

# Plain Talks & News

MAY, 1972





The other day one of our customers, obviously a well-educated gentleman, wrote a letter to the editor of one of the larger daily newspapers in our area. The letter stated rather bluntly that man's gluttony for "the good life" is consuming energy stores at a rate that will plunge the earth back into the Dark Ages, probably during the lifetime of this generation's grandchildren. The Energy Armageddon, as it were.

It would be folly to scoff at such prophecies, dismal as they are. The fact is that our own company has been, and will continue to be, curtailed by gas suppliers in Louisiana, forcing us to spend more precious millions of dollars converting new generating units into oil burners.

The doomsday prophets label power from nuclear fission a stop-gap measure, at most. What they really advocate is hard to determine, because they offer no alternatives, save "zero-growth." Putting the brakes on progress is hardly the answer, since stagnation and decay would be the inevitable result.

Our answer to these people is that beings equipped with the technical intelligence to walk the moon will surely harness vast new energy sources, possibly nuclear fusion or the sun, which are now being studied. Or possibly from a source not yet dreamed of.

Survival will not result from blind faith in our omnipotence, and will require every bit of man's ingenuity and determination.

Certainly our grandchildren will be part of this great endeavor.

Our job is to pass on to them whatever knowledge we have accrued, as well as a planet vibrating with promise, not dying from our own greed and self-indulgence.

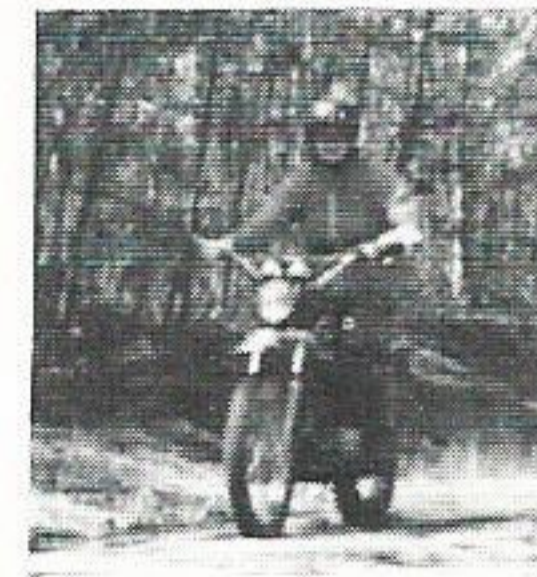
JST

# Our Grandchildren's World





Volume 50  
Number 4  
May, 1972



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Pat McMeel, Editor  
Jim Harper, Contributing Editor  
Henry Joyner, Contributing Editor,  
Baton Rouge

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**OUR COVER:**

*Emily Fleming, pretty Home Service Advisor in the Western Division, leaves the smell of cooking oil and trades it for the smell of motor oil on weekends as she participates in her favorite hobby -- motorcycle riding. Here, Emily awaits the starter's nod to send her on her way down narrow woodland trails in an enduro race near Corrigan, Texas.*



# The Beauty And The Bike

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Some women get their exercise playing tennis. For a pretty Home Service Advisor in Conroe, Tex., however, exercise comes from muscling a motorcycle down narrow trails, across creek beds, and up steep hillocks in the piney woods country of East Texas.

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They came in cars, trucks and on bikes. They pitched tents, cooked food, tinkered with their machines and planned strategy. They were there, in the Sam Houston National Forest near Corrigan, Texas, because of love for the outdoors, the excitement of competition, and just for the sheer fun of getting together with other people who share a similar interest - - motorcycle enduro racing.

This particular enduro (riding a motorcycle over a cross-country course) was for women and youth only, proving that a woman's place is not necessarily only in the kitchen. One of those women was a company Home Service Advisor, Emily Fleming, of Conroe.

"My husband (Putt Fleming) got me interested in trying to ride motorcycles. He bought one and it looked like fun so I tried it. Now I really love it," explained Emily. Putt rides a big Yamaha 360, a powerful bike that is made for the rugged men's enduro. As Emily's interest grew in the sport, Putt bought one for Emily (a smaller and less powerful model Yamaha 125). "She makes the payments on it herself," said Putt. "I just coach her and teach her how to make necessary repairs."

The Flemings have access to a lot of land near their home on which to practice their riding, and Putt has taken Emily over the hills, down right-of-ways



and across numerous creeks trying to sharpen her skills. "She has become a very good motorcyclist," said Putt, and that practice was put to the test when Emily entered her first enduro sponsored by the Houston Trail Riders.

An enduro is not a race as you would think of it. The riders do not try to outrun each other. It is a race against the clock with the idea being to finish the course in exactly the right amount of time as pre-determined by the officials. There are various check-points along the way where each rider must stop to verify their times. If a rider arrives at a check point two minutes late based on his starting time, that rider should try to arrive at the next point one minute early to make up the difference. At the finish line all these times are compared to determine the overall time, and the one that ran the course closest to the second wins.

"It's a lot of fun," said Emily, "trying to judge your speed to coincide with the clock. It's not who goes the fastest, but who has paced himself most exactly to the clock."

The weather the day of Emily's first enduro was almost perfect. The sky was clear and the course was dry, almost too dry. "It would have helped if it had rained some during the night," explained Emily, "that would make it easier to ride over the sand." She was excited over the prospect of her first race, and more than just a little nervous.

Much of her nervousness began to disappear when Putt drove into the national forest and other cyclists could be seen gunning the engines on their bikes and testing the terrain with practice runs down small trails.

Emily soon became caught up in the activity of registration and making final preparations on her bike for the start.

The contestants were broken down into three categories, pros, duffers, and youths. The pros were composed of the ladies who were veteran trail riders, those that had won some kind of trophy in past races. The duffers were for those who had never raced before, or who had never placed in past enduros, and the youths were for the small fry.

Emily registered in the duffer class, and was given number 44-D. The number (44-D) lets all the judges know that Emily is a duffer, and that her starting time is 11:44 a.m. This number also is the basis on which her time is calculated. By starting out 44 minutes after the hour, each check point score is determined by this. It had been pre-determined that a speed of 15 m.p.m. over the course would give a contestant perfect time.

It sounds easy. All a rider has to do is maintain a constant 15 m.p.h. But the course was just under 30 miles, and many of those miles were through woods, down steep hills, across creeks and through sand.

Hard at work during the week, Emily Fleming (right) can be found almost anywhere in the Western Division doing the job of a Home Service Advisor. It could be instructing a consumer in the use of an electric stove as seen here in the main division office in Conroe.





From kitchens and cook books to oil and spark-plugs is quite a transition. Emily, under the watchful eye of Putt and daughter Niki Shawn, makes final adjustments on her "bike" prior to the beginning of her first enduro.



There are parts of the course a rider can go much faster, and parts where a rider must slow down and even stop. It becomes quite a challenge to try and judge where you stand with the clock.

At precisely 11:44 a.m. Emily was given the starting signal, and amidst encouragement from Putt and three-year-old daughter, Niki Shawn, Emily gunned her Yamaha down a small trail into the woods and out of sight on the first leg of her journey. "She has some stiff competition," remarked Putt as he walked back to his car after the start.

PLAIN TALKS managed to arrive at a few points along the course ahead of Emily to watch her progress, and was fascinated by the skill shown by her and the other women as they guided their cycles around twisting paths, across creek crossings and down dusty roads. It became evident why so many

Enduros can be tough as Emily finds out here in attempting to cross a creek bed along the race route. Putt (in rear), and a race official lend a hand to help Emily negotiate the obstacle. This particular crossing proved to be the toughest part of the 28-mile course.



Americans, men and women, were taking up the sport of motorcycling. It did look like fun.

Emily finally came across the finish line two minutes early. By being two minutes early four points were deducted from her score. "It's better to be a little late than early," Emily explained. "Two points are deducted for each early minute, but only one point for each late minute." This calculation is made at each check point and at the finish. As of this writing, Emily's final standing was not known.

"I think she did very well," said Putt. "She may not win a trophy but she has gained needed experience."

What did Emily think of it all? "I enjoyed it. I'm a little sore, but it was fun."

Emily is living proof that a Home Service Advisor can handle a lot more than just cook books.





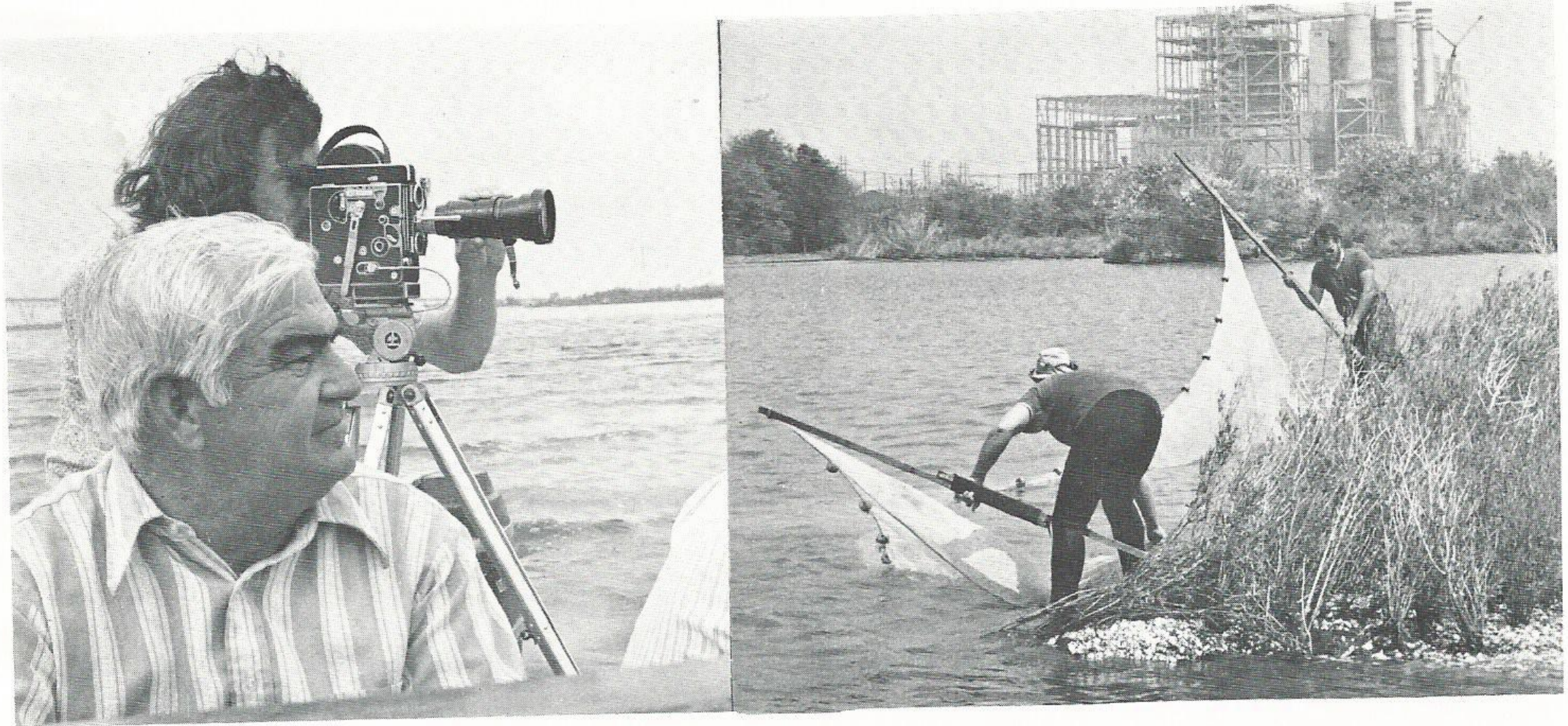
Jeff Prior zooms in on Jim Wiersema as the TRACOR scientist goes about his studies in the Sabine Lake area around Sabine Station. Biologist and project director, Wiersema heads a field staff that has been at work since last fall. The project will end in September of this year and will give our company a clear picture of life in the surrounding marsh, bayous and lakes near Sabine Station.

# Telling Our Story

How much do you know about our company's involvement in the fight to preserve our environment? Did you know, for example, that the company is spending thousands of dollars to insure that the ecological balance of nature is not being upset by cooling water discharge from our Sabine Station power plant? Did you know that our executives are vitally concerned, and determined that any future expansion at Sabine Station will not disrupt "Mother Nature's" work?

If you, as employees, did not realize this, then think how much in the dark the general public must be. Informing the public as to what our company IS doing to curb pollution is the goal of several new television commercials and print advertisements currently being put together. The work is being supervised by Jim Turner, director of Advertising and Public Relations, and Aylin Advertising Agency of Beaumont, with the cooperation of TRACOR's Ocean Sciences and Water Resources Department out of Austin, Tex.





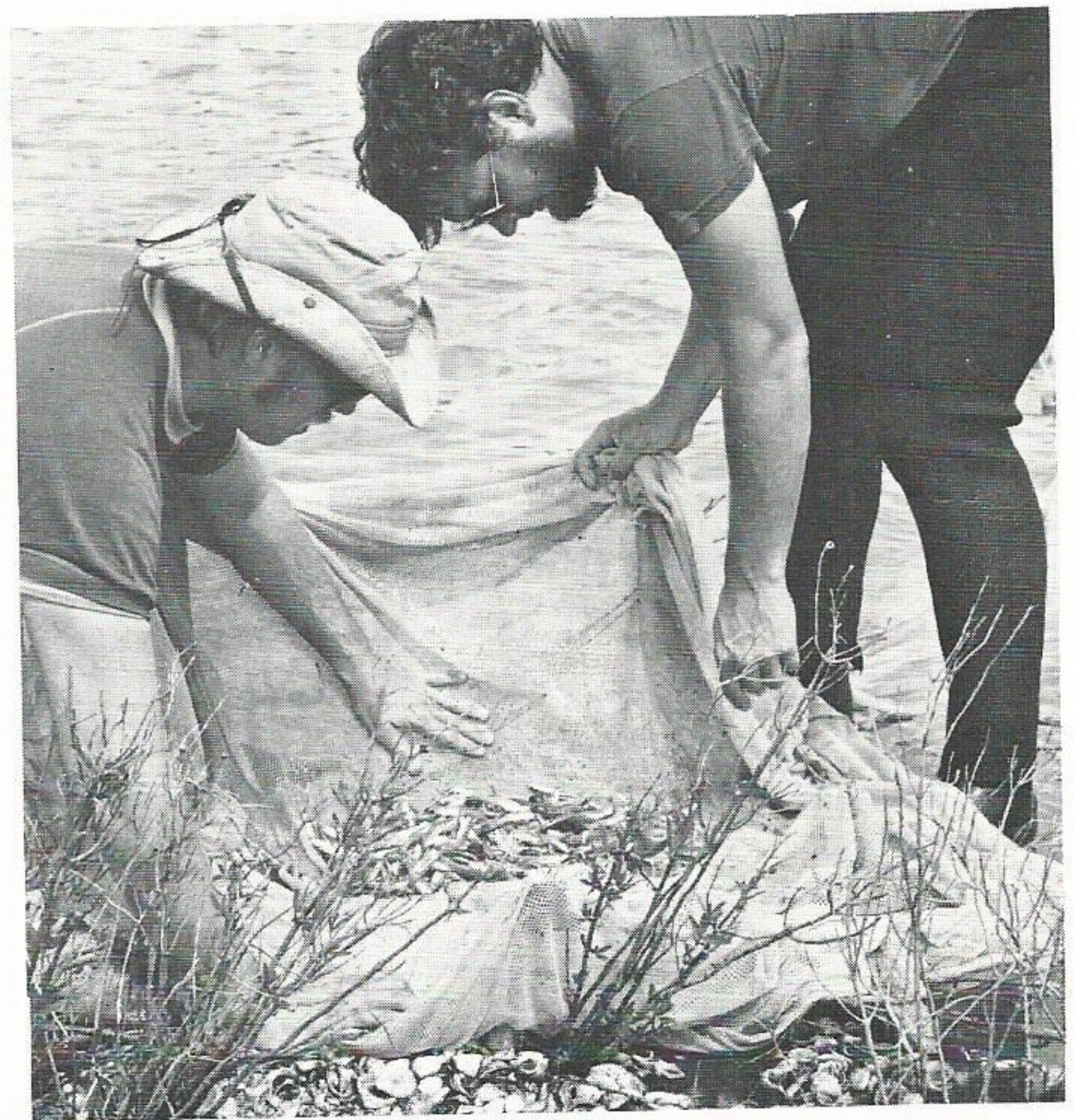
L. E. Stough (foreground left), test maintenance foreman at Sabine Station, took great interest in the commercial filming. Stough has been working directly with the scientists providing any necessary help. Using a finely woven net, Wiersema and zoologist Richard Mitchell trap numerous species of aquatic life in the discharge canal of the power station. Their catch (below) is separated, studied and logged in a book to be added later to a much larger stockpile of information.

TRACOR scientists Jim Wiersema and Richard Mitchell have been working at Sabine Station for over a year now studying the zooplankton organisms and other species of wildlife that live and reproduce around the power plant in the marsh near Sabine Lake. Their goal is to determine the year round cycle of nature in this area, and what effect, if any, the power plant is having on this cycle.

Recently Wiersema and Mitchell agreed to reschedule one of their work days for the benefit of the advertising agency's Tom Bell and cameraman Jeff Prior. With the cooperation of Sabine Station Superintendent Ed Loggins, and Test Maintenance Foreman L. E. Stough, Bell, Prior and PLAIN TALKS editor Pat McMeel set out in another boat to film the activities of the scientists.

