

PLAIN TALKS

SEPTEMBER, 1977





GULF STATES UTILITIES COMPANY
POST OFFICE BOX 2951 BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77704 PHONE: 713-838-6631

*FLOYD R. SMITH
Chairman of the Board
And Principal Executive Officer*

Fellow Gulf Stater:

At this time each year we are given an opportunity to help keep our communities great through the United Appeals.

The UA makes possible many worthwhile services that work for all of us. Thousands, perhaps even you and your family, have benefited many times from some of these health, welfare and youth services.

Within a few days, a fellow employee will contact you regarding your contribution to this year's drive. The company is again making it more convenient for all of us to give through the payroll deduction plan. Your pledge to UA is extended over a twelve month period with no strain or hardship in giving your fair share or more.

Let's all work and give together to make our communities the better places we all want them to be.

Cordially,

Floyd R. Smith

PLAIN TALKS

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September, 1977

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THE COVER:

Every year the residents of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast area wonder if this will be the year another "Audrey" comes angrily slicing her way through the warm Gulf waters toward Cameron, or Port Arthur, or Kaplan. The area is long overdue claims the U. S. Weather Bureau. Evidence of past storms show only too well the fury of the hurricane. See page two.

GULF STATES UTILITIES CO.

P. O. Box 2951

Beaumont, Texas 77704

Member:
 Houston

CAMERON

... following Audrey



HURRICANE

It's been 20 years now, 20 years since a major hurricane has unleashed its destructive fury along the Texas-Louisiana coastline. And weathermen say the area is long overdue for another one.

Audrey is the last one. She came in June of 1957 and left behind her a path of death and destruction which will be remembered forever. There have been other hurricanes since Audrey, such as Edith in 1971 . . . but Edith was a pussy cat by comparison.

Two months remain in the hurricane season as you read this, just September and October. That's time enough. Hurricanes don't read. June was supposed to be "too soon," according to an old maritime ditty, Cameron Parish would argue that point. That same ditty says not to trust September, and in October the danger is "all over."

Hopefully the area will be spared yet another season. It looks now that this will be the case. But for those who were not employed by GSU in 1957, or who have forgotten what it was like, the following is a repeat of a story written in **PLAIN TALKS** following the storm that was Audrey. The headline stated:

**HURRICANE CAUSES MORE DAMAGE
TO FACILITIES THAN ANY OTHER
DISASTER IN HISTORY**

The tremendous task of getting our operations back to normal following Hurricane Audrey's brief but devastating visit to about 10,000 square miles of our system, has been completed. On these and the following pages, with words and pictures, the story of Hurricane Audrey, as she affected our company, is presented.

While damage reports are incomplete, it is clearly established that Audrey caused more damage to our facilities than any other disaster in our history.

- Two men, Gerald Bridges, utility foreman in Orange, and Jay Girard, a tree trimming crewman working for us by contract near Opelousas, gave their lives during the emergency.

- About 30 miles of transmission lines, including large portions of the 69kv/34.5 kv line along U. S. 90 highway between Lake Charles and Lafayette, were blown down.

- Several hundred miles of distribution lines, most of it caused by falling trees or tree limbs and other flying debris, were knocked out of service.

- Hundreds of transformers had to be refused.

- Fortunately, none of our generating stations were damaged and throughout the storm, as the

load fell off, Production personnel adjusted our big units to meet the system's needs.

The Safety Department reported that, due to the calmness and attention to duty shown by Gulf Staters and others, damage sustained during the restoration period following the storm was negligible.

Here, in brief, are the major happenings leading up to, during, and after the emergency:

1. Audrey was expected to strike the Port Arthur area sometime during the morning of Thursday, June 27. Operating personnel in Port Arthur, Orange, the Sabine area and Beaumont, following the procedures outlined in our Company's "Operation Disaster" plan, braced for the storm. Personnel were alerted and some called out ahead of time. Equipment, as always, was in complete readiness.

2. Division managers in Lake Charles, Baton Rouge and Navasota were notified. According to Operation Disaster, areas which escaped damage would dispatch crews to stricken areas. All was in readiness.

3. Capricious Audrey, living up to her feminine gender, at the last moment veered eastward and, accompanied by her deadly accomplice — a tidal

it can always happen again . . .

Water. That's what can kill you.

Reports of 100 m.p.h. winds and up scare most people in the nation who read of hurricanes. But ask the residents of the Gulf Coast areas and they'll tell you it's the water that most concerns them. And with good reason.

Hurricane force winds are deadly to be sure, and for a utility company such as ours the winds are devastating. But it's what the winds push before it that causes the most heartbreak. A person can usually find someplace to hide from the wind, but there is virtually nothing that can stop the tide . . . or a wall of water the likes of which swept through the city of Cameron back in 1957.

Official reports do not record the water that hit Cameron as a tidal wave. The people of Cameron will say differently. Six hundred and fifty official deaths were recorded. The people of Cameron will say there was more. An estimated 500 people, trapped by the fast moving water, endured the storm and water from the upper levels of the Cameron Parish Courthouse, a concrete block structure which managed to survive.

How did so many people manage to be trapped by the hurricane? Unlike the new popular belief, the hurricane was tracked. The people knew it was out there. They knew it was coming towards them. The weather bureau was on top of it . . . but no one could know or suspect the tidal wave the hurricane would bring with it.

Cameron sits behind a coastal ridge, a natural barrier to the sea. Severe hurricanes had come and gone, and none had ever pushed the sea over the ridge and into the marshlands in their lifetime. There was no way to figure this storm would be any different. But it was.

When it was seen that the ridge would be breached . . . it was too late. The water rose very quickly. Roads were quickly cut off and then came the wall of water that finished the job. It was, as one writer described it, "a world turned upside down." It became survival of the fittest . . . a nightmare . . . unbelievable, heartbreak . . . children torn from their parents arms into the blackness, some never to be found . . . entire families washed away . . . and it can always happen again.

wave — vented her full fury on Cameron Parish and northeastward through the Lake Charles, Sulphur, and Jennings area. Sideswiped and heavily damaged by hurricane-force winds and torrential rains were Orange, Port Arthur, Beaumont, the Sabine area, and the coastal area formed by Anahuac-Liberty-Beaumont. High velocity winds and rains struck Lafayette and Baton Rouge damaging blows.

4. During and after Audrey's brief but devastating visit, Gulf States and others worked around the clock to cope with the situation.

5. Line and service crews from the less hard-hit Baton Rouge and Navasota divisions, some as the storm was at its height, were dispatched to help in Lake Charles Division. Two Navasota division crews were assigned to Lake Charles and Jennings. Five Baton Rouge crews were assigned to Lake Charles and Jennings.

6. Four line crews from New Orleans Public Service Incorporated, and two line crews from Louisiana Power & Light Company arrived to help out in the Lake Charles Division. Thirty-one contract line crews and tree trimming crews from L. E. Meyers Company, Southern Electric Company, Blume System Tree Experts and Davey Tree Trimming Service Company were assigned to the Lake Charles area. By Sunday, June 30, all hospitals, industries, REA cooperatives and 85% of the customers in southwest Louisiana had service.

7. Gulf Staters in the Beaumont, Port Arthur and Sabine area, assisted by four crews from the Houston Lighting & Power Company of Houston, and three crews from the Central Power and Light Company of Corpus Christi and Victoria restored service in their areas by Saturday, June 29. Two crews from Port Arthur worked in Sulphur and 10 line and service crews from Beaumont were assigned to Lake Charles-Jennings area.

8. Much of the 69kv/34.5kv line between Lake Charles and Lafayette had been blown into U. S. Highway 90 and line crews from Baton Rouge, New Orleans Public Service, Inc., L. E. Meyers and Lake Charles showed excellent teamwork in repairing this major damage.

9. Communities along U. S. 90 were deprived of service when this line was damaged. System engineers immediately went to the scene and helped plan for the restoration of service to isolated La Cassine, Bell City, Hayes, Thornwell, Elton, Welsh, Roanoke and Lake Arthur. One of our two 138 kv transmission lines was rearranged to deliver 34.5 kv to the smaller communities, many of which depended on electricity for their water supplies.

Our Company loaned a generator to Lake Arthur to operate its water supply pumps. Approximately

500 additional T&D employees worked with the normal 250 Gulf Staters in Southwest Louisiana during the emergency.

Switchboard operators, aided by Treasury and Sales Department employees, worked long hours to handle the thousands of calls which jammed the board. In the Beaumont area alone approximately 15,000 calls were received between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., June 27, according to James Linnehan, assistant treasurer.

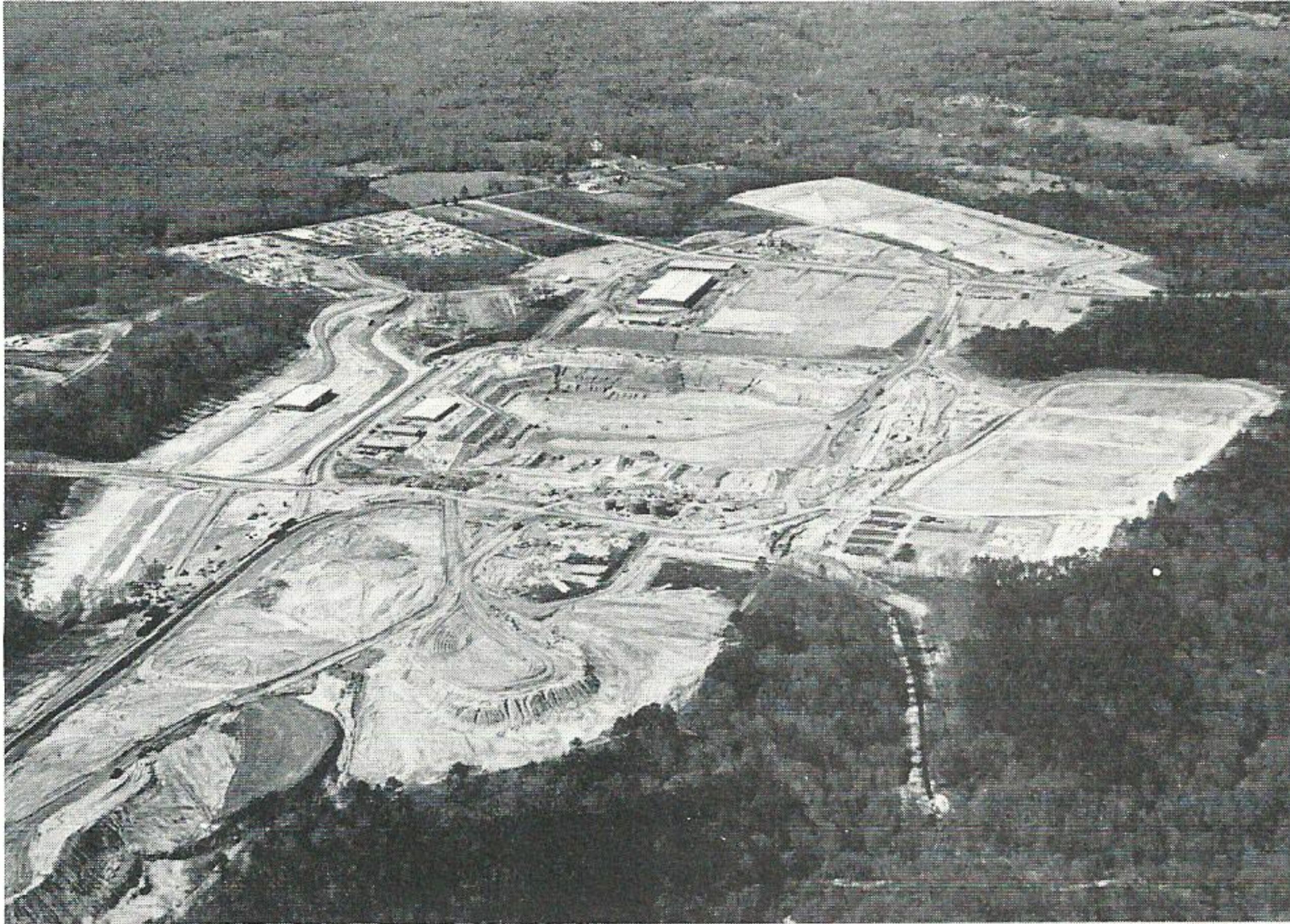
"Apparently, in areas where a thousand homes were without service, a thousand customers tried to reach us to report the trouble, all at the same time," Mr. Linnehan said.

Sales personnel in stricken areas handled customer contacts, kept the press, radio and television industry informed of progress, and helped crews "foreign" to the area locate trouble. Home service personnel prepared meals for workers in the field.



After the storm comes the inevitable clean up to restore electric power necessary for the resumption of living and rebuilding. There were many scenes like this throughout the divisions following the fury of Audrey in 1957.

Nuke, Coal Plant Decisions Due



River Bend Station construction could begin in early 1978.

Fusion Research By TAERF Extended For Two More Years

An additional two years of financing for nuclear fusion research at the University of Texas, amounting to \$400,000 a year, was approved by the board of directors of the Texas Atomic Energy Research Foundation, Floyd R. Smith, TAERF president and board chairman of Gulf States Utilities Company, announced in Austin.

The fusion research, one of the world's leading research projects of this type, is conducted on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin. The two year extension will bring the foundation's total financial support of the UT fusion project to more than \$5 million.

The foundation is composed of ten investor-owned electric utility companies of Texas, including GSU. "The foundation has supported UT fusion research since 1963," said Smith. "We believe the project has already contributed significantly to man's understanding of nuclear fusion," he said. The fusion process fuels the sun and stars and may someday provide cheap, clean electricity from a

virtually inexhaustible energy source.

According to Smith, the foundation has been exploring the feasibility of this promising energy alternative for the past 20 years. "This continuing financial commitment demonstrates the responsibility that the investor-owned electric utilities of Texas feel for the development of new energy resources," he said.

The additional two year funding, which runs through April of 1979, was announced at a luncheon of UT-Austin officials and foundation directors at the UT faculty center. The money will help finance a large fusion research device known as a Tokamak.

The first Tokamak in Texas has operated at the UT fusion research center for the last three years, providing fusion scientists with valuable information about nature of fusion reactions. Construction of a second generation Tokamak, dubbed TEXT for Texas Experimental Torus, will begin soon at the center.

RB Construction, Nelson Station #6 Top Priority List

Major decisions are going to be made in October or November regarding a proposed coal fired generating unit at Nelson Station, near Lake Charles, and construction work at River Bend Station, the Company's first nuclear fueled power plant near St. Francisville.

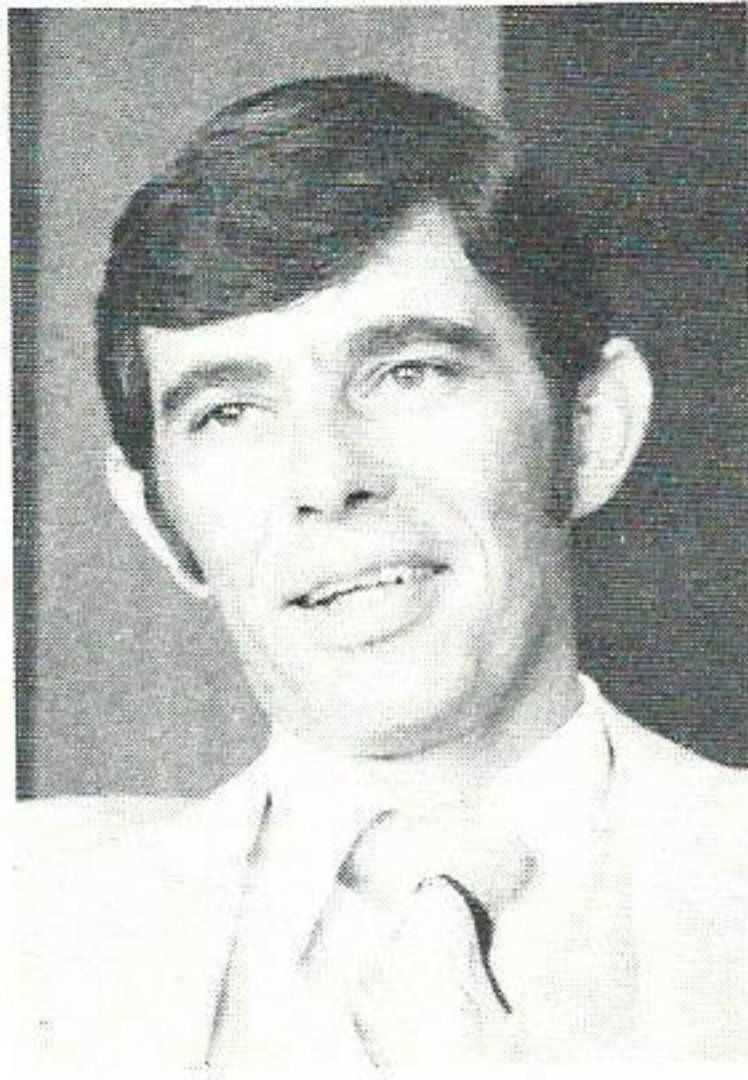
S. L. Adams, senior vice president, Power Plant Engineering & Construction, said "... a lot of variables are in the air right now such as our rate request in Louisiana, possible participation by other utilities in the River Bend project and other matters. We will have a good indication of just where we stand on all this within the next month or so."

Adams said that major equipment from the first Nelson Station coal unit (Nelson No. 5) had been sold to Houston Lighting & Power for one basic reason, "... They needed our boiler and turbine generator quickly and we didn't." Adams said that the need for Nelson No. 5, based on load projections made more than five years ago, did not materialize. But GSU was under contract to its vendors for production of the equipment. "When HL&P expressed interest in picking up the contract we responded. HL&P paid us our equity for payments we had made, and took over the contracts we had negotiated with Westinghouse for the turbine generator, and with Combustion Engineering for the boiler."

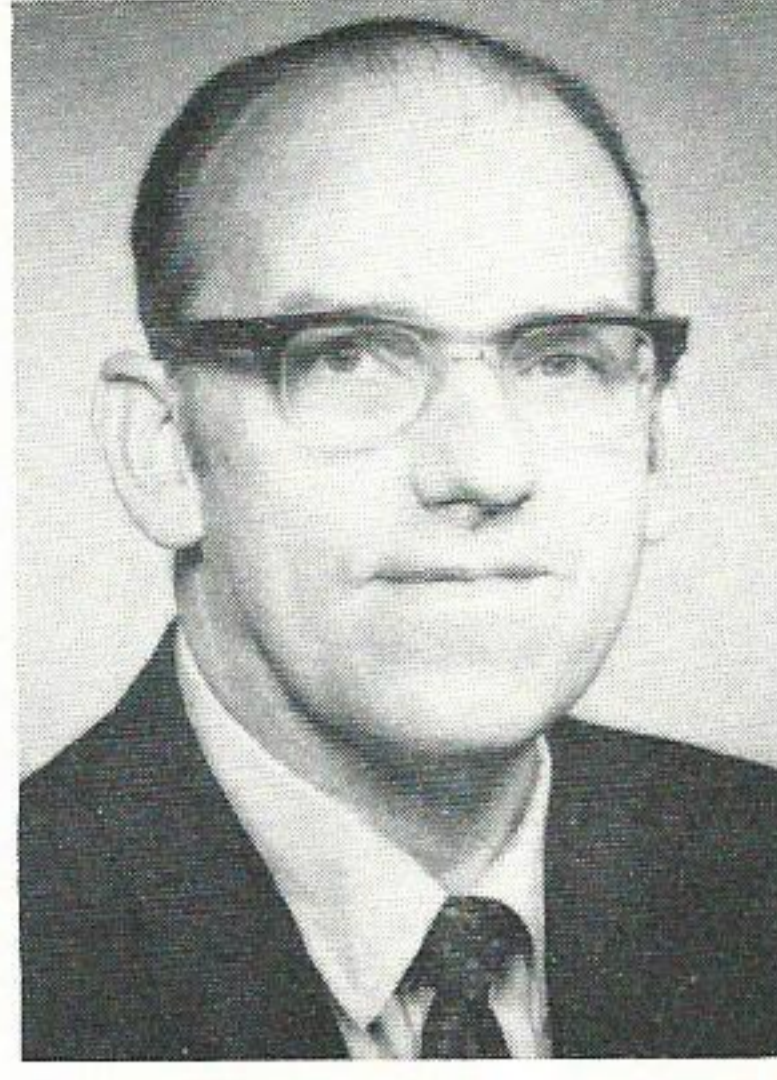
Adams said not a whole lot of money changed hands since the Company had only made several payments on the proposed \$600 million unit. "The best part about the deal is that it saves us approximately \$20 million this year in payments we were to have made, it gives HL&P the equipment they need for a unit they hope to get into commercial operation next year, and the vendors are happy in that their production lines can continue work as planned."

As for River Bend Station, Adams said that if the rate question is settled in Louisiana, and if participation by other utilities does come to pass, and the 1983 operational date is adhered to, full

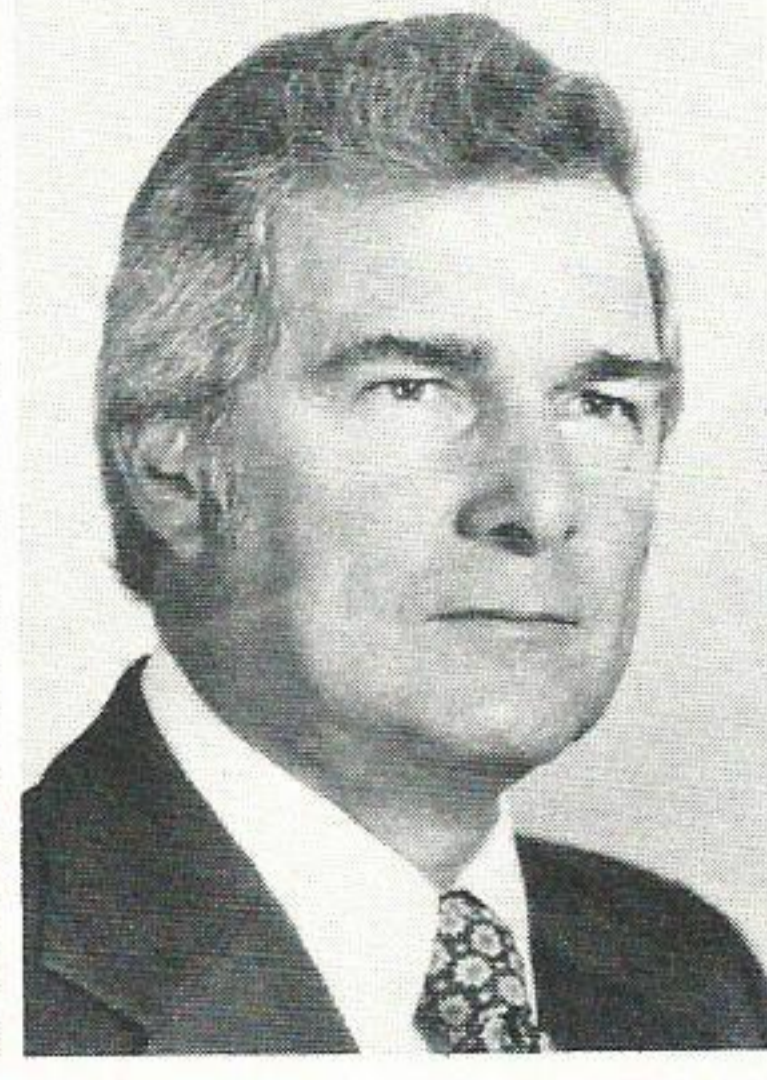
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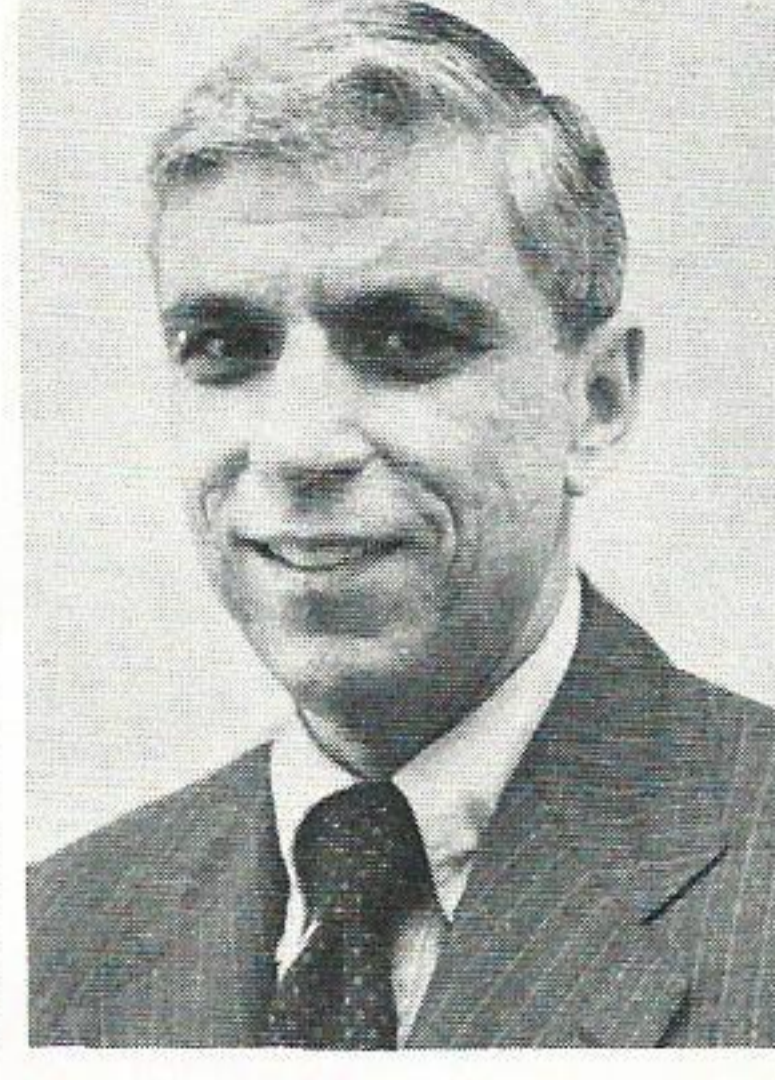
Larry Humphreys



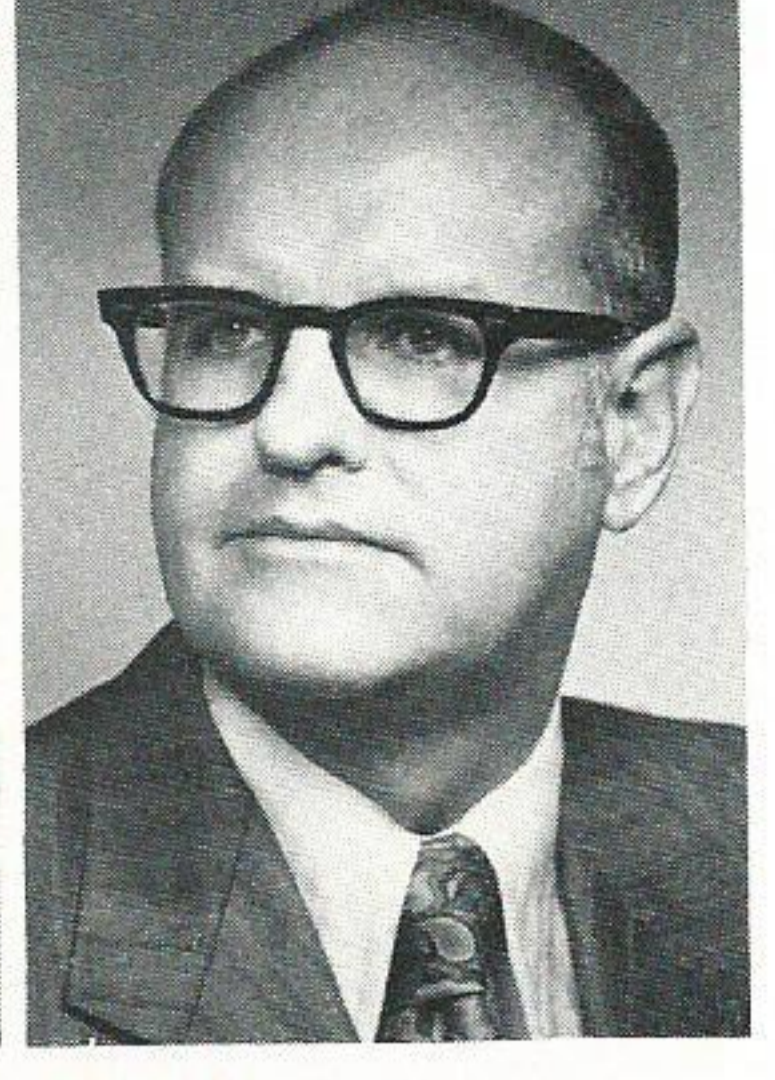
Jim Derr



Ed Loggins



Al Pollans



Aubrey Sprawls

Four Vice Presidents, Division Manager Named

Four vice presidents and a new division manager were named during a board of directors meeting held recently at The Woodlands.

Floyd R. Smith, chairman of the board, announced that Larry Humphreys, executive assistant to Norman Lee, president, had been elected senior vice president and placed in charge of development of all new electric generating facilities. Specific responsibilities center on engineering and construction of nuclear and coal fueled units.

James H. Derr, former manager of Power Plant Engineering and Design, was elected vice president, continuing his work in engineering and design.

Edward M. Loggins, former manager of the Western Division, has been transferred to Beaumont and promoted to vice president of Technical Services, and Al Pollans, who joined the Company Aug. 1, as executive assistant, was elected vice

president in charge of Accounting Services.

Replacing Loggins in the Western Division is Aubrey D. Sprawls, former director of Consumer Marketing in Beaumont.

Other organizational changes involved senior vice president S. L. Adams who assumes responsibility of general engineering assignments and who will report directly to the president; senior vice president J. R. "Pat" Murphy who becomes responsible for operation and construction activities of existing power plants; and vice president Joseph E. Bondurant, who takes over all division operations.

Smith said the realignment of key executive positions was necessary to meet the complexities of today's electric utility industry operations. "These changes will help our Company in the orderly transition from the era of abundant, inexpensive natural gas boiler fuels to the very complicated, and much costlier, sources of energy needed for the future such as coal and nuclear energy."

Humphreys came to GSU from Washington Public Power Supply System where he served as deputy director. He is a 1958 graduate of Linfield College, and earned his master's degree from Oregon State University in physical chemistry. He is a member of the American Nuclear Society and has extensive experience in both nuclear research and operation of nuclear reactors.

Humphreys is married to the former Mavis Simmons of Portland, Ore., and the couple has five children.

Jim Derr was employed by the Company in 1940 as a student engineer. He progressed through a number of posts in Baton Rouge and at Riverside Station in Lake Charles, Nelson Station and Sabine Station. In 1970 he was promoted to superintendent-Plant construction, and in 1971 was promoted to manager of power plant construction.

