

The kids put him through, now it's his turn



Judge Sainsbury has a reputation for handing down stiff sentences.

He switched to law at 41

By Clarence Barker
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When he was 41, married and with seven children, C. Bailey Sainsbury decided that he wanted more from life than he had accomplished.

So, with the help of his family, he went back to school — law school, one of the tougher disciplines. And he started 80 credit hours behind just to get his bachelor's degree.

That was in 1967. Today he is Sandy City judge, building a reputation for stiff sentences and thinking often of the role of the family in building moral character.

In three and a half years, Bailey not only completed requirements for the degree of juris doctor, but made up the 80 credit hours.

"Nearly all of us worked at some part-time job and we raised our own fruit, berries and most of our vegetables on our acre-and-a-half lot," he recalls.

His wife, Beth Bishop Sainsbury, also taught first grade in the Jordan School District for six years.

Bailey taught seminary one year, worked as a law clerk for a Salt Lake City legal firm two years and in addition served as a stake high councilman and then as counselor in two bishoprics of the LDS Church.

When he was graduated with a J.D. degree in 1972, he also was sustained as bishop of the Sandy 20th Ward. This ward was divided and he was made bishop of the 28th Ward where he served a year before being made president of the Sandy Utah East Stake in 1975.

"It was pretty damn pickings practicing law at first, but not as bad as while I was attending the College of Law," he recalls.

"Our eldest daughter, Ann, then was attending Brigham Young University,

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while the other six were in elementary, junior high school and high school.

"Three of our sons, Sterling, Stanford and Spencer, now are attending the Y. They tell me, 'We put you through law school, so now it's your turn to put us through BYU.'"

"I have a reputation for being tough in sentencing offenders. I believe that crime should not be a paying occupation. Consequently a first offender at shoplifting usually gets a sentence from me of from \$150 to \$200. I understand in some areas the fines are substantially less.

"I impose a fine of up to the maximum of \$299 with a suspended jail sentence and a year's probation for second offenders for shoplifting.

"I believe that shoplifting too often is the first step toward criminal careers, so I impose sentences intended to block such careers.

"My sentences for speeding also are stiff, \$2 per mile over the speed limit plus \$3 flat fee. For speeding over 40 miles above the speed limit, I raise the ante to \$3 per mile."



Judge Sainsbury checks over a case with Marilyn Thompson, court employe.

Judge Sainsbury believes that along with discipline, all children need a lot of love, attention and understanding.

"They need to know what the rules are, but above all they need a whole lot of attention.

"Yes, I spanked my youngsters when the occasion demanded, but each child is different and each received individual attention.

"At least once a year we get off into the mountains together for a camping trip."

Some parents, Judge Sainsbury says, are not willing to pay the price in time to

help build their children into God-fearing citizens.

"It takes a great deal of time to be with a child almost constantly," he says. "This is necessary in his formative years.

"The years from birth until school are so crucial that some child psychologists and developmental experts claim that the entire personality and character are formed in these early years. If true, a mother would do well to submerge her desires to go out of the home to work during this critical period.

"There is no amount of compensation that can pay for a maladjusted child.

Money, prestige, or a career just cannot be equated with a warped and damaged personality. Perhaps the reason the mother herself is looking for the self-fulfillment away from the home is itself a direct result of the lack of complete and adequate emotional and psychological training she received as a child. The mother may be unconsciously perpetuating her own problems into the next generation."

Judge Sainsbury declares that "each home should be a bit of heaven, a haven where the child can come in out of the storm. Children are quick to forgive, but a haven with too many leaks in the roof may make it too difficult for the child to establish confidence in his parents, his home, and himself."

"The strength of the nation rests upon strong families," he concludes.