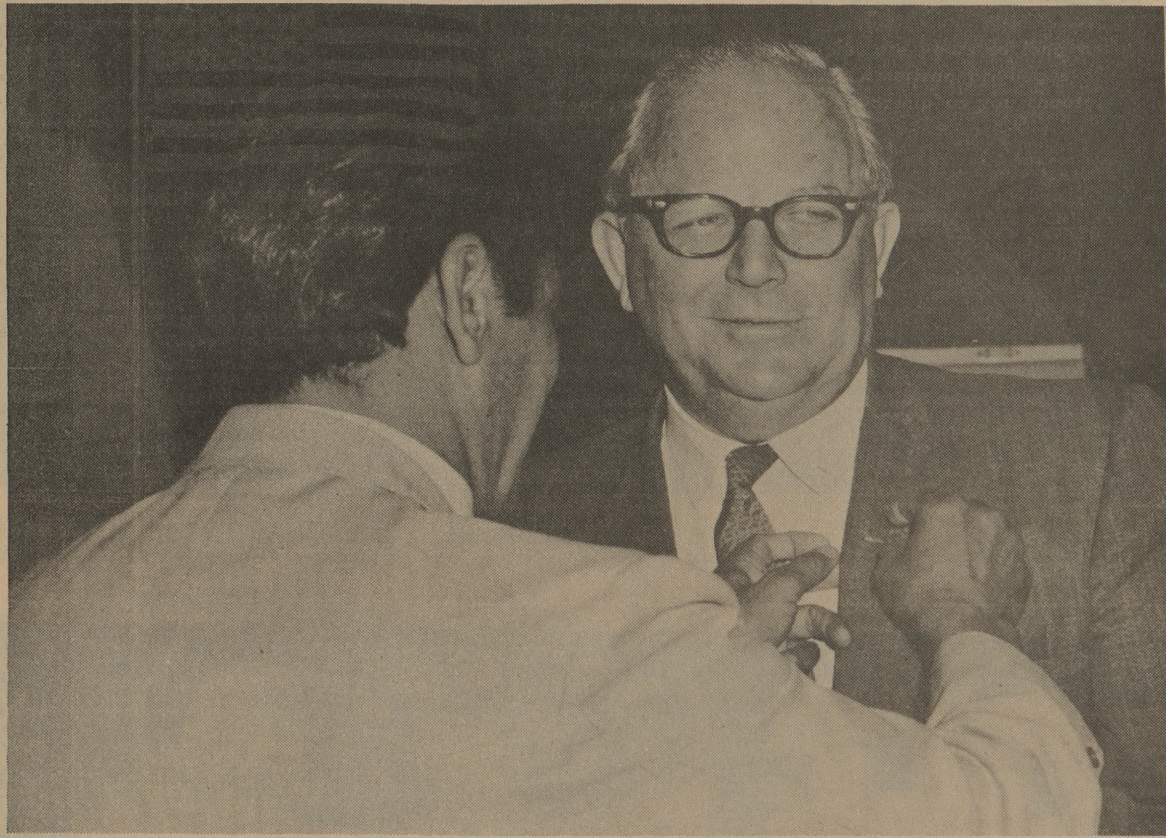


Tax Attorney Turned Minister Studies For PhD At A&M



TUNISIAN SALUTE

Gov. Amor Chechia of Tunisia's Seuss and Nabuel federal departments pins a handcrafted object on Texas A&M President Earl Rudder's lapel during a Thursday visit by the North Africa nation official. Governor Chechia expressed appreciation to Rudder and the Board of Directors "for helping us stand on our own feet."

Five years ago James P. Thompson was a tax attorney with a successful practice and a good income.

Today he is a Baptist minister attending Texas A&M University under the National Science Foundation Academic Year Institute program.

There are probably hundreds of different reasons why a student picks one college over another but the Rev. James P. Thompson left his decision "in the hands of the Lord."

The Lord chose Texas A&M. There are two reasons why Rev. Thompson is at A&M: First, he wants a doctorate in science education, and second, he wanted to continue his missionary work with Spanish-speaking people.

He is now doing both. Mr. Thompson's story, however, began in 1964.

A 1958 graduate of Los Angeles State with a BS degree in accounting, the Dallas-born minister continued his education and graduated in 1962 from Loyola of Los Angeles School of Law. He started a law practice as a

tax attorney. His practice was quite lucrative, but he said "something was missing."

"I was indifferent toward religion," the 36-year-old minister admits. "I was a mediocre church-goer, so I decided to put some meaning into my religious life."

He started going to church, studying the Baptist religion and finally got what he called "a good dose of salvation."

"I thought of the story of the young man who came to Jesus and asked: 'what must I do to have eternal life?'"

Jesus told him to keep the commandments," Thompson relates.