Derr is a graduate of the Williamson Trade School at Media, Pa., and has furthered studied at Hayes Combustion School, LSU and McNeese State University. The Tremont, Pa., native is married to the former Sara Copeland of Memphis, and the couple has three sons, James, John and Jeffrey.

Ed Loggins joined the Company in 1958 after receiving his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Texas. He is a native of Winona, Miss., and has extensive experience in engineering, marketing and power plant operation. He has been manager of the Western Division since 1975.

The Air Force veteran is married to Patricia Smith of Hattiesburg, Miss., and the couple has four children, Cindy, Martha, Russell and Sharon.

Al Pollans, a native of Chicago, is a certified public accountant and holds a master's degree from the University of Miami. He was formerly manager of accounting services with Black and Veatch, and has had extensive experience with the public accounting firm of Arthur Andersen & Company, as well as diversified public utility experience.

Pollans is married to the former Paula Kay Swiren of Glencoe, Ill.

Aubrey Sprawls, a native of Clovis, N.M., joined GSU in 1949 following his graduation from Texas A&M University. Prior to his promotion to director of Consumer Marketing in 1973, Sprawls gained experience in various assignments throughout the system including agriculture engineer, area development, industrial engineer, Dayton District superintendent and sales superintendent.

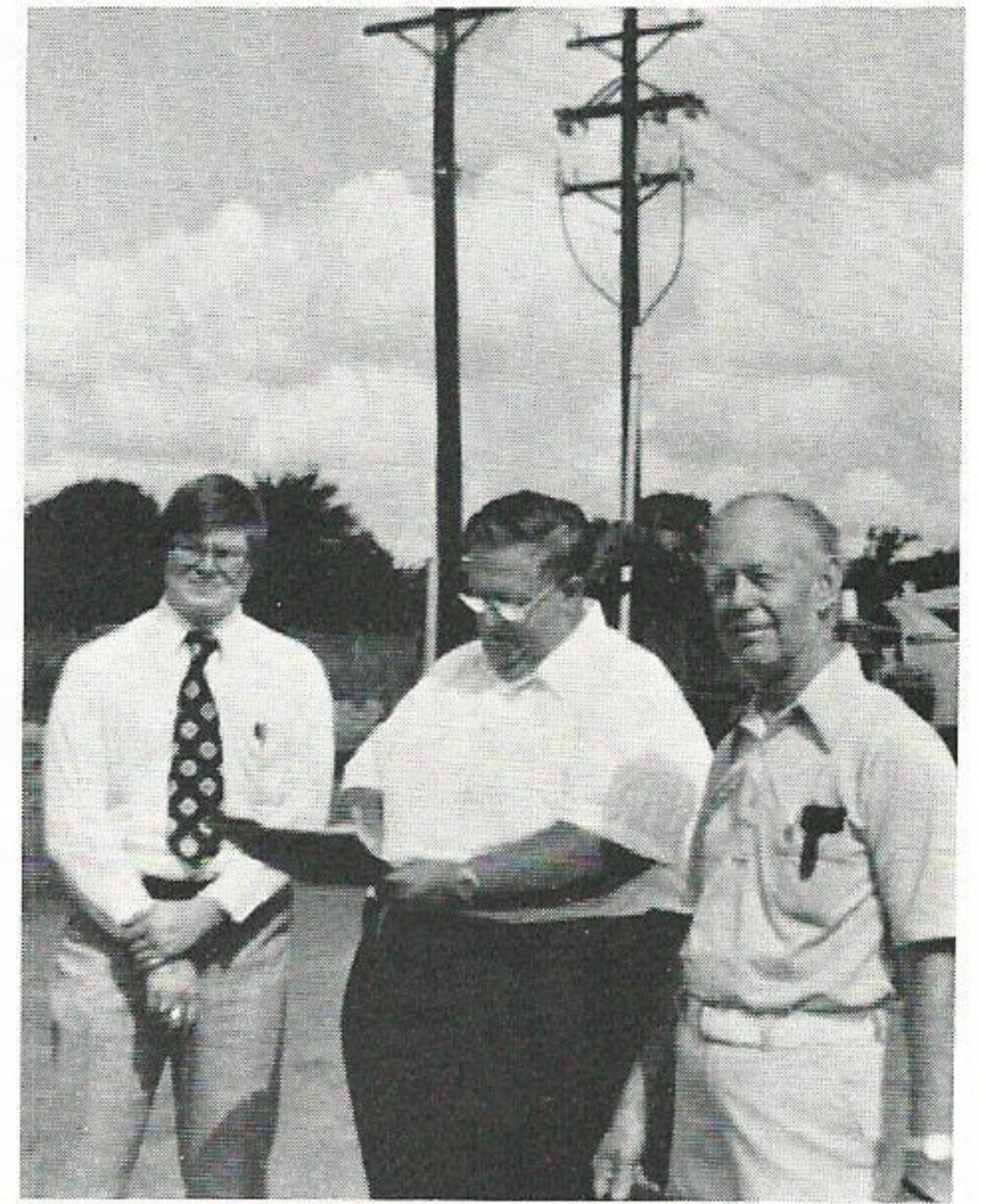
A veteran of the U.S. Army with service in Korea, Sprawls is married to the former Jean Boernke of Wausau, Wis., and the couple has three children, Susan Kay, Mary Margaret and David Duane.

Major Decisions

construction activities at the West Feliciana Parish site should crank up in early 1978. "This is what we anticipate at the present time," Adams commented.

Current status at the site has construction activity underway on the river access road, and with work continuing on several buildings (administration and warehouses). Backfilling to the 68 foot level was completed approximately one month ago in the reactor excavation. The next major step at the site will be the pouring of the reactor mat. "This pouring process and related construction activity of the plant itself is what we plan to begin in early 1978," Adams said.

Current projections call for loading River Bend No. 1 in early 1983, with commercial operation beginning later that same year.



STATE OFFICERS — W. T. Landry, center, has been elected chairman of the Association of Louisiana Utility Councils, with Dewey Lytle, right, Baton Rouge Division Engineer, being elected vice-chairman. At left is H. R. Green (GSU), chairman of the Baton Rouge Utility Doordinating Council. Landry is an employee of South Central Bell. The state association was formed for the advancement of the safe construction and operations of all utilities within the state of Louisiana.

NEW CUSTOMER — The City of College Station has become GSU's newest customer in the Western Division. The first 16 megawatts of a predicted load of 54 megawatts was energized recently. City Manager North Bardell, center, signs the acknowledgement of power received, while Paul Wieting, left, GSU engineer and John Denison, Electric Power Engineers, look on.

Dewey Lytle is Vice-Chairman

Dewey Lytle, Division Engineer-Baton Rouge, has been elected vice chairman of a state wide organization called The Association of Louisiana Utility Councils. Purpose of the association is to unite employees and/or officials of public and private industries which are engaged in the installation and operation of utilities in Louisiana.

Mutual community benefit and advancement of the interest of all concerned with the safe construction and continuous operations of utilities within the

state is the association's primary concern. W. T. Landry, District Engineer for South Central Bell, was elected chairman. M. R. Charlton, Engineering Supervisor for South Central Bell, has been appointed to serve as secretary-treasurer.

The state organization is a composite of various utility coordinating councils located in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Shreveport, New Orleans, Monroe, New Iberia, St. Landry Parish, Livingston Parish, Terrebonne Parish and St. Mary Parish.

BUT NOT AGGIES College Station Joins Company

A new city has joined the ranks of GSU customers when City Councilman Jim Dozier "turned on the juice" in a brief ceremony at College Station. Though "Home of the Aggies," Texas A&M University itself will continue to provide its own power.

College Station signed a contract in July, 1976 to take all electric power requirements from Gulf States by January, 1979. The phase in of College Station into the power system will be accomplished in graduated steps. The city is now receiving 16,000 kilowatts, and will have a total predicted load of 54,000 kilowatts by 1979.

College Station had formerly relied on the city of Bryan for its electric power requirements.

C. B. HANDBOOK

Approximately 150 GSU CB'ers will be getting their handbooks shortly. The books were scheduled to be mailed in late August. Those who sent in their handles can expect them at any time.

THRIFT PLAN

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

Type of Stock	Number of Shares	Total Cost	Average Cost per Share
Common	20,604	\$291,031.55	\$14.125
\$4.40 Preferred	119	6,686.74	\$56.191

The Trustee deposited \$149,035.36 with the Savings Department of the First Security National Bank.

Number Shares	Per Share Price	Total Cost
Common Stock:		
887	14 1/8	\$ 12,528.92
19,717	14 1/8	278,502.63
<hr/> 20,604		<hr/> 291,031.55
\$4.40 Preferred Stock		
110	55 1/2	6,174.19
9	55 1/4	512.55
<hr/> 119		<hr/> 6,686.74

Madisonville Open House Draws Crowd

Louis Sandidge, superintendent at Madisonville, said the GSU office there was so old that no one could really remember just when it was built. "It was there in the 30's," one railroad man told Sandidge.

Today Sandidge can make all the jokes about the structure he wants. Ribbon cutting ceremonies were recently held at a new, air conditioned, 1800 square foot brick office building complete with a drive-in window. "This is a nice place," said Sandidge, "but in a way we'll miss the old place."

On hand for the ribbon cutting was a host of company and local dignitaries. Representing the Company were Norman Lee, Pat Murphy, Ed Loggins, Ernest Singletary, Frank Robinson and Vic Norvell, County Judge W. F. Carter, Madisonville Mayor J. T. Closs and Chamber of Commerce President James Bracewell participated as well. Also on hand was Mrs. James E. May of North Zulch, who won a \$50 gift certificate.

The new office is located at the intersection of Trinity and Randolph, adjacent to the southwest corner of the First National Bank of Madisonville.



RIBBON CUTTING — Madisonville Mayor J. T. Closs handles the ribbon cutting getting able help from, left to right, Ed Loggins, former Western Division Manager, Norman Lee President-GSU, Judge W. F. Carter, the Mayor, James Bracewell, Chamber of Commerce President, Louis Sandidge, Madisonville Superintendent, and Vic Norvell, Marketing Superintendent-Western Division.

Park Ranger Puzzled

Nancy Nesbitt Catches Bass With Bare Hands At Fairfield

The sport of fishing annually brings forth tales of legendary proportions. The "ones that got away" are matched only by tall tales of secret fishing holes which hold bait busting lunker bass by the hundreds . . . only the teller of the tale won't divulge its location. Well . . . **PLAIN TALKS** has a fish story to tell . . . only this one IS true, and backed by photographic proof.

The story concerns an employee, Nancy Nesbitt (Order Processing-Beaumont), who caught a six pound, 23 inch long, bass . . . with her hands (no fishing rod attached, folks).

This real life fish tale took place at Lake Fairfield, some 60 miles south of Dallas on July 5. Lake Fairfield, property of Texas Utilities and site of Big Brown, a coal-fired generating facility, is a young lake and was well stocked in its early life. Today the lake fairly teems with large bass and a portion of the property has been given to the state of Texas for public use.

Nancy, along with friends Velma and L. J. Sanderson, were holidaying at the lake and decided to go for a swim to cool off prior to doing some serious bass fishing that evening. They were in about 10 feet of water when Nancy noticed what she thought was a dead bass on the surface.

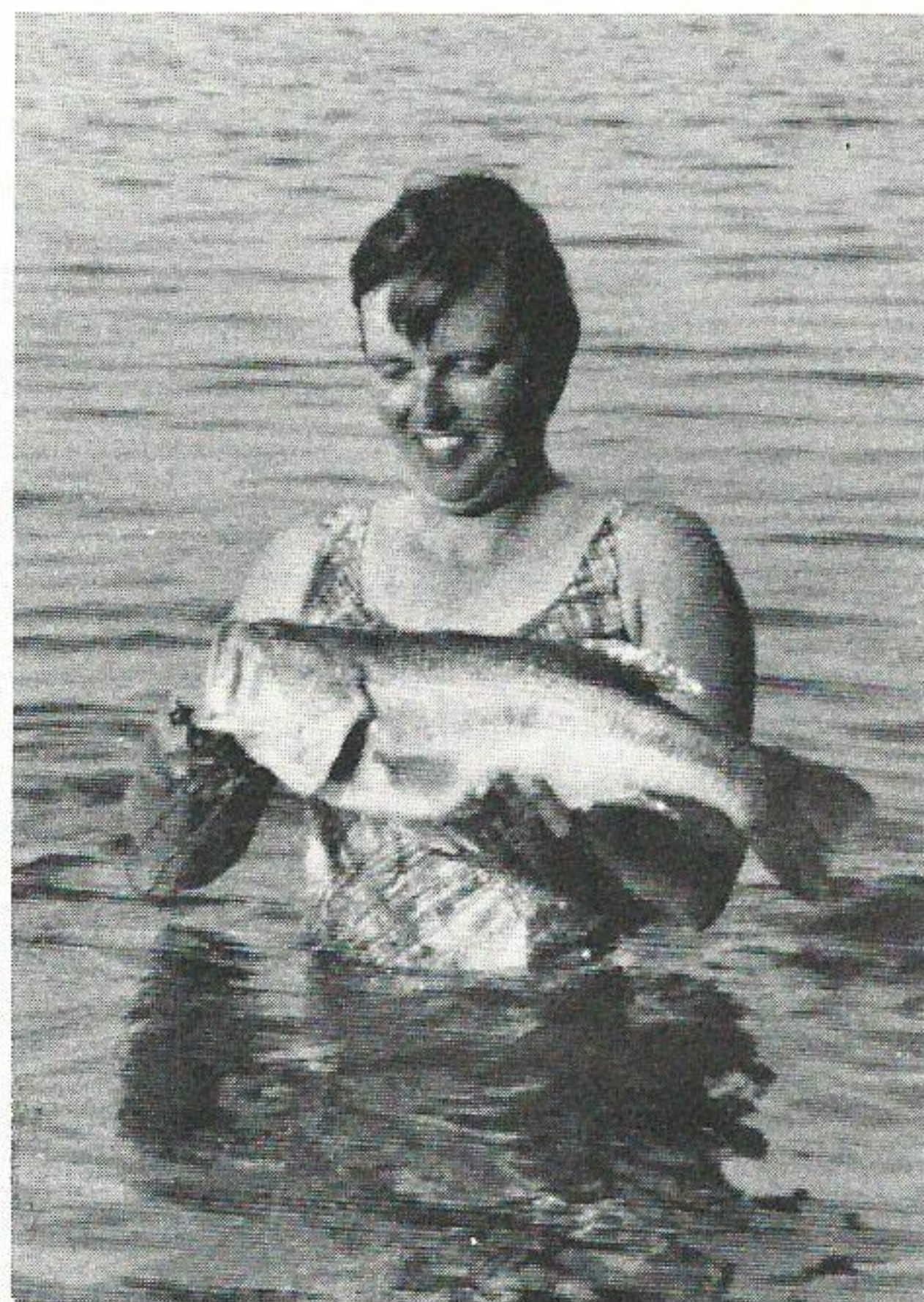
"At first I thought something, perhaps a

gar, was eating the dead fish, but then I realized that the fish was alive." She swam over to it and was able to catch it with her hands.

Upon returning the fish to shore, Nancy and her friends iced the fish down and took it to the Tanbark Trading Post, about a mile from the lake. It was weighed, and Post called the Texas Wildlife Department to come check out the fish to see if something was wrong with it. A ranger came to examine the fish. He tested the water and water temperature. Everything checked out normally. The ranger could only guess, but theorized that since the surface of the lake was so warm (104 degrees), that the bass surfaced to feed on shad then did not have enough oxygen to return from whence it came.

Lake Fairfield is quickly gaining a reputation for being one of the better bass lakes in Texas. This speaks well for the conservation and environmental efforts of Texas Utilities in regards to operation of Big Brown. Many fine catches have been reported, but none as unusual as the catch made by Nancy.

Mr. Bass is now being mounted, and on the mounting board will be a plaque which reads, "Hand caught on Lake Fairfield."



Nancy Nesbitt . . . no fish story.

Contact Q & A

EDITOR'S NOTE: The next training session for CONTACT employees has tentatively been set for Oct. 31, Nov. 1-2. Subject will be determined by participant's response. Details of the next session will be forthcoming.

Q. — If GSU seeks to retain the fuel cost adjustment clause, will the company grant employees a cost-of-living adjustment clause?

A. — The 3-year contract currently in effect covering bargaining unit employees was structured in consideration of anticipated cost-of-living increases. Both the company and the union bargaining units signed the contract.

Q. — Most major companies grant significant discounts to their employees. Why doesn't GSU?

A. — Few utility companies offer discounts in service bills for several reasons. Most of the regulatory commissions do not provide for this type of rate, which, in effect, discriminates in favor of the large user, usually the higher paid employee. From a public relations viewpoint, this would irritate non-employees, who could say that they (non-employee customers) were subsidizing employees' electric and gas bills.

Q. — If the company is split at the Texas-Louisiana state lines, would this relieve GSU of responsibility to the Interstate Commerce Commission? (Assumed this refers to Federal Power Commission)

A. — First, the company would prefer to remain a single, integrated system, as we are now, because this is more efficient and beneficial to all customers. If the company were divided into two companies, the lines tying the states together were split, the Texas portion would not be under the FPC unless it became tied to a system whose lines crossed the state line. In Louisiana, where we are interconnected with Louisiana Power & Light, whose lines do interconnect with out-of-state systems, that would mean continued jurisdiction by the FPC.

Q. — About company financed, periodic physicals, why do women get only pulse, blood pressure, urinalysis and eyes checked? Why not pap smears and chest and back x-rays? Why do doctors check men more thoroughly than women?

A. — Back x-rays are taken only for pre-employment of persons who would have a manual level of physical activity. Prohibitive cost prevents such items as pap smears and chest x-rays. Through the physical form doctors have to complete, the company dictates thoroughness of the examination and there should be no variation except to the extent that doctors have different professional techniques for giving physicals.

Q. — If this company is in such need of money at the time, what if the employees (including V.I.P.'s) would volunteer to give up one week's pay, would this help?

A. — From June, 1976 until May, 1977, our operating cost, (including taxes and depreciation) was \$424,468,399.09. Our payroll for the same period was approximately \$44,500,000. This means all wages amount to approximately 9% of all expenses. One week's wages would amount to around \$833,333 for 3045 employees.

Q. — As far as efficiency, compare window air conditioners to central air conditioning.

A. — Efficiency varies from model to model in both central and window units. The higher the Energy Efficiency Ratio, the more economical the unit operates. Window units have some advantages and some disadvantages. The advantages are: (1) can provide individual room temperature control; (2) can allow differences in temperature among rooms, such as letting bedrooms get warm during day by turning unit off; (3) are generally less expensive in initial

cost; (4) are removable and; (5) could lower monthly bills. On the negative side, window units are: (1) shorter lived; (2) need more maintenance; (3) can be noisy; (4) can interfere with furniture or drapes and; (5) may cost more to operate.

Q. — Why is it that when job openings occur within management, they cannot be filled from operating personnel who are qualified and knowledgeable in that position, but do not have a college degree?

A. — The determination that a college degree is required for certain jobs at GSU is made only after careful evaluation of the work activities associated with the job. In most instances, the general complexities of the job determines the need for college level training and mental discipline. The history of several jobs around the company indicates that changing times, added Federal regulations, etc. have created the need for college trained individuals.

Q. — What are the lease rates on company vehicles from Beaumont Car Leasing?

A. — The rate is adjusted each month based on the current prime rate. The rates is now 6-3/4% and has been for some time.

Q. — How much are we paying for electricity we purchase from the City of Lafayette?

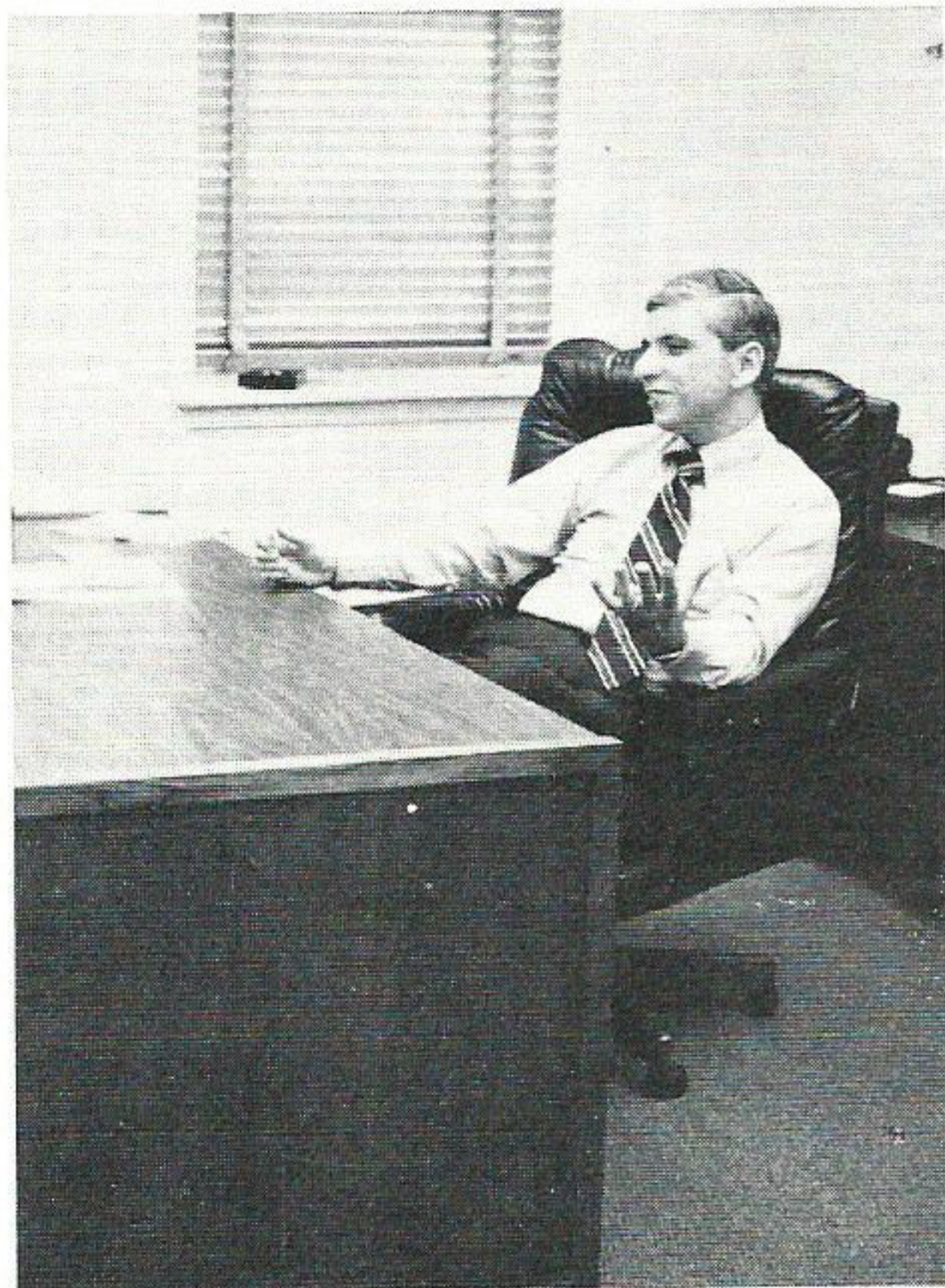
A. — Lafayette serves one of the company's microwave towers and the monthly bills GSU has paid to date in 1977 are:

January — \$107.13; February — \$112.54; March — \$97.65; April — \$120.32; May — \$169.34; June — \$149.51; and July — \$117.24, for a total of \$935.73.

GSU purchased power from Lafayette as follows:

January	\$ 815,077.32
February	1,320,589.20
March	1,094,366.00
April	1,203,137.33
May	2,186,394.86
June	2,158,324.04
Total	\$8,777,888.75

Al Pollans: 'I Won't Miss Ice and the Slush'



Al Pollans . . . waits for winter.

GSU's new vice president of Accounting Services, Al Pollans is looking forward to living in the south, and southeast Texas in particular, and says, "I'm not going to miss the slush of melting Illinois snow one little bit."

A native of Chicago, Pollans is taking roots quickly in his new job, looks forward to the slower pace of southern lifestyle, and can't quite figure out why he should have a fireplace is his new home being constructed in Beaumont.

"People have been telling us that we should have, and would use, a fireplace. That's hard to understand." PLAIN TALKS volunteered that the wind chill factor in southeast Texas with high humidity and cool temperatures had a way of knifing through a person in the damp cold months of January and February, and that many transplanted Yankees found their first winters surprisingly uncomfortable. "I'll give you my impressions in February," Pollans stated somewhat skeptically.

Paula Kay Pollans is the type of woman who adapts quickly where ever she is. "It's

always been that way" said Pollans. "We go somewhere where I have a job to do, I do my work and she is out and about sightseeing and driving. In a couple of days she knows the city and where to go. She tells me about it. I may get lost but she won't."

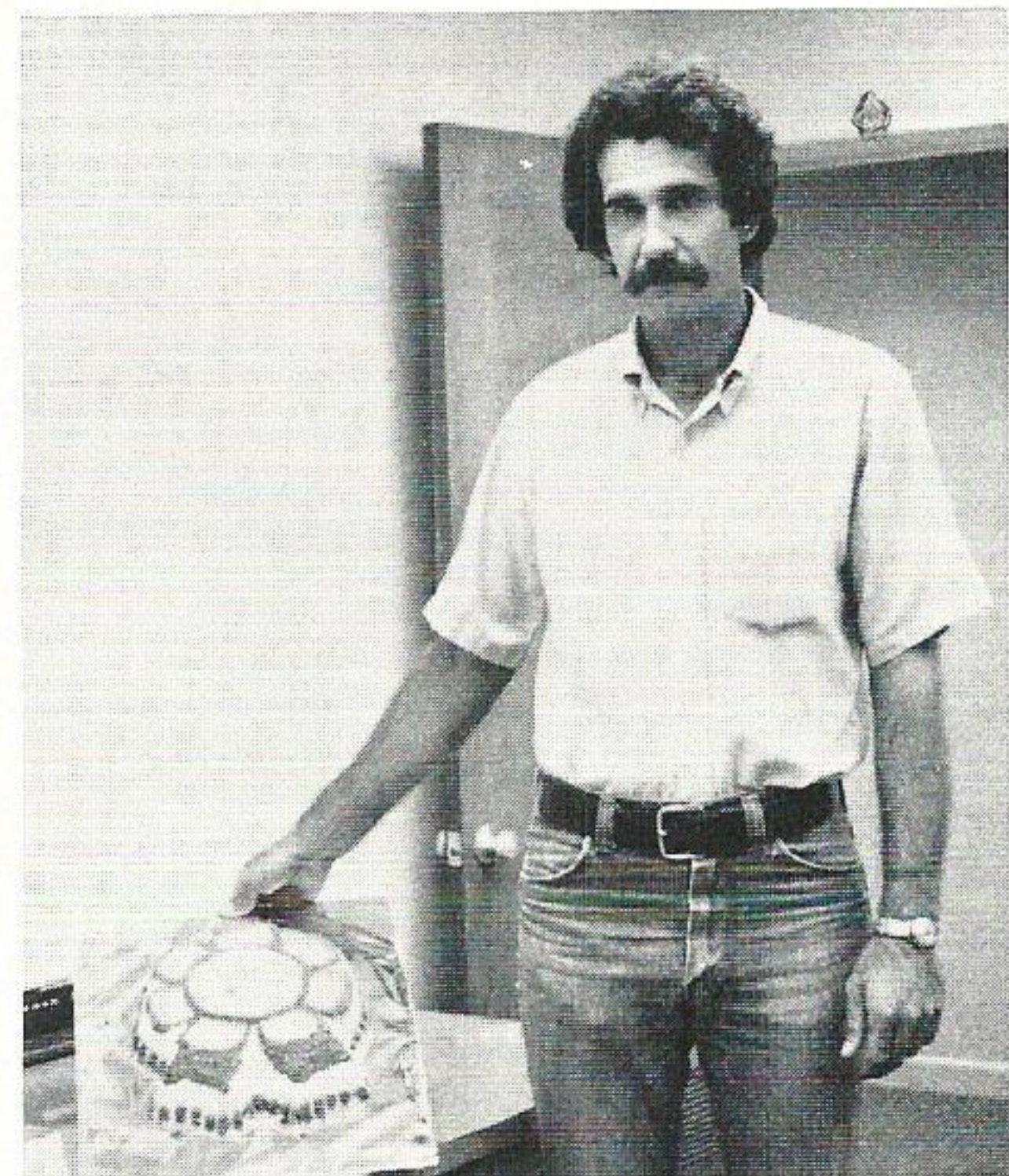
The Pollans' are renting until their home is finished, and Beaumont has turned them around more than once. "Some of these left hand turns around here near the Interstate Highway send you back where you came from. That's one fact we learned early. But I know my wife will soon have her bearings and I'll learn from her."

As with any new employee, the major problem for Pollans so far has been matching the names with the faces he has met. "I'm beginning to feel more at home here now, I'll recognize a familiar face now, and names are beginning to stick."

Pollans is looking forward to the challenges of his position. As vice president of Accounting Services he will coordinate the efforts of the accounting departments, tax departments and risk management functions.



BASS TOURNEY PARTICIPANTS — This is just a small part of the crowd that showed up for a recent bass tournament held at Bayou Pigeon Landing near Baton Rouge involving GSU employees. Ray Loupe and Rodney Boudreaux, chairmen of the event said the tourney was quite successful. Wayne Decoteau and Hank Jenkins took top honors with a two-day catch weighing over 43 pounds. P. E. Whitehead and Charlie Greer were runners-up with 41 pounds. The third place team was Jerry Ball and Jack Gautreaux with 26 pounds, 13 ounces. Gautreaux won a prize for the largest bass, landing one that weighed five pounds, six ounces.



RICK IS NO. 1 — That's what was written on a cake that was given to Rick Heider (Engineering Assistant-Beaumont) recently by his friends and co-workers. The cake represented the fact that Heider (a fine golfer) was a member of the team that captured the Pinewood Invitational Golf Tournament held in Beaumont. Heider made several crucial shots in leading his team to victory against stiff competition from local and collegiate golf stars.

AN ANALYSIS

House Passed Energy Plan Could Triple Utility Bills

An honest attempt by the President of the United States, and his energy team, to prepare a National Energy Plan has been distorted to the point that knowledgeable energy people call it unworkable. The National Energy Act (H. R. 8444) as passed by the House of Representatives in August, took a plan which already had some major weaknesses, and through hastily and ill-conceived amendments, doubled its size and created a plan, if passed as presently written, that will cost you and all other ratepayers dearly.

