

Marvin Spry Participates In Sacred Music Festival

Marvin Spry of Birmingham, Alabama, formerly of Cooleemee, participated with nine of his 20 bell, musical Bell Ringers in the annual Sacred Music Festival held in Birmingham on November 27.

Mr. Spry, Minister of Music at the Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, Birmingham, says bells can be one of the most beautiful musical instruments in the world, but just any old bell will not do. Musical bells

have to be specially cast to tune for this use.

The one thousand persons attending the last performance of the 1970 festival were privileged to hear some of these special bells ring to music, under the direction of Marvin Spry.

The nine ringers in the group use American Bells, cast in Sellersville, Pa., which is the only place in America that this type of bells are cast. They are a 30 octave set of 34 bells.

It appears that the bell ringers play from memory or that they have some special "sixth sense" to tell them when to ring a certain bell, but they actually use regularly written music.

Each bell has it's pitch marked on the handle and the minister of music numbers the ringers. He then, marks each sheet of music for each ringer.

Mr. Spry says the 20 bell ringers from the Dawson Baptist Church is the largest group of bell ringers.

Appearing with them in the festival were two stars from the Lawrence Welk Show, Norma Zimmer, Bob Ralston; The Birmingham Civic Chorus and the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Amerigo Marino, participated one night of the festival, also.

The Birmingham News and the Birmingham Post Herald sponsored the Festival this year, with Bill Man as Emcee.

Marvin Spry is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Granville Spry of Watt Street, Cooleemee.



Marvin Spry Formerly of Cooleemee

Shoaf, Page, McClelland

Filter Plant Operators Learn Things About Water

Few people realize the processes which water goes through from the river to their house when they take a drink of water.

This was the same position Bill Shoaf, Judson Page and

Mac McClelland were in when they accepted jobs as Filter Plant Operators. None of the men had ever experienced working with "water."

Hayden Stiller, who with many years of experience, had

never had to train three new men at one time therefore this was proving to be a challenge not only to the new men, but to Hayden also.

Two of the new operators should be no strangers to the

people of Cooleemee. Bill Shoaf was employed formerly with Burlington in the Finishing Plant and Judson Page was a supervisor in the Weaving Department. Mac McClelland, the youngest member of the team,

just completed an 18 month tour of Vietnam with the Army.

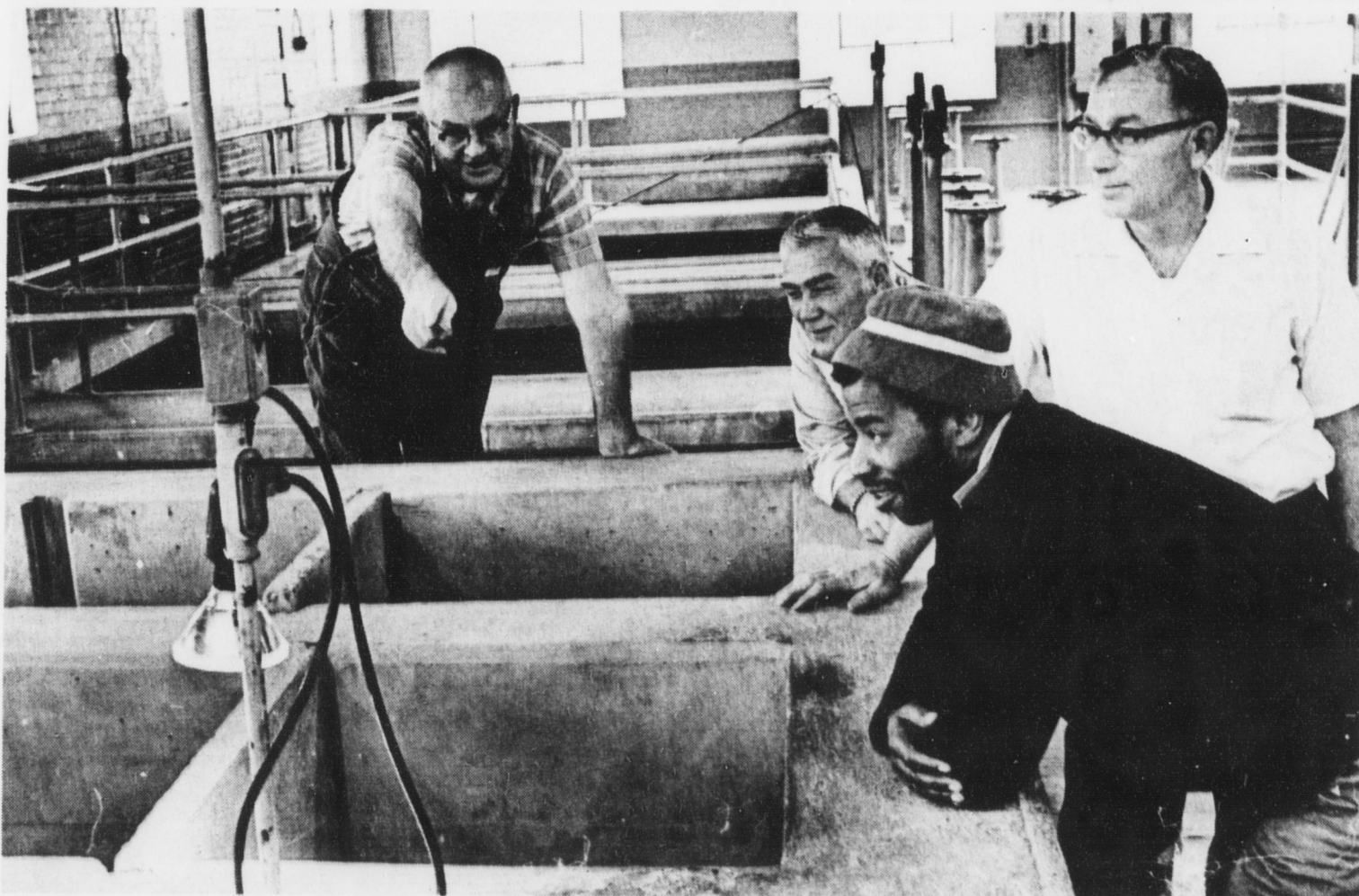
While all the men are new to the job, they have been learning a lot about the operation over the past five weeks. Training trips were taken to the Water Plants at Lincolnton, Concord and Salisbury spending two days at each plant observing and asking questions. When they returned they were prepared to put into practice some of the things they had observed.

Each day one man assumes the responsibility for operating the plant while Mr. Stiller and the other two operators look on. Each trainee rotates each day so he learns by doing. Part of the training also involves the making of bacteriological tests to see that the water is safe to drink and also chemical tests to check for such things as the acidity of the water, the residual chlorine content to be sure that not too much chlorine is left in the water from the purification process and other such tests to insure that we get good drinking water.

Even after this phase of their training, the men will be involved in a continuing training program for the next few years preparing to take tests for certification as operators approved by the American Water Works Operators Association.

This is a professional certification program set up to insure that qualified personnel are in these responsible positions.

Environmental health is of great importance to us all, whether it be water we drink or the air we breathe. The training these men are receiving is one of Burlington's efforts to safeguard these vital resources.



Hayden Stiller, operator of the Filter Plant here for the past 30 years, explains the process of how the water enters the tanks in the filter plant to Bill Shoaf, Mack

McClelland, and Judson Page. (Photo by James Barringer)

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Best Looking

Debbie Potts and Danny Correll were named by Davie High's senior class as 'Best Looking' in a superlative selection recently announced. (Photo by James Barringer).