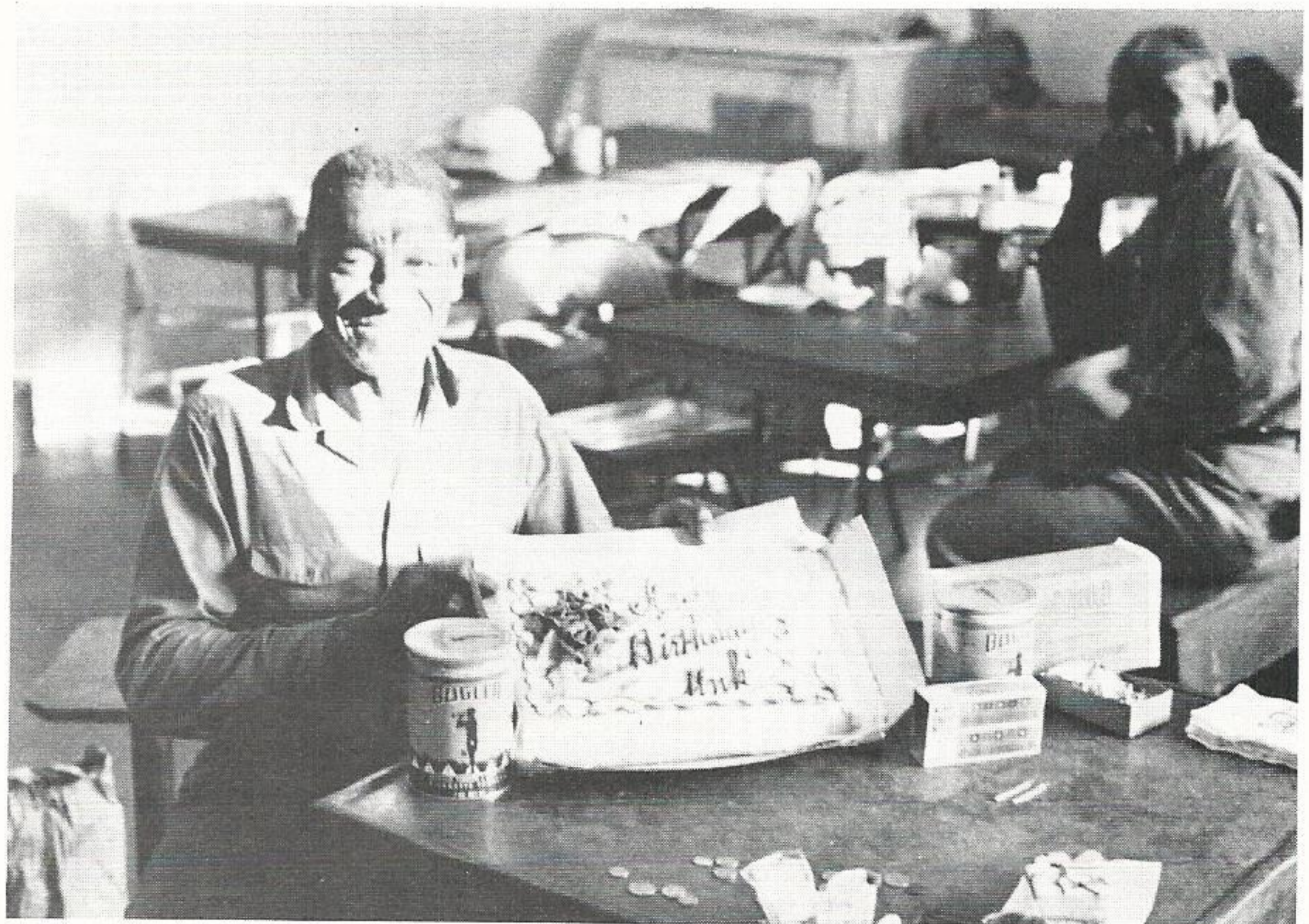
SHOWTIME—GSUers in Calvert recently were treated to the thrilling story of “Bertha the Beautiful Typewriter Girl,” at the 2nd annual Calvert Little Theater Melodrama. Betty Dowell, office clerk in Calvert, was particularly interested in this production. Her husband, Buster, is the one with the gag over his mouth. He got what he deserved as he was the villain (Danniel Desboro Desmond). With Buster is Jean Anderson (aunt of Betty) who played a “bittersweet lady.” We trust that right prevailed at the end.



