

## The Identity of Individuals on Report Cards from a Yard Sale or, Who is Kathryn Merzbacher?

by Barbara A. Ware, Ph.D.

Genealogists have friends who think we can find anyone. So, when a friend<sup>1</sup> found a packet of Dallas Student Report Cards at a yard sale in the “M Street” area of Dallas, she bought them and brought them to me. Why? Because one of the cards was for a class called “D. Art,” i. e. Domestic Arts, which along with Domestic Science, was an old name for home economics, today called Family and Consumer Sciences. And because we had both taught home economics in the Dallas schools. She wondered what I could find about Kathryn Merzbacher and the others mentioned on her report cards?

Front of report card

Back of report card

Subject	Class	Room	1st	2nd	3rd	Ex.	Av.	Crif.
Bus	3	362	87	87				
D.P.	72		85	88				
Leon	83	214	83	86				
Long	66	216	87	83				

Cardholder envelope

### The Student – Kathryn Merzbacher

According to Kathryn’s report cards, she was a student at Bryan Street High School in 1925.<sup>2</sup> Her Domestic Arts teacher was Florence Spencer and her principal Leonard Power. Her father, Chas. Merzbacher had signed the cards on the back. The first step in these quarantined times was to search online resources such as Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, GenealogyBank.com and Newspapers.com for these four names.

<sup>1</sup> Carol Bonar Canada taught home economics in Dallas schools from 1975 to 2008. The reports cards in the images are the same type of report card style that I received as a student in the Dallas schools in the early 1960s except we received letter grades. By the time I started teaching in the late 1960s, report cards reports were printed by data processing procedures.

<sup>2</sup> Bryan Street High School was opened in 1908 as Main High School. The name was changed to Bryan Street High School in 1916, Dallas Technical High School in 1929, N. R. Crozier Technical High School in 1928 and finally the Business and Management Magnet Center in 1976. Walter J. E. Schiebel, Ed.D. *Education in Dallas Ninety-two Years of History. 1874-1966*. Dallas Independent School District, 1966.

The packet of report cards for Kathryn Merzbacher were for the second semester of the 1924 - 1925 school year, dating from, February 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup> of 1925. The four report cards in her packet included English, Biology, Geometry and D. Art. The envelope verifies that these are the only four classes in which she was enrolled. They recorded the numeric grades for each of three six-weeks session, exam grade, the average and whether she received credit for the class. The reverse side of the report card explains the grading system. "Students are graded on 100 per cent basis. Between 100 and 90 is excellent; 90 to 80, good; 80 to 70, fair. Below 70 means failure to do passable work. Report cards are issued every six weeks. The parent is requested to sign this card and return immediately by the pupil." Kathryn's father Charles Merzbacher signed each card. Kathryn's highest grades were in Domestic Arts.



A photo of Kathryn Merzbacher appears in "Dal-Hi," the 1926 Bryan Street High School annual, the year she was a senior. She attended Bryan Street High School from 1922 to 1926 when she was graduated. The annuals are available on Ancestry's U.S. Yearbook 1909-1999 collection and in the Dallas History and Archive Department of the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library.<sup>3</sup>

Kathryn's obituary says that "she was a professional seamstress with the renowned Virginia Means. They custom tailored by hand the fine clothing of the outstanding society ladies of Dallas." The 1947 Dallas City Directory describes her as a seamstress at the Virginia Dress Shop.<sup>4</sup> It is likely that Kathryn met Virginia Means at Bryan Street High School. Virginia's name appears on a list of those graduating in spring 1923 when she is listed as graduating with honors. She is also in the Dal-Hi annual list of 1923 graduates, although there is no photo of her.<sup>5</sup>

Comparison of entries in high school annuals can suggest a relationship of place and time. When using Ancestry's online U. S. Yearbook Collection, be sure to check all possible school names. The Dal-Hi annuals for Bryan Street High School are digitized under Bryan Street High School, N R Crozier Technical High School, and even Bryan Adams High School. However, Bryan Adams High School is a different school that didn't open until 1956.