Some 400 feet of film was shot that day recording the various routines of Wiersema and Mitchell. This film, along with standard camera snapshots, will be edited into several 30 second and minute TV commercials, along with the newspaper advertising to tell our story to the public.

We hope to show the public that our company, and the employees who make up our company, are concerned about the environment and the care of it. Dependable electric service is not our only concern.





# GSU NEWS

SAYS PRESIDENT SMITH

## Company Will Not Falter In Commitment To Public

Speaking before the honored employees at Service Awards banquets throughout the system, President Smith pledged that the company would continue to move forward in its efforts to meet the demanding challenge for more electric power, despite the mounting concern over the shortage of fossil fuel.

Mr. Smith praised the guests of honor for their labors during the past 10, 20, 30 and 40 years in the various divisions, but pointed out that it would take a continuing effort on the part of every man and woman in the company to see that the challenges are successfully met.

"For the first time in nearly 20 years," said Mr. Smith, "we asked for a rate increase . . . As you know we need the increase so that we can remain financially attractive to investors." Mr. Smith went on to say that he had faith in the regulatory bodies and that the increase would be granted when the government "freeze" is lifted.

The other major point of concern, Mr. Smith told the employees, is the fuel shortage crisis. "This is very real," explained Mr. Smith. The point was driven home when Mr. Smith explained that the Number Four unit at Willow Glenn Station near Baton Rouge is undergoing conversion to burn a low sulphur content oil instead of natural gas as was originally intended.

As part of this conversion to oil, a dock on the Mississippi near Willow Glenn, and an oil tank farm are also being constructed. These are the first such facilities our company has undertaken to build. This gas shortage is also the reason that the company has contracted for the construction of a nuclear power station.

With all of this in mind the board of directors authorized a construction budget of \$115 million for 1972, more than \$24 million over 1971. "We are determined to maintain the power supply needed to keep this area moving ahead," said Mr. Smith.

Not stopping there, Mr. Smith went on to reveal that with the company's entrance into the nuclear age, new opportunities for the employees would also be forthcoming. "Employees who show the initiative and determination to be a part of this exciting era," said Mr. Smith, "will be provided with many new opportunities for advancement." The availability of opportunities not only will come from new jobs in the nuclear field, but will come about as a result of ". . . whole mode of operation change . . . which points out the absolute necessity for keeping yourselves flexible, and to maintain a willingness to accept change."

Mr. Smith concluded his speech by pointing out that people power is still the best energy source in the world. "Our

human resources at Gulf States are truly outstanding . . . the most satisfying aspect of the past year was seeing people improve themselves. The opportunities will certainly be here for those who are willing to work for them."

### Thrift Plan

Purchases of Gulf States Utilities Company stock made by the Trustee during March, 1972 covering employee deductions and company contributions through February, 1972 were as follows:

3,610 shares of Common Stock at a total cost of \$76,823.46, or an average cost per share of \$21.281.

94 shares of \$4.40 Preferred stock at a total cost of \$5,991.17, or an average cost per share of \$63.736.

The Trustee deposited \$43,721.48 with the Savings Department of the First Security National Bank of Beaumont.



# Western Division



THIRTY YEARS -- President Smith, Durwood A. Minor and Dick A. Knight.



TWENTY YEARS -- President Smith, T. J. Dinkins, Edroy Gains, John W. Lattimore and Robert E. Leake.



TEN YEARS -- President Smith, Gary E. Diamond, Dewey L. "Pete" Allbritton, and Charles DeCuir.



# Baton Rouge Division



TWENTY YEARS - - Alton Walker, Samuel Smith, Charles C. Ford, Charles E. Foss, Joseph G. Oubre, Cleveland D. Sing, Albert B. White, Richard Williams and President Smith.



FORTY YEARS - - President Smith congratulates James Spears, with Mrs. Spears looking on.



TWENTY YEARS - - Donald Craft, Kimberly Clark, Harry Breeden, Raymond W. Creel, Walter Benjamin, Howard Buschmille, Dennis Bourg, Daniel Dunn and President Smith.

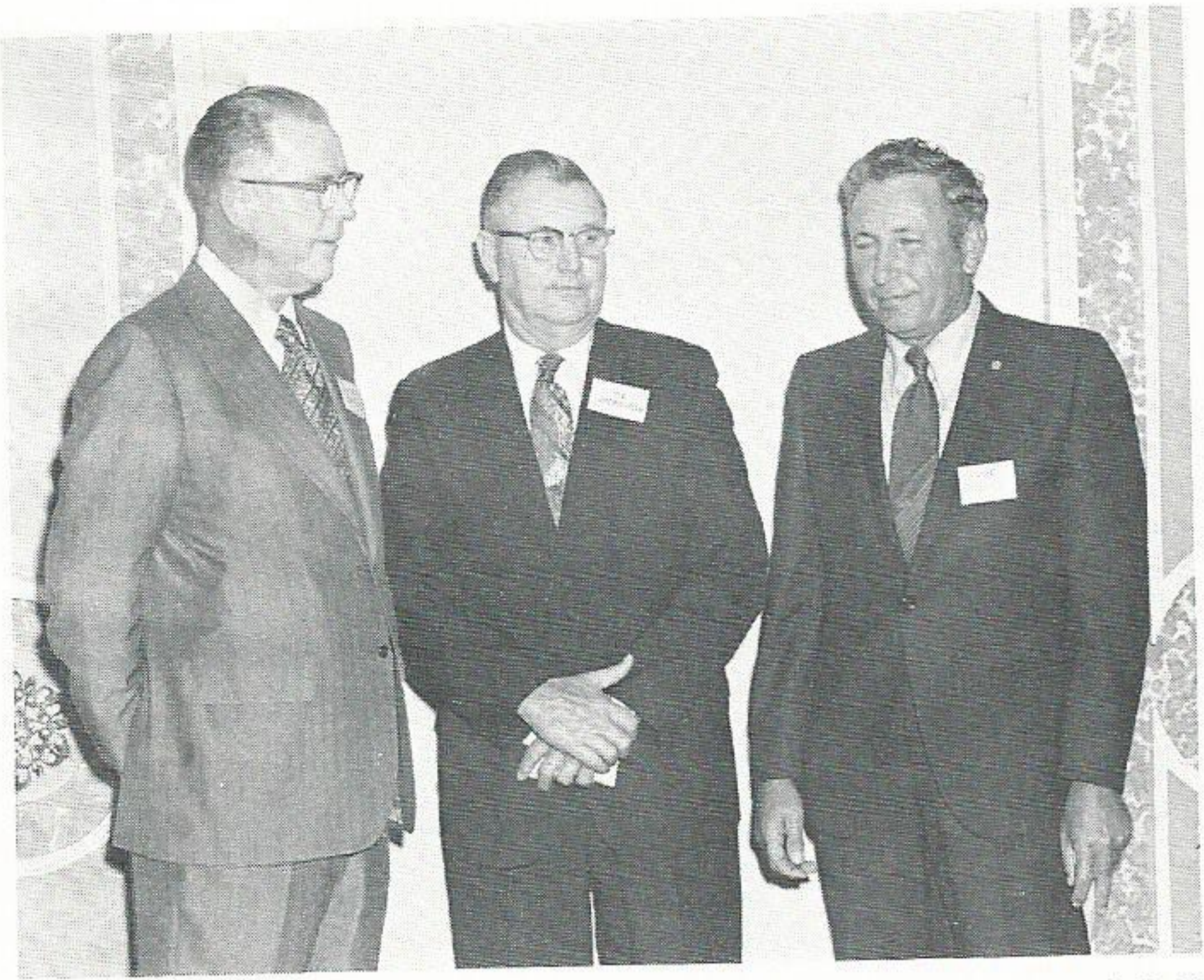


THIRTY YEARS - - Howard Webb, Ray Price, Clarence Pearson, Benjamin Exner, Bernard Campo, Andrew J. Blanchard, Philip J. Marquette, Claude Adams, Eugene Shaffer and President Smith.



TEN YEARS - - John H. Linder and President Smith.





**THIRTY YEARS** -- President Smith, P. A. Dickinson and J. J. Hopkins



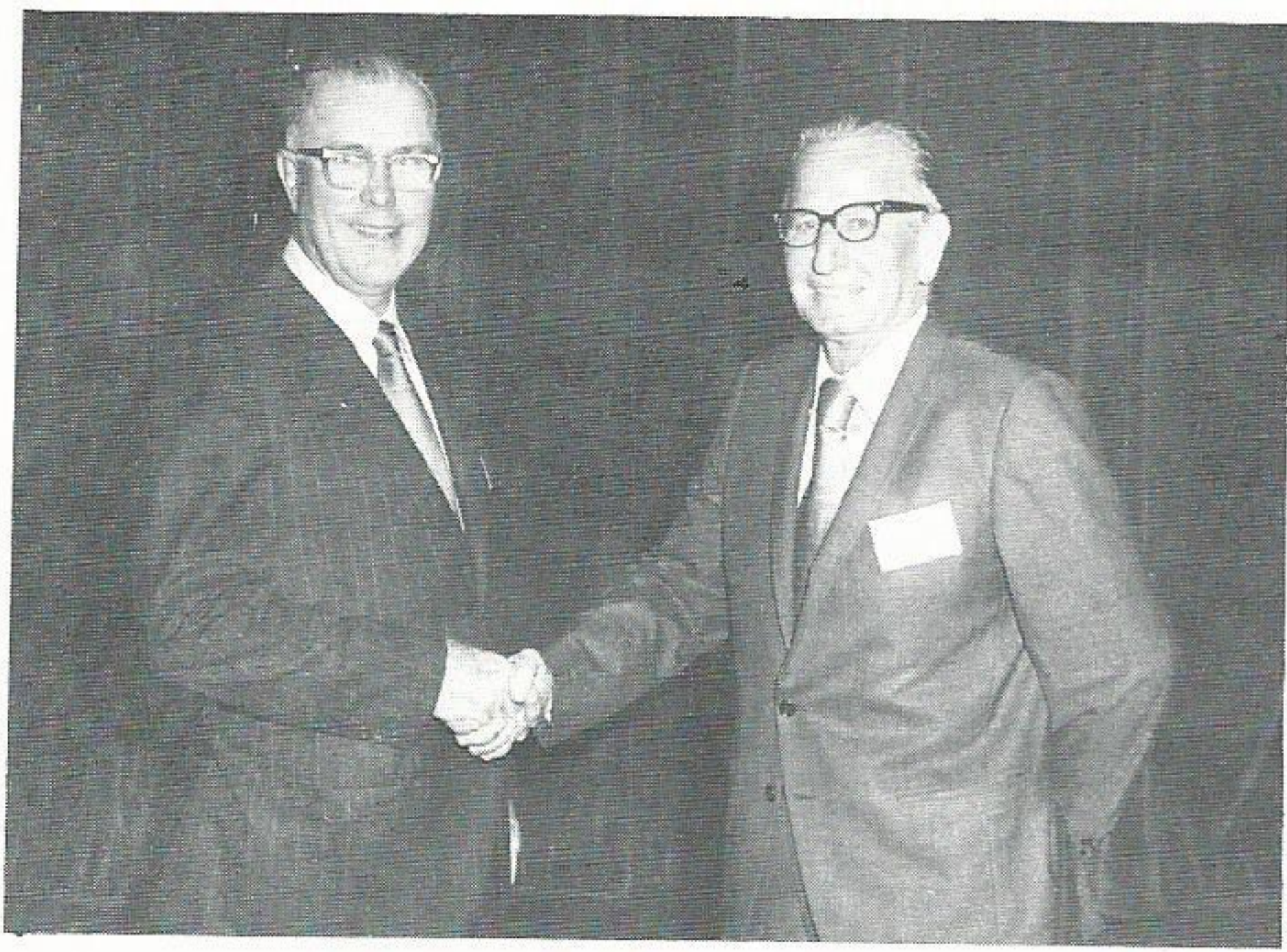
**TWENTY YEARS** -- President Smith, Leroy Anderson, E. S. Krouse, W. C. McGilvray, C. H. Patin, R. L. Ringuet.



**TEN YEARS** -- President Smith, P. C. Moore, R. L. Gary, Joyce Guillory, E. A. Grimshaw, J. A. Landry, Edith Patterson, R. K. Nunally. Not shown are J. G. Benoit and Larry Guillory.

# Lake Charles Division





THIRTY YEARS - - President Smith congratulates Rex Vaughan.

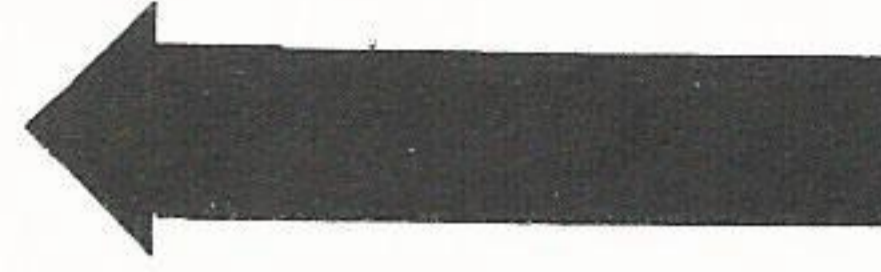


TEN YEARS - - President Smith, Clayton Tuttle, Donald Ransey and L. L. Gurney.

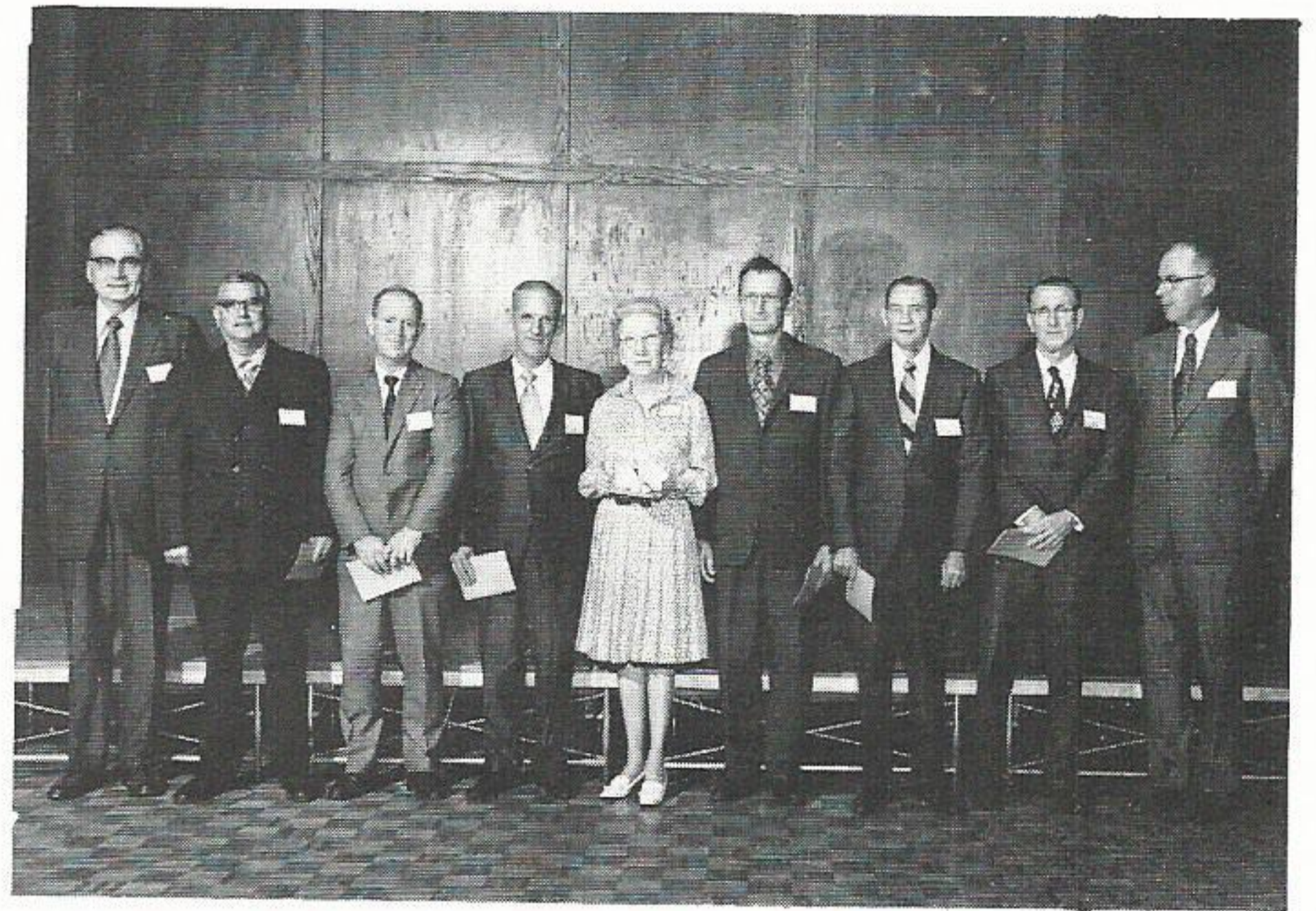


TWENTY YEARS - - Back row, President Smith, Gerald DeBlanc, M. J. Pellerin, Eddie Smith and Elmer Wheeler. Seated, Johnnie Hudson, Austin Thomas and Max Smith.

