

PAUL T. WALLS

LAYMAN OF THE YEAR, 1976

His parents set the stage for his eminence when they gave their infant son his name. The middle name they chose was "Tetric," a name that should be reserved only for a child destined to become a college president - like Hudson T. Armerding or Calvin Dorr Demaray or Henry Pit Van Dusen. Nevertheless, ever since his birth in Yale, Oklahoma, on the twenty-seventh day of January, 1914, he has borne bravely the name, which usually turns up in his signature as the middle initial "T."

Middle name or no middle name, from his early years he showed the ingenuity of a winner. At seven years of age, he was given the daily task of herding two milk cows in from the pasture. Their course wound through an orchard where they often got separated from each other. Even then this seven year old saw the wisdom of making chores as simple and manageable as possible. To solve the problem, one day he tied their tails together. It was a capital idea. It would have saved tedious hours in a year if the two bossies had had the intelligence to cooperate. Right off, they got on opposite sides of a tree and later, at a full gallop, arrived at the barn with broken tails and milkless udders. Father never understood this mystery until years later the son who bore his name owned up, in a burst of integrity, to his failed ingenuity.

But one mistake was not to hold him back. At age twelve, when the whole family was going through hard times, his father trusted his brothers and him with the family pickup. These three enterprising boys loaded a Maytag washer into the rig and went around the community demonstrating its merits. Neighbors even

saved up their washing and sometimes clothesline space was exhausted and the drying laundry spilled over to the fences as well.

Not satisfied to limit their sales pitch to the Maytags' merits as washing machines, they also pushed them as substitute dinner bells. To demonstrate they removed the agitator, bonged it on the lid, and boldly told their prospective customers that all this versatility could be bought for \$180.00. Needless to say, laughter loosened purse strings and Maytag sales went well.

Thus, began the record of a leader. From childhood on, though quiet and unassuming in manner, he has gravitated toward the top in any enterprise he has joined. Such have been his traits of character and leadership, such his grace of bearing, such his down-to-earth wisdom. And so, he has excelled in his profession, contributed solidly to the work of Christian education, served his church at all levels faithfully and been, for forty years, a stalwart husband, and for the majority of those years, a father of two. His name, Tetric - Paul Tetric Walls.

As a professional man, a foremost realtor, Paul T. Walls holds membership in the following organizations:

American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers

National Association of Real Estate Boards

American Right of Way Association

Washington Association of Realtors

Seattle, Washington, Real Estate Board

His positions have been numerous. Among them, he has been:

Partner, Butler and Walls, Real Estate Appraisers and
Consultants

Partner, Leemark, Realtors

President, Columbia Mortgage Corporation, an F.H.A.
approved Lending Institution

President, Superior Insurance Underwriters

Vice President and General Manager, Financial Securities
Mortgage Co., Inc., Seattle, Washington

Owner of Paul T. Walls & Co., Yakima, Washington,
specializing in Insurance, Real Estate Brokerage,
Mortgages, and Appraisals, 1939-1952

Licensed Real Estate Broker, State of Washington, 1943 --

With a heart for Christian education, Paul Walls has devoted twenty-four years to Seattle Pacific College as a member of its Board of Trustees, thirteen of these as board chairman. Since 1955 he has also been lecturer in Real Estate and Real Estate Appraisals at Seattle Pacific College. In 1968, he was distinguished by being elected as an S.P.C. Fellow. In 1976, Greenville College recognized his distinctive contribution to Christian education by conferring upon him the honorary degree, Doctor of Laws.

For twenty-four years Dr. Walls has been a member of Seattle First Free Methodist Church. His churchmanship there has been a source of encouragement to pastors and congregation alike. Paul has carried his church in his heart with constancy. No less can be said for his loyalty to the work of the Pacific Northwest Conference, his home conference for as many years. His contributions to the General Church are well known to those of us who have seen his work - expert property appraisals, behind-the-scenes labor for his Commission and the wise or bold word in discussion when need dictated.

In 1970, Paul T. Walls underwent open-heart surgery. It

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was a turning point for him, in the direction of better health. One day, to a colleague he confided, "Since my heart surgery, I never ask at the beginning of a day if it is foggy or drizzly or bright; every day is beautiful." This is the man designated this year by the Board of Administration of the Free Methodist Church, "Layman of the Year." Paul T. Walls, a man with a good heart, a man whose heart God has touched, and who serves his God and his church heartily.

Board of Administration Dinner,
October 25, 1976, Winona Lake, Indiana

Donald N. Bastian