Unless the National Energy Act is drastically changed by the Senate, customers of Gulf States and other electric utilities in the area may find their utility bills tripled by 1990. And that's only part of the story.

As the bill currently stands the overall increase in the cost of energy to industry in the Southwest region will be 78 percent. On the other hand, in the East Coast area where they have no producing oil or gas wells, and don't want them, the increase is only 11 to 13 percent. Why the difference? Washington feels it's fair because this area does produce oil and gas and therefore has lower prevailing energy costs. So Texas, Louisiana, and other producing states must carry the increase. Washington neglected to consider per capita income of the regions.

Other negative features in the act include:

- Transfers power of state and local regulators to bureaucrats in Washington who have little or no responsiveness to the people.
- Provides the Federal Power Commission will control directly, and indirectly, important management decisions of the utility industry, including advertising, load management, reliability and quality of service, disconnection of service and composition of boards of directors.
- Government will impose rate structures and other requirements whose effects in some cases are either unknown or undesirable.
- Would increase regulatory lag and further complicate an already complicated regulatory process by encouraging intervenors and added new levels of review.
- Mandatory conversion of utility and industrial natural gas-fired boilers to coal in 1983, an impossibility.
- Continual price controls on natural gas despite overwhelming evidence that controls encourage consumption and discourage production.
- Order 'time of day' rates which has already been shown would increase the rates of those less able to afford it, and decrease the rates of those who could afford it.
- Would ban fuel adjustment as an automatic process, and

thereby force you (As a GSU customer) to pay interest for additional money borrowed by the company.

- Would make utility financing in the money markets extremely difficult, and reduce the valuation of stock held by the shareholder.
- Ultimately restrict industrial expansion and impede any new industry from moving into the area . . . which means loss of future jobs and economic progress.

There is more, but you get the drift. The National Energy Act as it now stands is a potential disaster, not only for the utility, but for all who use electricity; industrial, commercial or residential.

The response toward the energy act has been quite vocal. Investment bankers such as Morgan Stanley & Co. Inc., have told congress the bill will not accomplish what it was meant to accomplish. Speaking before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Frederick B. Whittmore (Managing Director-Morgan Stanley & Co.) said, "The electric utility industry should not be the means through which fuel costs are controlled."

Nobel Prize winning economist Milton Friedman claims, "The Carter proposal is a monstrosity. Its end result would be less energy and wasteful use of energy."

Edison Electric Institute has urged all consumers across the nation to rally behind their utilities to join in the fight. "Millions of consumers will face price rises for electric service like those following the oil embargo," warned Donham Crawford, president of EEI.

The **WALL STREET JOURNAL** agrees. "The legislation was conceived and is being enacted in such haste that no one can cope with all the details, any one of which might derail the future production of energy . . . threatens to bury every electric utility in the nation in red tape, stopping the expansion of electrical generating capacity."

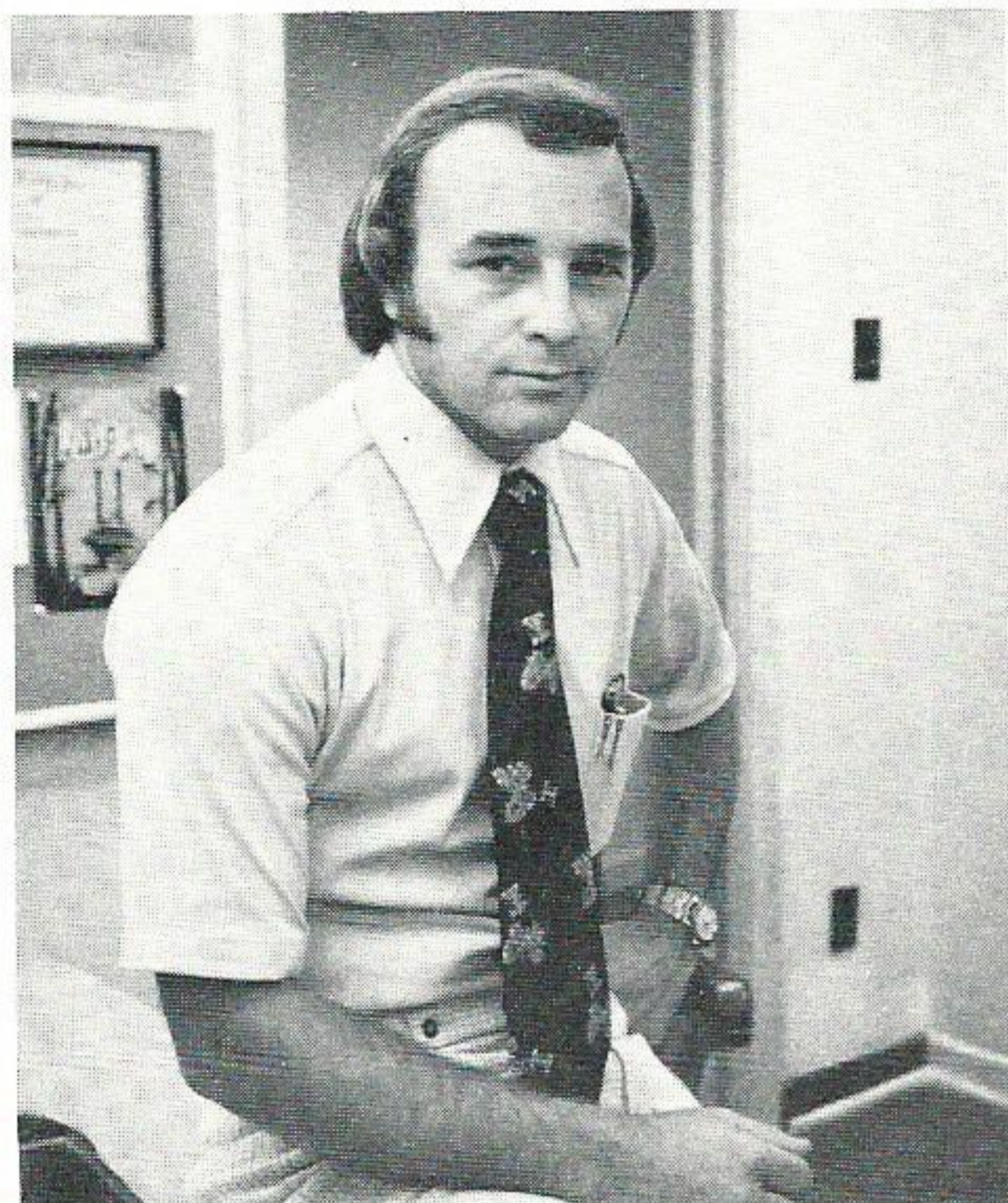
But there is hope. The ill conceived and hastily passed amendments of the House of Representatives can be corrected in the Senate. Senator Russell Long of Louisiana (Senate Finance Committee Chairman) called the tax portions of the energy act as passed by the House "an unmitigated disaster" on the energy-production side.

The need for a national energy plan has not abated. There is a need, but not for the one that has been sent to the Senate. Board Chairman Floyd Smith says, "We need a fair and equitable national energy plan, but not one voted on for political expediency. H. R. 8444 is not good legislation. If passed it would unfairly discriminate against our customers."

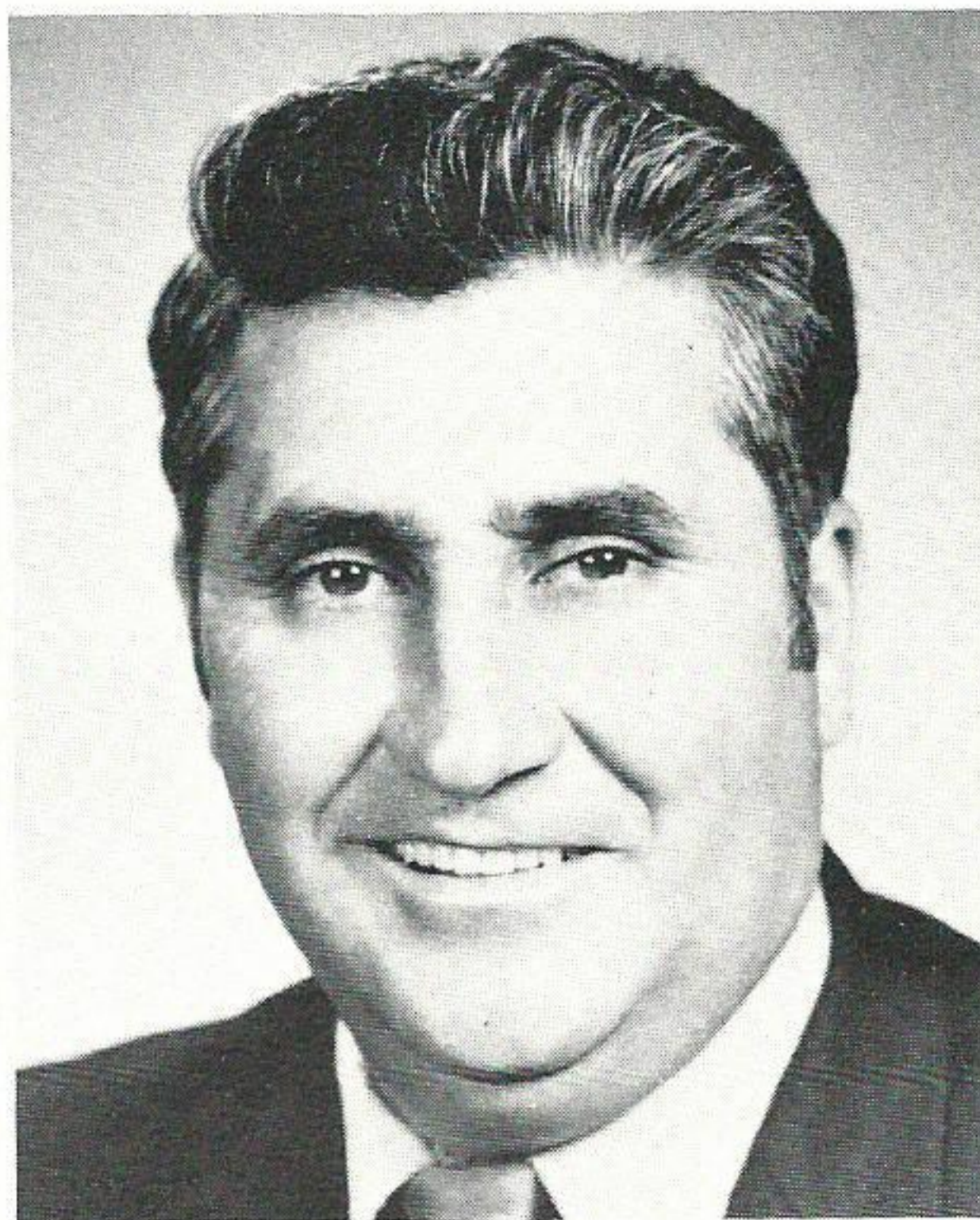
"Unmitigated Disaster for Energy Production"

**. . . Senator
Russell Long**

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



Kemp



Andre

John D. Draper, engineer in Power Plant Construction-River Bend Station, has been transferred to Nelson Station.

Draper was employed in 1976 after receiving his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Georgia Tech. He had previously earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry, also from Tech.

Draper is a native of Wheeling, Ohio.

John C. Upton, engineer in Baton Rouge T&D, has been transferred to the Division Marketing Department in Lake Charles as industrial engineer.

Upton, an employee since 1974, is a native of Lafayette, a two year veteran of the U.S. Army, and a 1971 graduate of Louisiana State University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

He is married to the former Linda L. Roussel of Baton Rouge.

Billy Jack Kemp, former senior engineering assistant in Power Plant Engineering and Design, has been promoted to section head and transferred to Records Management-Microfilm Services in Beaumont.

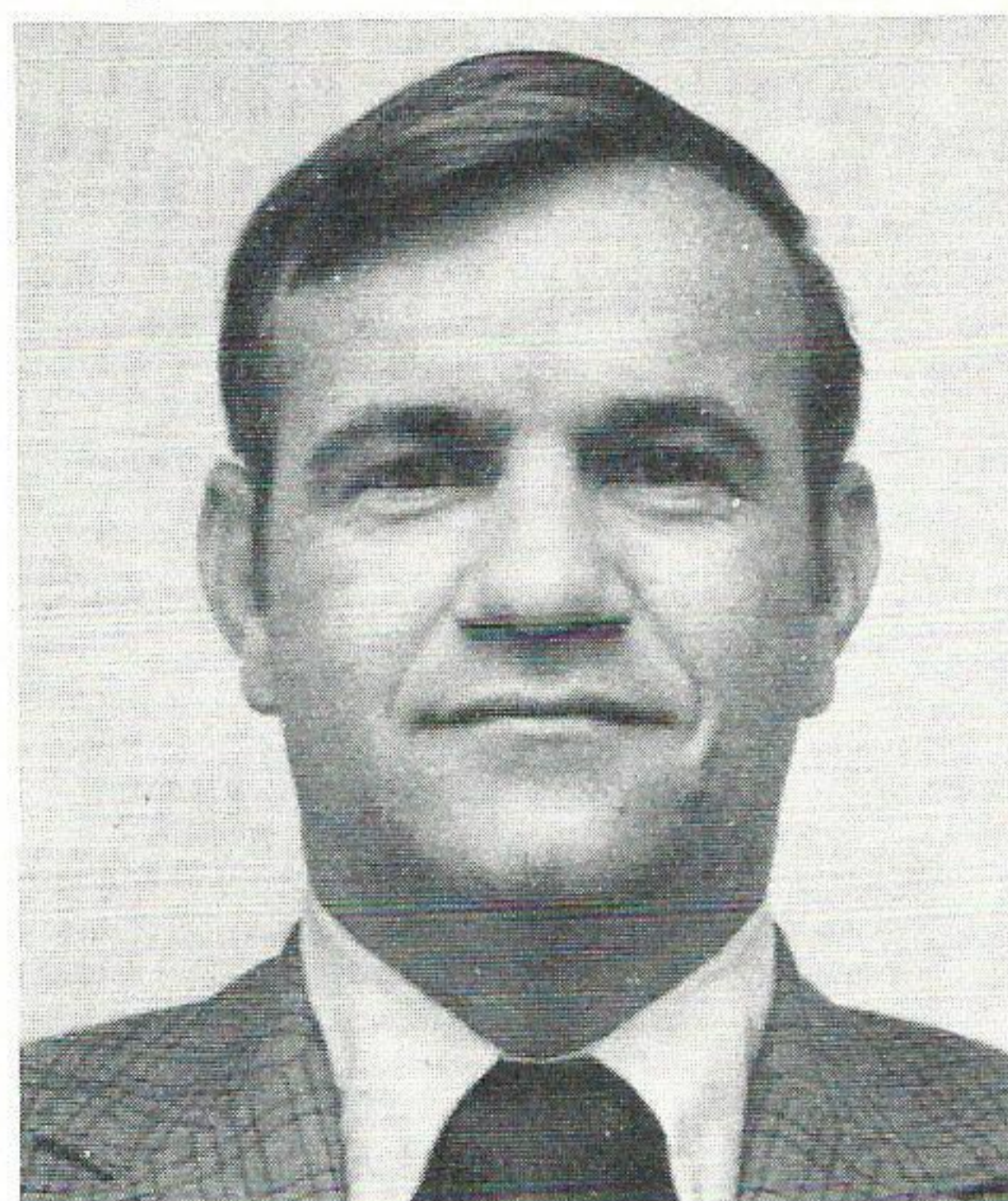
Kemp, employed in 1968 as an engineering helper, is a native of Oil City, La. He is a four-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and has an associate degree in Applied Science from Lamar University.

Kemp is married to the former Elida Newsom of Port Arthur, and the couple has one daughter, Chelbi.

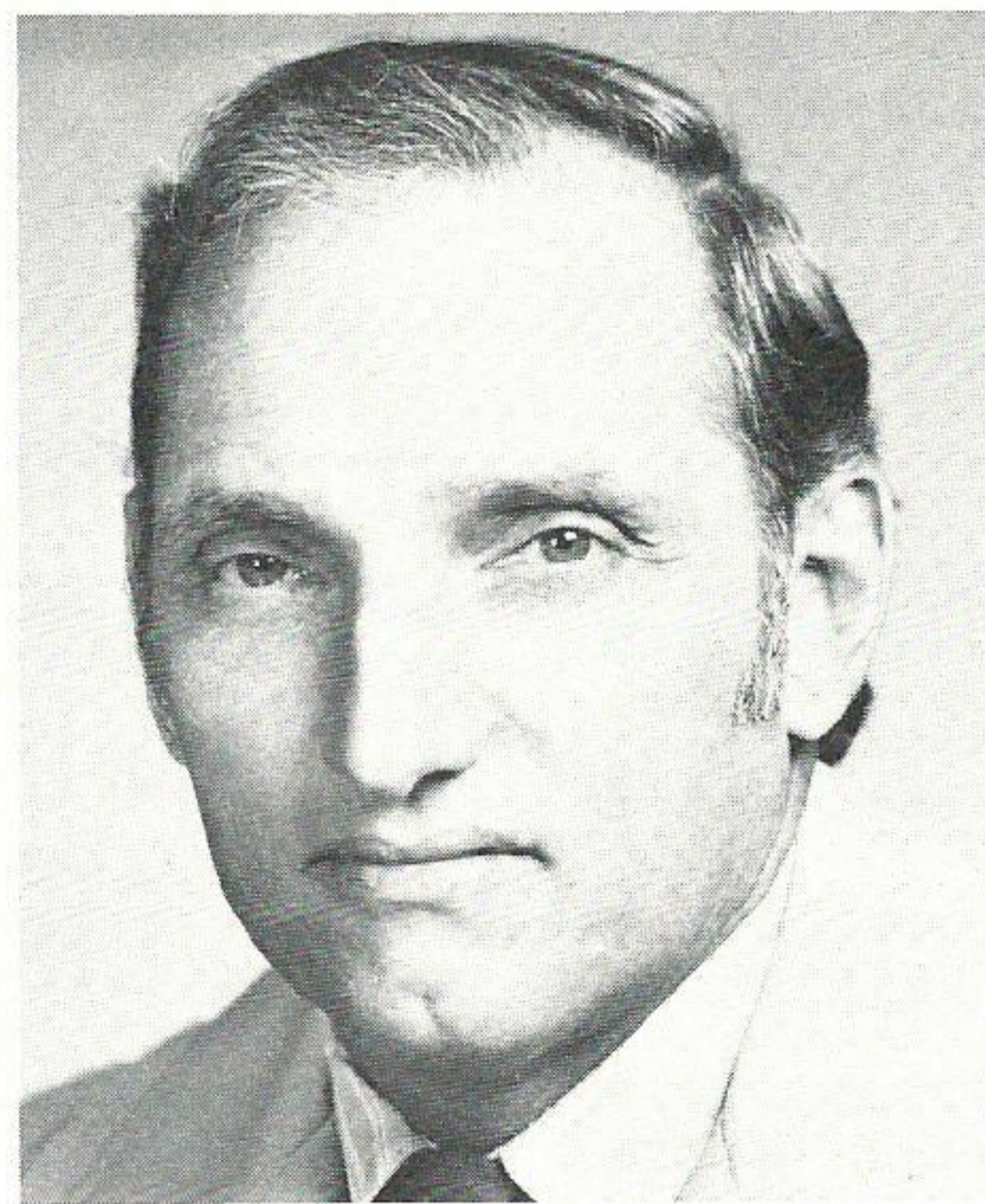
Eugene Andre, head fireman at Louisiana Station, has been promoted to shift supervisor.

Andre, an employee since 1952, has spent his career at Louisiana Station. He began as an operator's helper and has gained experience in various assignments including auxiliary operator, turbine operator, second fireman, turbine engineer and switchboard operator.

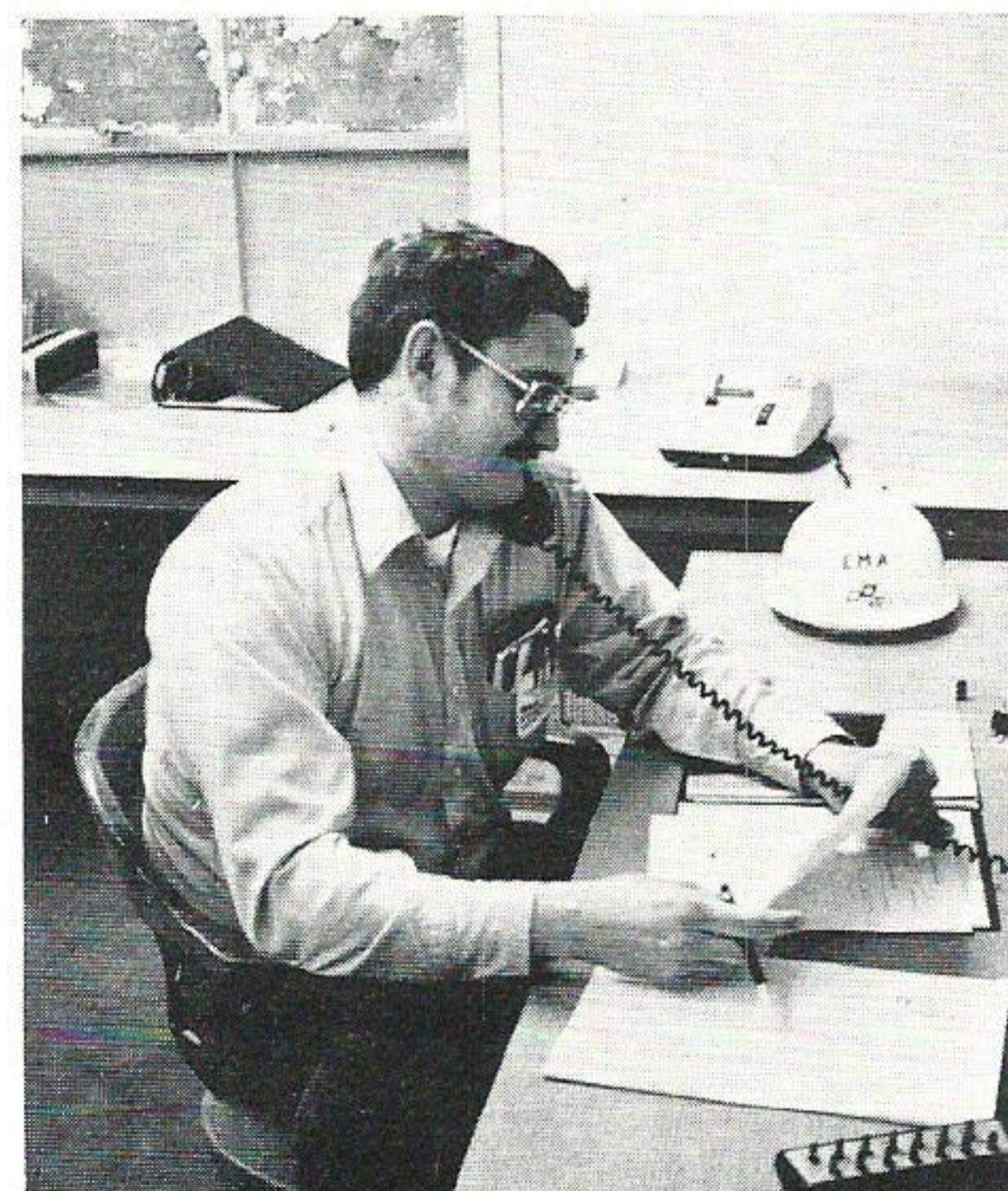
A native of Blanks, La., Andre is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps.



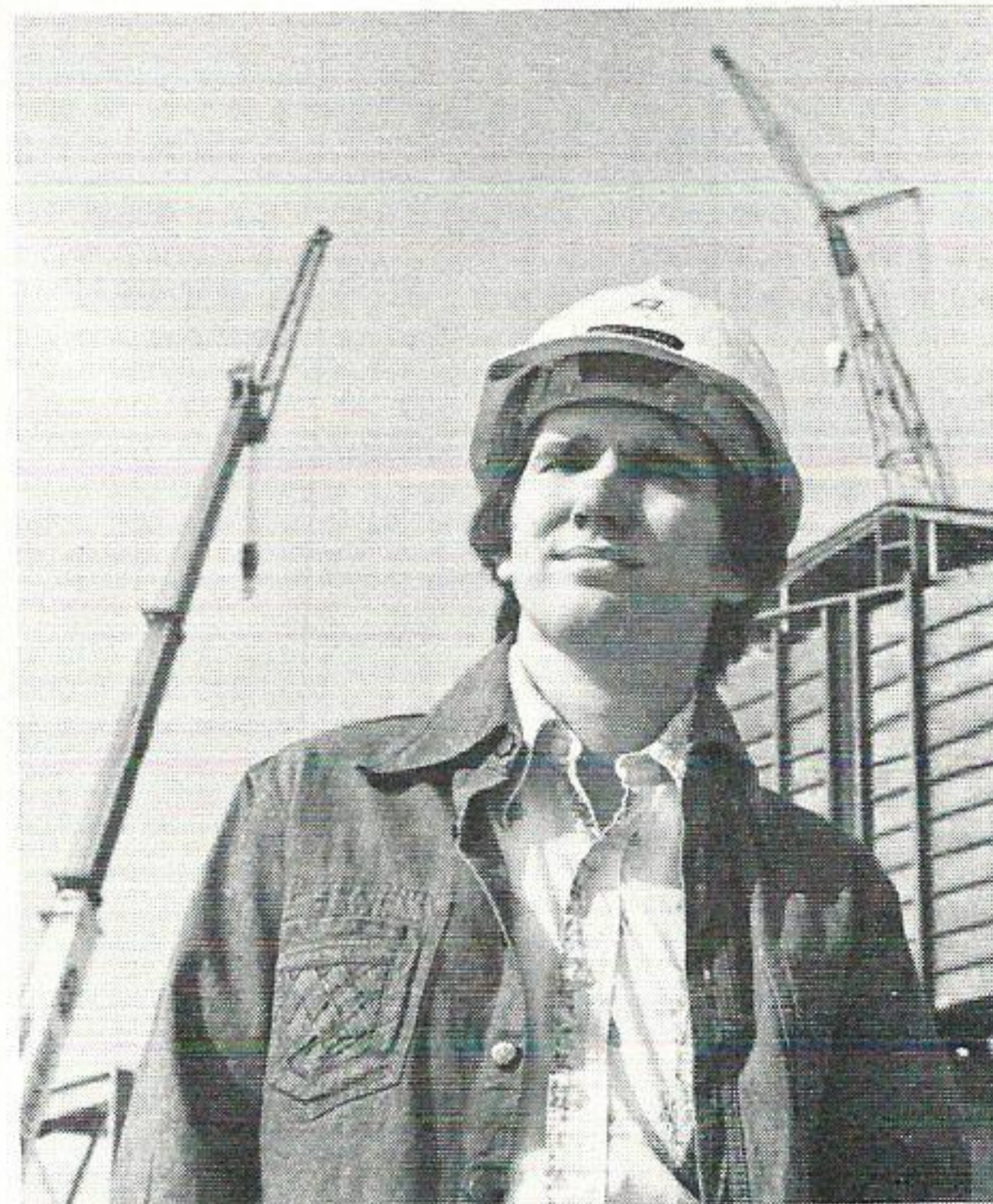
Wells



Graham



Petry



Walker

Paul L. Wells, quality assurance representative at River Bend Station, has been transferred to the civil engineering section of Engineering Design in Beaumont.

Wells, a native of Middletown, Ohio, is a 10-year veteran of the U.S. Army. He holds two degrees from the University of Missouri at Rolla, in engineering management and in civil engineering.

He was employed in January of this year, and is married to the former Carolyn Bozeman of Lumberton, N.C. The couple has one child, Tonya. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Two promotions have been announced within Power Plant Construction.

Michael Petry, former engineer at Nelson Station, has been transferred to Sabine Station and promoted to construction supervisor.

Perry J. Walker, an engineer at Louisiana Station, has been transferred to Willow Glen Station and promoted to construction supervisor.

Petry, an employee since 1967, began as an engineering helper in System Engineering Design in Beaumont. In 1968 he was named attendant-building equipment in Beaumont. In 1973, after graduating from Lamar University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, Petry was promoted to engineer in System Production. He was transferred to Nelson Station in 1974.

A native of Crowley, and a four year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Petry is married to the former Jean Lanese Dugat of Sour Lake, Tex. The couple has two children, Micah and Derek.

Walker, an employee since 1971, is a 1970 graduate of Lamar University with a degree in mechanical engineering.

He was employed as an engineer in System Production, and transferred to Louisiana Station in 1972.

A native of Beaumont, Walker is married to the former Judy Bonvillion, and the couple is expecting their first child. Walker

is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Clinton B. Graham, relay foreman in Port Arthur, has been transferred to the Quality Assurance Department in Beaumont and promoted to QA representative.

Graham, who recently received his bachelor's degree in business from Lamar University, has been an employee since 1956. He began as a shop and field tester in the Meter Department in Beaumont. He progressed through various relay classifications and was promoted to foreman in 1969.

The Silsbee native is a three-year veteran of the U.S. Army, and is married to the former Alma L. French of Beaumont. The couple has three children, Mona, Wanda and Mike.

Three promotions within the Information and Data Services Department were announced by C. G. Davis, manager.

Joel A. Moore Jr., former coordinator-EDP data administration, has been promoted to director-IDS planning services.

Alvin E. Hendrix, former EDP design supervisor, was upgraded to coordinator-EDP data administration.

Robert W. Dowies, systems analyst, has been promoted to EDP systems design supervisor.

Moore, employed in 1959 as an engineering helper, transferred into IDS in 1967. In 1968 he was promoted to project leader, and in 1971 was promoted to design supervisor. He was named coordinator in 1973.

Moore is a native of Houston. He attended Lamar University and the University of Houston. He is married to the former Peggie A. Patterson of Ridgeway, Tex., and the couple has three children, Kelly Ann, David A. and Gary P.

Hendrix, a veteran of 12 years with the company, was originally employed as an accountant. He was promoted to systems

design supervisor in 1973.

The Silsbee native is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and a 1962 graduate of Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in general business. He is married to the former Sarah Shine of Silsbee, and the couple has three children, Tawnya Lynn, Tamara Wynn and Trina Renee.

Hendrix is active in the A&M Ex-Students Association, National Light-for-the-Lost Council, scouting and is a Sunday School teacher.

Dowies was employed in 1972 as a residential sales representative in Division Marketing in Lake Charles. In 1974 he was promoted to senior residential sales rep, and in 1975 transferred to IDS as methods analyst in Beaumont. He was promoted to systems analyst in 1976.

The Lake Charles native is a 1972 graduate of McNeese State University with a degree in business administration. He is married to the former Kathryn Ann Hebert of Lake Charles, and the couple has two children, Robert Douglas, and Laurie Allison.

Raymond J. Adrio, senior engineering assistant in Beaumont, has been promoted to section head, building design.