"Well, the young man said 'I do that' and Jesus said 'sell what you have, give to the poor and follow me.'"

"That stuck in my craw. It followed me, worried me and I wondered if Jesus literally meant it," Thompson confided. "After long periods of soul-searching, I became convinced He meant just what He said. It was a straightforward question and equally direct answer."

"No parable or figurative speech was involved."

So Thompson closed his law practice, moved his family to Mexico and has since depleted his resources in his ministry to the poor.

"I've never been sorry," he declared. "I've succeeded in working my way down in the world to a point where I am not encumbered with material possessions."

After two years of mission work in Central and Northern Mexico, he accepted the pastorate of the First Baptist Church in LaJoya, Texas, near Mission.

He received no salary from the church, but supported himself by teaching science and math in the LaJoya Junior High School.

"I wanted to earn a living and continue my ministry," he said. "I considered this the best of two worlds—classroom teaching and pastoring the church, plus serving the Mexican mission across the border in the Sierra Madre Oriental Mountains."

From LaJoya, Thompson and his family took food, medical supplies and Bibles to the people in the Nuevo Leon state of Mexico. He went on weekends and during vacations.

Some supplies were bought with donations from churches in Houston, Fort Worth and around La-

Joya, he said, while the remainder of the costs came from Thompson's teaching salary.

"Last year I became aware of the National Science Foundation program and decided to pursue a doctorate in science education," he relates.

Thompson applied to NSF institutes throughout the Southwest and received acceptance from a number of the universities.

However, he did not want to stop his ministry to Latin Americans so asked the Language Missions Department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas if there were any openings in Latin American churches near one of the universities.

The Language Missions Department referred Thompson to the appropriate area missionaries who coordinate the mission efforts of Southern Baptist Churches.

The Rev. J. J. Slone, area missionary for the Creath-Brazos Baptist Association in the Bryan area, contacted Thompson and put him in contact with the members of the First Mexican Baptist Church.

The church accepted Thompson as pastor and he accepted the NSF fellowship at Texas A&M. He and his wife and five children moved to Bryan in mid-May and live at 1710 Cavitt. The church

is located at 305 W. 16th Street.

Thompson feels that by having a PhD in science education will be "well prepared to see the Lord in the future. With the education I can better understand the world and its makeup and better counsel others in the area man's relationship to his environment," he explained.

"So far, my scientific studies have reinforced my beliefs that there need be no unresolvable conflict between scientific and religious communities."

He hopes to work with a scientific community to explore the relevance of the teachings of the Bible and Christian ethics technology and the changing environment.

The Bryan church has a membership of 200. The services have been exclusively in Spanish, which Thompson speaks fluently, but he plans to speak English services in order to widen the ministry.

The First Mexican Baptist Church is the only independent Mexican-American Southern Baptist church serving the Bryan College Station area, Thompson said.

How long will he be here? What does he plan to do when he completes his studies?

"I've left that in hands of the Lord," Thompson insisted.

The Church.. For a Fuller Life.. For You..

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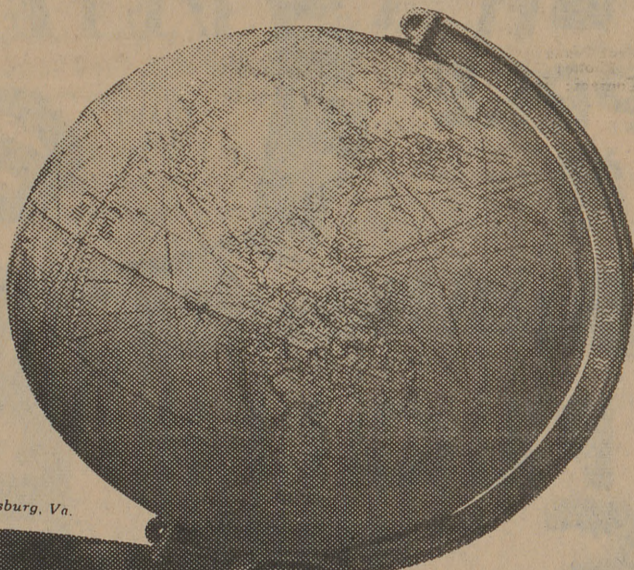
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No one tells you, either, when or how you must play. But, when you take time for occasional recreation, you become refreshed, alert and ready for more work.

And no one tells you that you must worship the Lord, your God, regularly. But, when you do, you and your family are immeasurably blessed.

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Scriptures selected by the American Bible Society

Psalms	Psalms	Psalms	Galatians	Galatians	Acts	Acts
78:56-72	84	91	1:11-24	2:1-10	13:1-12	13:13-25



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Bryan, Texas

"Cave Dwellers" To Come To A&M

Four Bryan and College Station teenagers head a 23-member cast for the Premiere Players' July 10-12 production of "The Cave Dwellers" at Texas A&M University.