HONORED—Lois Robertson, clerk in Port Arthur Accounting Department, was presented a walnut plaque from the Carnegians, Inc. (formerly Dale Carnegy) as member of the year 1976-1977. This was presented at the annual Harvest Award Banquet held in Beaumont at the Ramada Inn. Only one such award is given to each District and a person is only eligible once for this award. This District encompasses Port Arthur, Beaumont, and Houston areas.



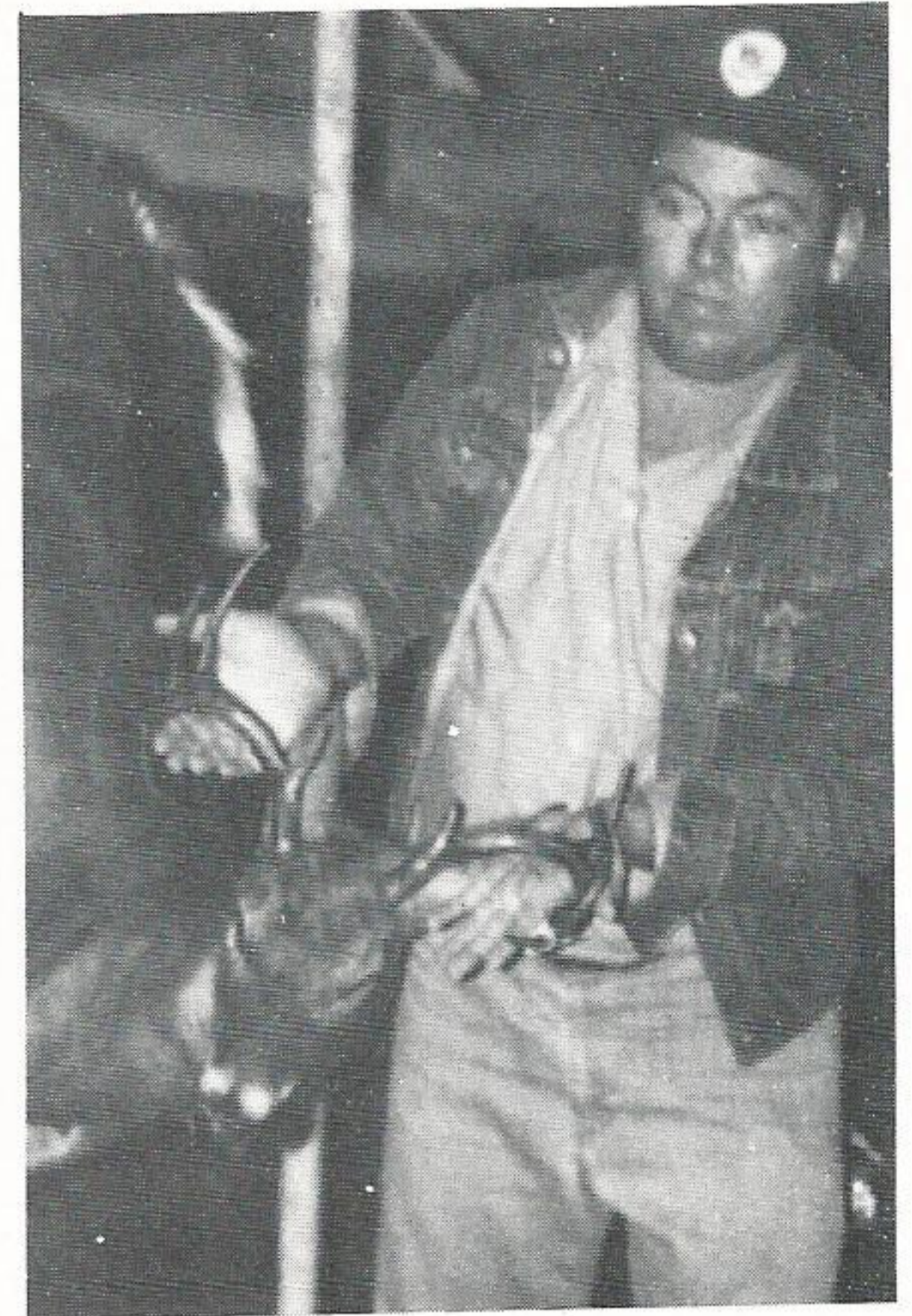
GOOD HELP—Joan Parker is one of those VOE students who help out so much around the office when they aren't in school. Unfortunately all of them must return to school at some time and such is the case here. Before she left Joan was given a going away and good luck party by her friends in Port Arthur. When she returned to Stephen F. Austin she took with her a box of crayons, writing tablet, pencils, a lollipop, an apple for her teacher and fond memories of working at GSU. (from Sue Williams)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY UNK—Joe Goffney, Jr., “Unk” to his friends, was given a surprise birthday party by his co-workers at Neches Station. Unk is a special laborer and has worked for GSU for 33 years. Unk, who turned 54, was given plenty of tobacco, matches, some spending money and lots of good wishes. (from Ed Foster)