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<sup>3</sup> *Dal-Hi Annual 1926*, "U.S., School Yearbooks 1900-1999 Collection," digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 February 2021), Kathryn Merzbacher.

<sup>4</sup> "PHILLIPS – ANN KATHRYN MERZBACHER." Dallas Morning News, The (TX), 19 Oct. 2004, Death Notice – Classified. NewsBank, infoweb.newsbank.com/resources/doc/nb/news/105D2C7ACA7CF4AC?p=AMNEWS. Accessed 9 Feb. 2021 via Dallas Public Library ([www.dallaslibrary.org](http://www.dallaslibrary.org)).

<sup>5</sup> Marge Stockton, "Certified List of Graduating Students from Dallas Independent School District Schools, 1922-1924, *The Dallas Journal*, Volume LV, Oct. 2009, page 8 (accessed 22 February 2021). *Dal-Hi Annual 1923*, "U.S., School Yearbooks 1900-1999 Collection," digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 February 2021), Kathryn Merzbacher. Worley's Greater Dallas (Dallas County, Texas) City Directory 1947-1948 (John F. Worley Directory Company, Publishers, Dallas, Texas), 925, entry for "Mrs. Kathryn Phillips," digital image, Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 22 February 2021).

## Chronology Through High School Annuals

Dal-Hi Year <sup>6</sup>	Students		Educators	
	Kathryn Merzbacher	Virginia Means	Florence Spencer	Leonard Powers
1920		Freshman year	Teacher list – Bryan St HS, page 18	
1921		Sophomore year Name on list of those in 4 <sup>th</sup> period PT class page 168, image 184. Photo of group 169, image 185.	Photo with name, page 13, image 17. Name and subject taught, page 14, image 18.	
1922	No book online	No book online	No book online	No book online
1923	Freshman. Photo of Physical Training class with her name on list of names, page 106, image 120.	Senior year. No photo but on list of seniors, page 35, image 43  “Born Sept 21, 1905. Dallas, Texas. Entered from Sam Houston. ‘How great is her vivacity and kindness!’ ”	“Teacher’s Directory” listing name and subject taught on page 13, image 19. Group photo page 12, image 18.	
1924	Sophomore. 10 <sup>th</sup> grade- 11-A PT class. Group photo of Sophomore class, page 65, image 69. No individual name list.		Listed on page 20, image 24, on listing of Faculty as “Domestic Arts” teacher	
1925	Group photo of Junior Class, page 57, image 395. No name list or individual photos. Name on list of those in “Members of Good Scholarship Club. Photo page 64, image 268; name on page 65, image 269.		Name on page 16, image 22 photo of Florence page 17 image 23, 5 <sup>th</sup> row, 2 <sup>nd</sup> from left	Photo and name page 15, image 217 [Chosen principal of Bryan Street High School August 1924.]
1926	12 <sup>th</sup> – Senior class photo page 31, image 39. 2 <sup>nd</sup> from right, bottom row. “Born December 1907, Dallas, Texas. Good Scholarship.”		List of faculty page 12, image 18. Domestic Arts. She is not in the photos of faculty on page 11.	Photo and name, page 6, image 17.

<sup>6</sup> *Dal-Hi Annuals 1920, 1923-1926*, “U.S., School Yearbooks 1900-1999 Collection,” digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 February 2021). A copy of the 1921 Dal-Hi Annual is not available online at Ancestry.com. The Dallas Public Library does have a copy in the Dallas History and Archives Department at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library which closed due to the pandemic (2020-2021).

Although we don't know exactly which level of "D. Art" Kathryn took in the spring of 1925, her junior year, students in "Domestic Arts Clothing 3" would have:

- reviewed what they learned about silk in Clothing 2
- studied the production, manufacture, properties and use of wool
- tested textiles
- practiced fundamental principles of design – line, form, color and texture suitable for women's clothing
- created a wool dress, a silk dress, and a lingerie dress
- made field trips to retail stores and the cotton mill