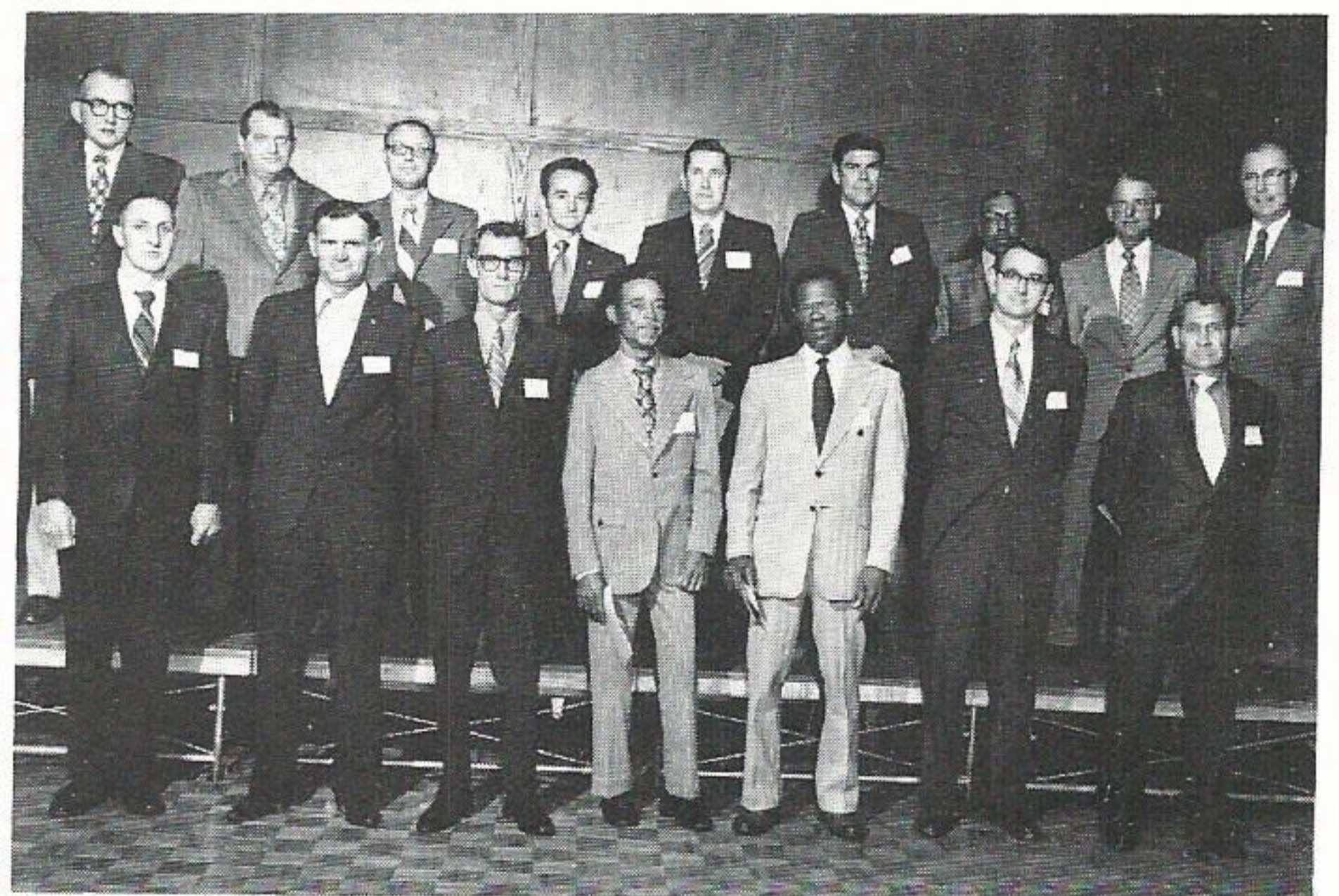
# Port Arthur Division



# Beaumont Division



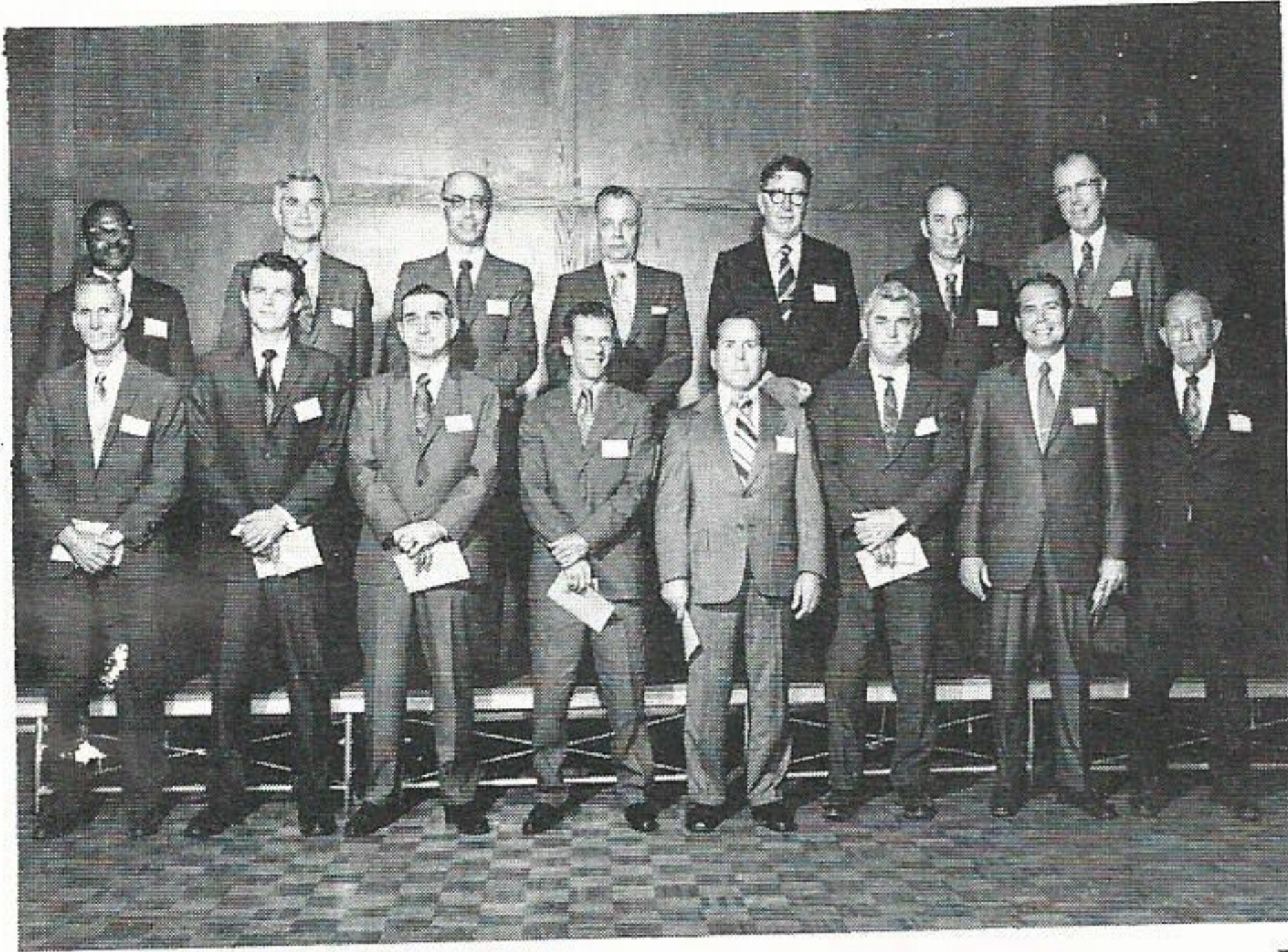
THIRTY YEARS - Cohron Davis, Jr., Woodrow W. Due, Steve Glach, W. M. Harris, Susie Stuart, Herman Heil, Bonnie L. Thompson, Frank Turner and Mr. Smith.



TWENTY YEARS - Front row left to right, Ralph Pryne, John A. Pittman, Oliver A. Peveto, Edgar Perkins, Jr., Boyd Williams, Malcolm Williams, Charles I. Sanders. Back row, Gerhard W. Smith, Thomas A. Wier, Thomas R. Whiddon, Edwin H. Wheeler, Larry E. Wenzell, Jr., Edgar R. "Joe" Snider, Ike Simms, Jr., Douglas Sheppard and Mr. Smith.



# Beaumont Division



**TWENTY YEARS** - Front row left to right, Jerry L. Brown, J. R. Cornelius, Joseph Fontana, Billy G. Fountain, C. J. "Boots" Gonzales, Jr., Norman D. Head, Robert T. Collier and Tom M. Cupper. Back row, Tom Mitchell, Jr., Ward C. McCurtain, Frank A. LeMire, Duane Kilmer, Willie R. Harris, Arthur J. Edwards and Mr. Smith.



**TEN YEARS** - Front row left to right, Irby J. Thibodeaux, Larry F. Knight, Sheila F. Comeaux, Elba G. "Beth" Dodge, Clara S. Ellis, William E. Fox, Wanda S. West and Raymond Holm. Back row, Robert G. Wolfe, Thomas E. Parsley, Clyde H. Nugent, Lawrence L. Rainwater, Tommy L. Elliot, David Doss, Larry S. Cleveland and Mr. Smith.

## Mr. Smith Named To V-P Post

Floyd R. Smith, president and principal executive officer of the company, has been elected third vice president of the Southeastern Electric Exchange (SEE), a regional organization of investor-owned electric companies.

Mr. Smith has been chief executive since April, 1970. He joined the company in 1935.

In addition to holding responsible posts in a number of industry-related organizations, Mr. Smith is active in United Appeals and Rotary Club work, and he is a director of Beaumont's First Security National Bank.

Mr. Smith's election to the SEE post came at the group's annual conference. The group is a non-profit organization which serves as a clearing house for technical, marketing and management data and conducts training and research programs for the electric industry in the Southeastern United States.

## Lester Saucier Guest Speaker

Lester Saucier, industrial engineer in the Beaumont Division, spoke before a gathering of supervisory personnel and engineers at the E. I. DuPont Plant in Orange on the subject "Production Electricity from Nuclear Energy."

The group, which numbered approximately 40 persons, was very responsive said Saucier, "and receptive to the idea of atomic energy and its relationship to the fuel shortage crisis."

### Oops

Last month we ran a cutline stating that the 1000 watt mercury vapor street lights recently installed in Port Arthur cost \$57,280,000. That figure should read \$57,280.00. These new lights will provide five times the light of the older lamps.



# Golf Tournaments Set

As you read this, Bill Heaner, (vice president, personnel manager for the company) may or may not be on his way to dominating two out of three company golf tournaments again this year.

The Live Wires golf tournament, held at Tyrrell Park on May 6, was under the chairmanship of Tom Moses, and a good turnout was expected for the event at the time of this writing.

Still to come is the Memorial Day Golf Tournament scheduled for Pleasure Island in Port Arthur May 29th under the guidance of J. W. Minner, and the Baton Rouge Memorial Day Tournament set for Webb Park, also on the 29th, under the direction of Glenn Stokes.

In 1971 Heaner captured the championships of both the Live Wires tourney and the Memorial Day event held for the Lake Charles, Port Arthur, Beaumont and Western Division employees. Both tourneys took place at Bayou Din Country Club in Beaumont.

While Heaner was winning both events in Beaumont, Ronnie Hunt took top honors in the Baton Rouge tourney.

The Pleasure Island tournament, for all employees with the exception of Baton Rouge, will have a \$5.00 entry fee. The fee covers green fees, food, and prizes. The handicap system hasn't been determined as yet according to Minner, but tentative plans call for the calloway system. The tournament committee is composed of Minner, Bill Barksdale, Joe Snider, Denis Dugas, Nig Laughlin, Luther Risher, Joe Fontana, and Roy Franques.

The committee reported that the tournament in 1973 is tentatively set for Crowley, La. with Lafayette acting as the host office.

The Baton Rouge tournament will feature a later tee-off time than is usual according to Stokes. This tournament will be based on medal play (by the stroke) as based on a qualification round.

The entry fee is \$6.00, and the entry deadline has been set for May 15.

Heaner has to rate as the man to beat, although Jennings' Amos Fontenot and Port Arthur's Bill Barksdale, along with Beaumont's Luther Risher share the dark horse honors and could take it all.

Fontenot tied Heaner in the Memorial Day event last year with a low gross score of 77, but Heaner was declared the winner on the basis of his low net 71 to Fontenot's 72. The championship was even closer later in the Live Wires tourney when Heaner found himself tied with Andy Poulson at the end of play, both with handicap score of 71. Capt'n' Andy

lost the flip of a coin in that one to decide the outcome. "I don't know if I'll defend my titles or not," said Heaner when quizzed, "I read where a man is over the hill when he's past 40."

Over in Baton Rouge the golfers will have additional incentive. Stokes has said there will be a hole-in-one contest on the 17th hole, and a driving contest on the 9th hole.

Adding luster to all the tournaments of course are the scorekeepers. Most of the golfers would just as soon stay at the 19th hole, just in case the scorekeepers need any help. Who can blame them?

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## Company Bowler Wins Lake Charles Crown

By JOHNNIE HARRIS  
Plain Talks Reporter

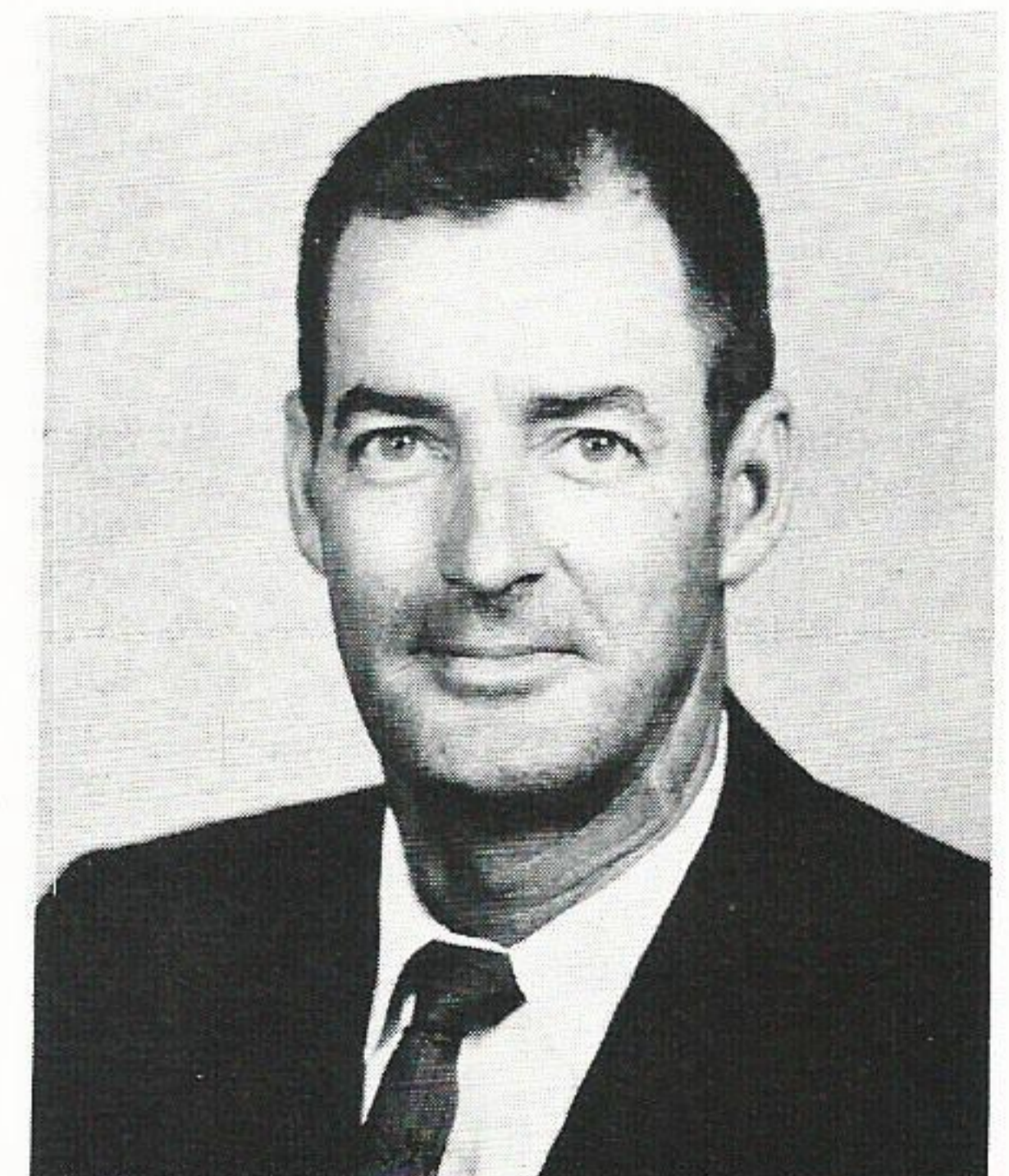
Emery Fruge, of the Lake Charles Line Department, won the city bowling crown in the 29th Annual Calcasieu Bowling Association Tournament at Recreation Lanes in Lake Charles recently.

The 185 average bowler won the scratch and handicap All-Events titles. Teamed with Lynn Knippers, Fruge also collected second place money in the doubles.

Emery had a super 729 scratch series in the doubles. This total helped propel him to the scratch All-Events title which determines the city champion.

Rolling games of 266-233-230 in achieving the 729 set, he and his partner amassed a 1,319 total in the doubles. In team competition Fruge had games of 180-204-203 for 587. His scratch total for the tournament's nine games was 1,914. This works out to an average of 213.

Fruge posted a handicap score of 2,007, a tournament record. His 729 was the top scratch series bowled in the tourney.



Emery Fruge



# Orange County Students Visit Sabine Station Power Plant

Orange County High School Honor Students were given a first hand look at the business world when the business and industrial members of the Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce recognized the young scholars at a luncheon.