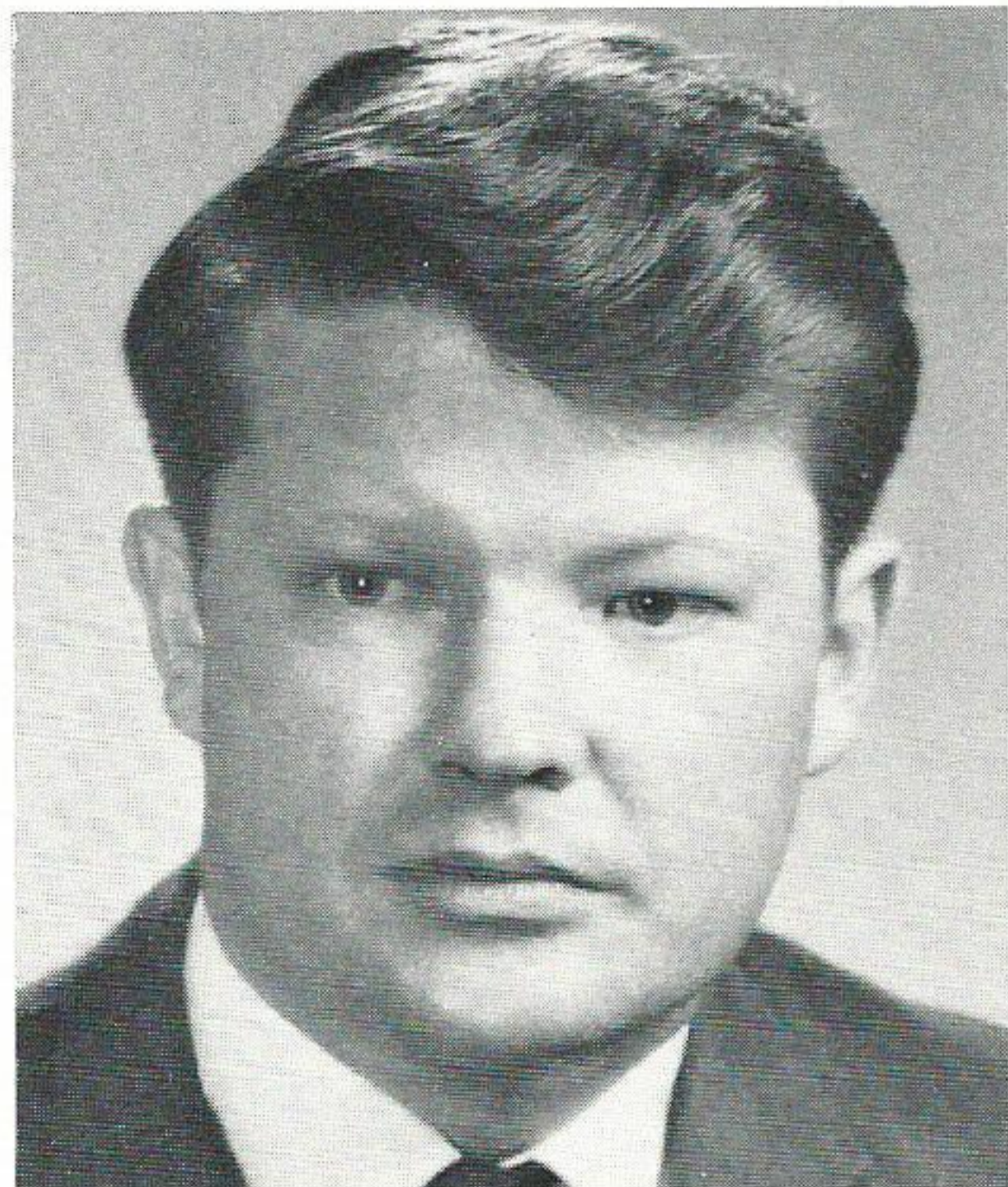
Adrio, an employee since 1959, has spent most of his utility career in various assignments within system engineering covering survey, building design and drafting. He was promoted to engineering assistant in 1966 and to senior engineering assistant in 1968.

A native of Beaumont, Adrio attended Lamar University and is married to the former Geraldine Wilson of Beaumont. The couple has three children, Amy, Craig and Susan.

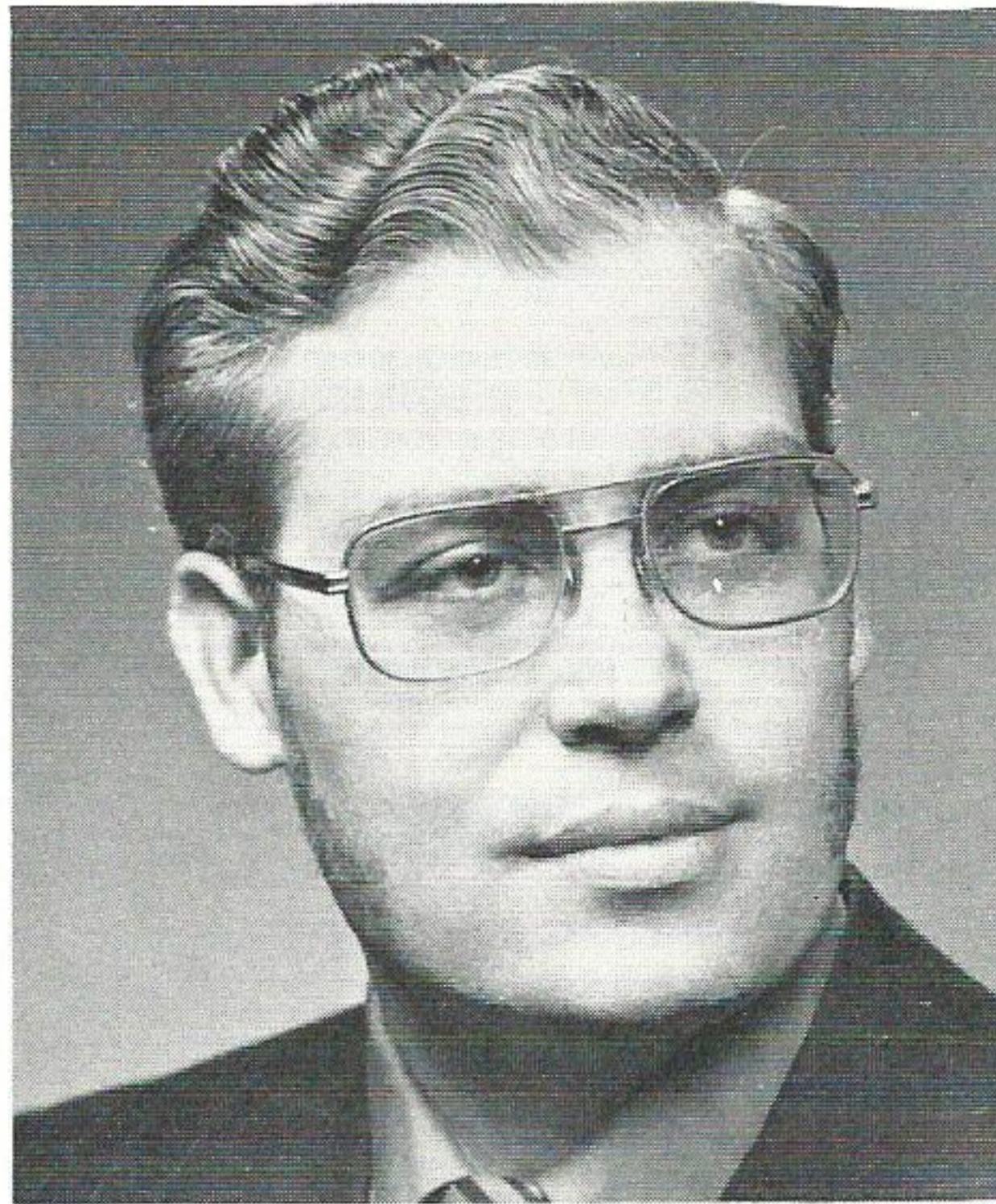
Gerhard W. Smith, division engineer in the Western Division, and **Harold W. Newman**, engineering design in Beaumont, have received promotions in and to the Western Division.

Smith becomes operating supervisor, while Newman has been transferred to

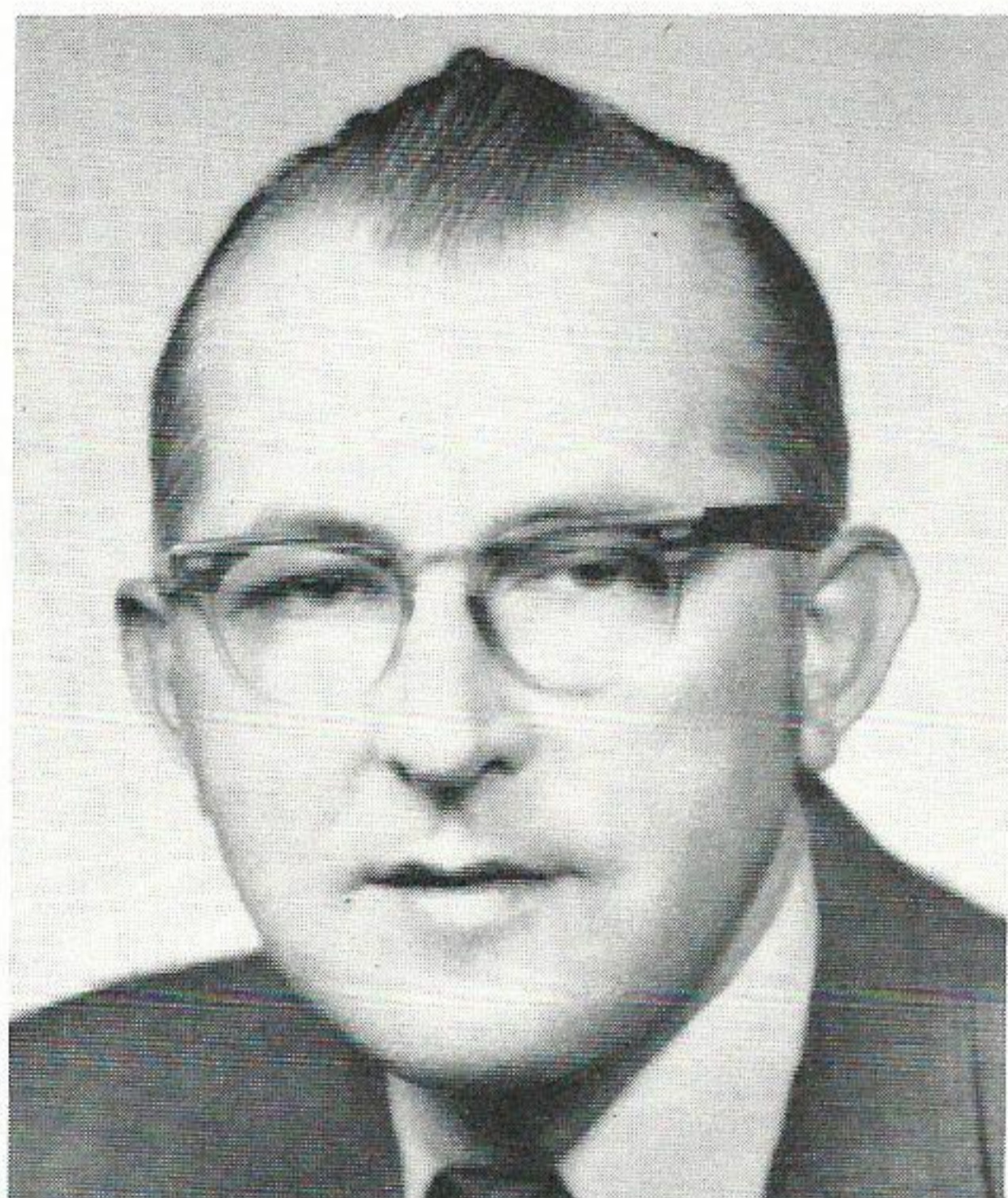
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



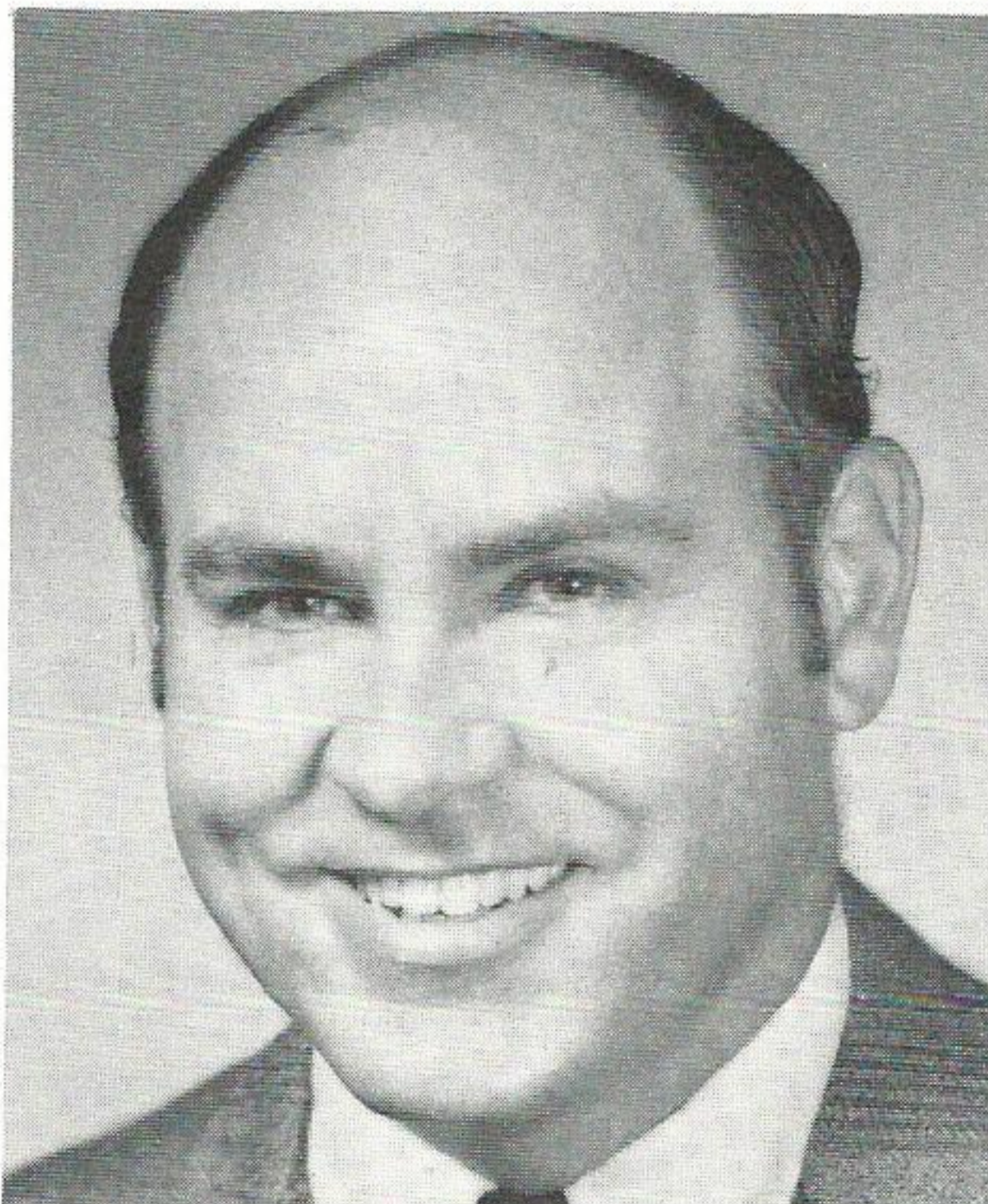
Moore



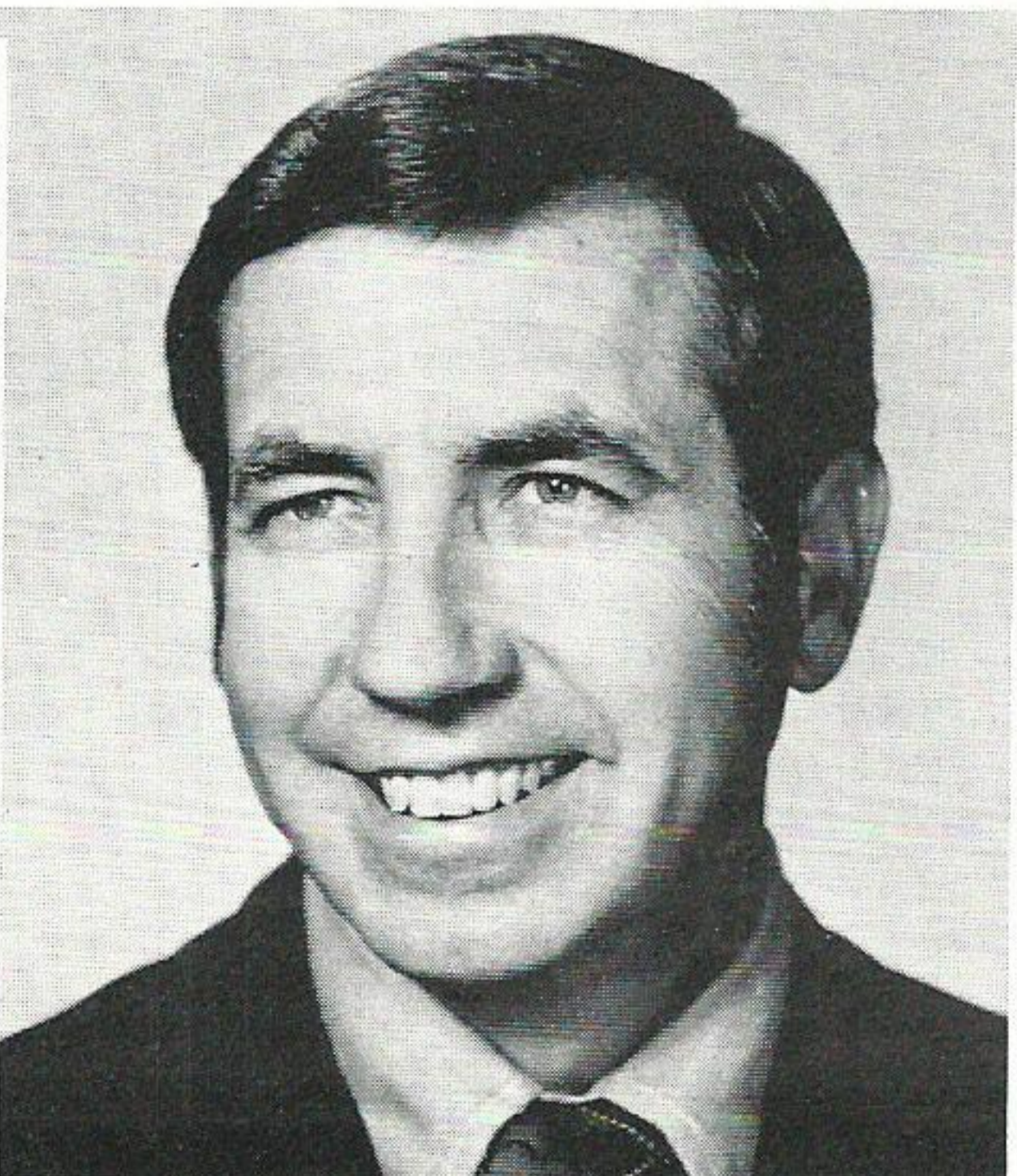
Hendrix



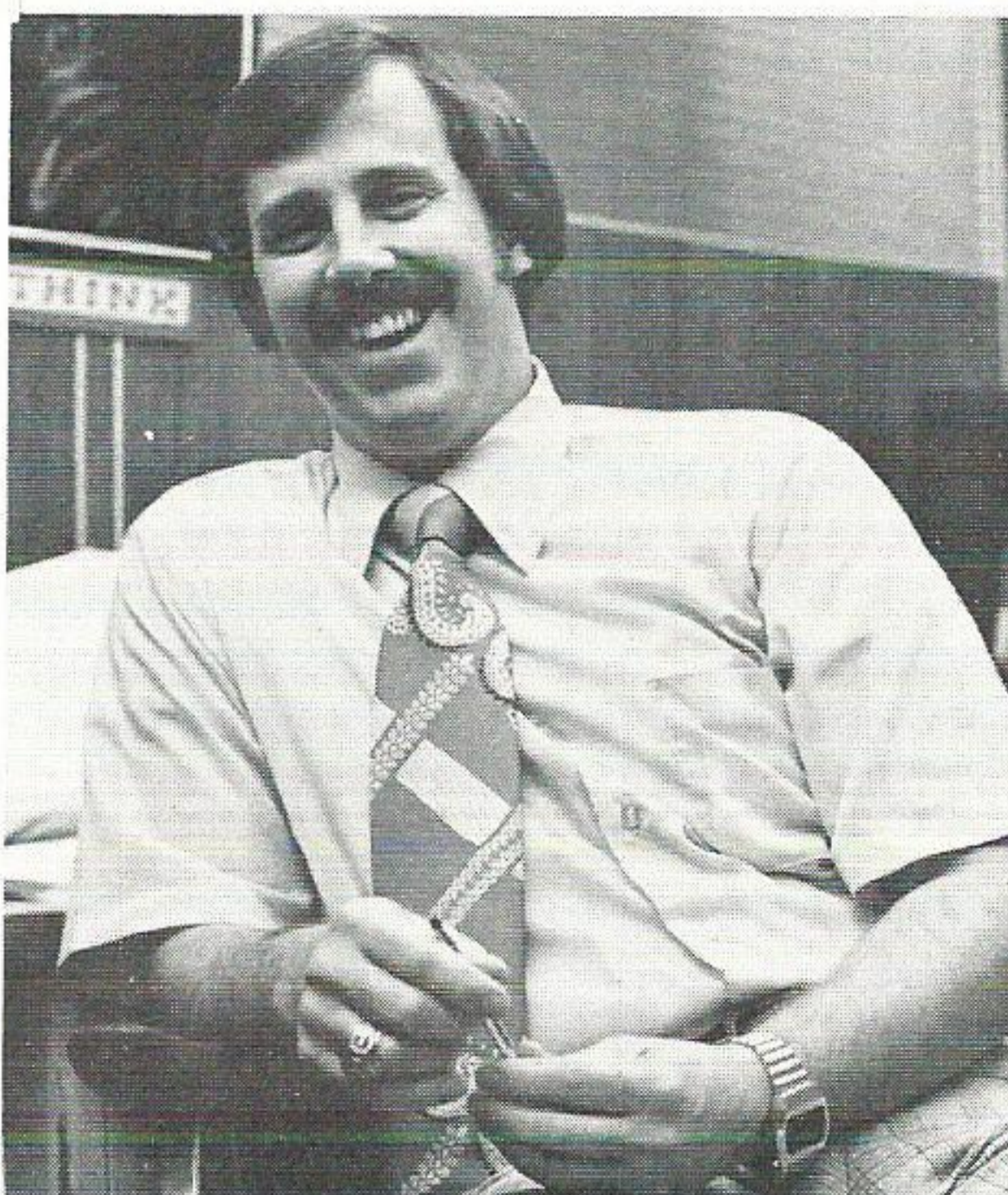
Smith



Adrio



Bordelon



Dowies

Conroe to replace Smith as division engineer.

Smith, a native of Long Beach, Calif., is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a degree in electrical engineering. The U.S. Army veteran has been an employee of GSU for the past 26 years.

He is married to the former Virginia Albanese of Beaumont, and the couple has two sons, Gerhard, Jr., and Floyd M. Smith, II. Smith is a registered professional engineer in the state of Texas.

Newman was employed in 1972 as an engineer in Lake Charles T&D. In 1975 he transferred to Beaumont in engineering design-construction.

He is a graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. The U. S. Air Force vet is a native of Wichita, Kan., but grew up in Valdosta, Ga. He is married to the former Sandra Lee Nolting of Bancroft, Neb., and the couple has two children, Christopher and Carrie.

John R. Bordelon, consumer services representative in Jennings, has been transferred to Beaumont and promoted to coordinator-economic development.

The Bunkie, La., native was employed in 1955 in residential sales at Jennings. He progressed through various classifications and was promoted to commercial sales representative-senior, in 1968.

The Air Force veteran is married to the former Bobbie Harper of Bunkie, and the couple has four children, Paul, Ann, Jeff and Deborah.

Bordelon has been active in civic affairs and organizations. He is past president of the Jennings Lions Club, board member of the Merchants Credit Bureau, a member of the American Legion and a board member of Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church.

Donald E. Hamilton, former electrical design engineer in Power Plant Engineering and Design, has been transferred to River Bend project and promoted to Director-Operations Support.

A 14-year veteran of the Company, Hamilton began his career as an engineering helper in the Relay Department in Beaumont. He progressed through various assignments and was promoted to engineer in System Production in 1969. He was promoted to general maintenance supervisor at Sabine Station in 1972, and in 1973 was named electrical design engineer.

A native of Texarkana, Tex., Hamilton attended Texarkana Junior College for two

years and graduated from Lamar University with an electrical engineering degree in 1969. He is married to the former Mary Jane Thomas of Texarkana, and the couple has five children, Donna, Pamela, Jody, Angela and Chris.

Charles A. Hackney, nuclear staff assistant, has been transferred to the River Bend Project and promoted to health physicist. As such he will be responsible for planning and executing those activities related to the health physics aspects of operations and maintenance of River Bend Station.

Hackney, a native of Lincoln, Ala., has been an employee since 1973. He is a graduate of Texas Wesleyan College with a bachelor's degree in mathematics. He is married to the former Barbara Gay Richardson of Brownwood, Tex., and the couple has two children, Charles, III, and James.

Hackney is a two year veteran of the U.S. Army.

Douglas D. Skinner, equipment operator at Neches Station, has been transferred to System Production and promoted to system operator.

A 10-year veteran of the Company, Skinner was employed as an operator's helper at Neches Station. He became auxiliary operator in 1969, and in 1970 was promoted to turbine operator. He became second fireman in 1971 and equipment operator in 1972.

The Silsbee native is married to the former Barbara Grant of Silsbee, and the couple has two children, Kerry Ann and Brent.

James G. Oberg, senior engineering assistant in Beaumont, has been promoted to system operator.

Oberg, a 10-year veteran of the Company, was employed as an engineering helper in Beaumont. He progressed through various classifications and was promoted to senior engineering assistant in 1974.

The Beaumont native is married to the former Susan E. Rich of Beaumont, and the couple has two children, Jimmy and Tiffany.

Joseph A. Quattrone, engineer in Lake Charles T&D, has been transferred to Beaumont in Engineering Design-Construction.

A 1972 graduate of McNeese State University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, Quattrone was employed in 1974. He is a native of Lake Charles.

Three promotions were announced in the Accounting Services Department by J. L. Braswell, controller.

Odis W. Blessitt, administrative accountant, was promoted to staff accountant in general accounting; **David L. Rogers** was promoted to senior administrative accountant; and **Frances O. Sheffield**, senior stenographer, was promoted to confidential records clerk in payroll.

Blessitt was employed in 1973 as administrative accountant in Beaumont. He is a 1972 graduate of Sam Houston State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

Blessitt is a native of Orange, and is married to the former Jo C. Stovall of Freeport, Tex. The couple has one daughter, Elizabeth.

Rogers is a two year veteran of the company. He was employed in plant accounting and in 1976 moved to business systems. He is a 1974 graduate of Lamar University with a bachelor's degree in accounting.

The Navy veteran is married to the former Kathleen Riley of Beaumont.

Ms. Sheffield was employed in 1970 as stenographer in Beaumont. In 1973 she was promoted to senior stenographer, and in 1976 transferred to general accounting as senior steno.

She is a native of Port Arthur and attended Lamar University.

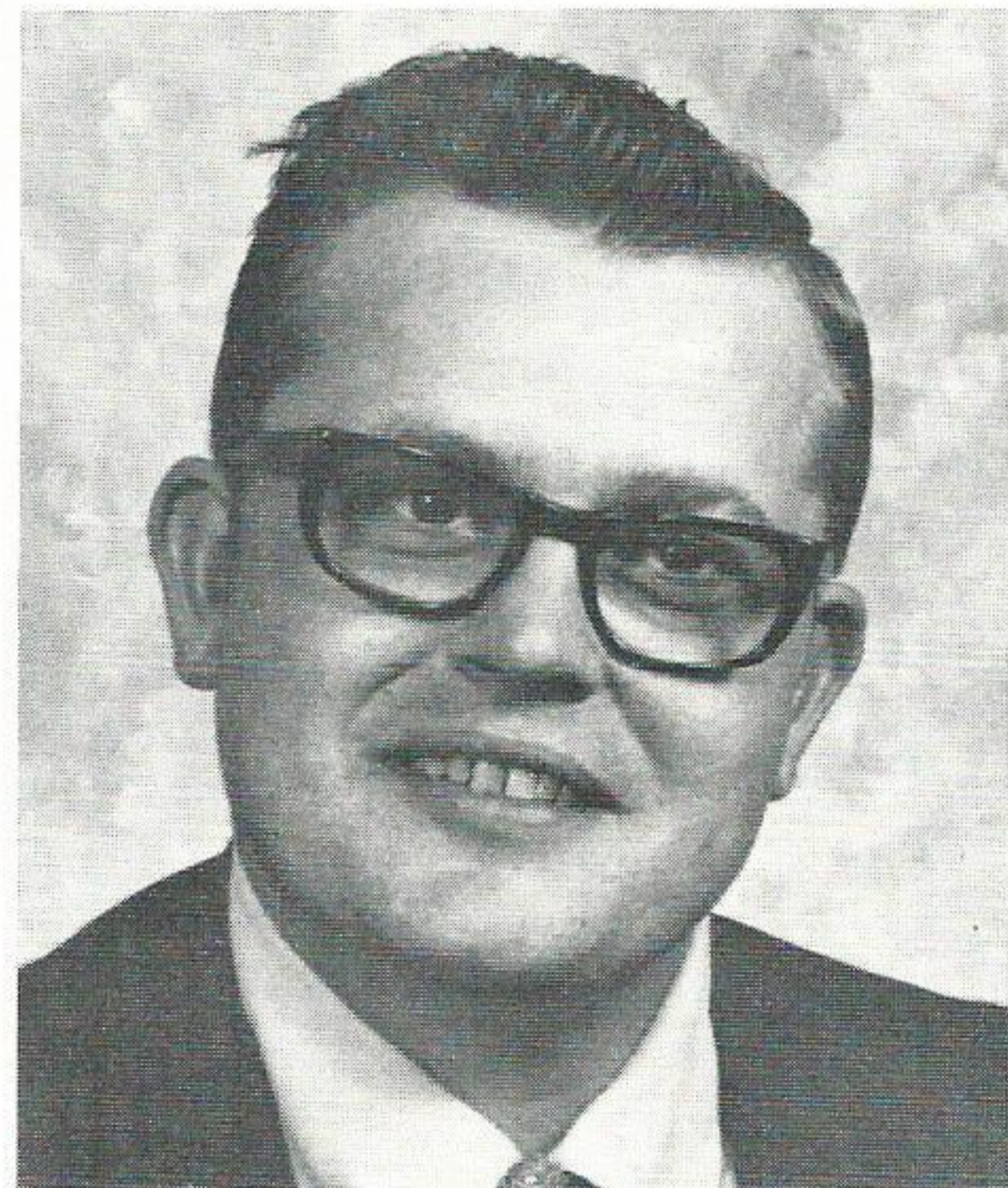
Joe L. Burton, engineer in Power Plant Construction-River Bend, has been transferred to System Marketing in Baton Rouge, Industrial and Area Development.