Clothing 3 was open to second, third- or fourth-year students who had completed Clothing 1 and 2. The class ran five double periods a week for 18 weeks. According to her photograph among the seniors in 1926 *Dal-Hi Annual*, Kathryn was a 2<sup>nd</sup> semester junior in 1925 when she was enrolled in Clothing 3. She would have completed Clothing 2 which was open to first- and second-year students who had completed Clothing 1.<sup>7</sup>

Kathryn's parents, Charles and Betty (Brown) Merzbacher lived on Live Oak Avenue when she at the time of her birth. She was the youngest of four children. Her father was milk producer in Harrison county, Texas, and then in the brick manufacturing business and later the automobile garage business in Dallas. The 1910 census and the 1910 Dallas City Directory lists their address as 354 Live Oak, but the 1911 Dallas City Directory gives the address as 2618 Live Oak because the city renumbered some streets between 1910 and 1911. According to the 1920, census, the family rented rooms on Live Oak. Charles, his wife and son, Charles Jr., lived at 2618, while Charles' brother George, and Charles' children (Geo. F and Catherine), lived in rooms rented from Mrs. Addie Kane at 2608 Live Oak. This arrangement seems strange. Perhaps it was an error of the census taker who recorded the address for George and his nieces and nephew because they are recorded as the stepchildren and brother-in-law of S R Dickey. No relationship has been found between the Merzbacher and Dickey families. The 1921 City Directory lists George Merzbacher at the same address as his brother (2618 Live Oak).<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> *HOME ECONOMICS. Courses of Study for High Schools.* Dallas Public Schools, Dallas, Texas 1927-1928. Dallas High Schools Print Shop. Personal collection of Barbara A. Ware. U.S., School Yearbooks 1900-1999 Collection," digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 February 2021), Kathryn Merzbacher.

<sup>8</sup> 1910 U. S. Dallas County, Texas. population schedule Dallas Ward 6, Enumeration District (E.D.) 45, sheet 2A, p. 125-6 (stamped), dwelling 34, family 42, Catherine Merzbacher, digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 February 2021), citing National Archives microfilm publication T624, roll 1543. 1920 U. S. Dallas County, Texas . population schedule Dallas, Precinct 15, Enumeration District (E.D.) 26, sheet 28A, p. 109 (stamped) dwelling 504, family 622, Charles Merzbacher, digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 February 2021), citing National Archives microfilm publication T625, roll 1794. 1920 U. S. Dallas County, Texas . population schedule Dallas, Precinct 15, Enumeration District (E.D.) 26, sheet 102 (stamped), p. 21A, dwelling 385, family 446, Kathryn Merzbacher, digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 February 2021), citing National Archives microfilm publication T625, roll 1794. John F, Worley Directory Co.'s Dallas City Directory 1920 (Dallas, Texas: John F. Worley Directory Co.), 1689, entry for "Addie Kane: digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 February 2021). 1920 City Directory, Addie Kane. Pg. 1689. John F, Worley Directory Co.'s Dallas City Directory 1921 (Dallas, Texas: John F. Worley Directory Co.), 1121, entry for "George Merzbacher", "Charles Merzbacher" : digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 February 2021)

In December 1922, Charles Merzbacher purchased Lot 17, Block 18, Belmont Addition. The lot is on the north side of Richmond about halfway between Florence (now called Matilda) and Delmar Avenue. The house the family built is at 5829 Richmond.<sup>9</sup> Kathryn's mother died in 1924. Her father married to Veta Pearl Howerton of Bienville Parish, Louisiana in 1925.<sup>10</sup>

Kathryn lived on Richmond Avenue until she married John Grant Phillips in 1931. The young couple subsequently lived at 2619½ Florence (1933), 2026 Euclid (1938 to 1947), and at 6122 Martel (1947 until 2003). These streets all in the general "M-Street" area of Belmead or Wilshire Heights in east Dallas.<sup>11</sup>

During this time, Kathryn began working for Virginia Means. Kathryn and Virginia both attended the Seventh Day Adventist Church. When Kathryn married, Virginia was mentioned in the wedding announcement. The earliest record in the Dallas City Directory of Virginia Means as a dressmaker found online is in 1929.<sup>12</sup>

