

A New Home-Hope!

(1961 News Article - Relocation to Texas)



Ground breaking at present site. Five years ago- a weedy field. A college campus now, with 32 promising young people and a dedicated faculty to train them. President Germany with shovel. Pastor of Kendleton, Texas Church, Preston Ervin, back of Rev. Germany. Students attend his church.

LAND OF PROMISE

Three months later re-building began near Kendleton, Texas- 40 miles southwest of Houston. Just over 80 acres of land had been secured and purchased for \$24,000. The dairy herd and most of the machinery had been salvaged from Mississippi and three former students came and were joined by three others in the fall of 1961.

Now, four years later the blessings of God and the toil of dedicated persons have produced unbelievable results. Eight buildings now appear on the gentle, rolling land, much of which was but a field of weeds three years ago. Assets are valued now at \$200,000.

THE REAL ASSETS

The most promising assets, of course, of Bay Ridge Christian College are always its students. The present student body now numbers 32. Applicants are being turned away for there is no more room at the College for housing them. While most of these students come from deprived areas and homes and could not possibly obtain college education in a regular situation- they are young people of genuine ability and bright promise.

The basic purpose of the school as stated in its aims and objectives in its constitution is "to train leaders for service in the Church as Christian ministers, missionaries and lay leaders and for any

other trades and vocations that may render service directly or indirectly to the promotion of the Christian cause in the community." "Training," says President Germany, "is done on the premise of combining a man's religion with what is expected of him in life. For instance, the school provides training in five building trades for practically all graduates will have to earn their livelihood in some occupation besides their pastoral ministry. Our philosophy is to run all the common things, which are so often used for selfish ends, into a way of building the Kingdom of God."

THE NEED

Bay Ridge College is now located in the heart of an area (east of the Rocky Mountains) where 10,000 Negroes live (of subsist). Here the Church of God has 202 Negro churches with a total of 5,008 members. With membership averaging less than 25 per congregation, only 6 of these 202 churches are pastored by college graduates.

In this same area there are more unemployed and less job opportunities than any area of similar size in America. Poverty and ignorance perpetuate themselves from generation to generation. Though there may, in some places, be resources, there is little motivation to change and little faith that life could be different. More basic than this is a lack of faith in God and in personal integrity and in the knowledge that the Christian faith can make a difference. It is to the change of the basic precept that Bay Ridge Christian College is dedicated.



Bay Ridge faculty, staff, and students. Faculty and staff seated are: Cecil M. Washington; Mrs. Washington; Edith Young; Mrs. Janetta Germany; J. Horace Germany, President; I.W. Mitchell, Dean; William Schmuki; Betty Elkins, secretary; Eula Williams, cafeteria.