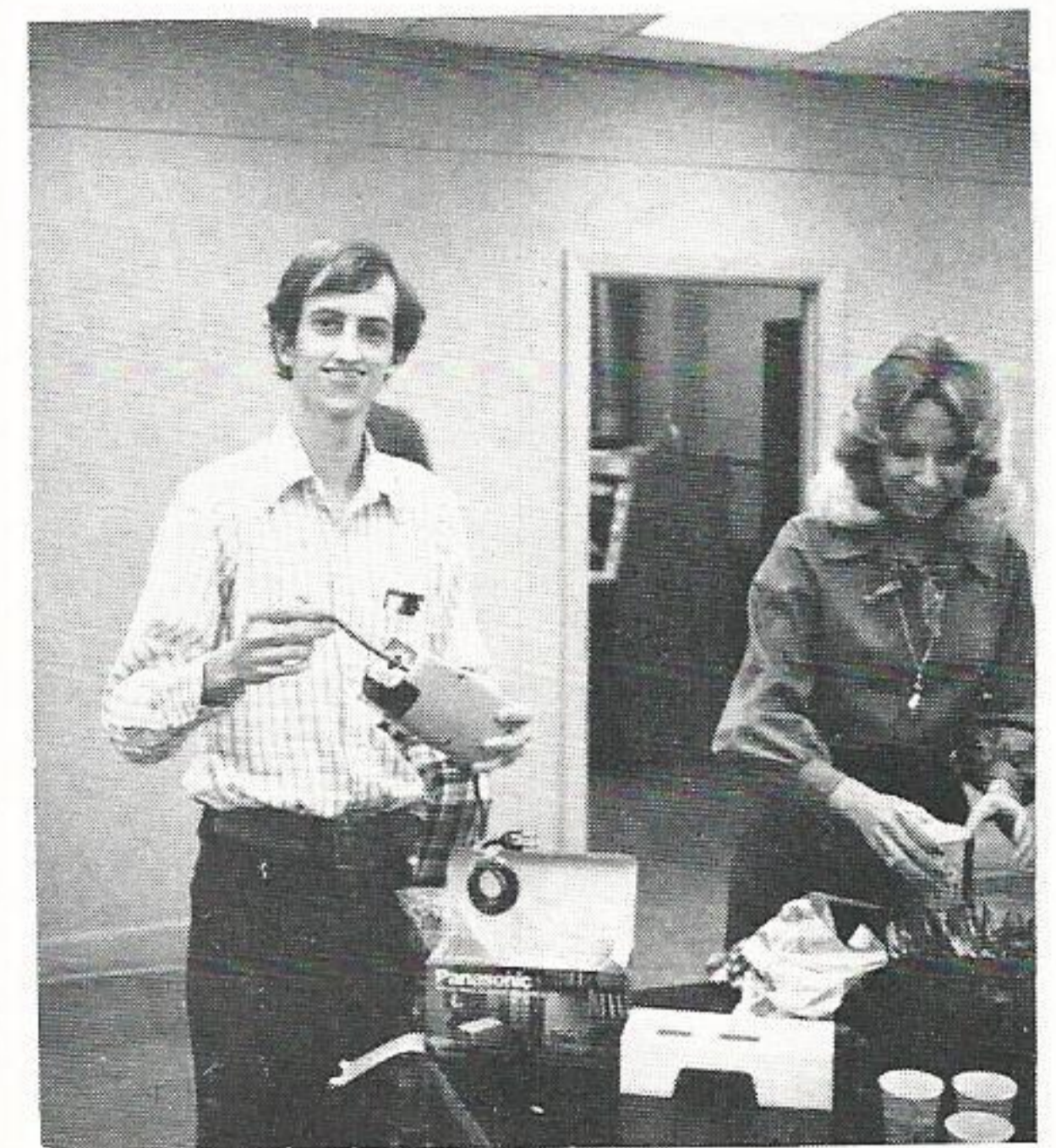
MOVING TO MCFADDIN—Raymond Audliet, supervisor of scheduling-Engineering Services, Beaumont, is moving to the McFaddin Building as a planning analyst for Larry Humphreys, senior vice-president, Energy Development. From left to right, the rest of the smiling faces belong to Muriel Hayes, Faye Hayes, Pattie Linscom and Clara Ellis. Good Luck, Raymond.