Kathryn's father passed away in 1943, her husband in 1981. Kathryn and John had no children. She was preceded in death by her two brother and a sister, who had also attended Bryan Street High School. Kathryn's life story is completed in the publication of her obituary in 2004. She was active in her church and was survived by children and grandchildren of her siblings.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Official Public Records Search, Dallas County, Texas (<https://dallas.tx.publicsearch.us/>) citing Dallas County Deed Book 975, page 493-94, Charles Merzbacher, Sr., from A. L. Egan and Eleanoir Flavie Egan 1 December 1922. "Murphy & Bolanz Block and Addition Books, Dallas County 1880-1920." Dallas History and Archives Department. J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, Dallas, Texas. (accessed: 10 March 2021) <http://dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory/murphyandbolanz/index.php>

<sup>10</sup> "Texas, U.S. Death Certificate, 1903-1982," Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 24 February 2021), entry for Bettie Bell Merzbacken (sic), 17 February 1924, certificate No. 4545 Dallas, citing Texas Department of State Health Services, Austin, Texas. 1930 U.S. Census, Dallas County, Texas, population schedule, Dallas, Texas, Enumeration District (ED) 57-19, sheet 37B, dwelling 552 family 586. Charles Merzbacher digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 24 February 2021) citing National Archives microfilm publication T626 roll 2314.

<sup>11</sup> "Texas, U.S., Select County Marriage Records, 1837-1965." Database, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 February 2021), entry for Kathryn Merzbacher, 14 Feb 1931, vol 51, page 441, Dallas Texas citing "Dallas County Clerk's Office, Dallas, Texas, *Dallas County Marriage Records*." "U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995," database, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 February 2021) entry for John G. Phillips in Dallas Texas for various years 1931 to 1979. The last year available for Dallas, Texas is 1979. Dallas Central Appraisal District, database [www.dallascad.org](http://www.dallascad.org) : accessed 17 Mar 2021), entry for 6122 Martel Ave. The history of the DCAD entry for this address shows that Ann K M Phillips owed the property through 2003.

<sup>12</sup> Worley's Dallas (Texas) City Directory 1929 (John F. Worley Directory Company, Publishers, Dallas, Texas), 1415, entry for Virginia Means; digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 17 February 2021). "Marriage Announced; To Reside in Dallas. Mrs. John Grant Phillips," *The Dallas Morning News*, 15 February 1931, Society Section, p. 4, col. 3. GenealogyBank (<http://genealogybank.com> : accessed 17 February 2021).

<sup>13</sup> "PHILLIPS – ANN KATHRYN MERZBACHER." Dallas Morning News, The (TX), 19 Oct. 2004, Death Notice, op.cit.



Bryan Street High School 1921

First designated as “Main High School,” Bryan Street High School was located at Bryan and Live Oak streets. The building opened in 1908.

“The new building was equipped with an auditorium to seat 1200, five manual training shops, one domestic science room and one sewing room, a gymnasium, a large lunchroom in the basement, offices for the superintendent and, on the third floor a large ‘lantern room’...”<sup>14</sup>

### The Educators – Florence Spencer and Leonard Powers

**Florence Spencer.** In 1900 she was an 18-year-old student living with her uncle, B. J. Houston, her mother, Starkie S. Spencer, and sister Aileen A. (sic) in Fort Worth. She was born in Colorado March of 1882. Her parents married in Dallas in 1881. It was the second marriage for her mother, whose first husband died in 1873. Her father, Samuel Francis Spencer, was a miner and real estate broker in Leadville, Colorado. He died in 1904 in Yukon, Canadian County, Oklahoma.<sup>15</sup>

Florence began teaching in Fort Worth elementary schools where she lived with her mother in 1901 and continued there through 1916. Her sisters, Aileen and Lucile also taught in local elementary schools. Her first teaching positions in Dallas were at the elementary level.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> “U. S. School Yearbooks – 1900-1999,” digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 February 2021). Walter J. E. Schiebel. op. cit, 47.

<sup>15</sup> 1900 U.S. Census, Tarrant County Texas, population schedule, Fort Worth, Texas, Enumeration District (ED) 90, sheet 2, dwelling 4, family 45. Florence M. Spencer: digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 30 January 2021) citing National Archives microfilm publication T623, roll 1672.