Burton has been an employee since 1973 in System Production. He transferred to Louisiana Station in 1974, and to River Bend Station project in 1976.

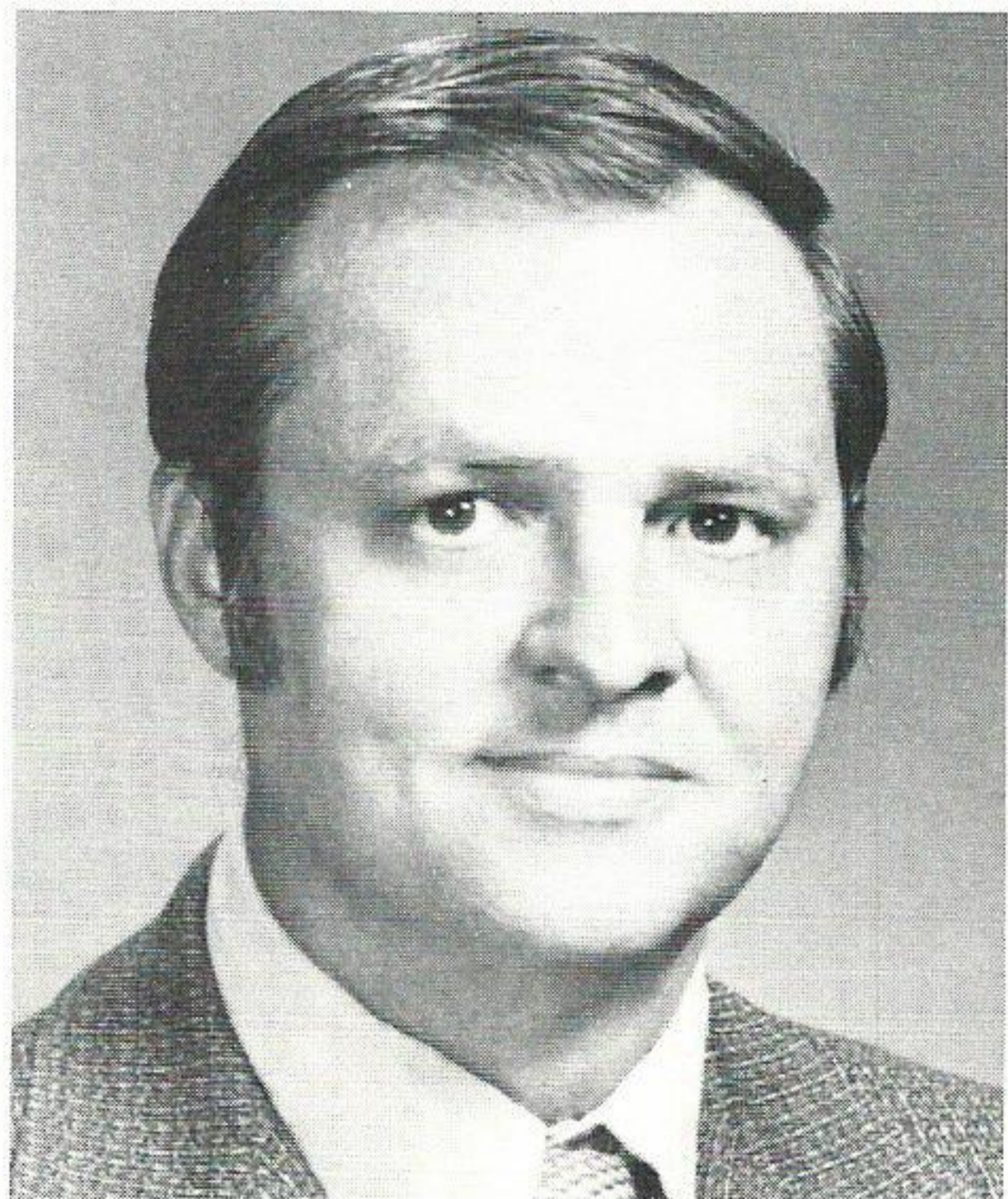
The Blytheville, Ark., native is a 1973 graduate of Mississippi State University with a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering. He is a member of the American Nuclear Society, United Commercial Travelers of America, Louisiana Society of Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors and a member of the company's Speaker's Bureau.

Robert L. Husband, financial analyst, has been promoted to senior financial analyst in Beaumont.

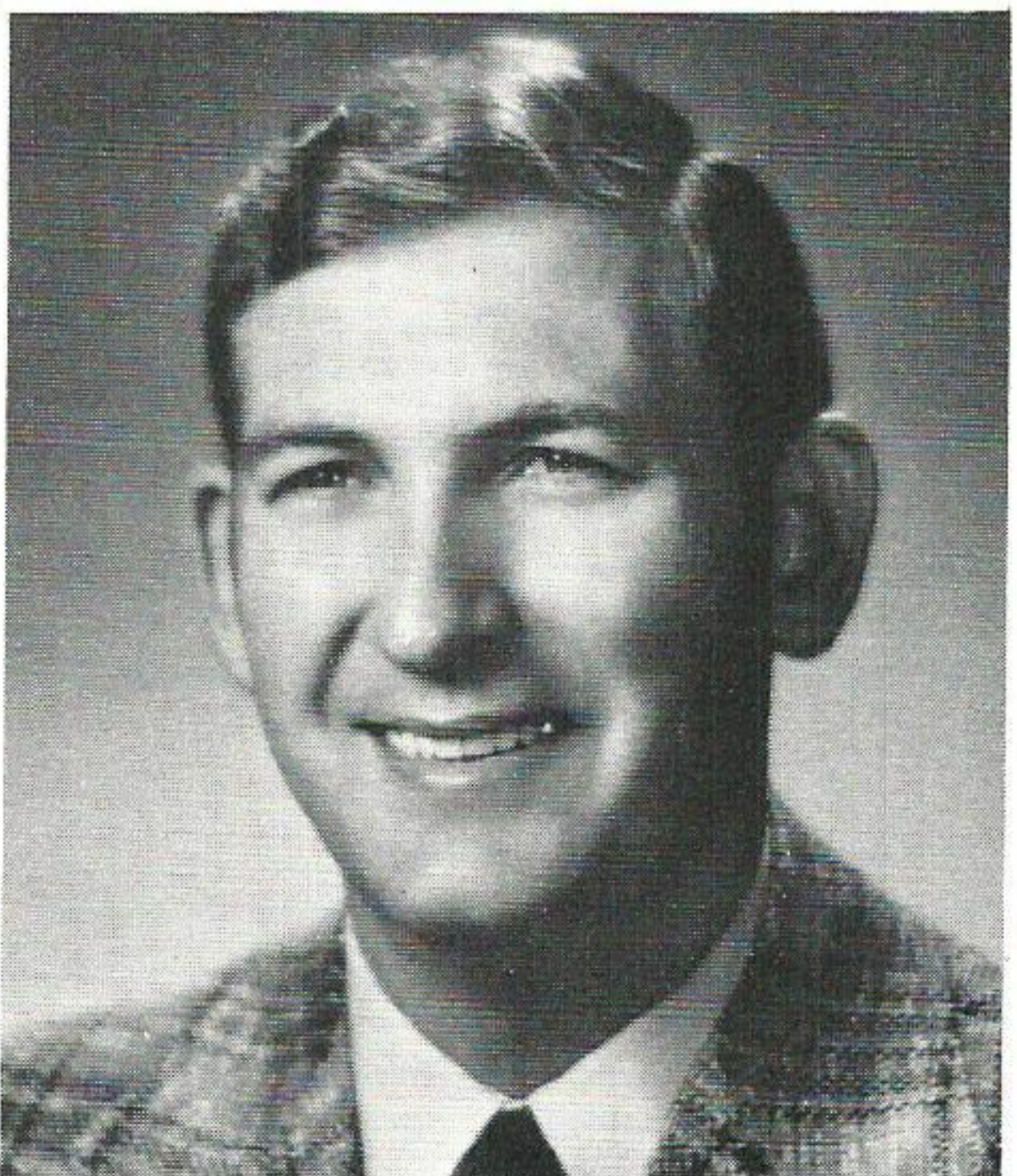
Husband is a 1973 employee of the company, hired as administrative



Hamilton

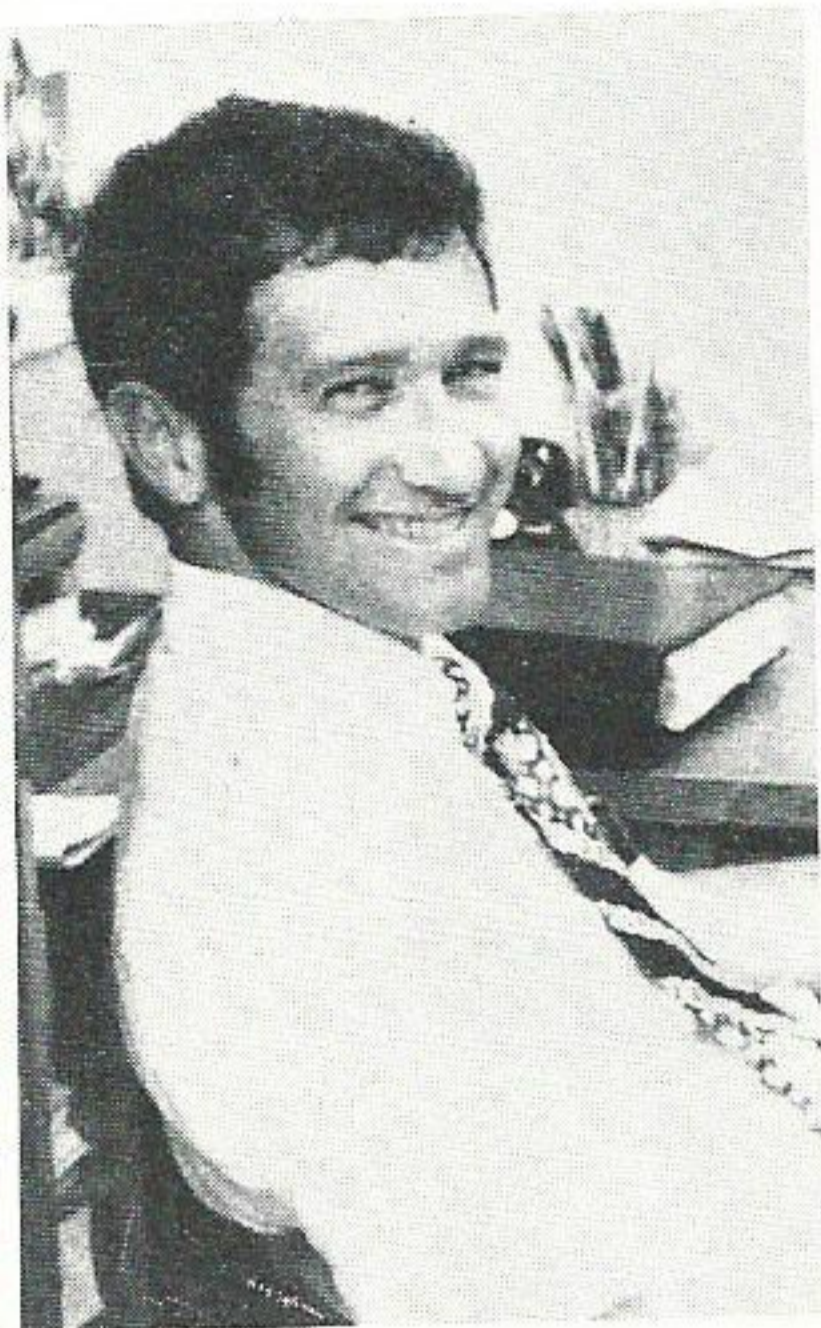


Hackney

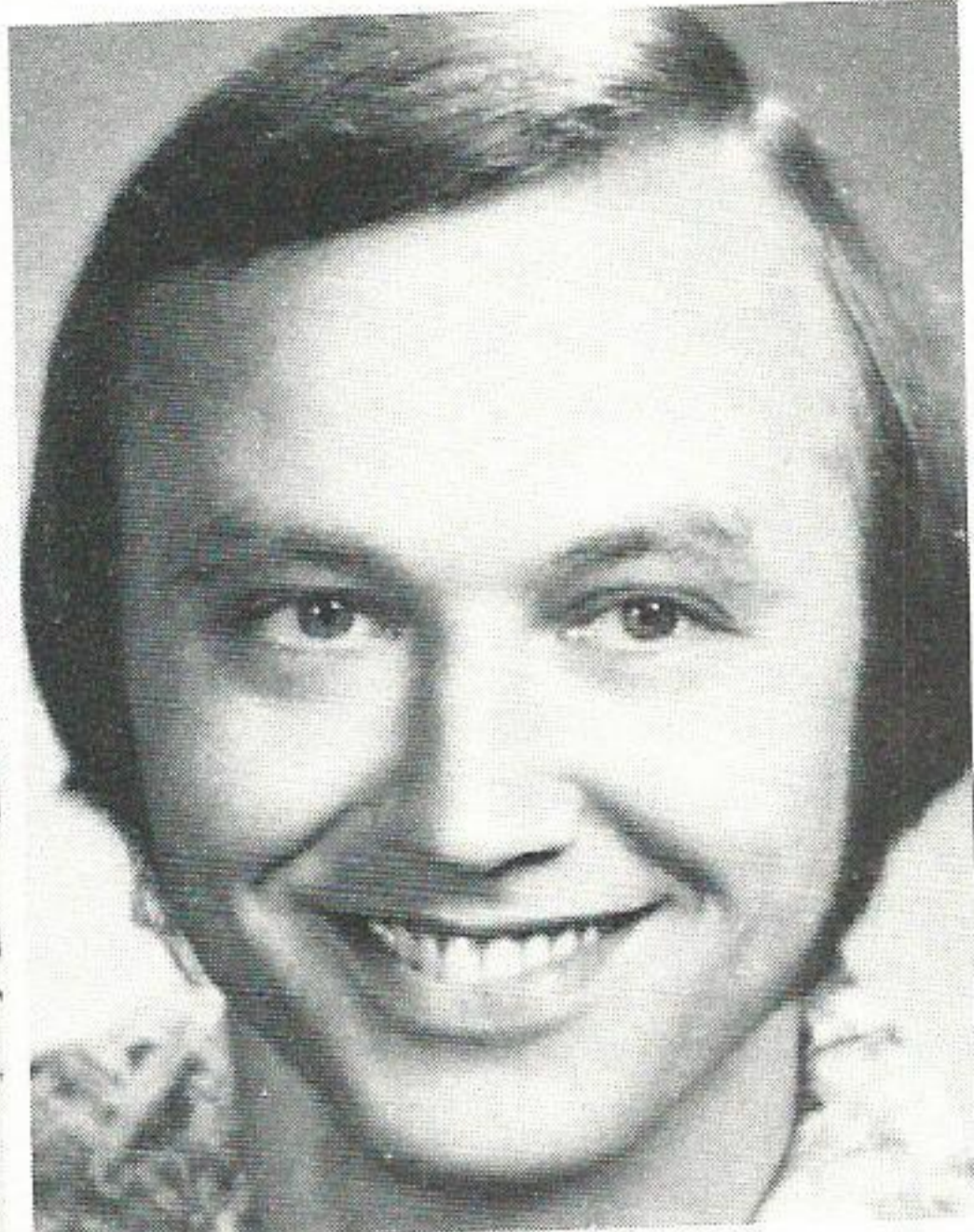


Skinner

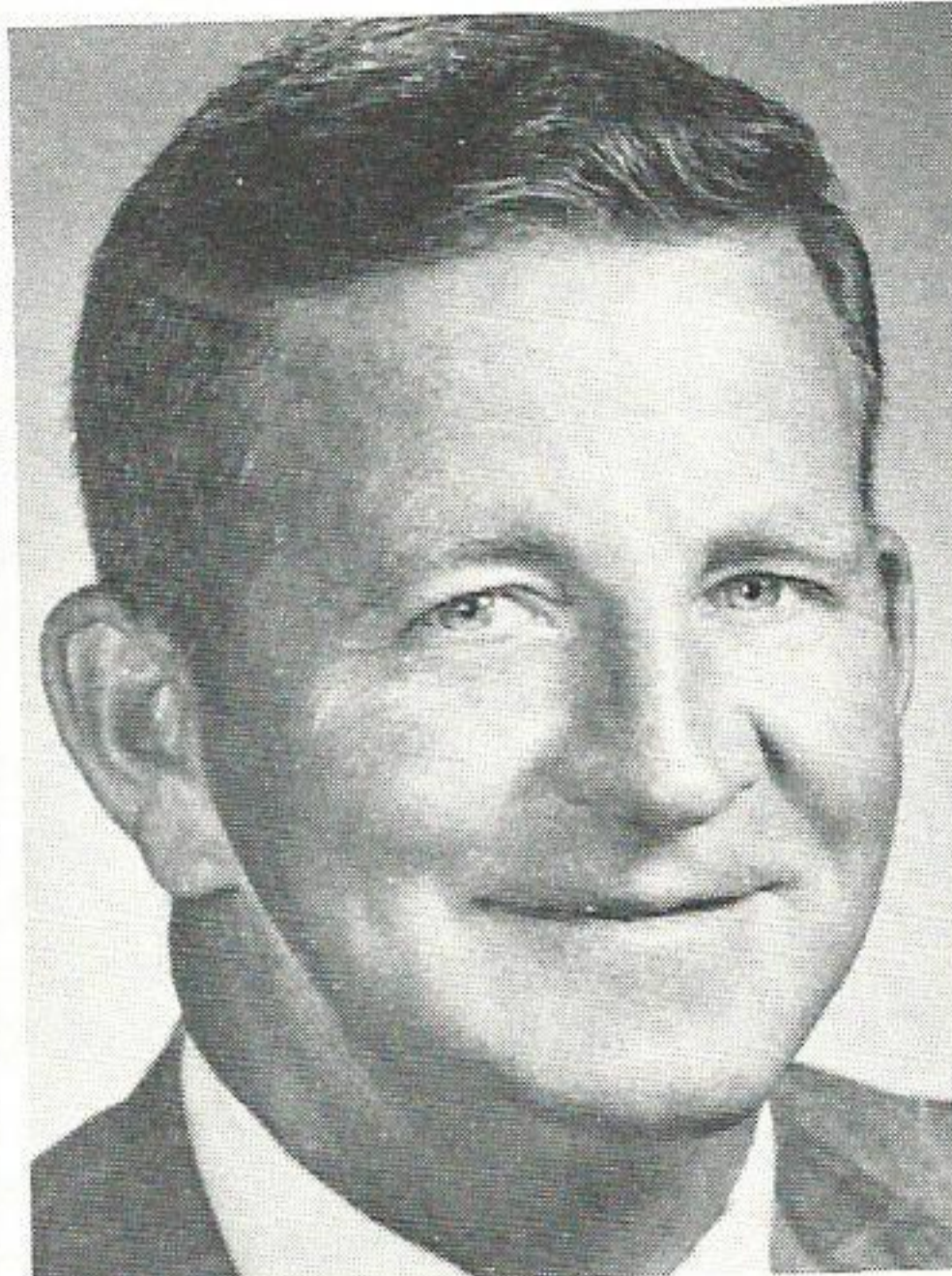
PEOPLE ON THE MOVE



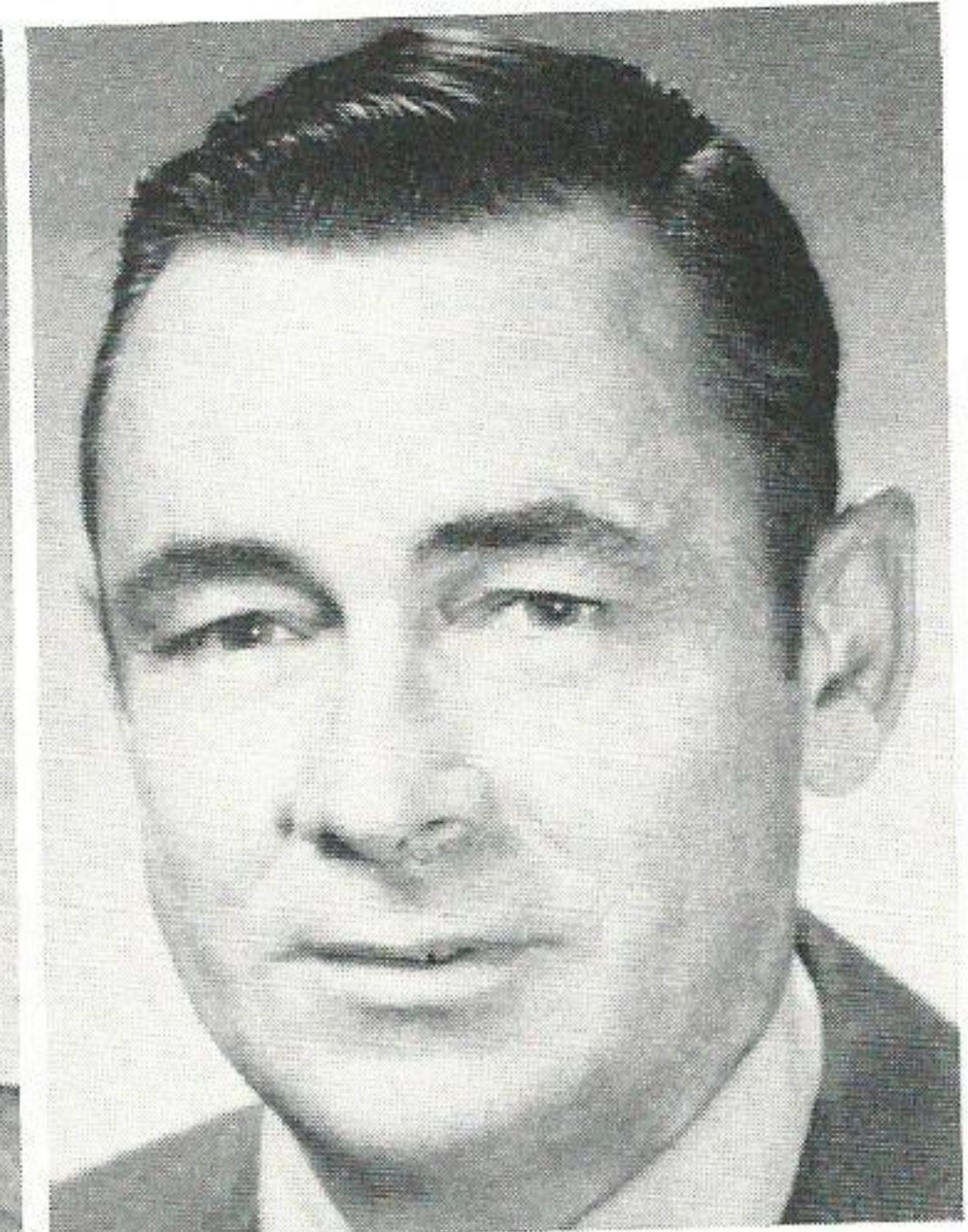
Newman



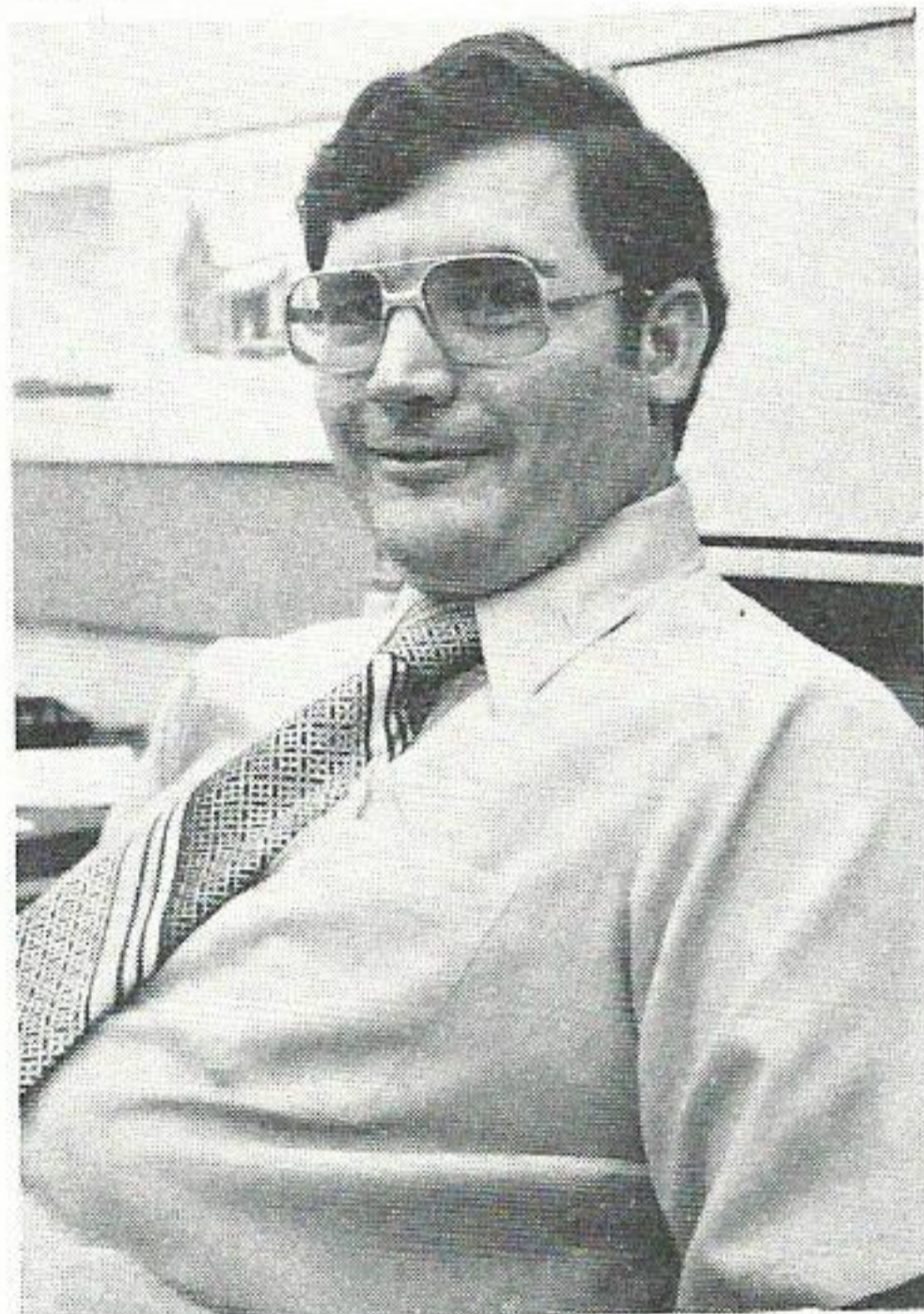
Oberg



Cowart



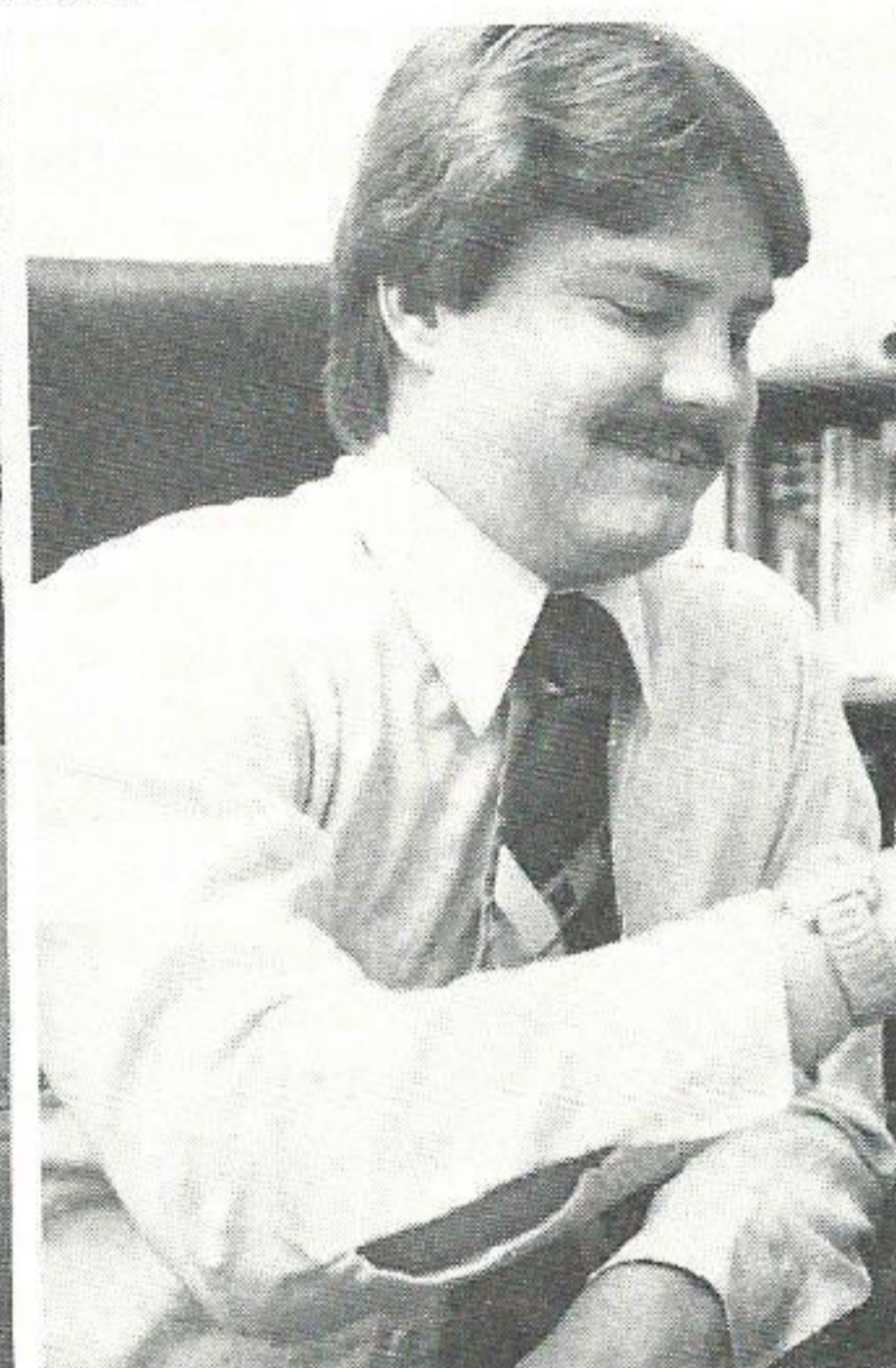
Tingen



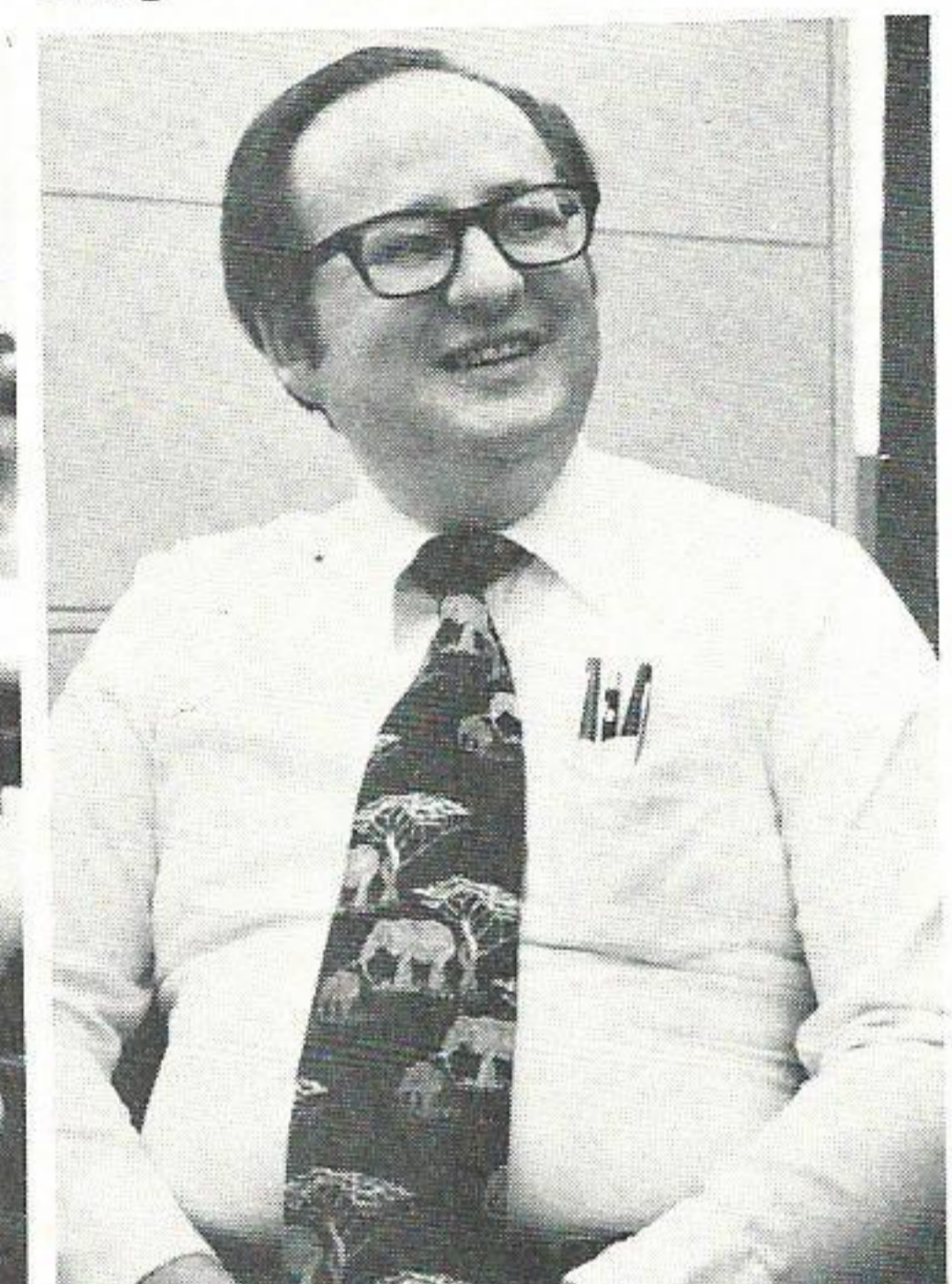
Blessitt



Sheffield



Rogers



Husband

accountant in Accounting Services. He was promoted to financial analyst in 1976.