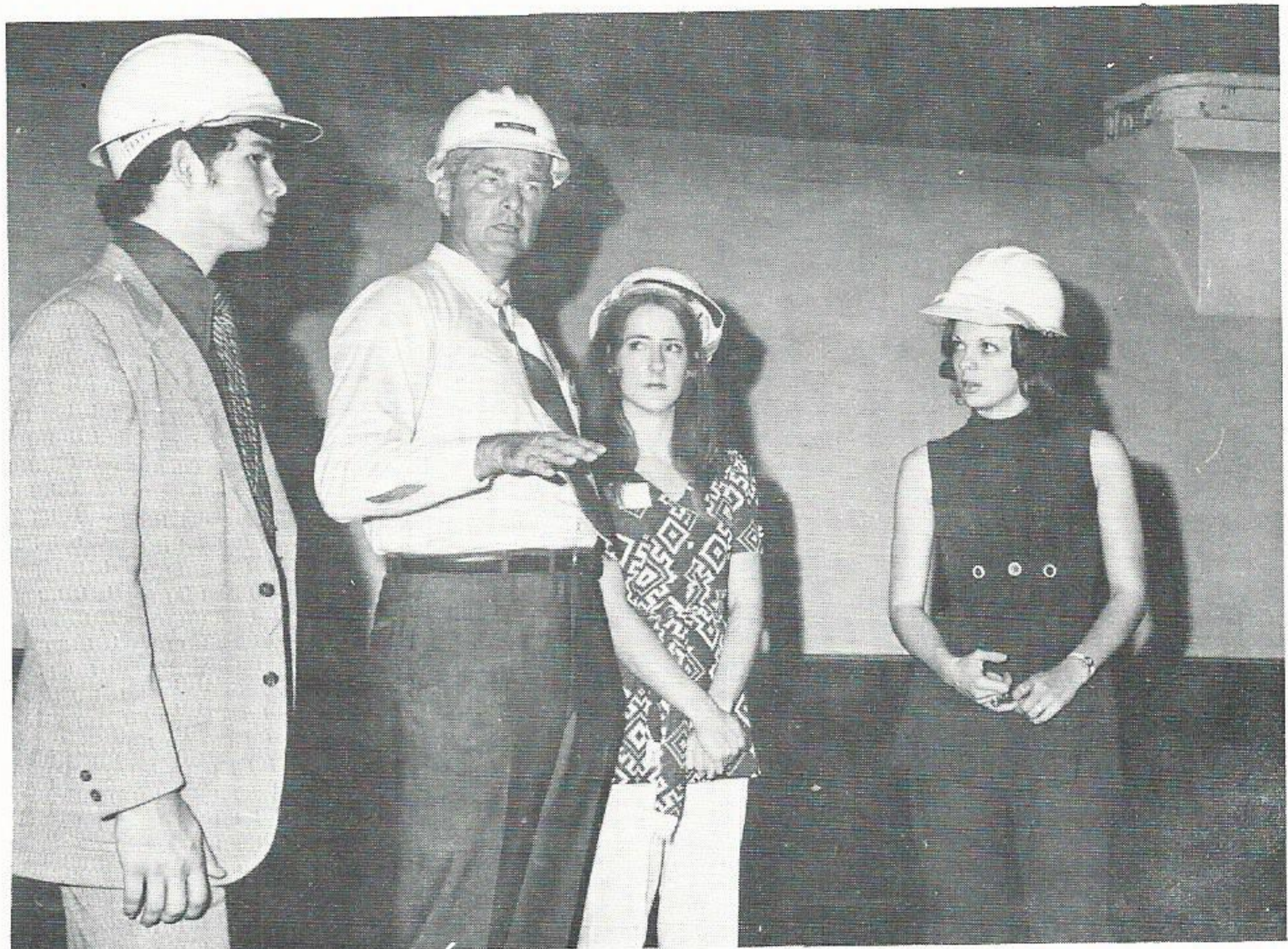
Along with our company, the Orange Leader, B. F. Goodrich Chemical, Owens-Illinois, Gulf Oil, DuPont de Nemours & Co., U. S. Navy, Levingston Shipbuilding Co., American Bridge, Phillips Petroleum and the Orange County Navigation and Port District, participated in the event and conducted tours for the students.

Eight of the students were shown through Sabine Station near Bridge City as our part of the tour. Ed Loggins, plant superintendent, Don Hamilton and Morris Sanderfer conducted the tours. The students were shown virtually every facet of the huge power station, and kept our men busy answering questions.

O. R. Pace, sales supervisor, and Jim Dowies were among those involved in the annual chamber event. The recognition luncheon has become one of Orange County's most popular projects.

Students participating in the Sabine

Station tour were, from Bridge City, Angela Dupree, Ellen Williamson and Mary Irene David; from West Ornage, Laura Harvey and Sherry Hatton; from Little Cypress-Mauriceville, Kris Payne, Paula Humble and Yanke Peveto; and from Litcher Stark, and Jane Holt; from Vidor came Greg Robertson.



Deep in the heart of the power plant, Ed Loggins explains the use of some of the various valves and backup equipment so necessary to keep a power plant running at peak efficiency.

## dis GRUNT lings





# SEFOR Decommissioning Caused By Lack Of Funds

A lack of funds is leading to the closing of SEFOR - the Southwest Experimental Fast Oxide Reactor - which has now completed its original job.

Floyd R. Smith, who serves as president of the Southwest Atomic Energy Associates, said the decommissioning comes because the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission has no money available to finance its part of a follow-on program at the

facility. SAEA is made up of 17 investor-owned utility companies, including our company, which own the experimental reactor.

Experimental work at the reactor was completed this January and "results were very satisfactory," Mr. Smith noted.

In September of last year, the AEC reported to the International Conference on Peaceful Uses of the Atom at Geneva,

Switzerland, that SEFOR experiments were successful and important to the world-wide effort to develop the fast breeder reactor.

In recent months, a series of meetings has been held to study the prospects for additional experimental work at the reactor. Mr. Smith said a follow-on program was technically feasible and the partners were willing to commit funds for modifying the plant. But the AEC does not have funds available to finance the additional work.

"We are disappointed that the follow-on work cannot be done," Mr. Smith said, "but the 17 electric companies who are members of SAEA are proud of their participation in SEFOR and are satisfied that the results are a very important contribution to fast breeder reactor safety and technology.

"Information growing out of SEFOR experiments will be valuable and timely in the design and construction of the first American liquid metal cooled fast breeder reactor power plant. We hope that such a demonstration plant will be started this year," he continued.

General Electric Company, which operated the facility for SAEA, has already started decommissioning procedures at the plant. Another partner in the project was GfK, owned by the government of West Germany, which had invested \$5 million toward the cost of SEFOR.

The SEFOR test facility was built as one of the first steps in developing the fast breeder nuclear reactor, a more efficient way of using nuclear energy to produce power.

Contracts were signed in 1964 under which SAEA agreed to build the facility and the AEC agreed to pay for some research and development, to furnish plutonium and uranium fuel and to pay for specific experimental work at SEFOR.

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## Retirements

**Leslie A. Sullivan, Jr.**, right-of-way man in Lake Charles, is retiring after 37 years of service.

Hired in 1937, Mr. Sullivan is a Lake Charles native and graduated from high school in that city, and later attended LSU as a part-time student.

An active civic worker, Mr. Sullivan is a member of the Parish Democratic Committee, the Calcasieu Parish Historical Society, Society of Old Engineers and the Boy Scout Camping Committee. He is also interested in the Historical ancestry of his family and is a member of the Sullivan Sept (ancestors of the Sullivans of Ireland).

He and his wife, Selina Lee Sarvaunt, plan to keep busy with business and travel. One of their dreams is to visit Ireland for closer genealogical research. They also like to fish.

Looking back over his life, Mr. Sullivan lists as his most memorable moment, "returning from World War II."



Leslie A. Sullivan, Jr.



Marcus D. Smith

**Marcus D. Smith**, division substation operator in Conroe, is retiring after 44 years of service.

Mr. Smith, hired in 1928, is a native of McGregor, Tex., and a graduate of Kernis High School.

Mr. Smith is an army veteran, and served in the European Theater during World War II. He was a sergeant in the 252nd Ordinance Co., and won four battle stars.

Married to the former Gertrude Liscomb of Dacus, Tex., the couple attend the First Baptist Church of Navasota. He is also a member of the American Legion and serves as the post's Vice-Commander.

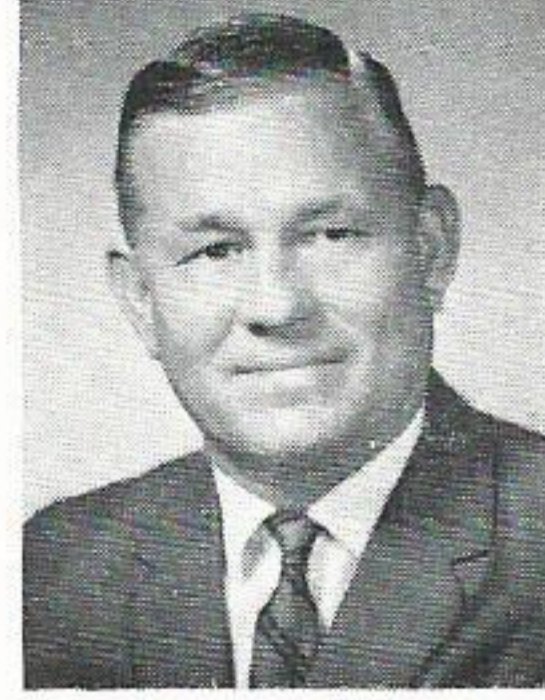
Looking back on his career, Mr. Smith says that he is proud to have had a small part in helping this company to grow into the company that it has become today.



# People On The Move



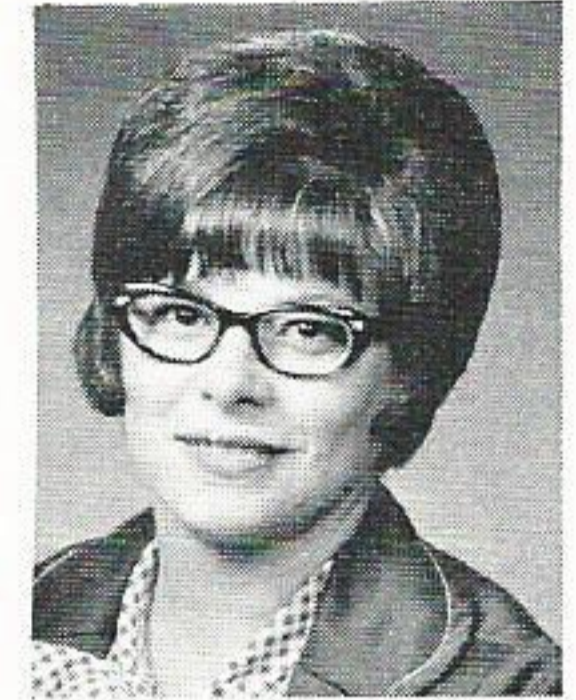
James E. Booker



Orin M. Dixon



Bert E. Rogers



Stella L. Smith

**James P. Towers**, supervisor-Personnel Relations in Baton Rouge, has been promoted to assistant to the vice president, Baton Rouge Division.

Mr. Towers has served as personnel relations supervisor since transferring to Baton Rouge in 1967 from Beaumont. Prior to that he had been training representative in the System Personnel Department.

Mr. Towers was graduated from the University of Texas with a bachelor of arts degree in economics in 1957. Following graduation, he worked for two years as an industrial engineer for the DuPont Company in Charleston, W. Va.

A native of Denton, Md., Mr. Towers attended schools in Newark and Delaware.

Mr. Towers is married to the former Peggy Fulton of Beaumont, and they have two children, James, Jr., and Mary.

**Stella L. Smith**, formerly a clerk in System Treasury, has been promoted to confidential records clerk, Internal Audits, System Treasury.

Mrs. Smith has been with the company since 1965.

A native of Beaumont, Mrs. Smith is a graduate of St. Anthony's High School, and attended Lamar University.

Mrs. Smith and her husband, Lester, have two children, Clay and George.

**Bert E. Rogers**, formerly financial administration coordinator-Corporate and Finance, has been promoted to supervisor-records management in Information & Data Services.

Mr. Rogers has been employed by the company since 1960 when he joined the General Accounting Department at Beaumont. He was transferred to Purchasing in 1963, and he had held the Corporate and Finance post since 1964.

A native Beaumont, Mr. Rogers is a graduate of Beaumont High School. He holds a degree in industrial management from Lamar University.

**Orin M. Dixon**, a 24-year employee of the company, has been promoted to assistant general substation foreman in Beaumont T&D.

A native of Beaumont, Mr. Dixon is a South Park High School graduate. He is a

Navy veteran, having served from 1943 to 1946.

Mr. Dixon joined the company in 1948 in Beaumont T&D. He advanced through various classifications and was named utility foreman in 1969. He had served as substation foreman since October, 1971.

Married to the former Bertha Candal of Ponce, Puerto Rico, Mr. Dixon and his wife have two children. They are Charlotte Ann, 16, and Mark Wayne, 13.

**Mildred F. Tribble** has been promoted to director-Home Services. She will continue to work out of the main office building at Beaumont.

In her new post, Miss Tribble will direct activities of the company's home service advisors throughout the system.

An employee of the company since 1945, Miss Tribble formerly had served as home service coordinator since 1970.

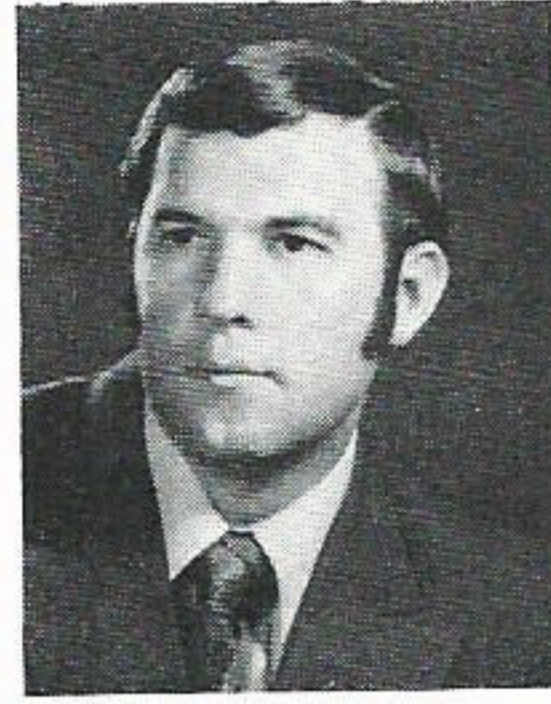
A native of Navasota, Texas, Miss Tribble received her bachelor's degree in home economics education from Texas Woman's University at Denton. She also holds a master's degree in home economics with special emphasis on family life and home management from Louisiana State University.

Miss Tribble is active in numerous homemaking organizations in Texas and





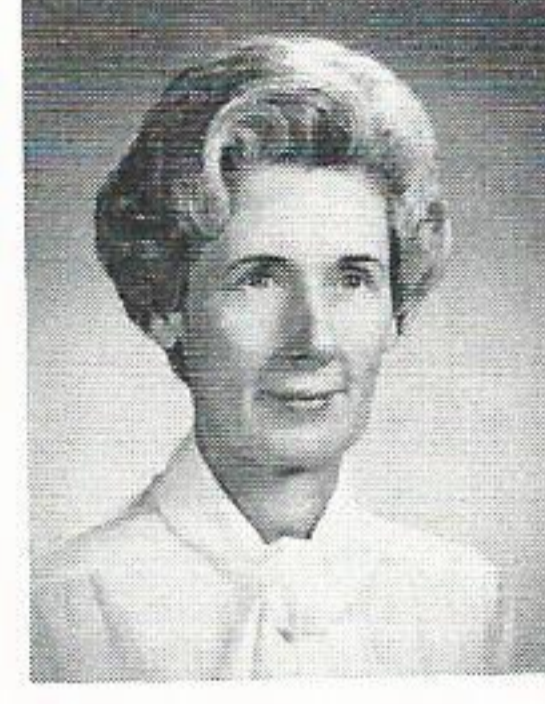
Carolyn E. Theobald



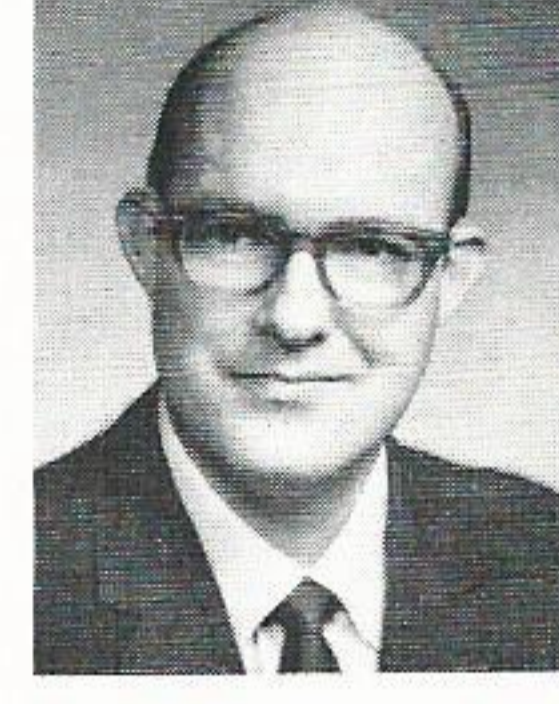
Franz R. Tomlinson



James P. Towers



Mildred F. Tribble



Prentice W. Ward

Louisiana. She is a member of the American, Texas and South Texas Home Economists in Business groups. While working out of the company's Baton Rouge office, she was the first chairman of the local Home Economists in Business Section.