“Colorado Census, 1885,” population schedule, Lake County, Colorado, Enumeration District (E.D.) 1, page A, dwelling 8, family 8, S. F. Spencer, digital image FamilySearch.org (<http://familysearch.org> : accessed 30 Jan 2021). *Marriages Dallas County Texas, Volume II, Books F, G, H.* Dallas Genealogical Society, page 26. C. B. Mays, “Oakwood Cemetery, Corsicana, Navarro County, Texas USA,” database, Findgrave.com (<http://findagrave.com> : accessed 19 March 2021), Jacob Marion Lindley (1836-1873), Memorial ID 28277977.

“Texas, U.S. Wills and Probate Records, 1833-1974 for J. M. Lindly, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 18 March 2021) citing *Probate Records, 1871-1937; Index, 1847-1978*; Author: Texas, Probate Court (Navarro County); Probate Place: Navarro, Texas.

<sup>16</sup> 1910 U.S. Census, Tarrant County, Texas, population schedule, Fort Worth, Enumeration District (ED) 121, sheet 2B, dwelling 37 family 37. Florence Spencer: digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 30 January 2021) citing National Archives microfilm publication T624, roll 1590. Morrison & Fourny’s General Directory of the City of Fort Worth 1901-1902, 242, entry for “Florence M. Spencer”, digital image, Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 30 January 2021). She appears as a teacher in Ft. Worth city directories from 1901 through 1916.

The 1920 census lists her as a 32-year-old single schoolteacher living at 1004 Marsalis Avenue in Dallas as sister-in-law to Ben M. Rogers with his wife Aileen. Dallas City Directory in 1924 and 1925 list “Florence M. Spencer tchr Bryan Street High School,” whose home was located at 5630 Bell Ave.<sup>17</sup> A search of the directory for individuals living at “5630 Bell av” yielded two other individuals: Benjamin N and Aileen Rogers. This was found by entering “1924” and “Dallas, Dallas, Texas” in the “Any Event” field and “5630 Bell” in the “Keyword Field” for the “U. S. Cities, 1822-1995” collection on Ancestry.com. They are also listed in the Street Directory portion of the city directory. A Street Directory appears at the back of many city directory, but generally isn’t indexed requiring a “hand search” though the street listings. She began teaching at Bryan Street High school in 1921.<sup>18</sup>

Florence received a B. S. from College of Industrial Arts (now Texas Woman’s University, Denton) where her major was “Domestic Arts.” She also attended University of Chicago and Columbia Teacher’s College. In 1920 she earned \$1,700 and \$1,925 in 1924. She had spent four years in high school, one year in “Normal School” and 4½ years in a college or university. In 1924 she is recorded as having taught 5 years including that year and had seven “recitations” per day. Annual salaries of teachers at Bryan Street High School ranged from \$1,325 to \$2,400 in 1924. The principal was paid \$4,000.<sup>19</sup>

The *Dallas Morning News* wrote that “The Parent-Teacher Association of the Bryan Street High School will meet at 10 a.m. Friday. Installation of officers will be held and Miss Spencer of the domestic science department will give a style demonstration.” In August, the same newspaper noted that “Miss Florence M. Spencer, teacher of domestic art in Bryan Street High School in Dallas [is a] member of the faculty at the College of Industrial Arts during the summer session.” The article further said that she was a graduate of CIA, had done graduate work at Columbia University and would be “teaching clothing and millinery. She has been on the faculty of the Bryan Street High School for five years.” She also was active in a home economics teacher organization where she was elected treasurer in 1923.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> John F. Worley Directory Co.’s Dallas City Directory 1924 (Dallas: John F. Worley Directory Co. Compilers and Publishers), 1519, entry for “Florence M. Spencer”, digital image, Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 30 January 2021). John F. Worley Directory Co.’s Dallas City Directory 1925, (Dallas: John F. Worley Directory Co. Compilers and Publishers), 1672, entry for “Florence M. Spencer”, digital image, Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 30 January 2021). 1920 U.S. Census, Dallas, Texas, population schedule, Justice Precinct 7, Dallas, Texas, Enumeration District (ED), 54, sheet 1A, dwelling 7 family 9. Spencer, Florence: digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 30 January 2021) citing National Archives microfilm publication T625 roll 1793.