The Port Arthur native is a three year veteran of the U.S. Army and a 1972 graduate of Lamar University with a bachelor's degree in marketing. He is married to the former Patricia Ann Johnson of Beaumont, and the couple has three children, Robert Steven, Randall Scott and Patty Lynn.

The Husbands are active foster parents and are Region X representatives of Texas State Foster Parents Association and Jefferson County Foster Parents Association.

Four promotions have been announced by Beaumont Operating Superintendent A. W. Baird.

Roy E. Cowart, line foreman, has been promoted to assistant general line foreman; **Donald L. Tingen**, utility foreman, has been promoted to line foreman; **Walter**

L. Sikes, substation mechanic, has been promoted to utility foreman-line; and **Elton R. Coleman**, substation mechanic, has been promoted to shop foreman-substation.

Cowart, an employee since 1944, has spent his entire career in the Transmission and Distribution Department in Beaumont. He has gained wide experience in both line and service work, and progressed through a number of classifications. He was promoted to utility foreman in 1960, and line foreman in 1964.

The Beaumont native is a veteran of the U.S. Army and is married to the former Jackie Klein of Beaumont. The couple has two children, Steve and Cheryl.

Tingen is a 15-year employee of the company. He has progressed from helper through various assignments in T&D-line, and service, and was promoted to utility foreman in 1970.

A native of Sanford, N.C., Tingen is a U.S. Navy veteran and is married to the

former Barbara Ann Killebrew of Greensboro, N.C. The couple has two children, Dale and Vickie, both students at Lamar University.

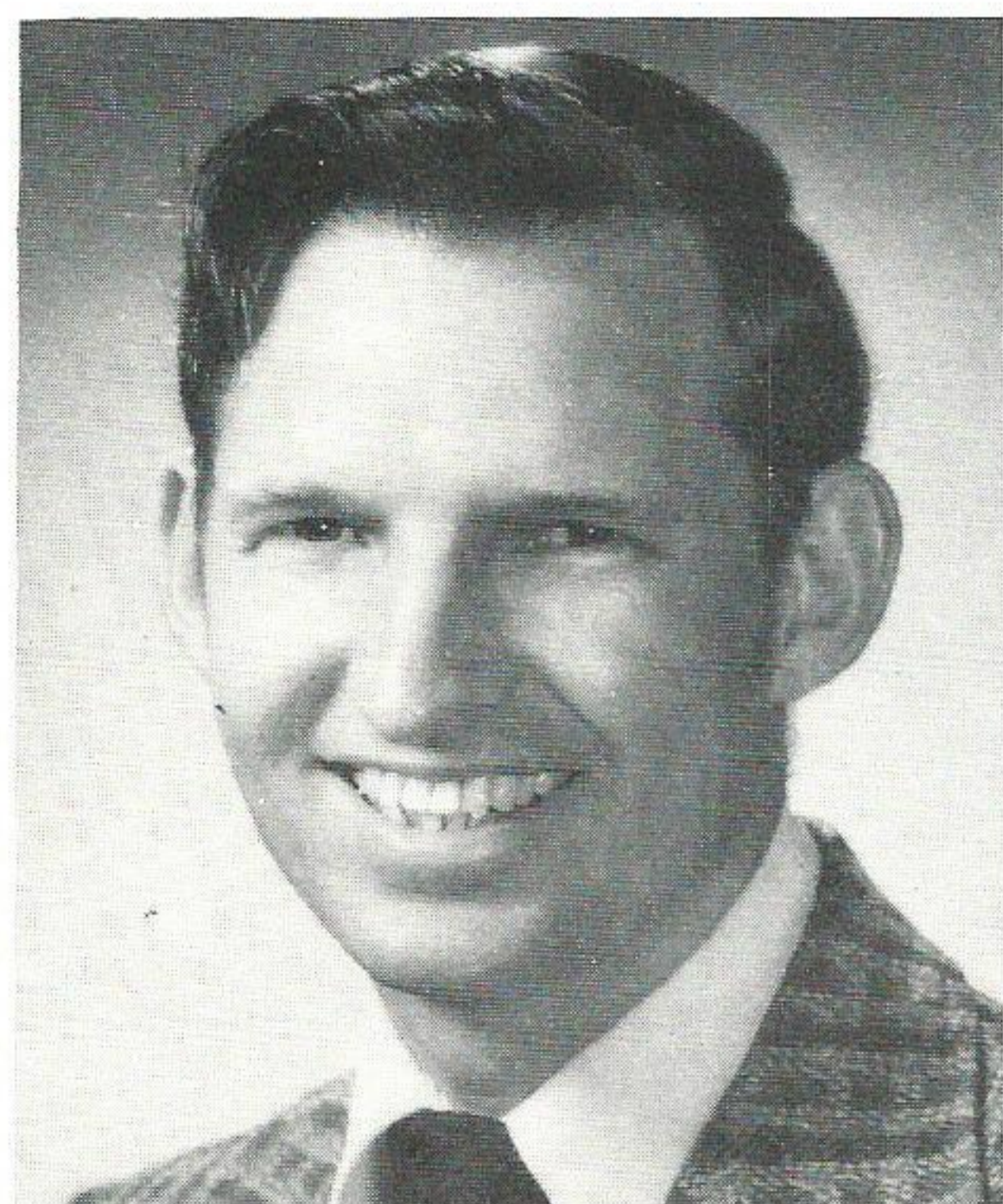
Sikes, a native of Paris, Tex., is a 20-year veteran of the company. He was employed in 1957 as a helper in T&D-substation, and progressed through various classifications in substation, line and service departments.

He is married to the former JoAnn Ramos of Nacogdoches, and the couple has one child, Lara, a seventh grade honor student at Lumberton.

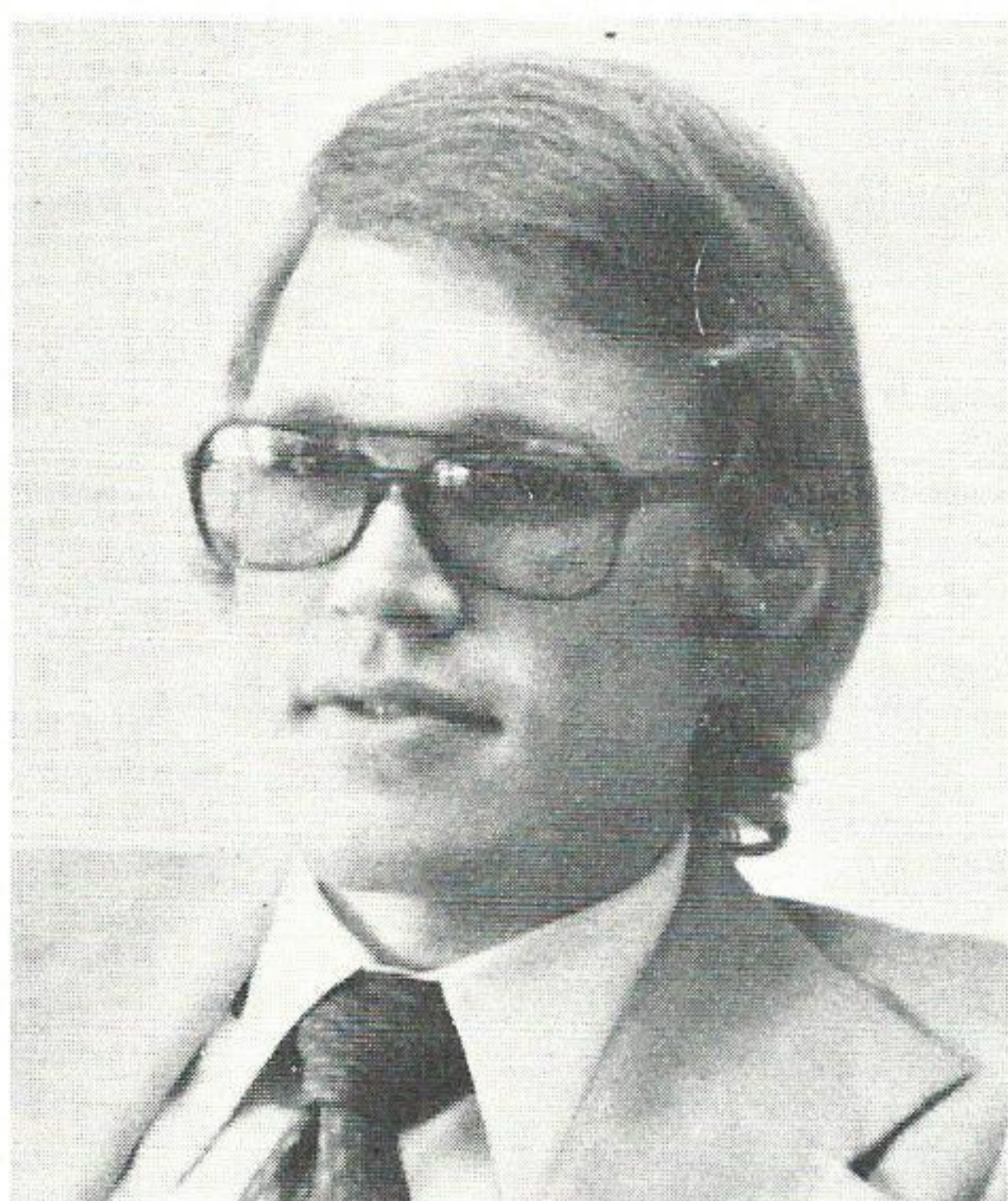
Coleman is an 11-year veteran of the company. His assignments have all been in T&D line and service departments in Beaumont. The Beaumont native is a two year veteran of the U.S. Navy, and is married to the former Mary Ellen Boudreaux of Beaumont.

The couple has three children, Elton Ray, Debora Renee and Sharon Kaye.

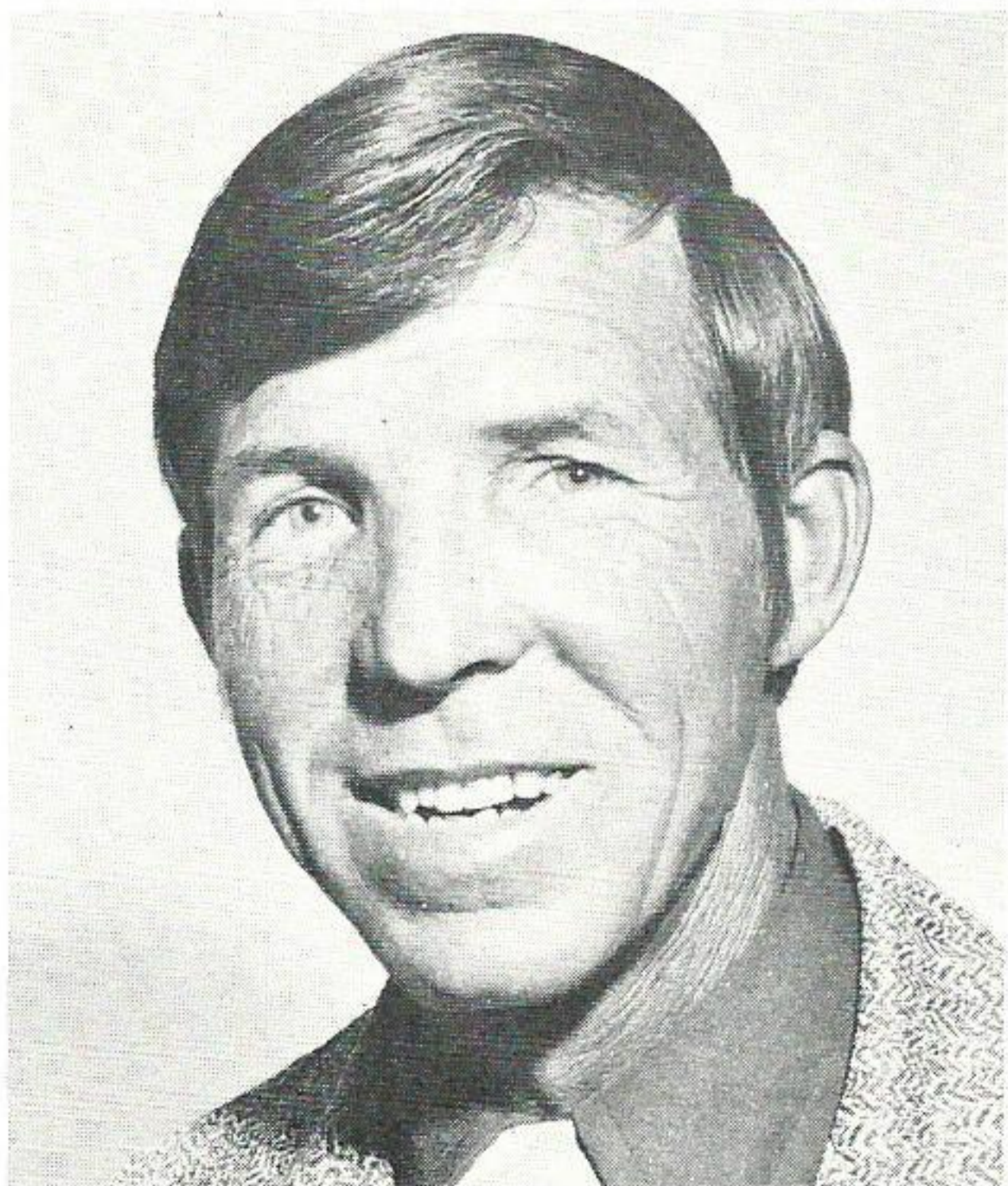
RETIREMENTS



Coleman



Burton

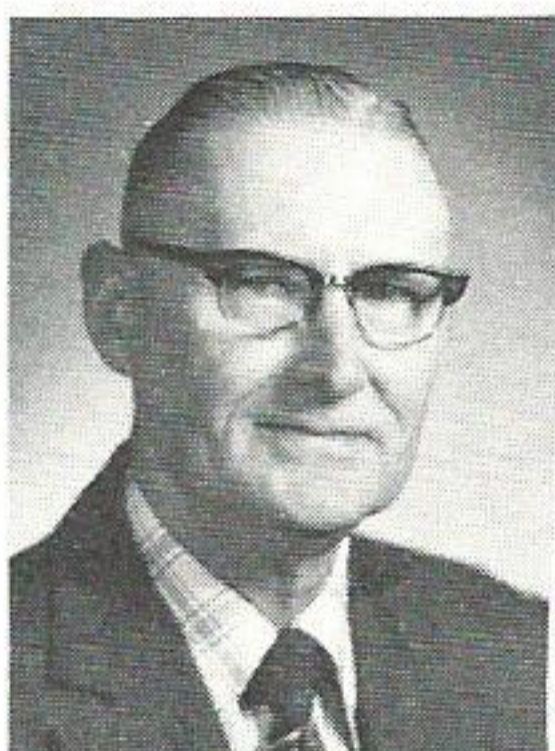


Sikes

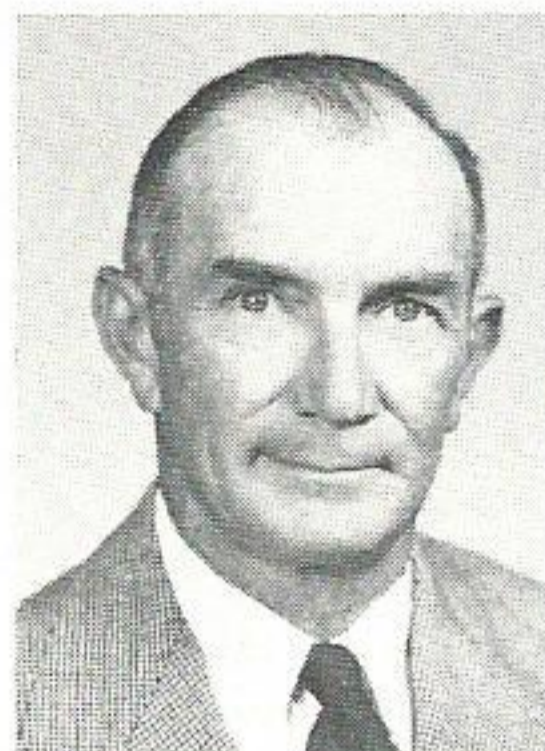
Broussard



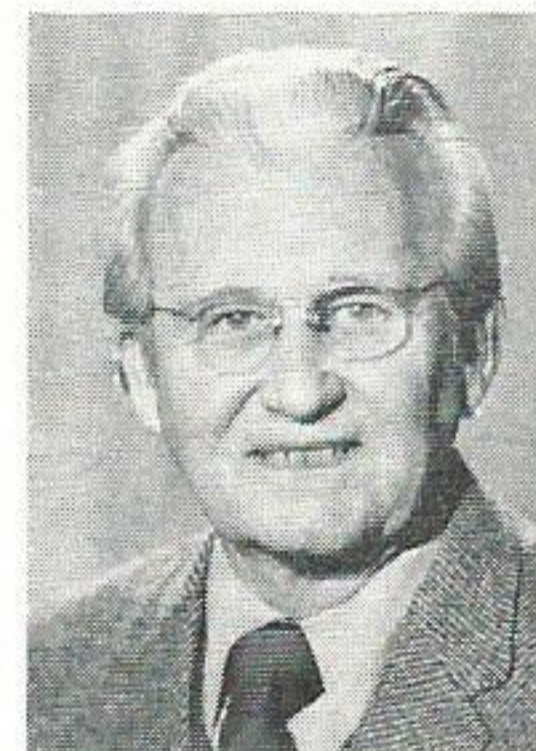
Baird



Geiger



Brooks



Washington



Frank Washington, helper T&D/labor crews in Lake Charles, retired September 1, after 30 years of service.

Washington, a native of Lake Charles, was employed in 1947 as a laborer in the T&D Department. He was promoted to laborer II in 1963, and in 1973 was promoted to helper in T&D.

George A. Geiger, Jr., a utility man in Beaumont T&D, retires October 1, after 36 years of service.

Geiger, employed in 1941 as a helper in Beaumont T&D, was promoted to truck-driver in T&D (line) in 1946. He became a utility man in T&D in 1972.

Geiger, a native of Beaumont, served three and a half years with the U.S. Army in Southeast Asia, and is married to the former Elvira Fabio of San Juan, P.R. The couple has one son, Colbert.

Thomas D. Brooks, senior engineering assistant in Jennings, retires October 1, after 40 years of service.

A native of Elton, Brooks was employed in 1937 as a helper in Jennings. He became a truck driver in 1937, and in 1941 was transferred to the T&D Department. In 1943 he became a lineman, and in 1947 was named serviceman. He was promoted to engineering assistant in 1950, and in 1960 was promoted to senior engineering assistant.

Albert W. Baird, Jr., operating superintendent-Beaumont T&D, retires October 1, after more than 40 years of service with the Company.

Baird, a native of Frost, Tex., is a

graduate of New Mexico A&M with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He joined the Company in 1936 in Estimating & Planning in Beaumont. After several assignments in that department he transferred to Orange, and in 1941 became a distribution engineer; a year later he transferred to Port Arthur.

With the nation at war, Baird joined the U.S. Navy. He returned in November of 1945 and was reinstated as an engineer in Port Arthur. In 1952 he was promoted to engineering supervisor and transferred to Beaumont. He became division engineer in 1956, and later that same year, operating supervisor.

In 1960 Baird transferred to Navasota as operating superintendent, and became manager of the Western Division (Navasota) Division at that time) in 1965. He was made Beaumont operating superintendent in 1969.

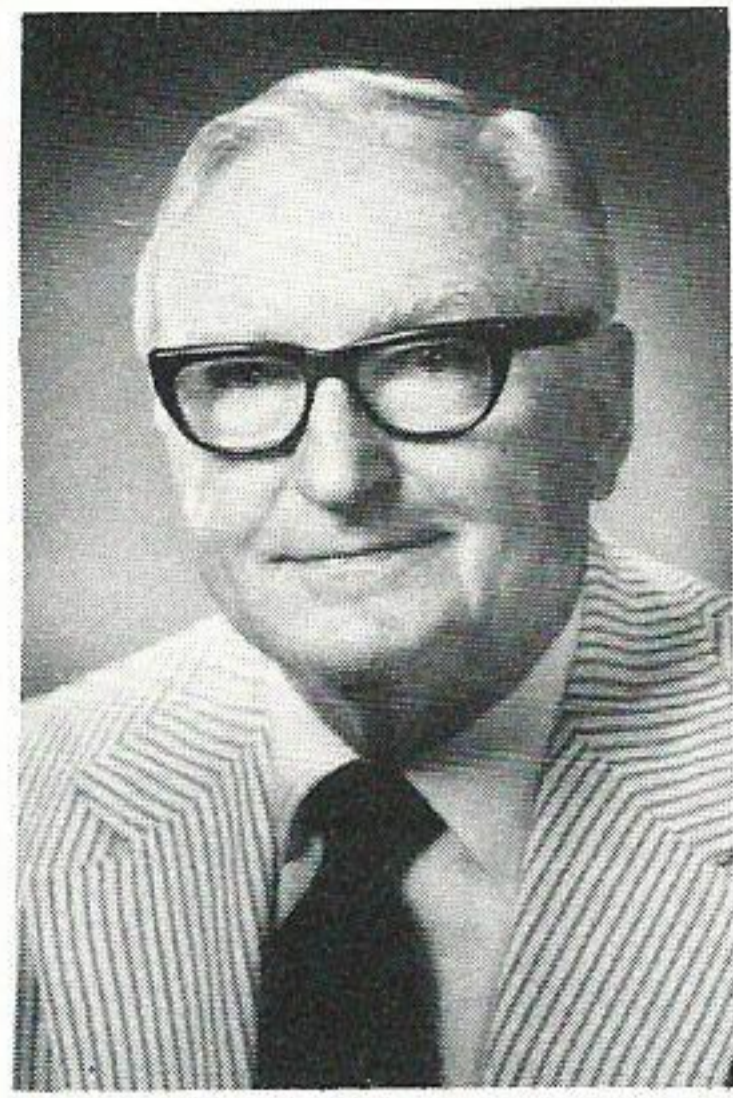
During his career, Baird graduated from the Stone & Webster Utility Management Training Course in 1959, and the Public Utility Executive Program in 1963 at Georgia Tech. Baird is married to the former Daisy West of Lamesa, Tex., and the couple has two sons, Albert III, and Charles.

Paul A. Broussard, utility man in Lafayette T&D, retired July 1, with nearly 30 years of service.

Broussard, employed in 1946 as a helper in Lafayette, progressed through the various classifications to lineman first class. He was named serviceman first class in 1953, then transferred back to line 1956.

Broussard is a native of the Lafayette area.