**Carolyn E. Theobald**, former librarian in Beaumont, has been promoted to PBX and Stenographic Supervisor, Records Management, Information and Data Services Department.

A native of Beaumont, Mrs. Theobald joined the company in 1957 as a departmental clerk in System Engineering. She later served in the same capacity in System Engineering Design. In 1967 Mrs. Theobald was promoted to Librarian.

She is married to David Theobald, and they have one son, David, Jr., and a daughter-in-law, Jane. "No grandchildren yet," said Carolyn, "but one's on the way."

Two company personnel have been promoted to the firm's nuclear planning staff.

**James E. Booker** has assumed the position of quality assurance coordinator, and **Franz R. Tomlinson** has been named nuclear engineer.

In their new posts, Booker and Tomlinson will work with other members of

the company's power plant engineering staff in planning for the company's first nuclear-fueled power plant, River Bend Station. Construction on the facility, to be built near Baton Rouge, is expected to begin in 1974, and commercial operation is anticipated for late 1979.

Mr. Booker formerly had served as supervisor-records management since January, 1971. He joined the company in 1956 and has held a number of system engineering and production department positions.

A native of Hemphill, Texas, Mr. Booker graduated from South Park High School. He received his industrial and mechanical engineering degrees from Lamar University.

Mr. Booker is past president and a director of the Lamar Ex-Students Association and serves on Lamar's Regents Alumni Council. He is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and is a registered professional engineer in Texas.

Mr. Booker and his wife, the former Merle Merritt of Beaumont, have three children.

Mr. Tomlinson was employed in May, 1971. Originally assigned to the system production department, he was transferred to Sabine Power Station near Bridge City in August, 1971.

A native of Seminole, Texas, near Lubbock, Mr. Tomlinson is a veteran of the Navy. He holds a bachelor of science degree in nuclear engineering from Texas A&M University.

Mr. Tomlinson is a member of the American Nuclear Society.

**Prentice W. Ward**, administrative accountant in Beaumont, has been promoted to rate analyst in the Rates and Depreciation Department in Beaumont.

A native of Tyler, Texas, Mr. Ward is a graduate of the University of Texas, and joined the company in 1957 as a senior accounting clerk. In 1962 he was promoted to accountant in the Plant Accounting Department.

He and his wife Imogene have one son, John, four-years of age. "We were very lucky to get John," said Mr. Ward, "we adopted him from the same orphanage in which I was raised."

Mr. Ward is an Air Force veteran, and spent most of his tour in Germany from 1951 to 1954.

A Deacon at the Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church, Mr. Ward is also quite active in youth work. He is a past director of the North Beaumont Lions Club, and secretary-treasurer of Country Lanes Association, a civic organization made up of home owners in the Country Lanes subdivision.





Lester Landry

Lester P. Landry, retired Commercial Sales Representative, died in mid-March in a Baton Rouge hospital.

Mr. Landry, an employee for 37 years, had retired from the company in June of 1967. He spent his entire career in Baton Rouge.

Hired as a salesman in 1930, Mr. Landry received promotions to Customer Service Representative, Residential Sales Representative, Senior Residential Sales Representative, and Commercial Sales Representative.

Mr. Landry is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ethel LeBlanc Landry, and a sister, Mrs. Hebert (Lelia) Hart, both of Baton Rouge.

He was an active churchman and a member of the Holy Name Society at St. Aloysius Catholic Church, a third degree Knight of Columbus, and a member of the Ushers' Society.



Tim Lindsey

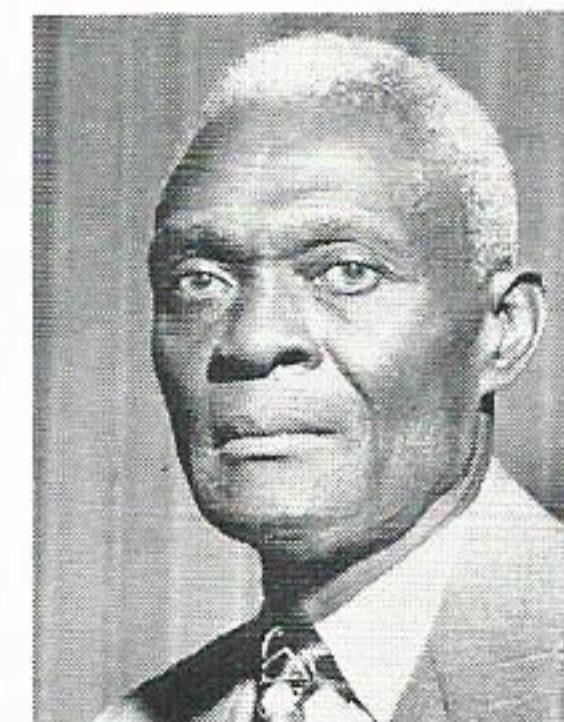
Tyrah H. "Snooks" Lindsey, who retired from T&D in 1961 after more than 42 years of service, died in Beaumont in mid-March.

A native of San Antonio, Tex., Mr. Lindsey came to work as a lineman in 1919, and spent his career in the Beaumont Division. He progressed through the various lineman and serviceman classifications.

Mr. Lindsey has been with the lumber business prior to coming to the company, and was educated in the public schools of Colmesneil.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alma Lindsey of Beaumont; two daughters, Mrs. Edgar Freddie West, Sr. of Vidor, and Mrs. Vernal Solieau of Port Arthur. One son also survives, Mr. T. Harris Lindsey, Jr., of Beaumont.

## Deaths



Robert Camp

Robert Camp, retired T&D Line Department employee from Port Arthur, died March 11.

A native of New Iberia, La., Mr. Camp retired in November of 1962 after 20 years of service.

He began his employment in 1942 in the Port Arthur garage. He moved to the T&D Department in January of 1955.

Mr. Camp is survived by his wife, the former Margie Comeaux of Crowley, La.

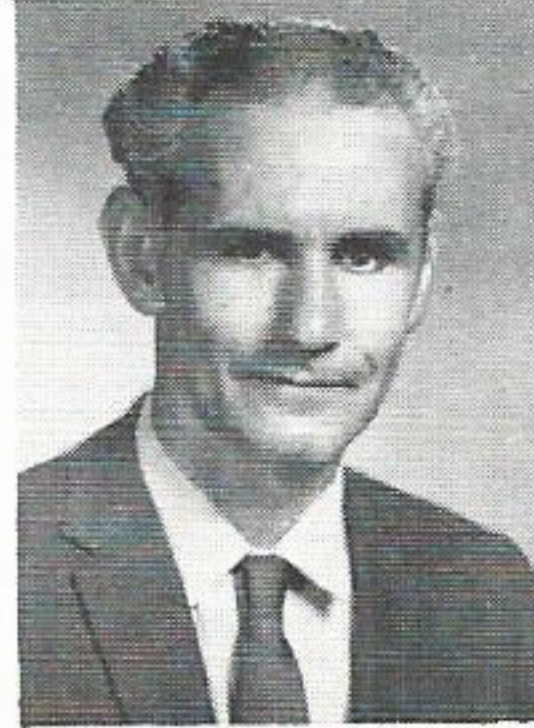


# SERVICE AWARDS

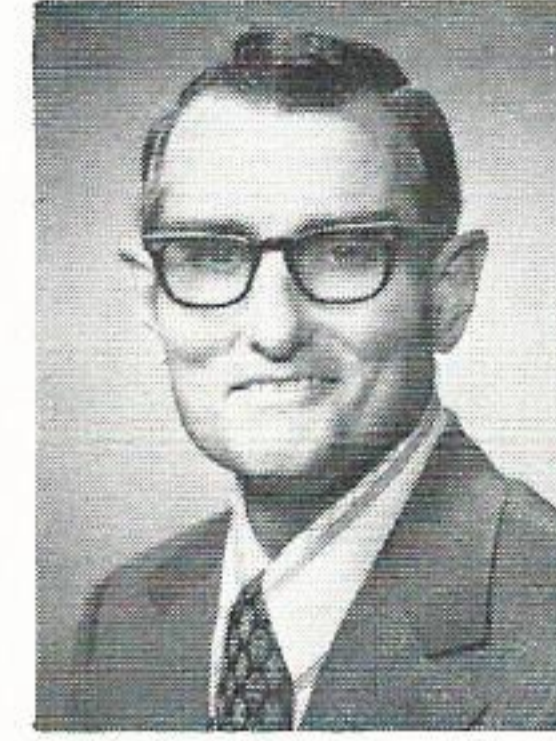
## THIRTY YEARS



W. W. Due  
Distribution  
Beaumont



E. H. Nevils  
Distribution  
Beaumont

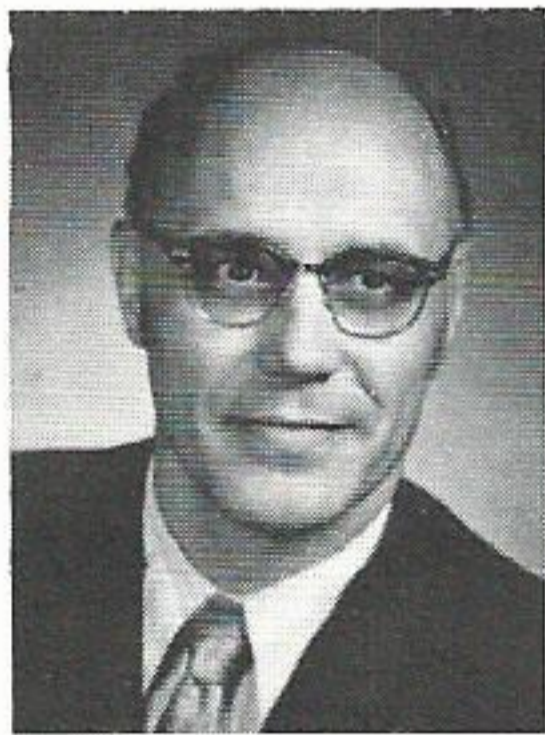


Archie L. Whitson, Jr.  
Engineering  
Beaumont

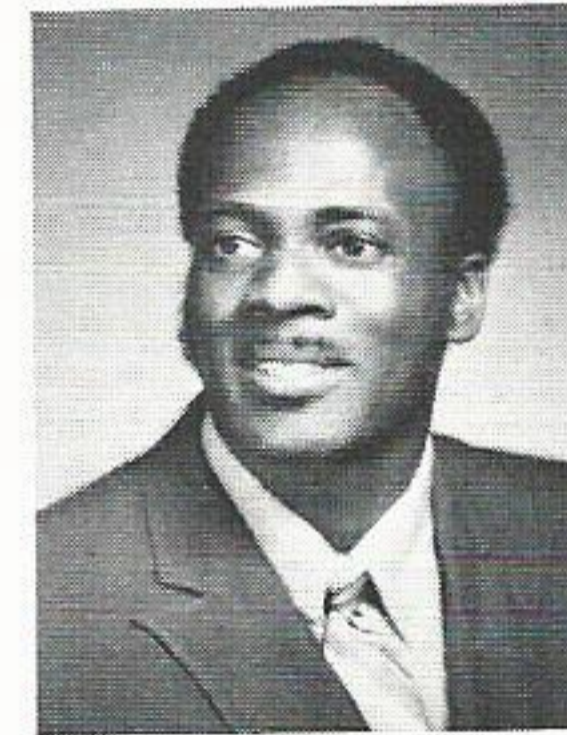


Charles DeCuir  
Sales  
Conroe

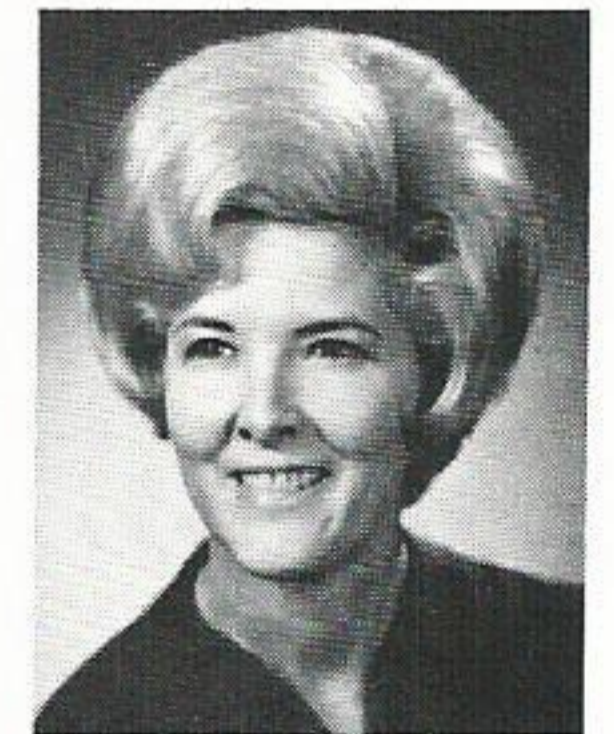
## TWENTY YEARS



Frank A. Lemire  
Treasury  
Beaumont

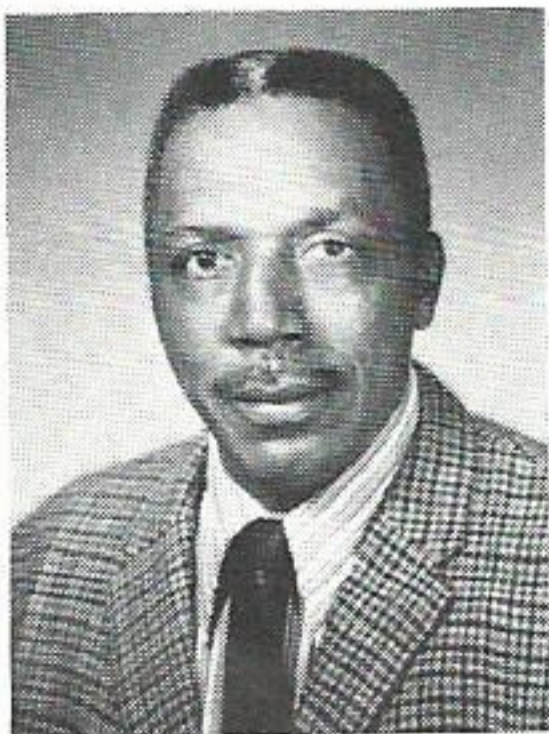


David Doss  
Treasury  
Beaumont



Clara Ellis  
Personnel  
Beaumont

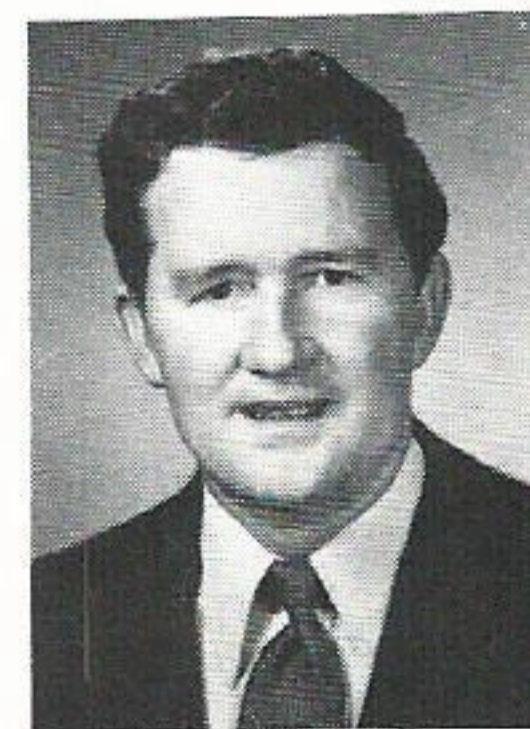
## TEN YEARS



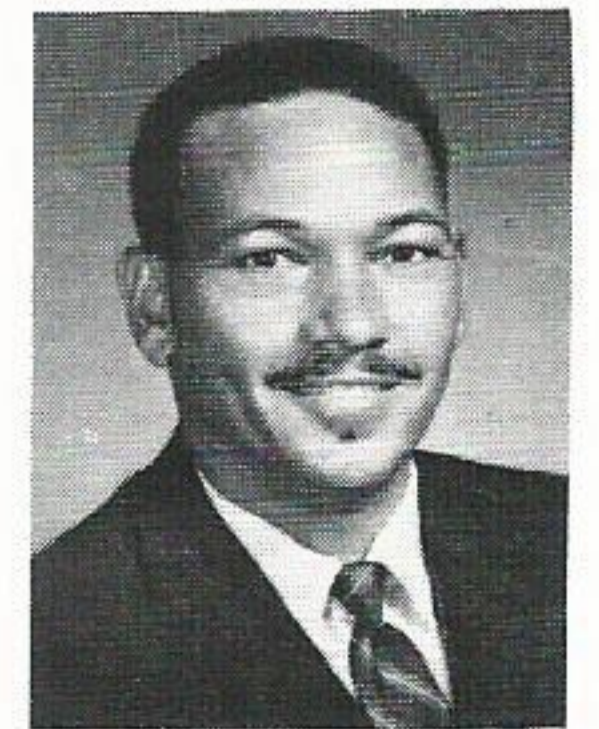
Ike Simms, Jr.  
Distribution  
Beaumont