<sup>18</sup> “Appointments of Teachers for City Public Schools; Term Begin September 10.” *The Dallas Morning News*, September 4, 1921, p.6, col. 3-4. DMN Sep 4, 1921, page 6 col. 1, GenealogyBank.com (<http://www.genealogybank.com> : accessed 12 February 2021).

<sup>19</sup> S. M. N. Marrs and A. W. Evans. *Texas High Schools. Directory of Teachers*. Bulletin No. 177, January 1924. The Department of Education, State of Texas. Annie Webb Blanton. *Texas High Schools. Directory of Teachers*. Bulletin No. 127, November 15, 1920. The Department of Education, State of Texas. Both accessed via GoogleBooks (12 February 2021).

<sup>20</sup> “School Teachers Plan Vacations,” *The Dallas Morning News*, May 29, 1921, Part III, p. 14, col. 1, digital image, GenealogyBank.com (<http://genealogybank.com> : accessed 30 Jan 2021). “Organizations,” *Dallas Morning News*, May 1, 1924, p. 6, col. 3; digital image, Genealogy.bank (<http://www.genealogybank.com> : accessed 30 January 2021). “Two Dallas Teachers Are Members of Summer Faculty at Denton C. I. A. [Texas Woman’s University], *Dallas Morning News*, 3 Aug 1924, section 4, p. 8, col. 2-3; digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> :

It isn't known whether Florence Spencer knew that her students, Kathryn Ann Merzbacher Phillips and Virginia Barbara Means, made a career of what she taught them at Bryan Street High School. Unfortunately, she died in 1928 of cancer of the stomach. She was buried at Grove Hill Cemetery.<sup>21</sup>

**Leonard Power.** Leonard Power was named principal of Bryan Street High School the fall of 1924. According to *Education in Dallas*, Leonard Power was principal from 1925 to 1927.<sup>22</sup> He began his life in Chicago, Illinois where he was born in 1891 to John Power and Julia Leonard.<sup>23</sup> His family moved to Joplin, Missouri by 1900 and that's where he began his teaching career. He married Nora Mae Craven in 1912.<sup>24</sup> He left Missouri, like many of the up-and-coming men in education, he worked as a teacher, professor, and administrator in a number of communities including Hillsboro, Port Arthur, and Dallas.

In 1918 he was principal at Stephen F. Austin Elementary school in Dallas, then principal at the Knights of Columbus Night school for returning soldiers and a lecturer at Southern Methodist University in 1920. In 1922 he became a teacher in Port Arthur, Texas and by 1923 he was the President of Port Arthur College. He returned to Dallas in 1924 when he was hired as the principal of Bryan Street High School.<sup>25</sup> Photos of Principal Power appear in the 1925 "Dal-Hi," the annual. According to *Education in Dallas*, Leonard Power was principal from 1925 to 1927. In 1927 he was appointed assistant superintendent for intermediate grades and District superintendent for elementary schools in Dallas.

He and his family left Dallas for Tulsa, Oklahoma when he was appointed assistant superintendent for elementary schools. During this time, he earned a Doctor's degree from Teacher's College, Columbia. They moved to New York City where he was an educational consultant before 1935. By 1940 he was consultant for Radio Education Commission in Washington DC. Various news articles reveal the career of Leonard Power. In 1942 when he registered for the draft, he was working for the United States Government in the Federal Security Agency and lived in Bethesda, Maryland.<sup>26</sup>

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accessed 30 January 2021). "News from the Field. TEXAS. The Conference of Vocational Home Economics Teachers..." *Journal of Home Economics*, vol. XV, no. 2 February 1923, page 103, digital image, GoogleBooks (<http://www.books.google.com>: 17 March 2021).