FIRST DEER—Billie Watt can now join others around the coffee pot and talk of deer he has killed on a hunt. Billie was blooded in November when he shot this nine-pointer in San Jacinto County. The equipment operator at Lewis Creek Station said he used a 12 gauge to bring down the deer. (from D. W. Rutherford)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY—Pat Murphy, second from left, is all smiles as his friends and co-workers in the main office get together to help him celebrate his birthday. With Mr. Murphy, left to right, are Leroy Hammack, Gwen Thompson and Gene Calvert. On his cake was a message in CB lingo, "Happy Birthday Yard Boy (his handle), from 10-61 (personnel in the area)."



LEAVING—Rod Griffith, a part time engineer at the Beaumont Service Center was given a going away party by his friends in the Service Center. Griffith was transferred to the main office in downtown to work on long range planning. Before going he was presented an electric pencil sharpener. (from Carolyn Motl)



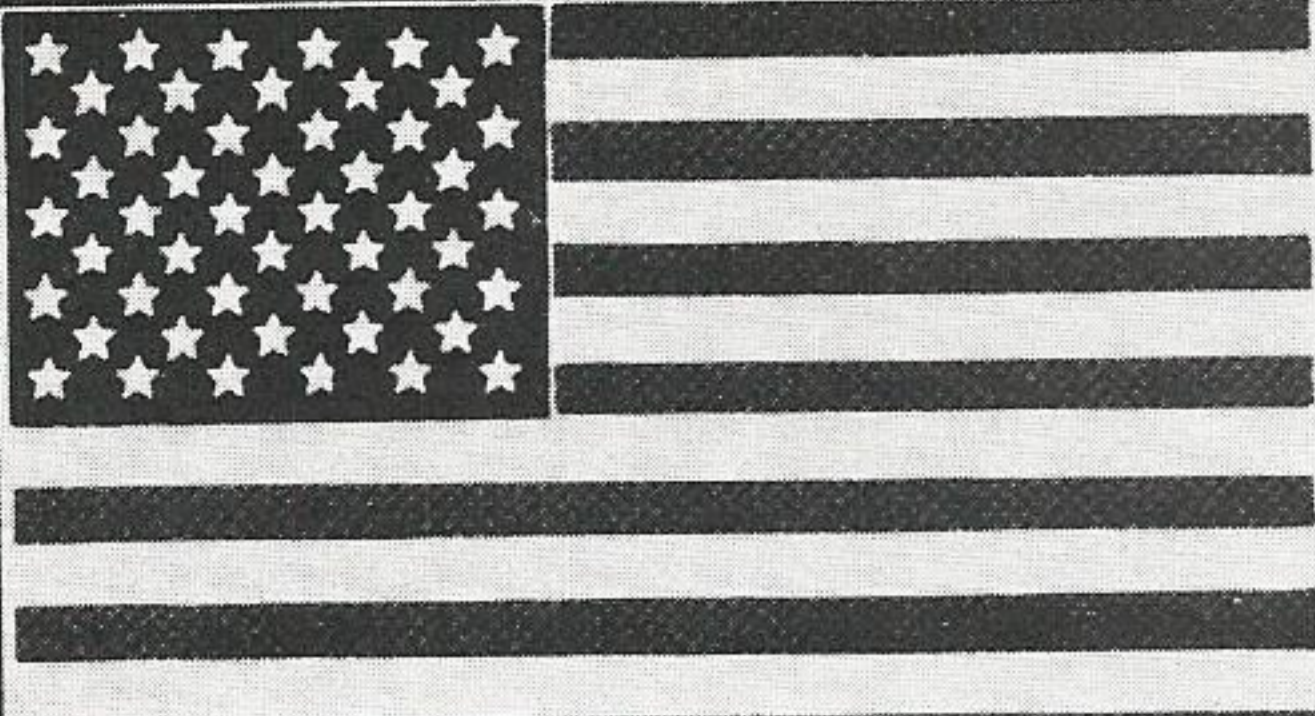
BIRTHDAY GAL—Pretty Tonya Marie McPherson, daughter of Margaret McPherson (T&D Department Clerk in Conroe), is all prettied up for her picture to be taken. Tonya is celebrating her fifth birthday, and mama has this picture to remember. (from Marilyn Key)



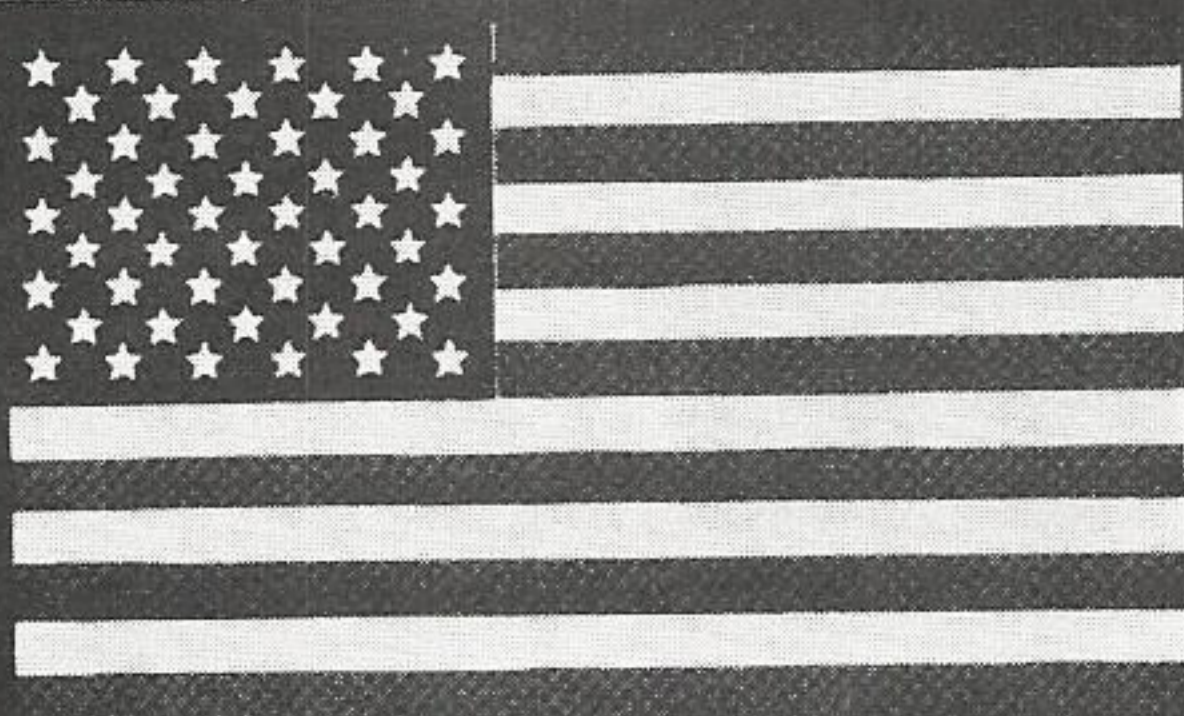
HOME FROM THE SEA—Sam Mills, 18-year-old son of Lee S. Mills (Dispatcher in Beaumont S. C.), had good luck surf-fishing at Johnson Bayou in 1977. He landed a 39 pound redfish and also managed to land this 120 pound stingray. Sam, a freshman at Lamar, said it took him approximately two and a half hours to finally land the ray. (from Caroly Motl)