Boyd Williams  
Distribution  
Beaumont

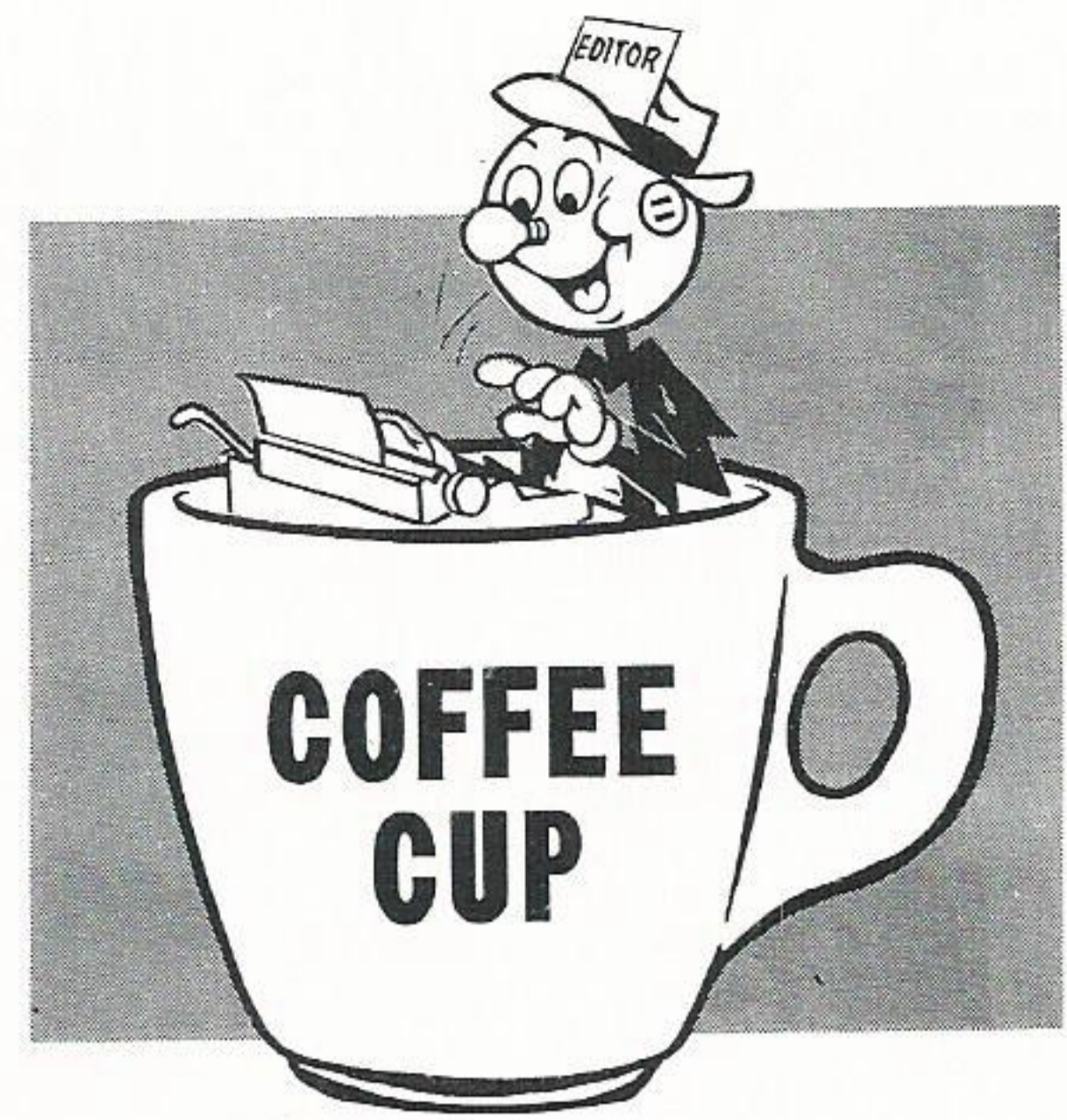


Kenneth W. Haynes  
Distribution  
Beaumont



Irby J. Thibodeaux  
Distribution  
Beaumont





## REPORTERS

If you have any story you think is interesting and would like to see in **PLAIN TALKS**, just contact the reporter nearest you, and he (or she) will see that it gets to the editor. A complete list of the reporters and their location can be found on the first page of each Coffee Cup section.

If you have any news for "**Plain Talks**," simply send the information to one of the following local reporters. They will be happy to assist you in getting the material to the Editor.

**BATON ROUGE:** Henry Joyner, Margie Force (T&D), Fay Hebert (T&D), T. Boone Chaney (T&D), Melanie Hima (T&D), Charles L. Miller (T&D), Jack Gautreaux (T&D), Clyde Cannon (T&D), James W. Bello (T&D), Beverly Hull (Gas), Opal Temple (Acct.), Robert Graves (T&D).

**BEAUMONT:** Linda McSwain (S.C.), Bill Toups (S.C.), Barbara Lindsey, Ann Ogden, Edy Waltmon, Linda Marks.

**CALVERT:** Janis E. Wilganowski.

**CLEVELAND:** Pat Jones, Edd Mitchell.

**CONROE:** Frances Elliot.

**DENHAM SPRINGS:** Lenelle Juban.

**GONZALES:** Billy Fortenberry.

**HUNTSVILLE:** Dewey Allbritton.

**JENNINGS:** Eart Mayfield.

**LAFAYETTE:** Bobbie Denais.

**LAKE CHARLES:** Johnnie Harris (T&D), Pam Case.

**LA. STATION:** Leslie Jeansonne.

**LEWIS CREEK:** James Veatch.

**MADISONVILLE:** Wanda H. Tinsley.

**NAVASOTA:** Betty Dickschat.

**NECHES STATION:** Gene Russell, Hazel Higginbotham.

**NELSON STATION:** Martha Caldwell.

**ORANGE:** Davie Carpenter.

**PORT ALLEN:** Adele Vavasseur.

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

**SABINE STATION:** Kathleen Fuller.

**SILSBEE:** Maxie Bell.

**SULPHUR:** Pearl Darbonne.

**WILLOW GLEN:** Dora Landaiche.

**WOODVILLE:** Alene Waggoner.

**ZACHARY:** Myra Kirby.

*(Editor's Note: If any of the above reporters are no longer reporting or with the company, we would appreciate knowing about it. This holds true also if any reporter's name has been omitted.)*

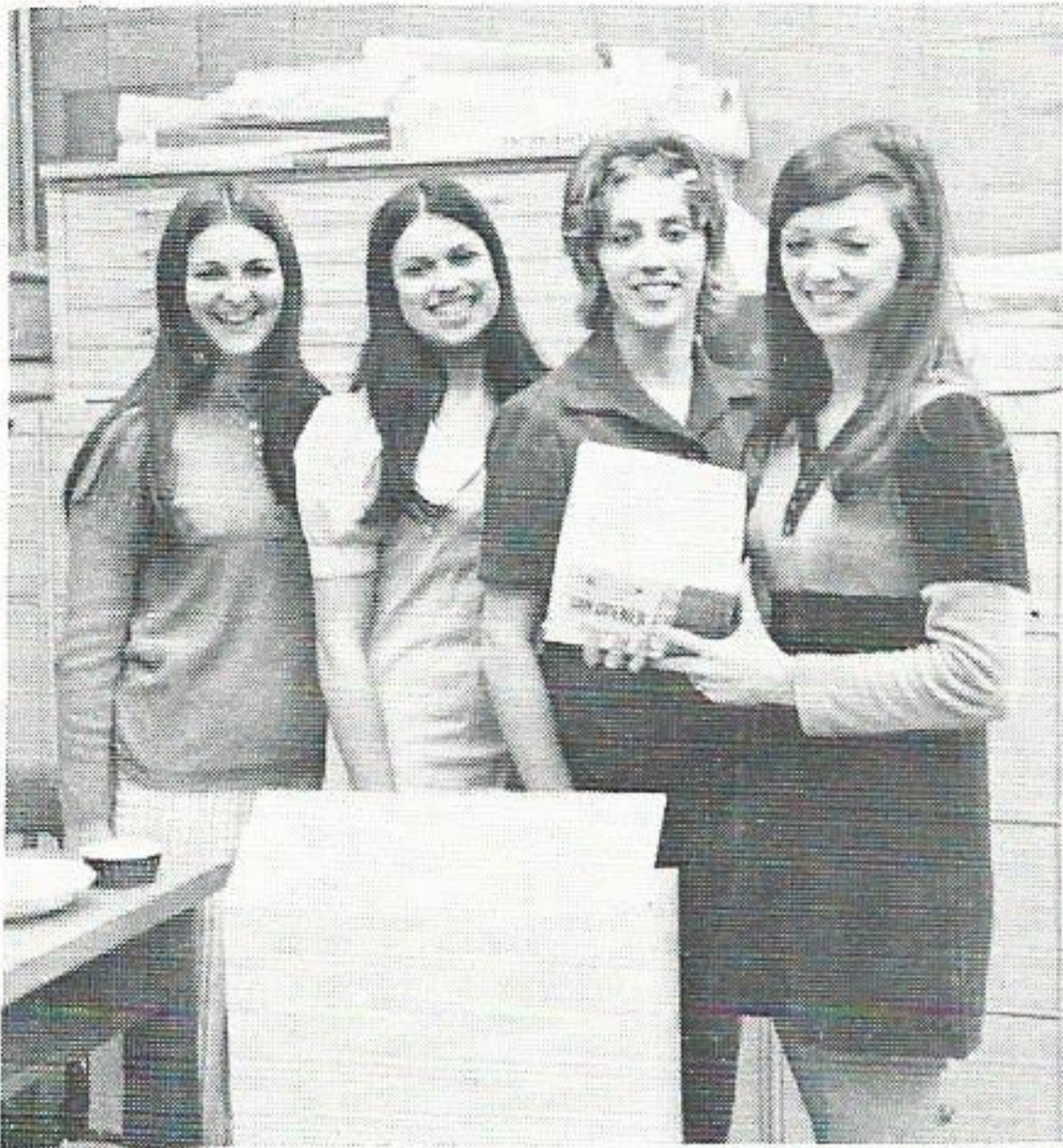
## Louisiana Station



Ronald G. Carriere, mechanic's helper at Louisiana Station, had good luck recently on a hunting trip to West Texas. He and his grandfather (right) each killed a good sized deer while hunting near Laredo. (from Leslie L. Jeansonne)



# Louisiana Station

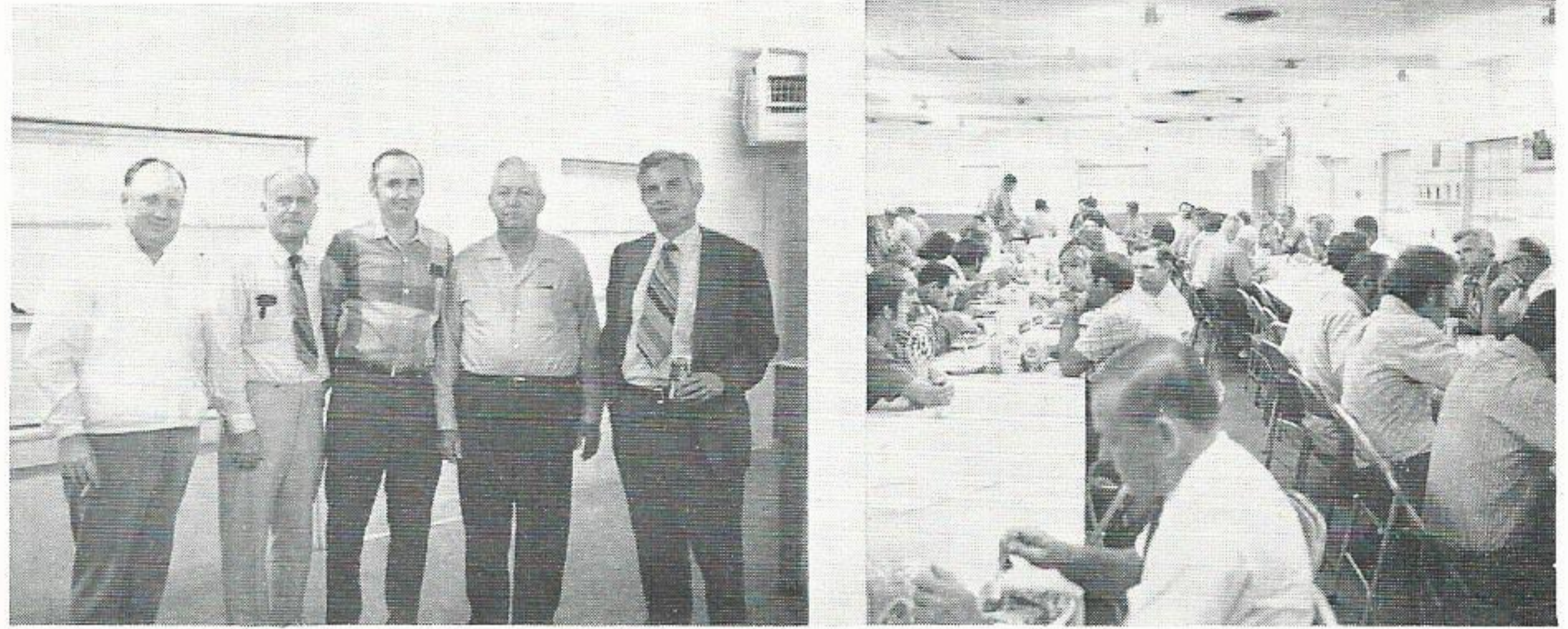


Linda Nelson (right) was recently given a going away party by her friends at Louisiana Station. Linda is leaving the company to be married to Glenn Rewtte and will live in Seattle, Wash. Among her friends on hand were, left to right, Leslie Jeansonne, Mary Purple and Marilyn Nicholson. (from Leslie Jeansonne)

# Nelson Station

Joseph B. Guillory, laborer from Roy S. Nelson Station in Lake Charles, has become a grandfather for the first time. His son Emanuel and his wife Evelyn were blessed with a baby boy on March 4. His name is Emanuel Patrick, and he checked in at a healthy six pounds, 11 ounces. Congratulations Granddad. (from Martha Caldwell)

# Neches Station



A nice crowd was on hand at Neches Station in Beaumont for the retirement party of Felix Vercher, substation foreman. Some of those on hand were, left to right, Norman Lee, Sherman Canfield, Mel Cole, Felix, and Ward McCurtain. Paul Lamar provided the barbeque for the event. (from Bill Toups)

# Port Arthur



Sidney Hebert, retired Senior Residential Sales Representative of Port Arthur, was the guest of honor along with his wife, at a party hosted by Port Arthur Division employees. Jim Stelly (left) presented the couple with various gifts from their many friends during the event. Sidney has worked for the company 42 years, and now he and Clofa just plan to take it easy in the "honey-Dew" years. (from Patsy Cook)