<sup>21</sup> "Texas Death Certificates, 1890-1976," digital images, FamilySearch.com (<http://www.familysearch.com>: accessed 10 January 2021), entry for Florence H Spencer; citing death certificate no. 1928-49294, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas. "Grove Hill Memorial Park, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas USA," database, Findgrave.com (<http://findagrave.com> : accessed 19 March 2021), Florence Mary Spencer (1886-1928), Memorial ID 62896079.

<sup>22</sup> Walter J. E. Schiebel, Ed.D. *Education in Dallas Ninety-two Years of History. 1874-1966*. Dallas Independent School District, 1966., page 111, 243.

<sup>23</sup> "Cook County, Illinois, Birth Certificates Index, 1871-1922," database Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 January 2021), entry for Leonard Powers. Note: digital images available at Family History Library, but not online. FHL and affiliates are currently (2020-2021) closed.

<sup>24</sup> Ancestry.com. *Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007.]

<sup>25</sup> "New Principal of Bryan Street High School Reports," *Dallas Morning News*, August 14, 1924 page 12. GenealogyBank.com. (<http://www.genealogy.com>: accessed 10 January 2021).

<sup>26</sup> "U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942," digital images, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 17 Mar 2021), entry for Leonard Power



After the end of World War II, he was an educational consultant in New York City.<sup>27</sup> Over his lifetime, he authored and co-authored a number of research reports and books, a few of which are noted in the footnote.<sup>28</sup> He died in Hemet, Riverside County, California on 7 July 1956 where The Los Angeles Times described his later life as:

Retired vice-president and educational director for the Grolier Society, New York yearbook publishers. He also served on President Roosevelt's Committee for the Study of Education, the World War II commission on Defense School Facilities...<sup>29</sup>

## Research Suggestions

Google Books search yielded two education agency bulletins, an early professional journal and a list of professional publications. Maps and deed searches provided an understanding of where individuals lived.

- Sanborn Map Fire Insurance Maps Texas (1877-1922) of 2806 and 2816 Live Oak, 1921 at Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection.  
<http://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/sanborn/texas.html> These are the colored version.
- Murphy & Bolanz Block and Addition Books, Dallas County 1880-1920 located the Belmont Addition where Charles Merzbacher purchased a lot in 1920.
- Historical Dallas County Deed records via the Dallas County website (<https://dallas.tx.publicsearch.us/>) using "Quick Link" to reach the Kofile search.

Check both FamilySearch and Ancestry for images.

- The 1885 Colorado State census had a clearer image on FamilySearch than on Ancestry. Reach out to archives and libraries via email.

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<sup>27</sup> Manhattan New York City Telephone Directory May, 1948, (New York Telephone Company, 1045, entry for "Leonard Power"; digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://ancestry.com> ; accessed 20 February 2021)  
"Former Dallas Teacher Opens New York Office," *Dallas Morning News*, October 10, 1943, Section IV, p 9, col. 5 , GenealogyBank.com (<http://www.genealogybank.com> : accessed March 17, 2021)

<sup>28</sup> Leonard Power. *The basic-process speller*. The Economy Co., Oklahoma City, OK, 1933 cited in GoogleBooks (<http://www.books.google.com> : 17 March 2021). Note: A copy is available at the University of North Texas Library. Leonard Power, *Public Service Broadcast. Station WMBD, Peoria, Illinois*. The Federal Radio Education Committee with cooperation of the U. S. Office of Education. Federal Security Agency, Washington, D.C. 1940. digital images, Google Books(<http://books.google.com> : accessed 17 Mar 2021). Leonard Power. *What six thousand pupils know about arithmetic fundamentals; an interpretation of the results of the Texas diagnostic arithmetic test for one thousand pupils in each half-grade from the low fifth through the high seventh*. Board of Education, Research monograph, Dallas, Texas. cited in Google Books (<http://www.books.google.com> : 17 March 2021). ). A copy is in the University of Texas Libraries, Austin, Texas.

<sup>29</sup> "Rites Today for Educator, Dr. L. Power," *The Los Angeles Times*, Tuesday 10, 1956, Part III, p. 2, col. 1, digital image, Newspapers.com (<http://newspapers.com> : accessed 17 March 2021).