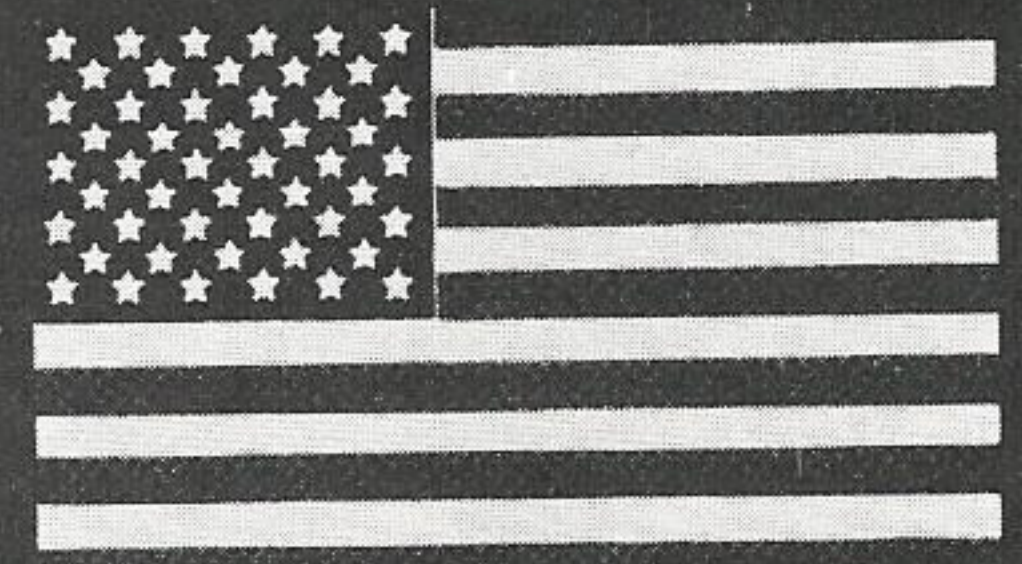
SEE YOU LATER ALLIGATOR—Larry Gurney, Division Production at Sabine Station near Bridge City, is wasting little time at this intersection on the plant grounds. "There was no doubt in my mind who had the right of way." Jim Moss, plant superintendent. He said they were used to seeing this fellow around, but generally the gator (an estimated ten feet in length) restricted his activities to the waters of the intake canal. This was the first time anyone ever saw it that far away from the water. Whatever the reason was for him to be taking a stroll we'll never know. Nobody was getting close enough to ask.



