

J. ELLIOT AND MAXINE PETTY CAMERON TODAY'S PIONEERS



PIONEERING WITH INDIAN EDUCATION. While Superintendent of the Sevier County School District, Elliot, with Elder Spencer W. Kimball and local Church leaders, spearheaded a pioneering effort with the Bureau of Indian Affairs that brought 125 children from the Navajo Indian Reservation each Fall to live in a Richfield dormitory and attend schools in the District. This benefited both the Indian students and the district as it kept smaller schools with declining enrollments open. This arrangement was continued for twenty years until the Government could build schools on the Reservations. This was the beginning of the Church Indian Placement Program, a program that went on to educate 50,000 Indian students over 50 years, the majority of whom went to college and had six times as many professional and managerial jobs as non-placement students.

PIONEERING IN INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP, While President at BYU-Hawaii, Elliot helped bridge the gap between the United States and Chinese Governments, a pioneering effort that is still bearing fruit with students from China going to BYU-Hawaii.

In 1980 when Chinese officials visited the Polynesian Cultural Center, they asked Elliot if students from Mainland China could attend BYU-Hawaii and be part of the PCC experience. This led to negotiations that brought six Chinese students to Hawaii, 2 young women, one the daughter of the Premier of China, and 4 young men. Later, the Premier was invited to the United States and he made it clear to President Reagan that BYU-Hawaii had to be on his itinerary. Other students and delegations followed.

The above examples are only two of many instances in which Elliot has been a *Today's Pioneer*. In all of his Professional, Church and Community positions he has been ably assisted by his wife, Maxine. In addition, Maxine has brought her own considerable leadership and musical talent to add value to everything that Elliot has been asked to do. We recognize this outstanding couple as ***TODAY'S PIONEERS:*** a team that makes everything they touch better.

BORN: 1923 in Panguitch to B.A. and Leonia Sargent Cameron.

Maxine: 1923 in Nephi to Ira and Mae Bennett Petty.

CHARACTER: Dignified, kind, visionary, leader.

Maxine: talented, gracious, kind

EDUCATION: Doctor of Education.

Maxine: Attended BYU. Piano and Music Theory

FAMILY: 3 sons, 1 daughter, 1 foster son

PROFESSION: Educator. President of Snow College, President of BYU-Hawaii, Commissioner, Church Educational System

Maxine: taught piano at BYU and dance at BYU-Hawaii.

CHURCH: Pres. of Provo Temple, bishop, stake president, regional representative.

Maxine: Ward relief society pres.

HOBBIES: Athletics (Football, basketball), Reading, spectator sports.

Maxine: Sewing for family. Humanitarian service- Knitting and sewing

SERVICE: Chair, Utah Pioneer Sesquicentennial Coord Council., Nat Pres. of Sons of Utah Pioneers

Maxine: Organized 40 fingers piano quartet. Play in many community venues, BYU Women