SERVICE AWARDS



J. W. Atkins Jr.
System Engineering
Beaumont

40 Years

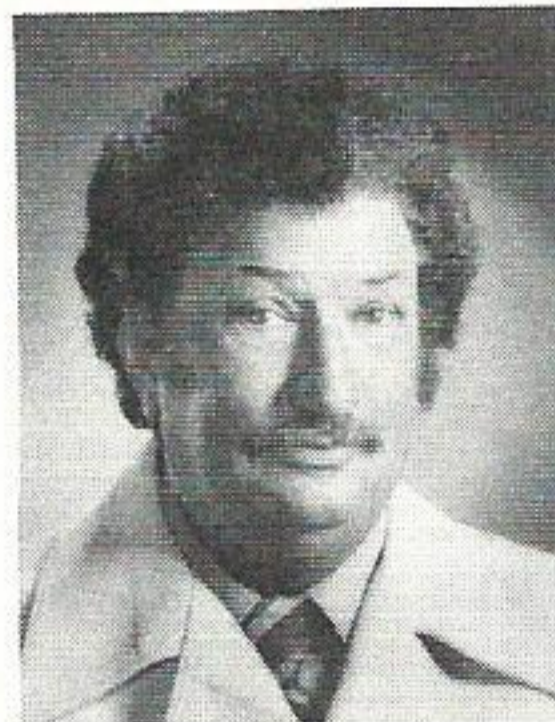


Roy F. Franques
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

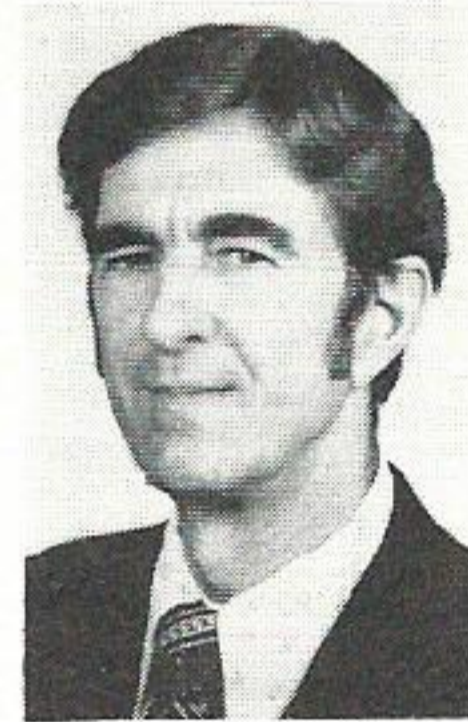
30 Years



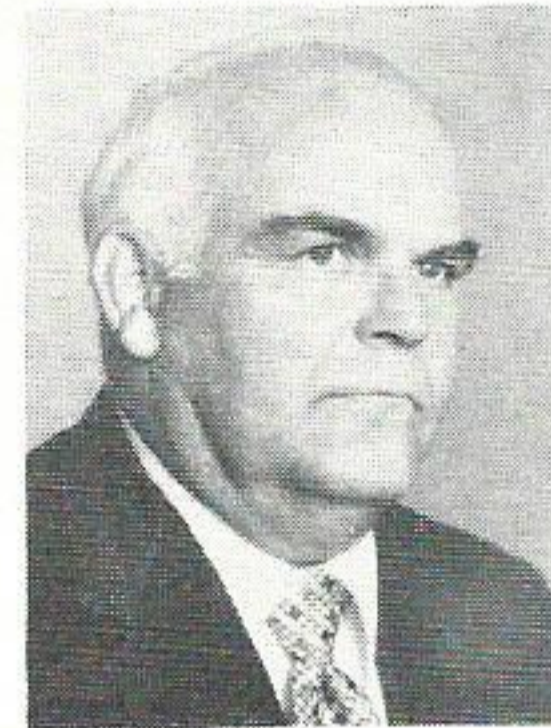
Edward J. Belair
Division Marketing
Jennings



Burton Doiron
Electric T&D
Beaumont



L. V. Frederick
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



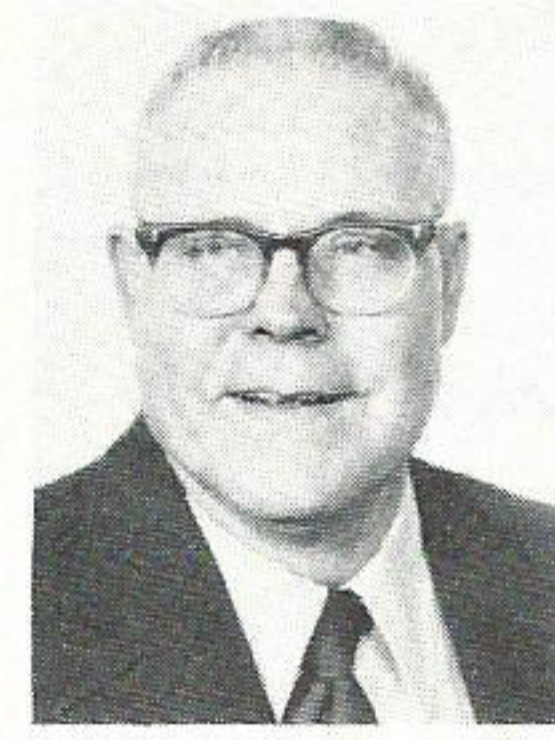
Daniel O. Gipson
Division Production
Conroe



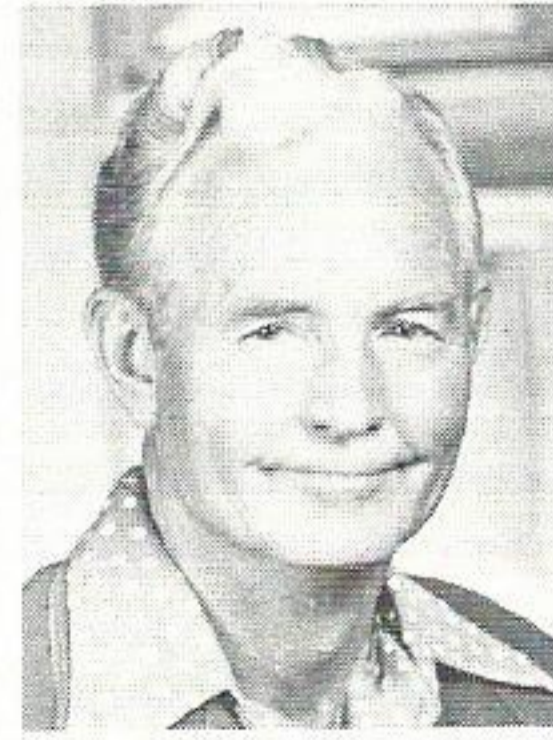
Charles S. McManus
Division Operations
Hull



Oliver R. Pace
Division Operations
Vidor



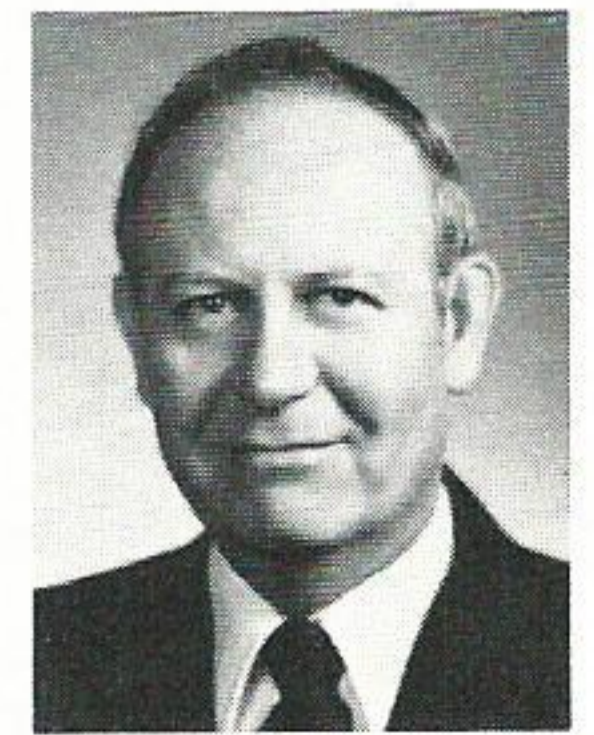
Lee G. Scrivener
Electric T&D
Conroe



Joseph E. Turner
Electric T&D
Port Arthur



Don B. Ware
Electric T&D
Conroe



Robert W. Wiggins
System Production
Beaumont

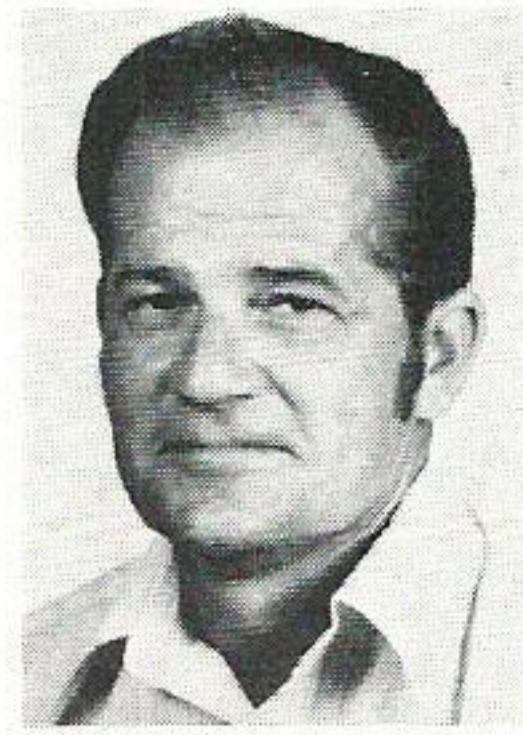
20 Years



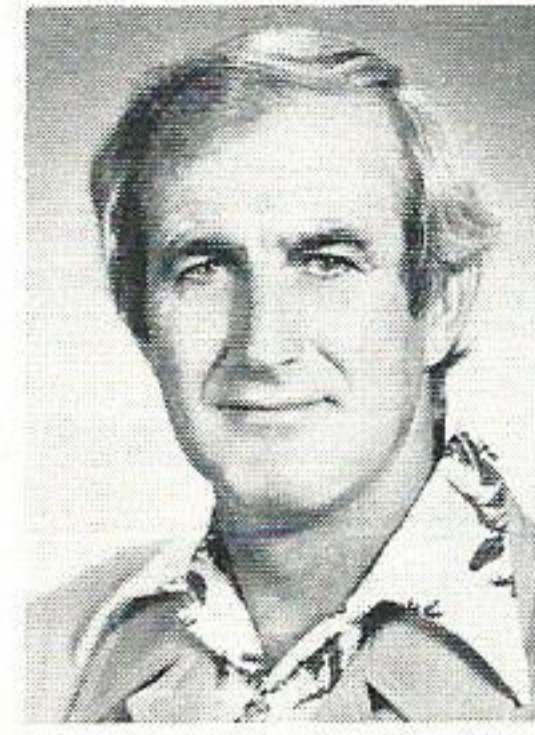
Joseph C. Bordelon
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Richard Clark
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



Lonnie G. Cox
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



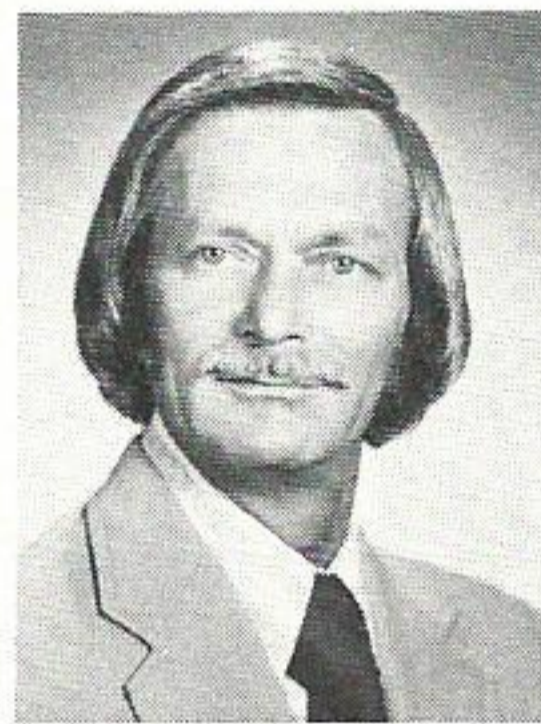
W. C. Fortinberry
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



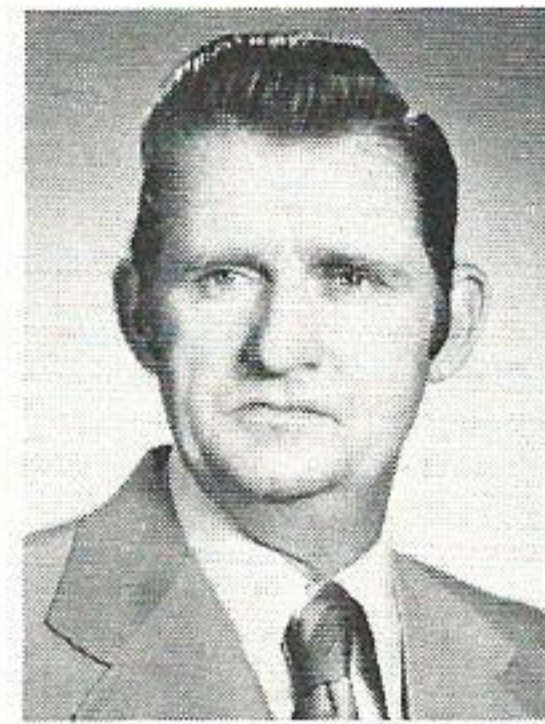
Danita M. Harper
Division Accounting
Woodville



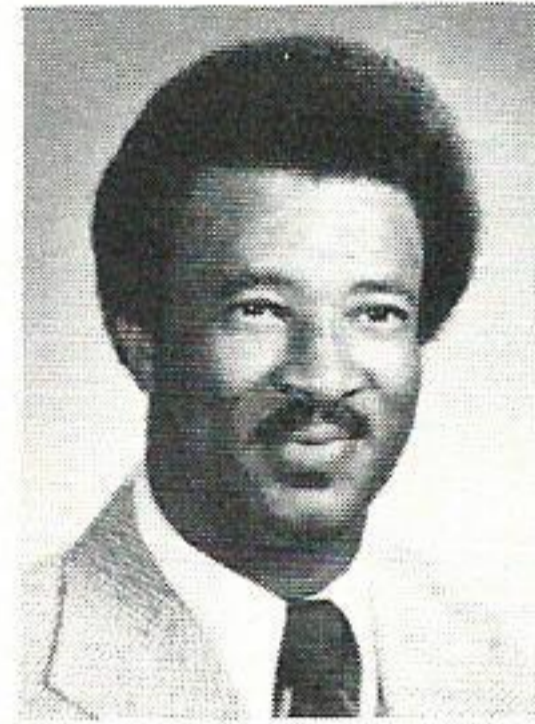
Alfred Henry
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



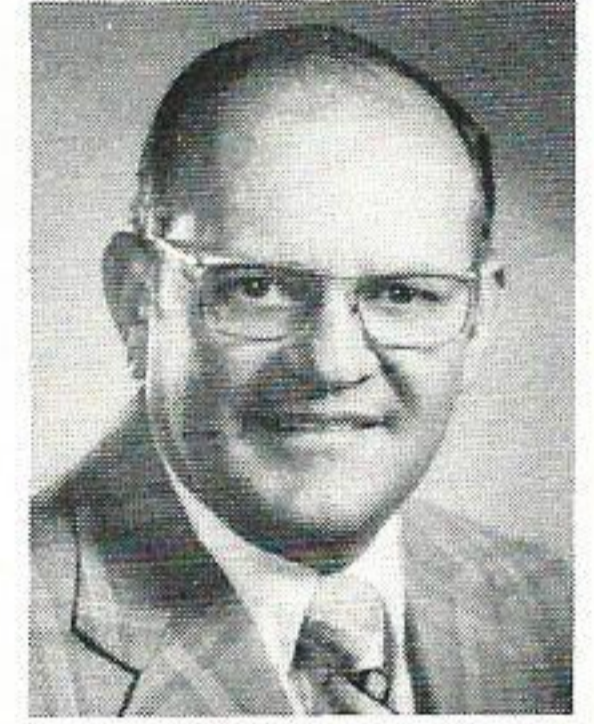
John E. Hobbs
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Eddie M. Jones
Gas
Baton Rouge



Ivory C. Pantallion
Material Services
Beaumont



Wallace W. Sullins
Electric T&D
Beaumont

10 Years



Thelma M. Kendall
Division Marketing
Beaumont



Florabelle B. Sattler
Information and Data
Services
Beaumont

COFFEE CUP

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 (Storeroom), 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.

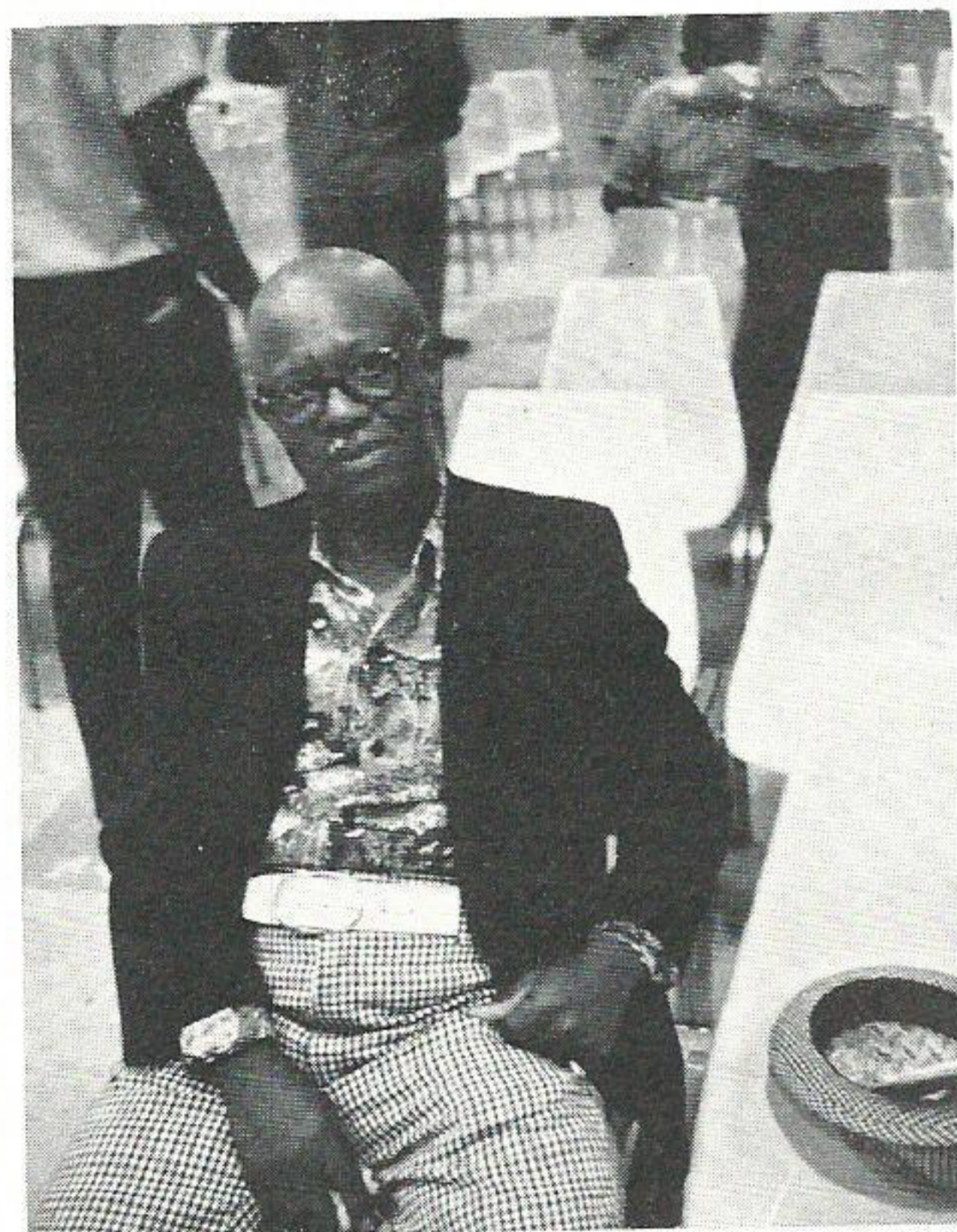
SOMERVILLE: Mary Brock.

SULPHUR: Pearl Burnett.

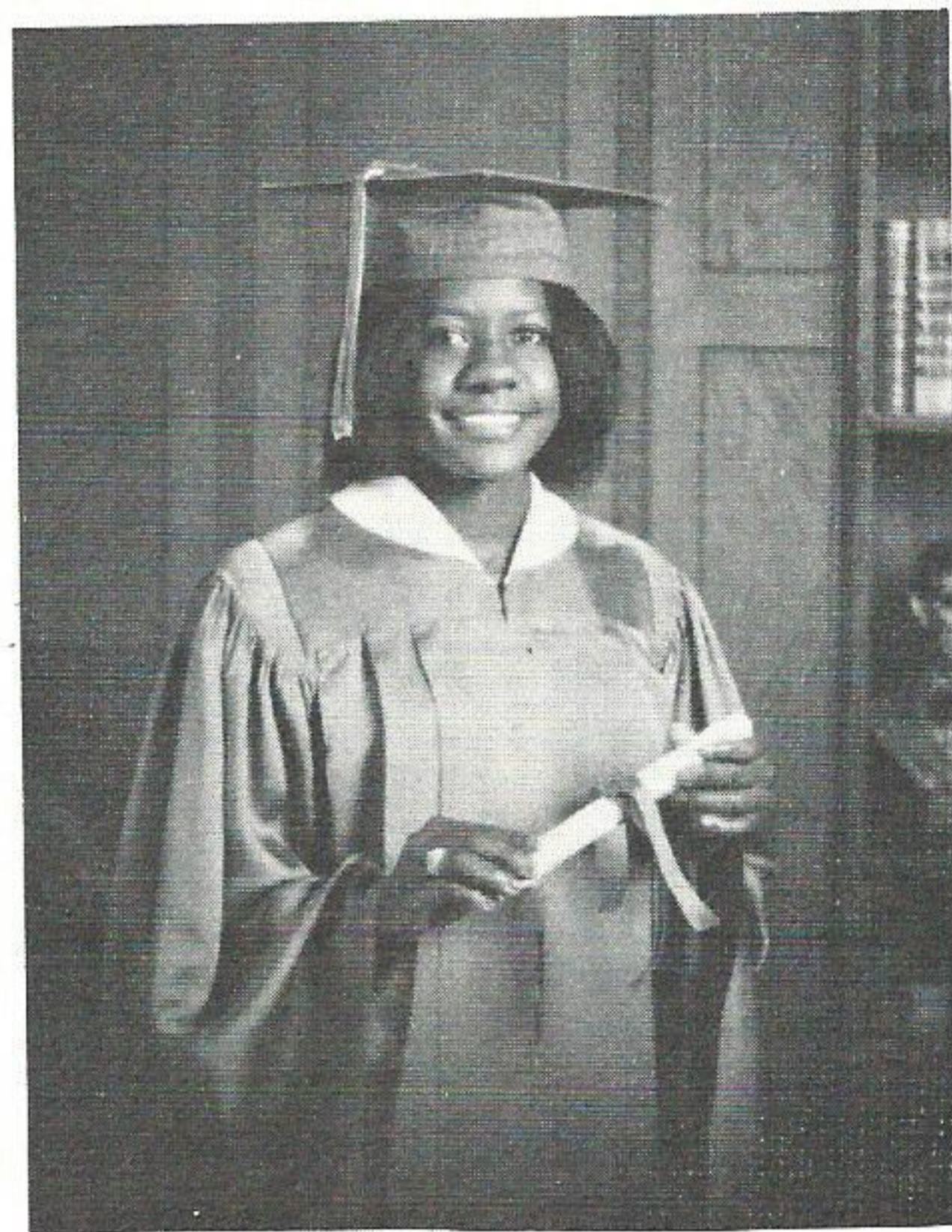
WILLOW GLEN: Dora Landaiche, James Veatch.

WOODVILLE: Alene Cole.

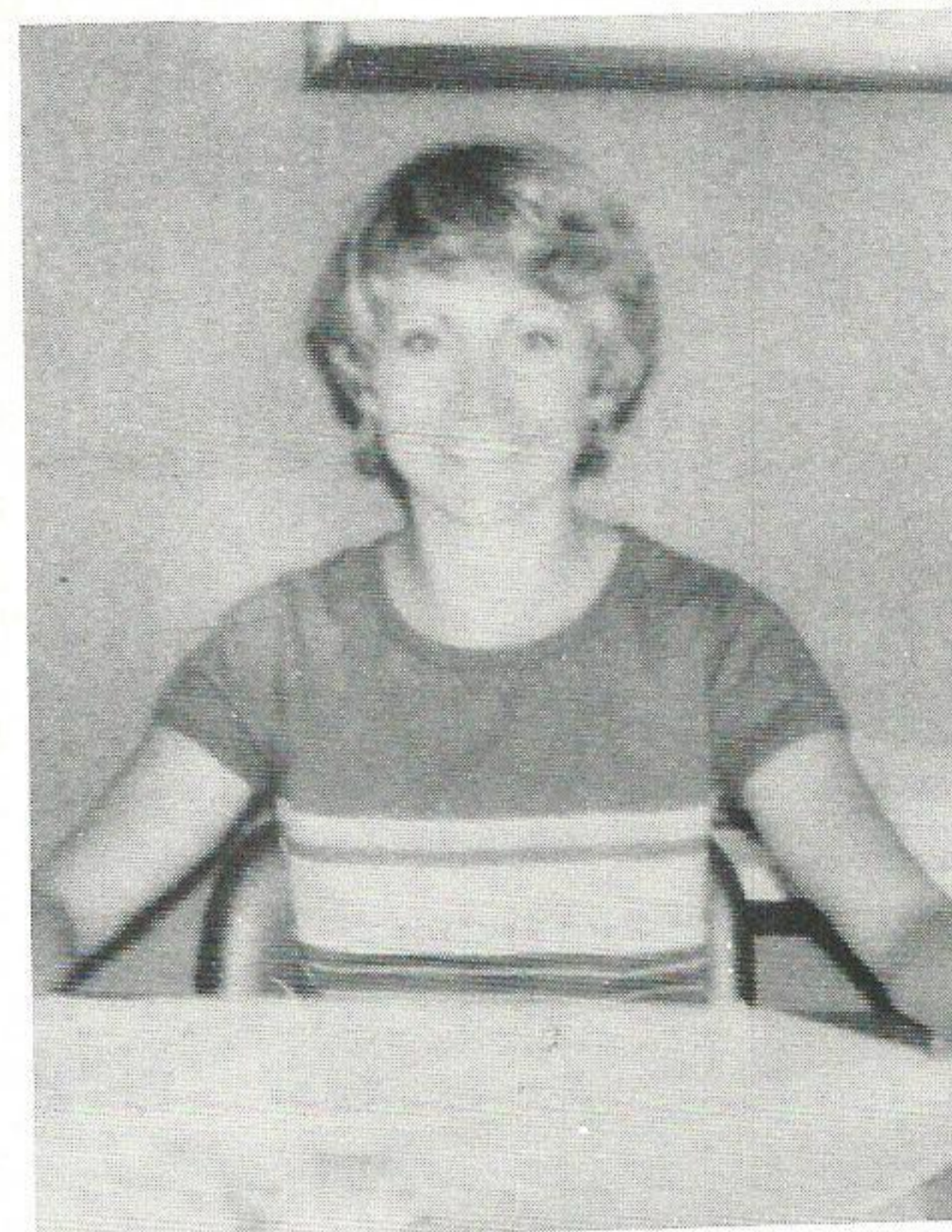
ZACHARY: Myra Ponthier.



GOING FISHING — That's what Henry W. Levy plans to concentrate on from now on since retiring from the Company. Levy, a painter in Beaumont T&D, was given a retirement party, and to help him along his friends and co-workers presented him with a fishing chair equipped with tackle box and rod holder. He was also given a chaise lounge just for relaxing. There was also a \$75 check for good measure. (from Carolyn Motl)



SCHOLARSHIP — Pamela Narcisse, daughter of Paul Narcisse (Port Arthur Building and Grounds Department), recently graduated from Lincoln High School in Port Arthur, and won a Delta Kappa Gamma scholarship. Pamela plans to enter Lamar University. While in high school Pamela was a member of the Honor Society, Student Council, Science Club and numerous other organizations. (from Sue Williams)

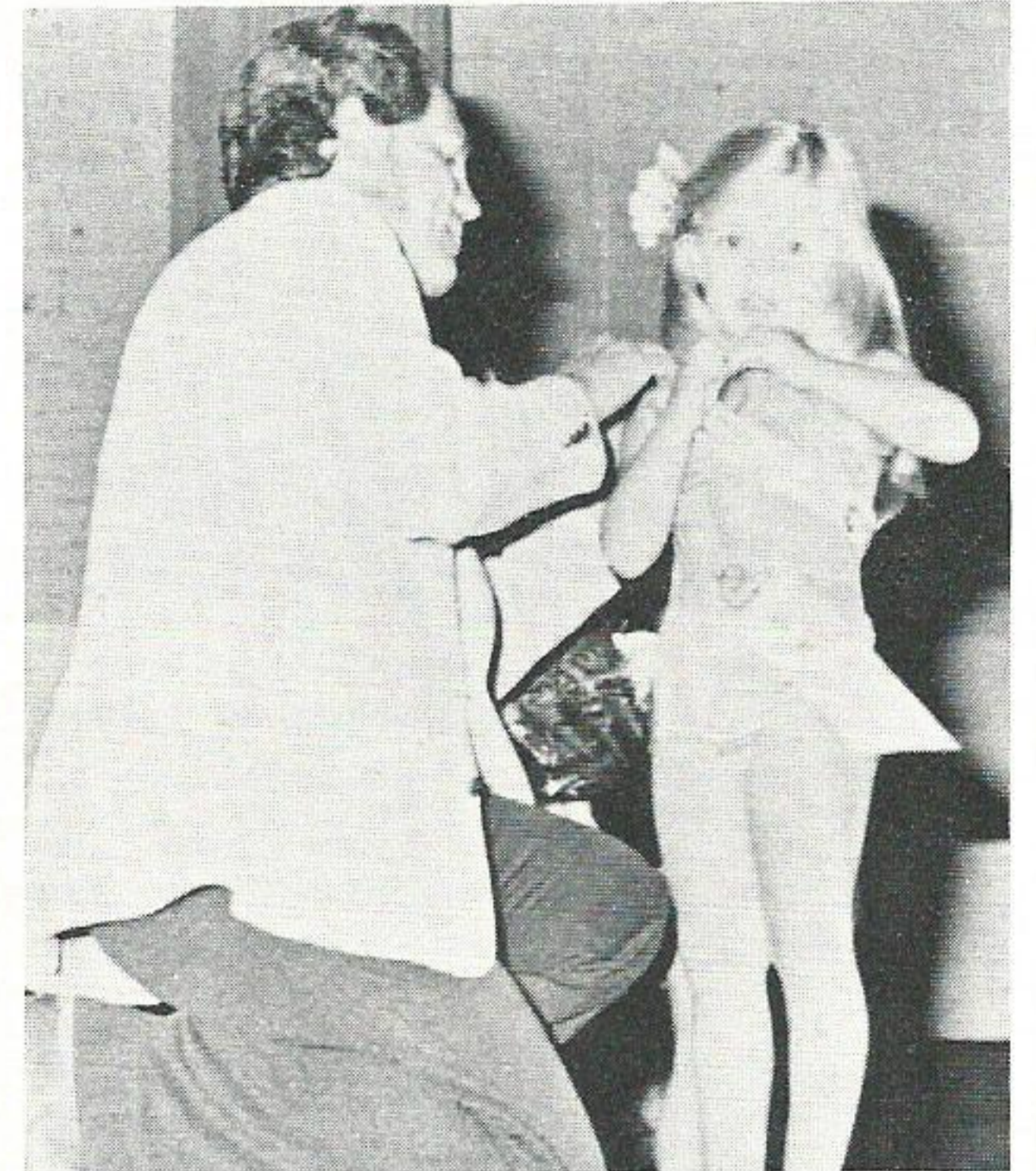


SHE'S APPRECIATED — Sabine Station personnel know the value of having a gal like Brenda Benoit around to answer the questions and handle nearly every situation. The former Port Arthur employee is happily entrenched at the Bridge City power plant now, and Jim Moss and his station personnel intend to keep her. (from Fred Kressman)



RED HANGS IT UP — C. P. "Red" Jordan, line foreman in Beaumont T&D, and his wife, Thelma, were honored at a retirement party recently. Red has been at it for 38 years and now plans to take it easy. A cake, decorated in a bowling theme,

which is one of his favorite pastimes, and other gifts were given by his friends and co-workers. J. T. Williams, Red's supervisor, gave him a hand made hunting knife to go along with other outdoor gear including two thermos jugs, playmate cooler and a gerber knife. (from Carolyn Motl)