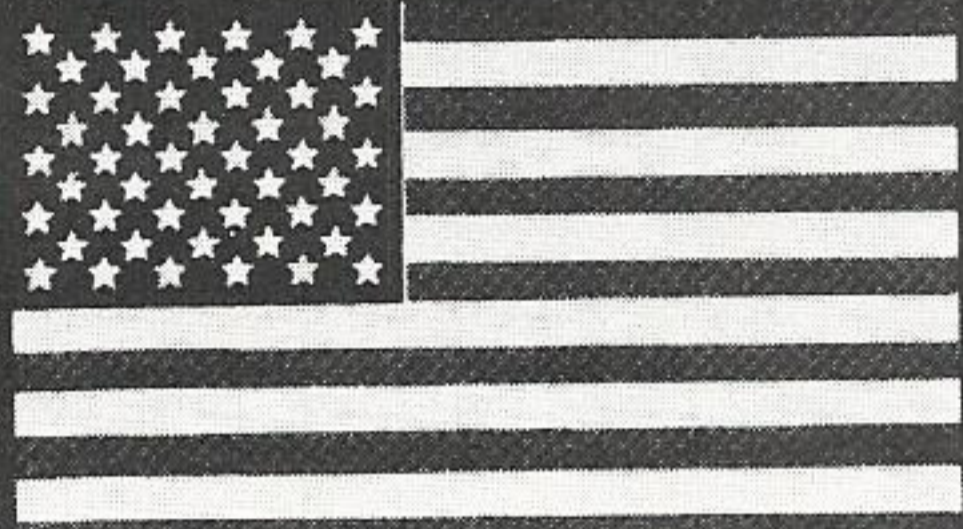
AT 10:00 THIS MORNING PROFITS BECAME ILLEGAL



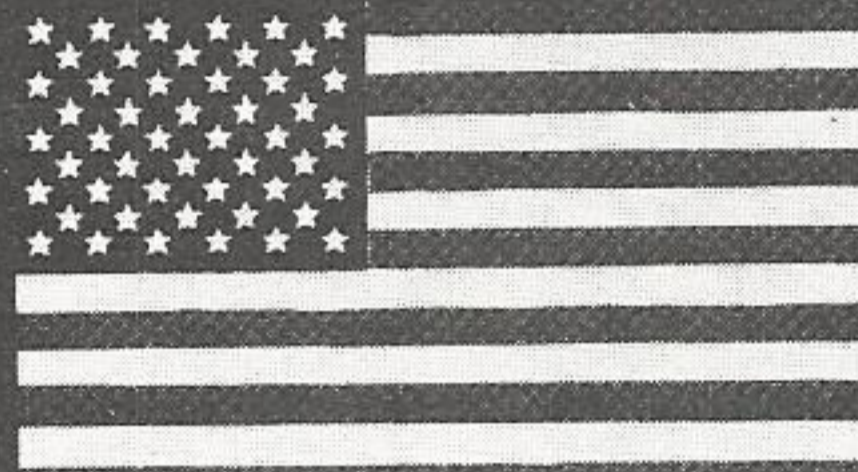
At 11:00, corporations began to cancel all programs involving profit reinvestment. New plant and equipment orders are halted.



By 1:00 p.m., capital goods manufacturers announce employee layoffs affecting five million workers. Machinery builders close plants throughout the country.



The automotive Big Three discontinues production and sends one million employees home on indefinite layoffs.



By the end of the trading day, the Dow Jones Industrials have plummeted 750 points, causing a suspension of trading.



The following morning, steel and tire companies around the country announce plant closings and even more layoffs.



That afternoon, the Labor Department declares national unemployment at a staggering 47%. Retail stores begin to close their doors.



The federal government, facing tremendous losses in tax revenue, is printing money to support swelling public welfare costs.



By midweek, inflation is running at 100% per day. A dozen eggs cost \$50.00. Supermarkets with empty shelves turn away angry customers.



By the close of the business week, only a few vital industries are operating. Money has no value. People are rioting, fighting for survival. The economy is ruined.



In Washington, politicians are fleeing the country.

Think about it America! If we're not careful, 10:00 this morning will be sooner than we think.

From Out Of The Past . . .



Quite a lot has happened to our company in the past 50 years. While going through our archives file of old photos we spotted this scene of what the Lake Charles office looked like back in 1927. Look closely and maybe you can recognize some familiar faces.

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