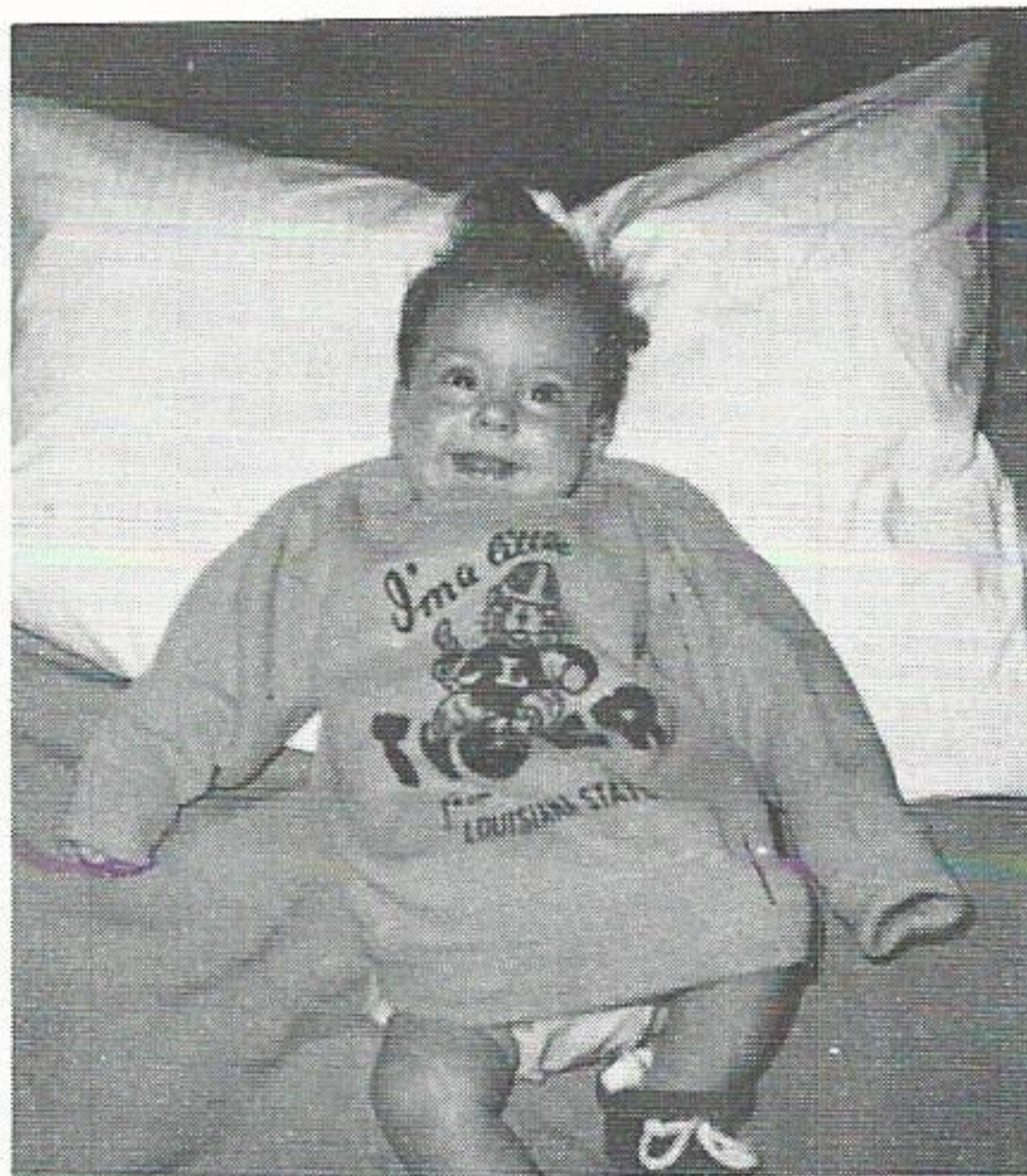
# Baton Rouge



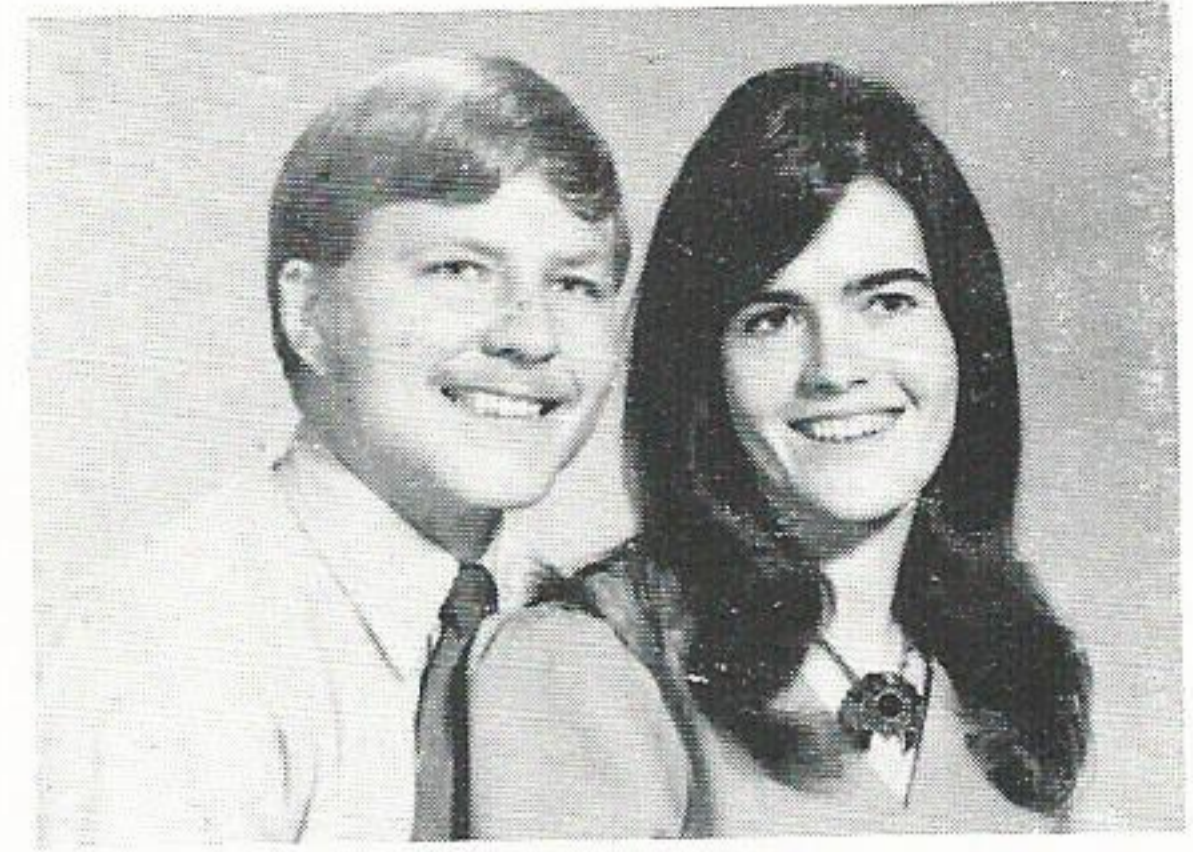
Toni Hudson was presented a birthday cake and a colorful bikini swim suit by co-workers on her birthday March 16. Toni is a clerk in the Baton Rouge Credit and Collections Department. Left to right are Linda Allen, Brenda Anderson, Toni, Patsy Hebert and Marilyn Long. PLAIN TALKS is waiting for a picture of Toni IN the bikini. (from **Opal Temple**)



Janie Holman, clerk in the Baton Rouge Credit and Collections, left the company in mid-March to move to Monroe, La. She was presented a cake and several bon-voyage gifts by co-workers. Left to right, Carolyn Ashford, Janie, Elaine Galloway and Louise Young. (from **Opal Temple**)



If Charlie McClendon can wait long enough, he just may find this youngster coming out to cheer his football team at LSU. This is Jennifer Leigh Parker, and she's already a "Fighting Tiger" fan. She is the three-month old granddaughter of J. L. Clements, commercial sales representative in Baton Rouge. (from **Opal Temple**)



As you read this, Charles R. "Butch" Turnley and Gayla Thomas will have just returned from their honeymoon. The couple planned to marry on April 1. Butch is a helper in the Substation Department in Baton Rouge. (from **Melanie D. Hima**)



It may not be the best Olympic skiing form, but Janice Simon, Baton Rouge Home Service Representative, says that this was the method she used recently during a skiing trip to Aspen, Colo. Janice was enthusiastic about her first trip to the slopes, and plans another next winter. (from **Henry Joyner**)

Murphy Blanchard, material coordinator in the Baton Rouge Division, is that city's newest and proudest grandfather. His daughter gave birth to a baby boy in February. His name is Scott Joseph Lambert. Congratulations Murphy. (from **Melanie Hima**)



# Zachary



George and Dorothy Guins celebrated a very special event recently. It was the silver anniversary of their marriage. George, a serviceman first class in the T&D Department in Zachary and the former Dorothy Dixon were married 25 years ago. They now have three children, and two grandchildren. The ceremony was well attended by their many friends. (from Myra Kirby)

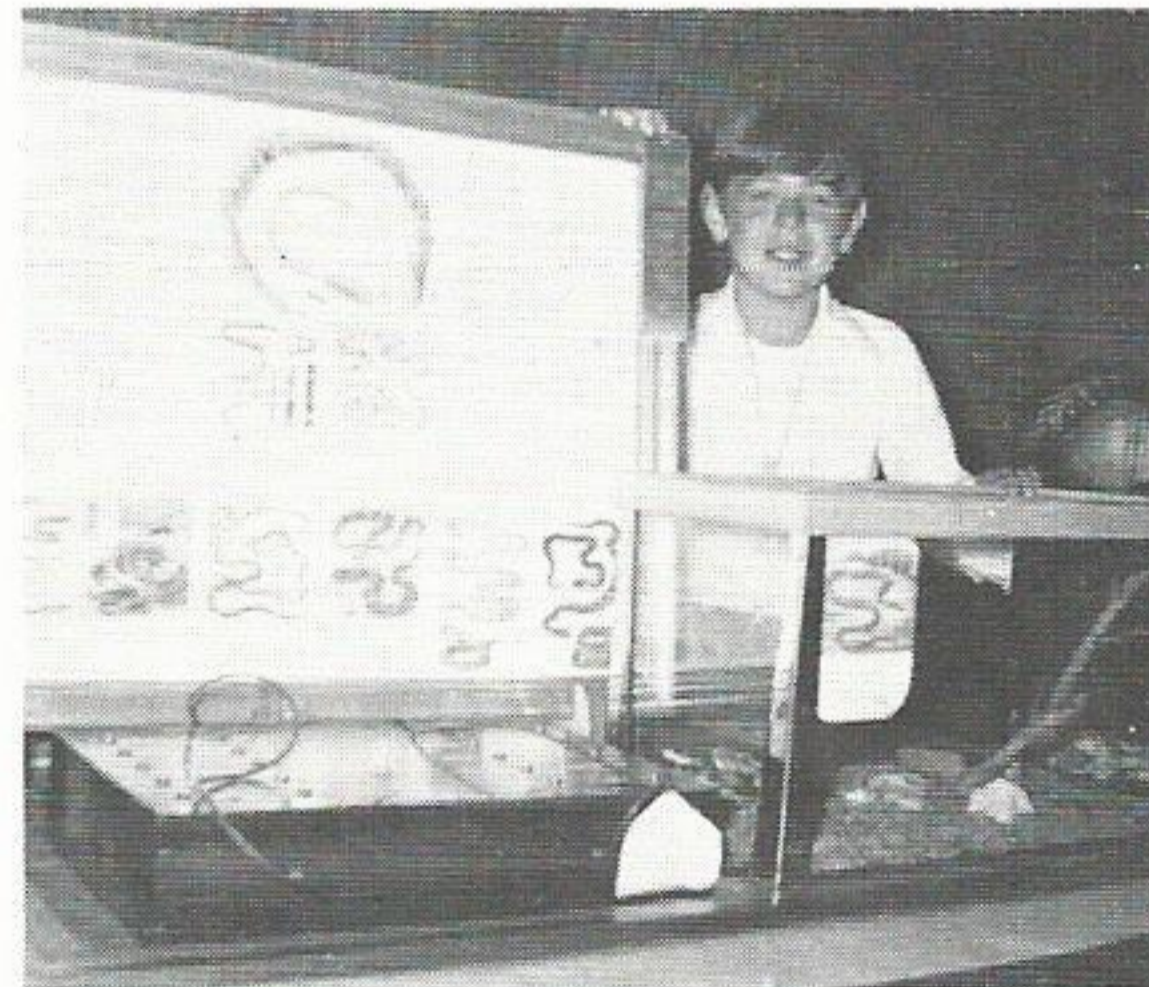


The Zachary Business & Professional Women's Club were pleased to have Baton Rouge Home Service Advisor Ann Allison as guest of honor at a recent meeting of the group. Mrs. Allison gave a demonstration on kitchen planning. Myra Kirby, office clerk in the Zachary office, is a member of the organization. (from Myra Kirby)

# Lake Charles

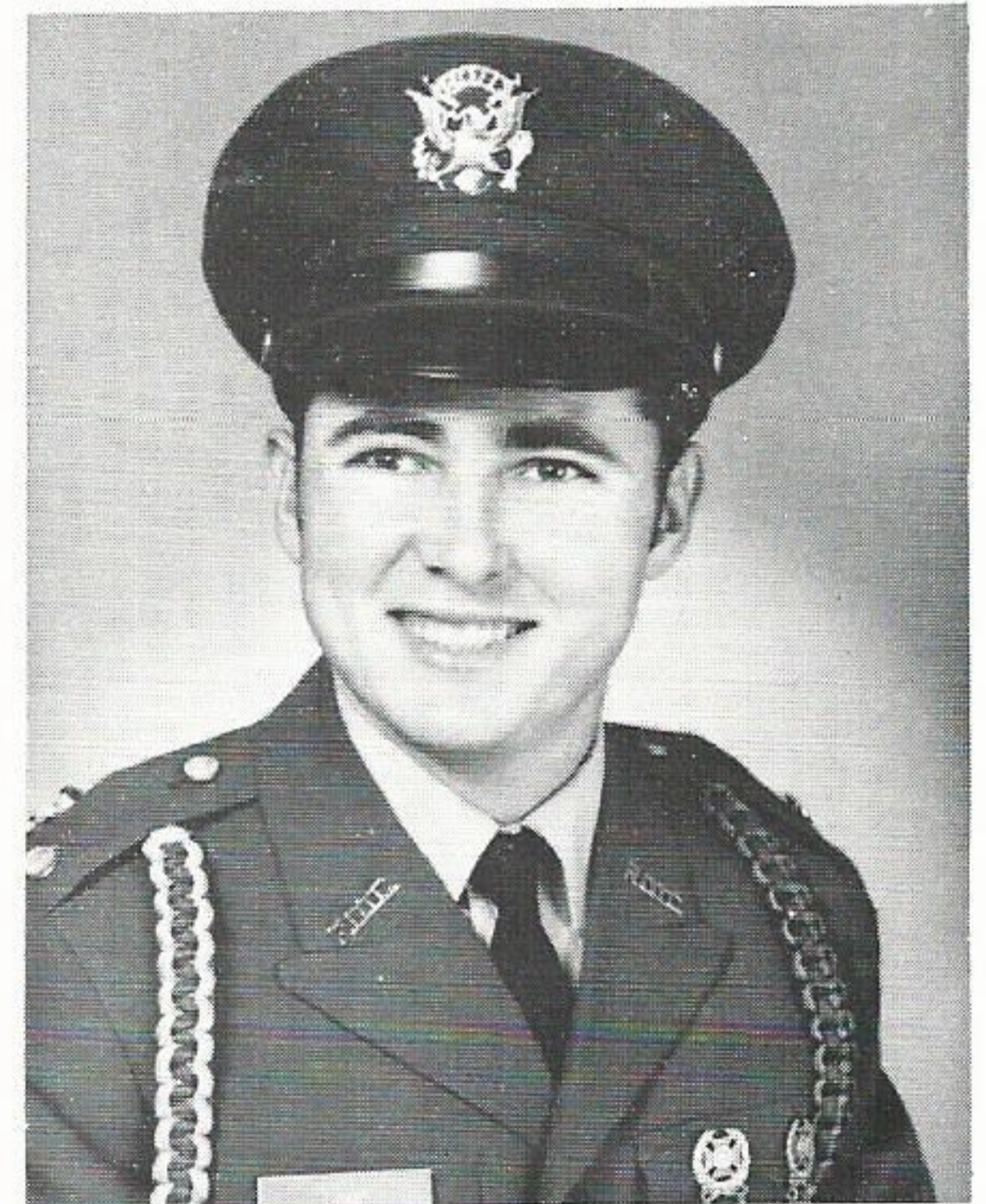


Den Three Pack 103 of Nelson Elementary school in Lake Charles recently toured our Lake Charles Service Center. Their Den Mother is Wilma Hulsey, who has been working at the Lake Charles garage. Wilma's son, Greg, is a member of the Den. (from Johnnie Harris)



Dale Conner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Conner, recently won First Place at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Science Fair. He also won a second at McNeese State University Science Fair. His project was on his pet snake, Glossy, a Boa Constrictor. Daddy is engineering assistant in Lake Charles Engineering. (from Johnnie Harris)

Jeff Fails was chosen outstanding Senator for the month of March at La-Grange Junior High School. He is a Sixth Grade student and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Fails. Wayne is the Lake Charles Communications Foreman. (from Johnnie Harris)

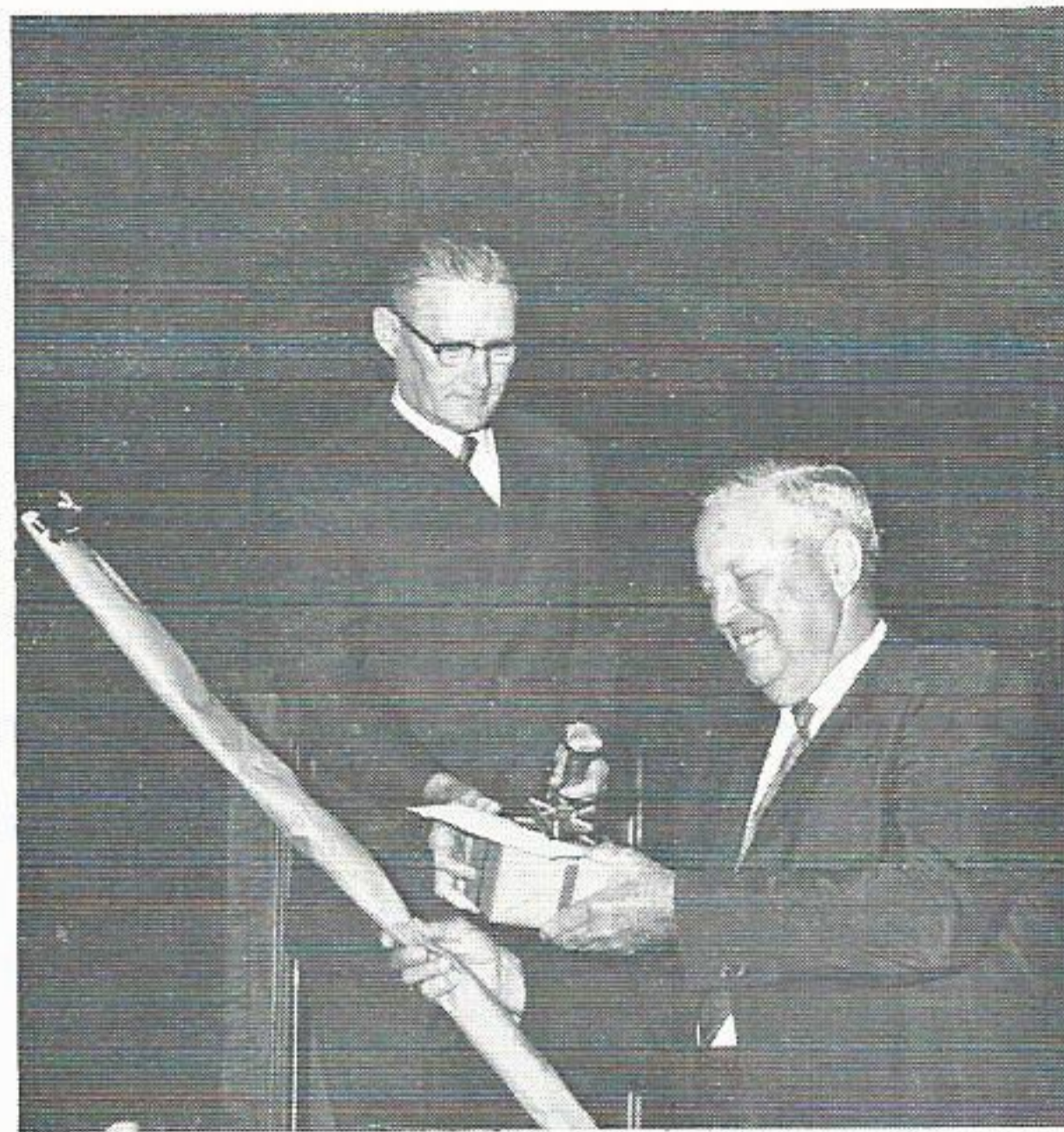


Glenn Long, husband of Carolyn Long of the Engineering Department at Lake Charles, recently received a Distinguished Military student Medal at ceremonies at McNeese State University. (from Johnnie Harris)