Lead parts in William Saroyan's play on the fate of a group of down-and-outers living in an old theater went to Marcy Roman, Jared Goldstien, Brodie Pate and Steve Mead, announced director Bob Wenck.

The play is scheduled for a three-night run next month in

Consolidated Grad Gets Scholarship

Gene Scott, 17-year-old graduate of A&M Consolidated High who will enter Texas A&M next fall, has been named recipient of a scholarship to attend the international Human Relations Institute in Mexico City.

The institute, held at the University of the Americas, is sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews and the Mexican university.

Scott, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ira E. Scott, 1002 Village Dr., completed his high school education a year earlier than normally required. He graduated last week.

He has already been accepted by A&M's College of Liberal Arts. He plans a political science future.

Scott's father is chief of A&M's Engineering Extension Service's Police Training Division.

The three-week institutional program, July 27 to Aug. 15, offers four semester hours of credit at either the graduate or undergraduate level. The university is accredited by the U. S. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Scott said it offers an opportunity to enjoy a unique educational experience — getting to know people representing various backgrounds — while exchanging ideas and facing up to problems of intergroup relations within an international context.

The core course around which the Institute is organized is "The Dynamics of Mexican Culture."

ATTENTION JULY & AUGUST GRADUATES

Deadline for Ordering Graduation Announcements
July 18, 1969
Orders Taken From 9-12, 1-4, Mon.-Fri.
At the Cashier's Window Memorial Student Center

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CALENDAR OF CHURCH SERVICES

ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL
906 Jersey Street, So. Side of Campus
Rector: William R. Oxley
Asst.—Rev. Wesley Seeliger
8:00 A.M. & 9:15 A.M. Sunday Services

A&M CHURCH OF CHRIST
8:00 & 10:00 A.M. Worship
9:00 A.M.—Bible Study
5:15 P.M.—Young People's Class
6:00 P.M.—Worship
7:15 P.M.—Aggie Class
9:30 A.M.—Tues.—Ladies Bible Class
7:15 P.M.—Wednesday — Bible Study

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN
(Missouri Synod)
8:45 A.M.—Sunday Morning Worship
9:45 A.M.—Bible Class

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP
305 Old Highway 6, South
Pres. Willis Pequegnat
No Meetings Until September

A&M PRESBYTERIAN
7:59 A.M.—Sun. Breakfast—Stu. Ctr.
9:45 A.M.—Church School
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
6:00 P.M.—Sun. Single Stu. Fellowship
7:15 P.M.—Wed. Student Fellowship
6:45 A.M.—Fri. Communion Service
Wesley Foundation

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
9:45 A.M.—Sunday School
10:45 A.M.—Morning Worship
6:30 P.M.—Young People's Service
7:00 P.M.—Fretching Service

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY
9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Sunday Service
11:00 A.M.—2 P.M.—Tues. Reading Rm.
7:00-8:00 P.M.—Wed., Reading Room
8:00 P.M.—Wed. Evening Worship

FIRST BAPTIST
9:30 AM—Sunday School
10:45 AM Morning Worship
6:10 PM—Training Union
7:20 PM—Evening Worship
6:30 PM—Choir Practice & Teachers' meetings (Wednesday)
7:30 P.M.—Midweek Services (Wed.)

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN
8:30 & 10:45 A.M.—The Church at Worship
9:30 A.M.—Bible Classes For All
Holy Communion—1st Sun. Ea. Mo.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
8205 Lakeview
9:45 A.M.—Bible School
10:45 A.M.—Morning Worship
6:00 P.M.—Youth Hour
7:00 P.M.—Evening Worship

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC
Sunday Masses—7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.
7:00 P.M.

FAITH CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9:15 A.M.—Sunday School
10:30 A.M.—Morning Worship
7:30 P.M.—Evening Service

COLLEGE HEIGHTS ASSEMBLY OF GOD
9:45 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
6:30 P.M.—Young People's Service
7:30 P.M.—Evening Worship

A&M METHODIST
8:30 A.M.—Morning Worship
9:45 A.M.—Sunday School
10:55 A.M.—Morning Worship
5:30 P.M.—Campus & Career Class
5:30 & 6:00 P.M.—MYF Meetings

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
26th East and Coulter, Bryan
8:30 A.M.—Priesthood meeting
10:00 A.M.—Sunday School
5:00 P.M.—Sacrament Meeting

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH Homestead & Ennis
9:45 A.M.—Sunday School
10:50 A.M.—Morning Worship
5:30 P.M.—Young People

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
2505 S. College Ave., Bryan
An Independent Bible Church
9:15 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
7:30 P.M.—Evening Worship