



But Stevens refuses to give up.

Every time he has needed money in the past, Stevens says, he has gotten down on his knees and prayed and the money has arrived.

"I don't do anything but pray, and the money comes," he says. "That's what this is, a gift to God. And the only way it can be built is by the gifts. We have people praying all over the country, nuns galore."

Tintern may indeed prove to be an example of the power of prayer but God shouldn't get all the credit. Stevens has done a bit of public relations on the side. Life magazine featured him in its September 1986 issue. He has been interviewed by National Public Radio, and NBC and CBS "have called." Currently, Stevens is planning to write Frank Sinatra requesting a benefit concert for Tintern.

"I'm going to write him," Stevens muses, "or maybe Beverly Sills."

Stevens has been writing such letters for years. He once wrote Roger Staubach asking him to speak at a parish breakfast. Staubach would have come, he says, except for a prior commitment. He also has written Walt Disney Productions and suggested they do a movie from the book, "The Wild Dogs of Chon Do," an adventure story for children set in North Korea.

"We are dying from lack of imagination in this country," Stevens says. "Too many administrators, businessmen, and not enough innovators and visionaries who are willing to put their necks on the line. Nobody wants to start from scratch."



(Opposite page) Stevens checks for mail in his scale model mailbox of the building he is now living in. (Above) Stevens meditates in a chair overlooking a small stream that snakes through his property. (Left) Stevens walks on the land that the new building is planned to be built on. The current building is in the background. (On back) Stevens sits in the entry way relaxing in the early morning sun.