Kim Conner, daughter of Don Conner of L. C. Engineering, has been elected Cheerleader at Our Lady Queen of Heaven School. She was one of seven elected out of 30, and only second grader to be elected. Sharon Hebert, daughter of Jean Hebert of the L. C. Storeroom, was also chosen to serve as a Cheerleader. This will be Sharon's third year. (from Johnnie Harris)



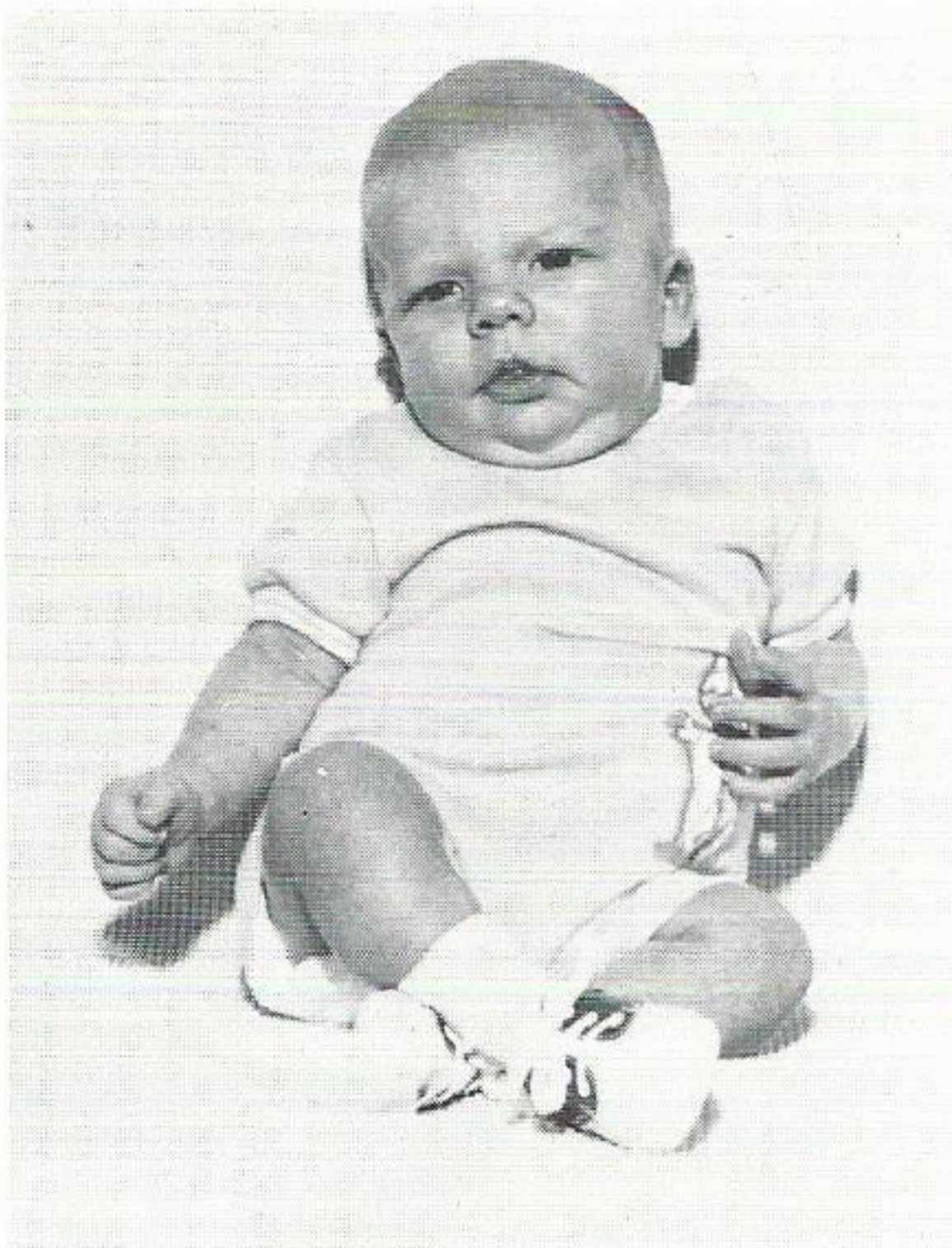
# Beaumont



Felix Vercher, popular substation foreman in Beaumont, was honored at a retirement party given him by his friends and co-workers at the Beaumont Service Center. In right photo, A. W. Baird, Operating superintendent, presents Felix with several gifts. Felix is an avid fisherman, and the gifts were obviously given with that in mind. (from the Editor)



Bert Rogers, recently promoted, surveys the spread laid out for him by his many friends and co-workers to honor the promotion. Bert takes over as supervisor of Records Management in IDS in Beaumont. Looking on are Joe Fontana (center) and Skippy Green (right). (from the Editor)

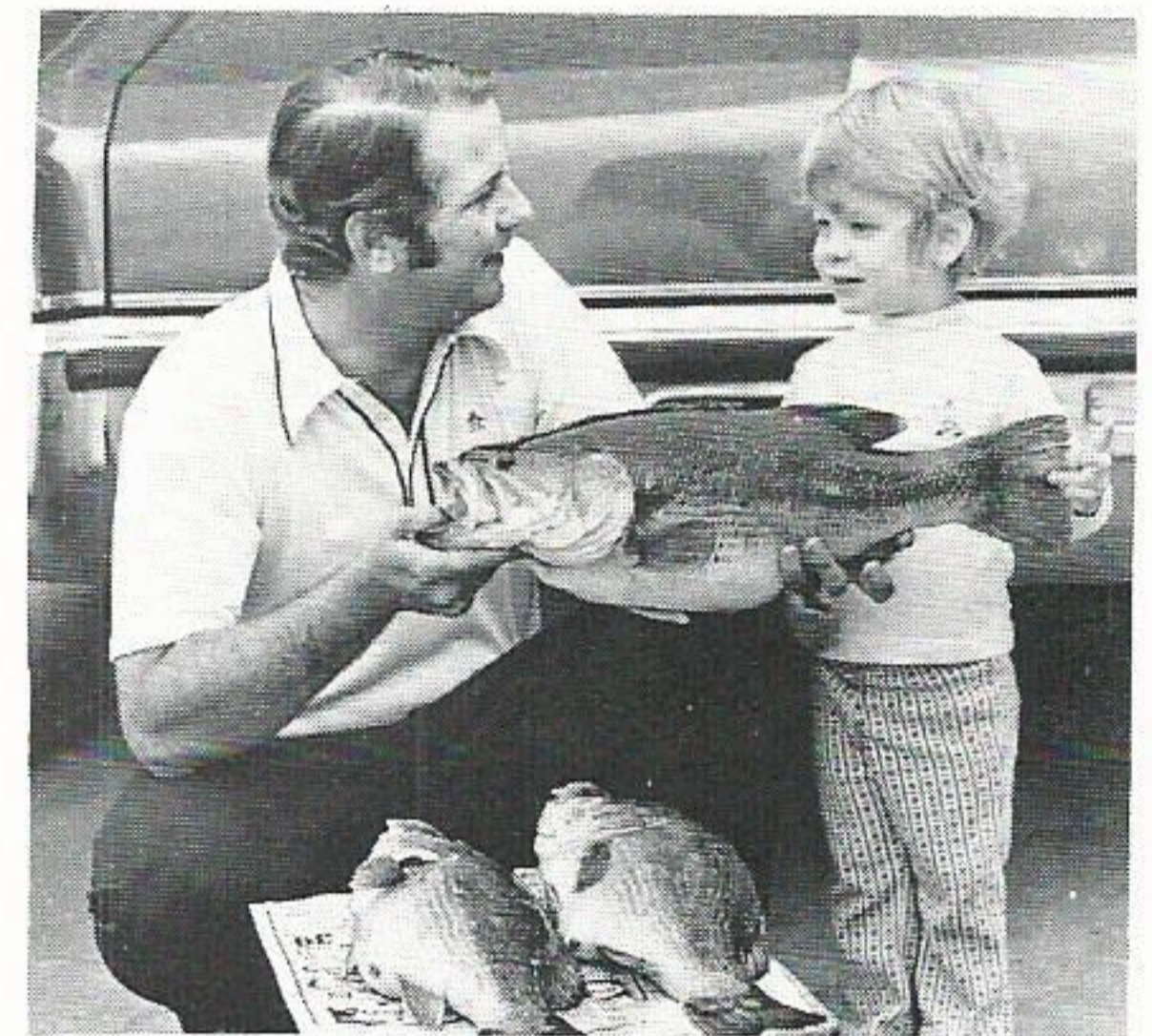


This healthy youngster is Charles Kevin Campbell, son of Charles and Jolaine Campbell. Kevin was born in December. He weighed nine pounds, 14 and one-half ounces at birth. He is the first child of the couple. Dad works in the Engineering Department at Lake Charles. (from Johnnie Harris)



Jim Booker, former supervisor of Records, stepped up to quality assurance coordinator in Beaumont and was given a going-away party by his friends and co-workers. Gathering around Jim are, from left to right, Sharron Minter, Melba Magee, Nancy Rayburn, Joan Hudson, Marie Obey and Gwen Bandsma. (from the Editor)

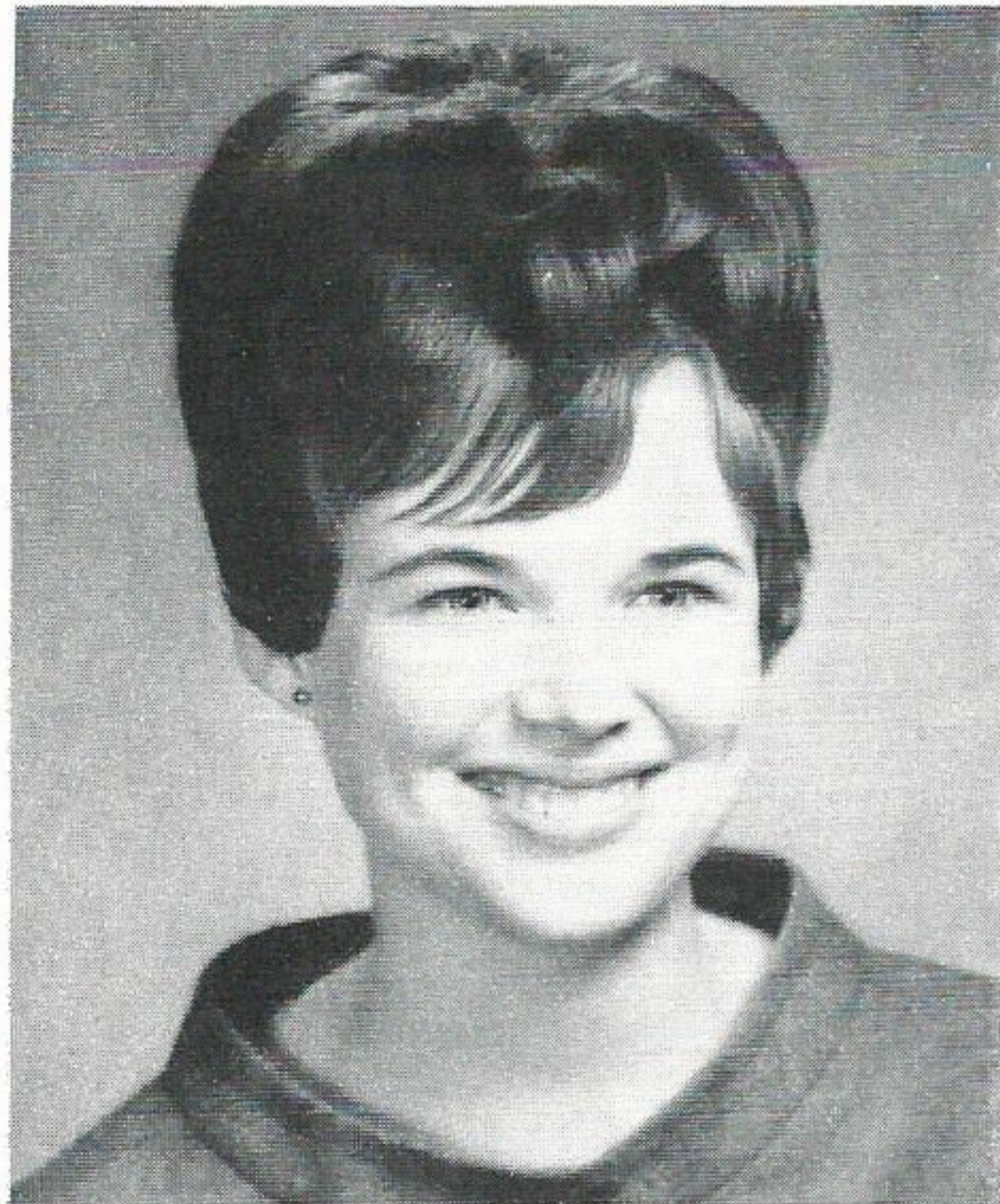
# Conroe



Three-year-old Niki Shawn Fleming, daughter of Putt and Emily Fleming, helps daddy hold up a bass almost as large as she is. Putt, known as a pretty good fisherman around the Conroe area, says that it won't be long before Niki Shawn is landing bass just as large as this eight and a quarter pounder. The other two weighed in at over seven and over six pounds. The fish were caught on Sam Rayburn, but Putt isn't saying where on Sam Rayburn. (from Emily Fleming)



# "Quick and Easy"



Patsy Cook, Senior Home Service Advisor in the Lake Charles Division, not only is creative in the kitchen, but on canvas as well. This multi-talented young lady graduated from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, La., with a B.S. degree in Home Economics. She taught home economics at Marion (La.) High School before joining the company in 1967, and keeps in practice now by teaching a junior high bible class. Patsy is a dedicated worker and receives much satisfaction in knowing that she has been able to help someone. When not at work Patsy relaxes by reading, working in her yard or riding a bicycle. "My real interest though," says Patsy, "is painting. Capturing a mood or feeling on canvas gives me a sense of accomplishment and pleasure." Patsy's husband, "Bubba", can testify to the fact that her accomplishments in the kitchen definitely gives him a sense of pleasure. These are some of Patsy's favorite dishes. According to Patsy, "they are quick and easy"

## Blueberry Cream Pie

2 envelopes packaged topping mix (Dream Whip)  
1 cup cold milk  
9 oz. cream cheese  
½ cup sugar  
3 large bananas  
2 nine-inch baked pie shells  
1 can blueberry pie filling (2½ c)

Whip dream whip and add milk according to package directions. Set aside. Cream together sugar and cream cheese until smooth. Fold in whipped topping. Slice bananas into bottom of baked pie shell. Cover with folded mixture. Chill. Just before serving, cover top with canned pie filling. Makes 2 pies.

## Cheesy Rice and Ham

¼ cup each green pepper, celery and onion  
1 Tbsp. butter  
1 can condensed cheddar cheese soup  
1 small can evaporated milk  
1 tsp. dry mustard  
1 tsp. garlic salt  
1 tsp. Worcestershire Sauce  
¼ tsp. red pepper

Saute vegetables in butter on medium heat. Add milk, then soup, and stir until smooth. Cook 5 minutes or til heated through. Serve over rice and ham cubes. Serves 4-6.

## Marinated Brussel Sprouts

¼ cup water  
2 10-oz. pkgs. frozen brussel sprouts  
½ cup tarragon vinegar  
½ cup cooking oil  
1 Tbsp. sugar  
1 tsp. salt  
dash hot pepper sauce  
1 small clove garlic  
1 Tbsp. thinly sliced green onions

Bring water to a boil on high. Add sprouts. Reduce to low when steaming freely. Cover and cook 8 minutes. Combine seasonings. Add sprouts and onion tops. Toss and cover, then chill for 8 hours or over night, stirring often. Drain to serve.

## Rice Salad Mold

1 can condensed milk  
¼ cup lemon juice  
¼ tsp. almond extract  
1 cup cooked rice  
2½ cups cherry pie filling (1 can)  
¾ cup crushed pineapple  
2 cups whipped cream  
1 cup pecans or almonds, chopped

Mix together first six ingredients. Whip cream. Fold cream and pecans into mixture. Chill overnight. (May be frozen if rice is omitted). Serves 16-24.

## Crab-meat-in-Shell Soup

¼ cup chopped onion  
¼ cup chopped green pepper  
¼ cup diced celery  
2 Tbsps. butter or margarine  
1 pkg. noodle soup mix  
1 quart water  
1 7½ oz. can tomatoes  
dash of pepper and/or tabasco  
¼ tsp. salt  
1 7½ oz. can crabmeat  
1 7½ oz. can shrimp

In large saucepan, saute onion, green pepper and celery in butter or margarine on medium heat until tender but not brown. Add water, tomatoes, salt and pepper. Bring to boiling on high. Add dry soup mix, reduce heat to low and simmer 30 minutes. Add seafood, cook 5 minutes longer. Makes 6-8 servings.





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