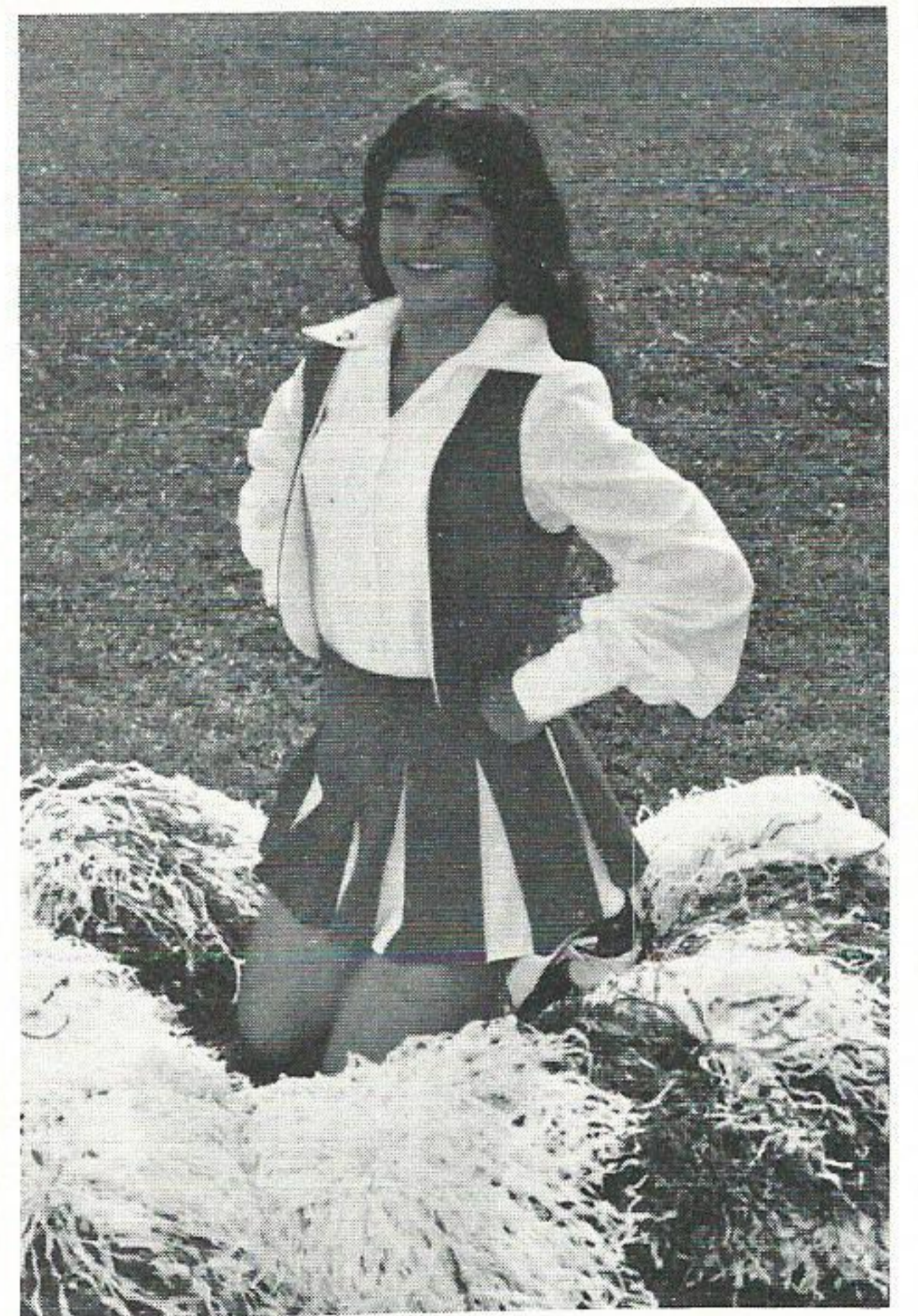


FUTURE FARRAH? — Miss Tiny Tot 1977 gets a little help from granddaddy Joe O'Neill of Conroe. The little beauty is 3-year-old Amy O'Neill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney O'Neill of Cleveland. Amy won her title competing against 25 other Tiny Tots from the Cleveland area. (from Frances Elliott)



BIG SURPRISE — Nadine Hester (IDS/Records-Beaumont Division) was caught totally unprepared for the surprise birthday party thrown for her by her many friends and co-workers. But she quickly

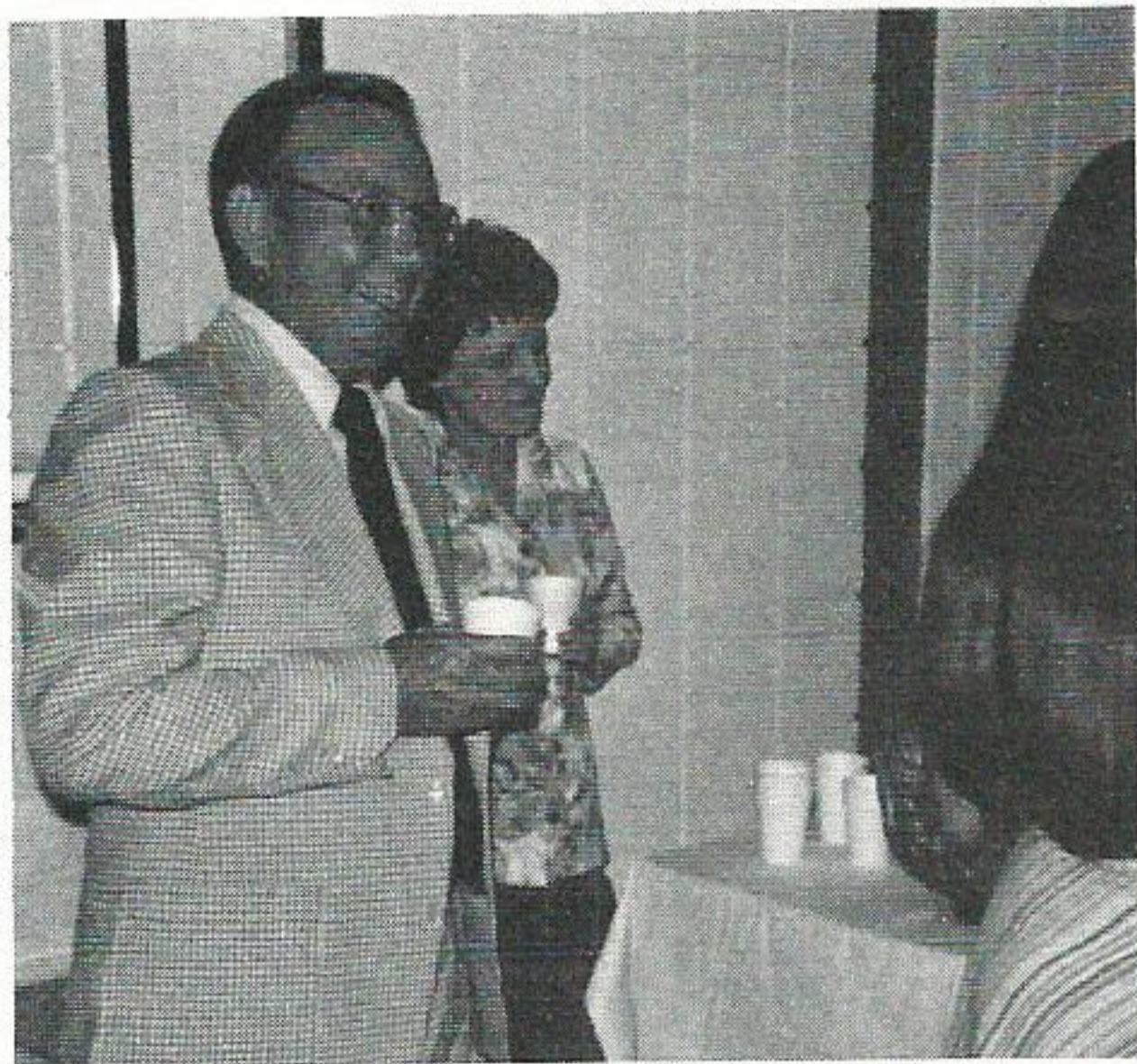
recovered and ripped into her gifts. Surrounding Nadine are, left to right, Opal Meyers, Norma Durdin, Johnnie Daugherty, Trudy Matus, Maryann Mansfield, Sandra Conn, Virginia Barfield, Helen Head and Naomi Wright.



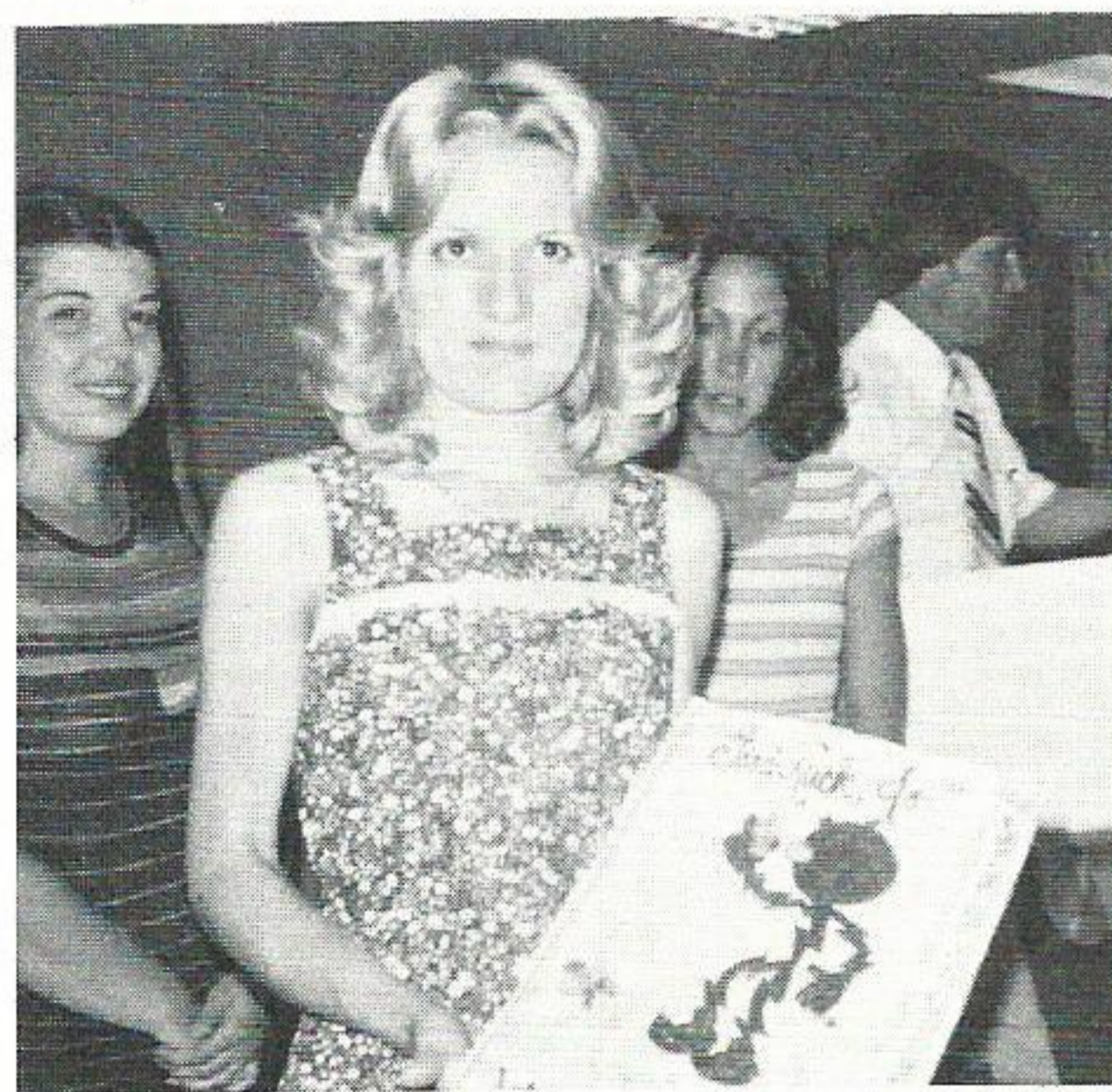
GIVE ME A "V" — Pretty Phyllis Nevils, daughter of Edward H. Nevils, substation mechanic in Beaumont, is not only attractive but a fine athlete in her own right. The recent graduate of Assumption was head cheerleader and participated in sports. She was voted Athlete of the Year and won the American Legion Award for scholastic ability as well. (from Carolyn Motl)



FIRST BASS — Young Alan LaFleur, 10-year-old son of Dwayne LaFleur of Nelson Station, proudly displays his first bass. Alan caught the two and a half pounder on a black worm. Now it's Alan that's hooked . . . as a fisherman for life. (from Martha Caldwell)



GOOD TIMES — O. R. "Ray" Pace, former Mid-County District Superintendent, shares one last party with his friends before leaving Mid-County to report to Vidor as superintendent. (from Sue Williams)

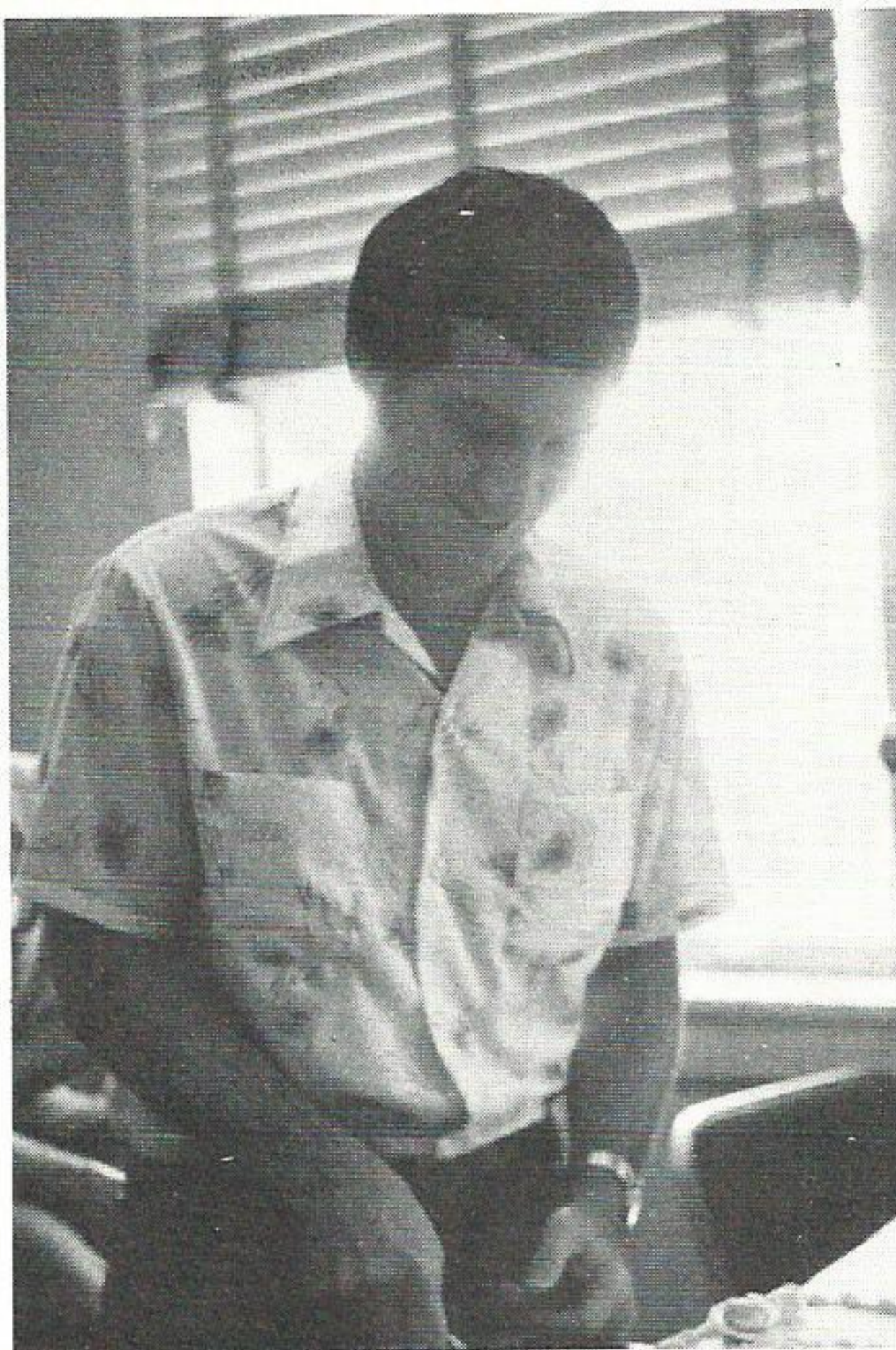


PROMOTION — JoAnn Larson, former clerk in the Accounting Department in Port Arthur, received a cake and other goodies from her friends and co-workers prior to transferring to Beaumont where she becomes a steno in the Financial Services Department. (from Sue Williams)

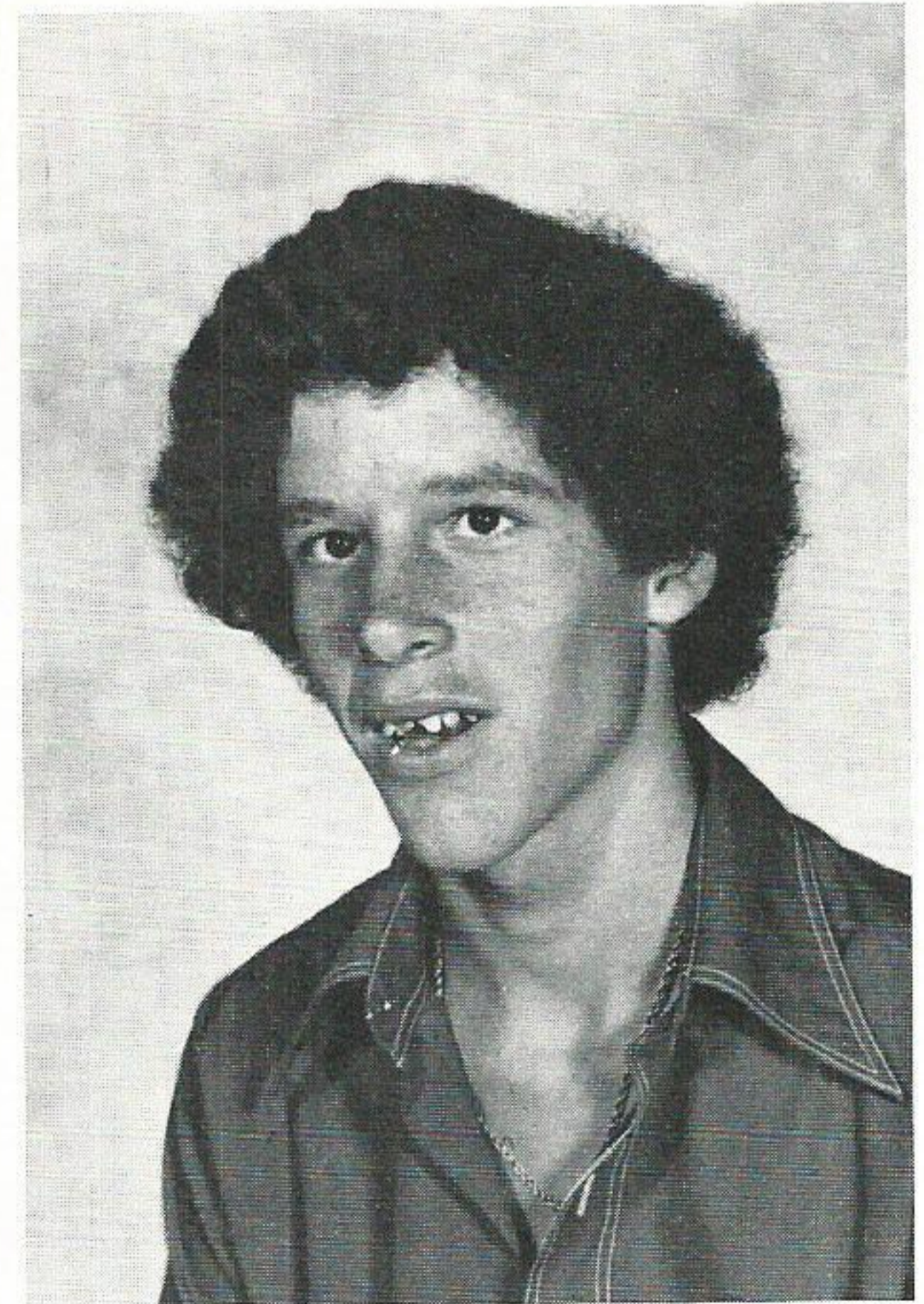


MADE FOR EACH OTHER — Like flowers and springtime, the marriage of J. H. "Buck" Albe and his sweetheart was "right" from the beginning. The couple recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married in 1927, a

year after Buck was employed by the Company. Buck retired in 1963 after 37 and a half years of service. And, in this real life fairy tale, they have lived happily ever after. (from Carolyn Motl)



MOVING ON — Joe Quattrone, who was recently transferred from Lake Charles T&D to Engineering Design in Beaumont, was given a going away party by his friends and co-workers in Lake Charles. Joe was given cake and a little spending money. (from Joyce Guillory)



WHO'S WHO — Curtis Kurten, son of Darrell Wayne Kurten (relayman first class-Conroe), has been recommended to receive honorary award recognition by WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, 1976-1977. Kurten, a junior at Conroe High School, is among the top four percent of the nation's junior and senior class to be included in the publication. (from Marilyn Key)

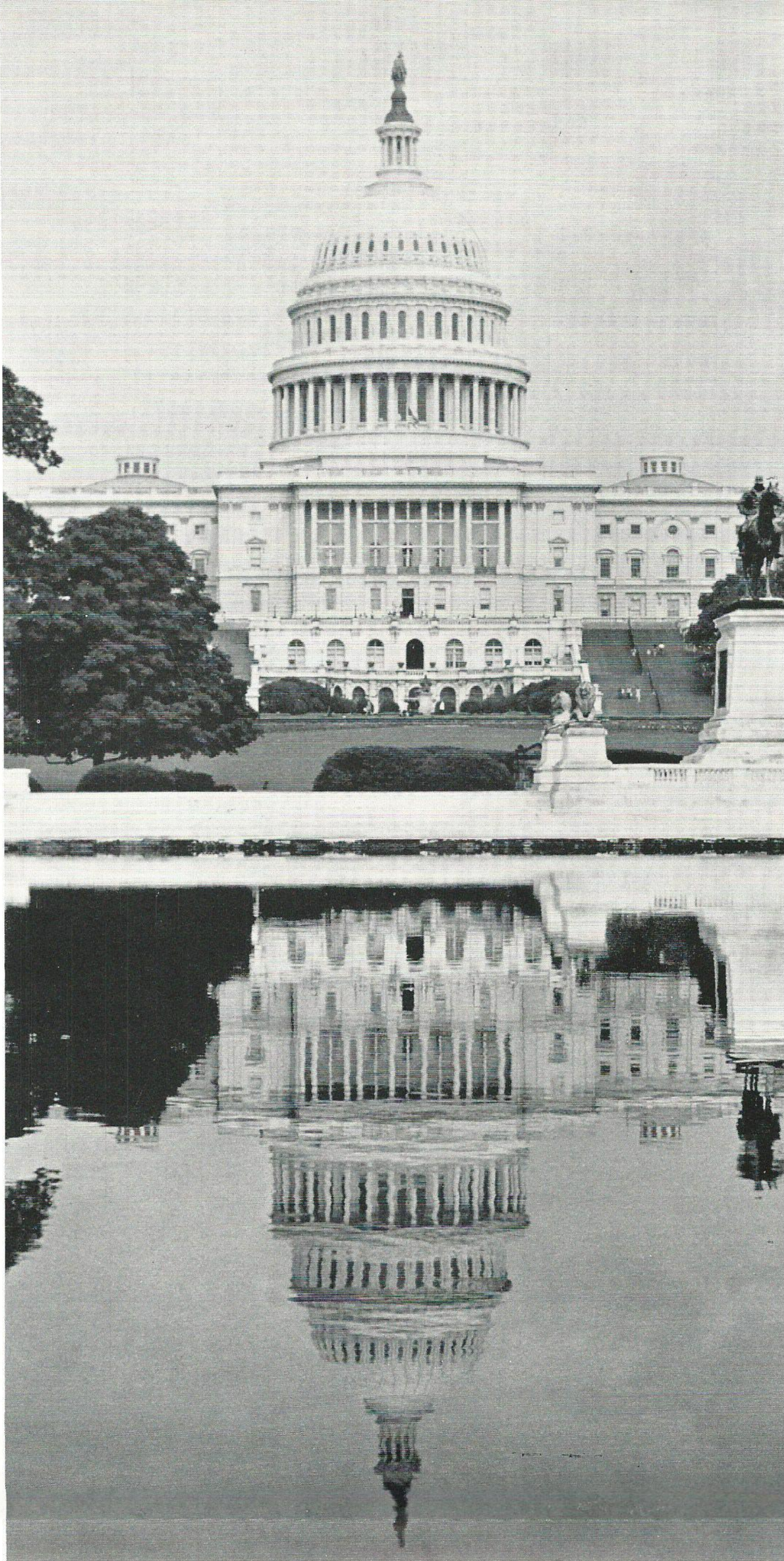
YOUR BEST SHOT

Almost everyone at one time or another has taken what he considers to be his "best shot."

If you have a best shot you would like to see reproduced here, send it, with the negative if possible, to the PLAIN TALKS office in Beaumont. Your picture can be of any subject, taken with any camera. If selected for use it will automatically be in the running for "Best Shot of the Year," with the winner receiving a nice plaque. Okay . . . take your best shot.

CHARLES FOSS, Marketing Department in Baton Rouge, again steps into the winner's circle for September. Foss' vertically framed photograph of the nation's capitol, and its reflected image in the pool, was chosen as the Best Shot for this month. Foss had earlier won the April-May issue for Best Shot with his photo of a mountainside chapel in Arizona. Other previous winners have been E. L. Robinson, a retired vice president; Leonard Ray Dearman, Baton Rouge meter reader; and Randy Harless, IDS-Beaumont.

Foss used a Pentax 35mm camera with a 135mm telephoto lens. The film was Kodachrome II, shot at 125 at f.8.



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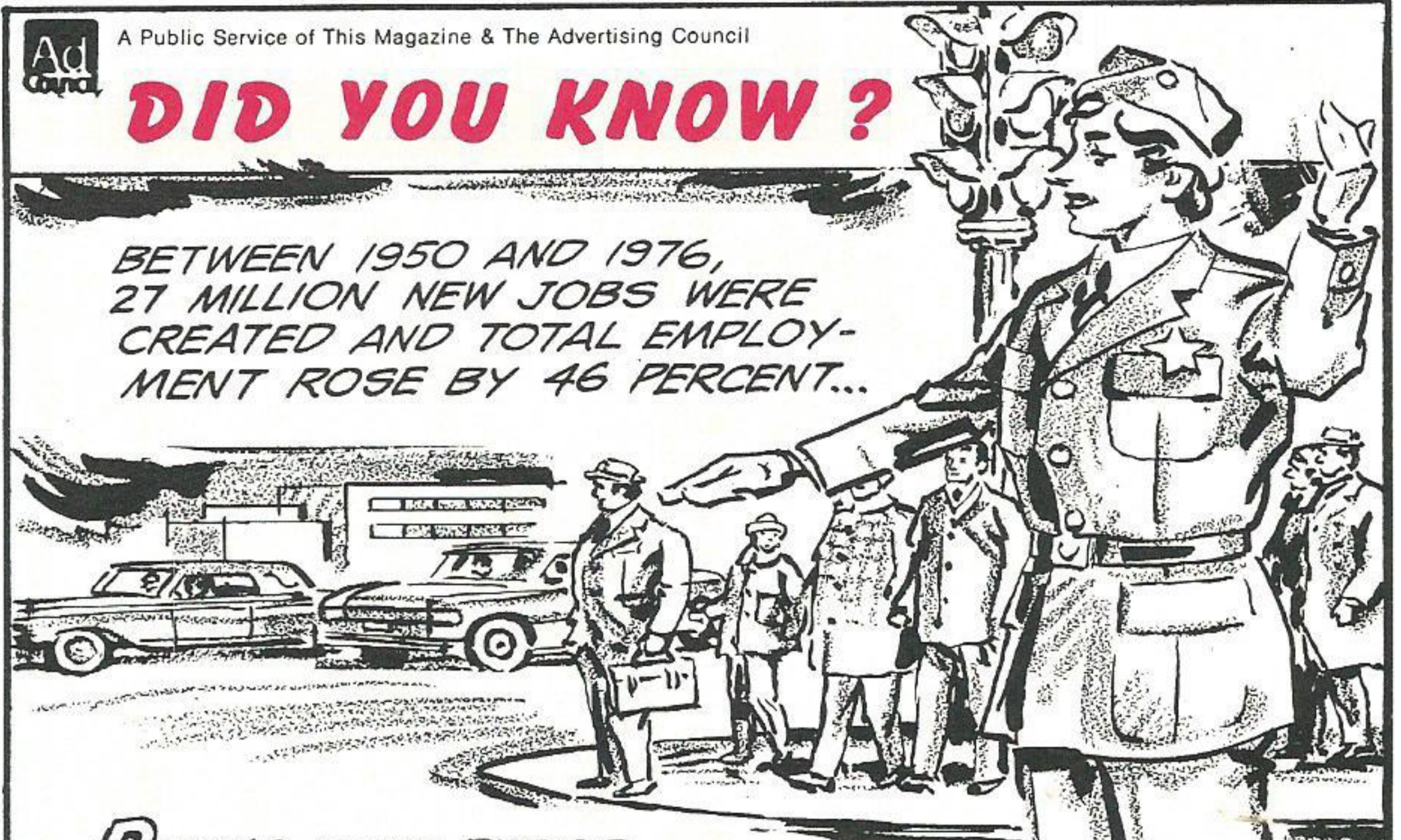
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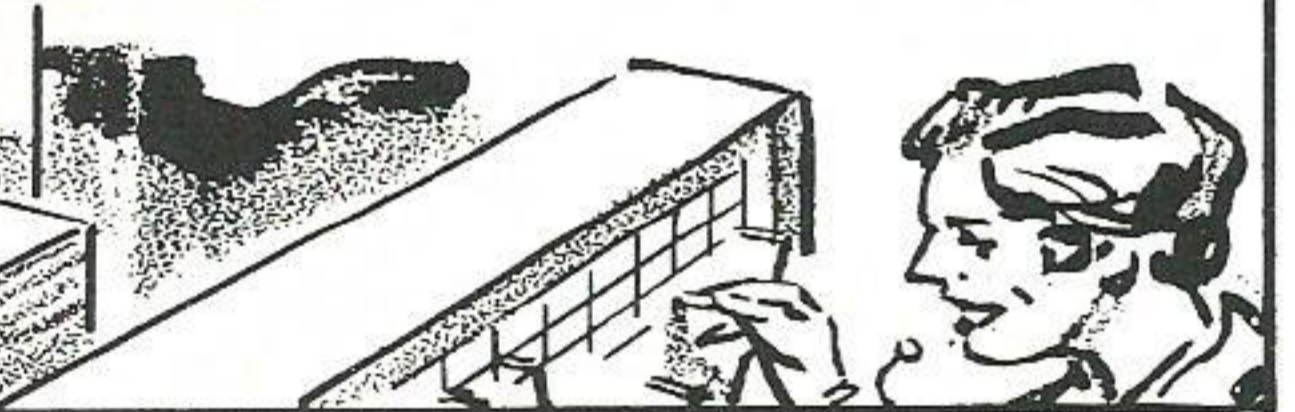
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MENT ROSE BY 46 PERCENT...



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AS MORE THAN 15 MILLION OF THESE NEW
JOBS WERE FILLED BY WOMEN.



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OCCURRED THROUGH
NATURAL GROWTH AND
DEVELOPMENT, AS
SOME INDUSTRIES GROW
FASTER THAN OTHERS
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