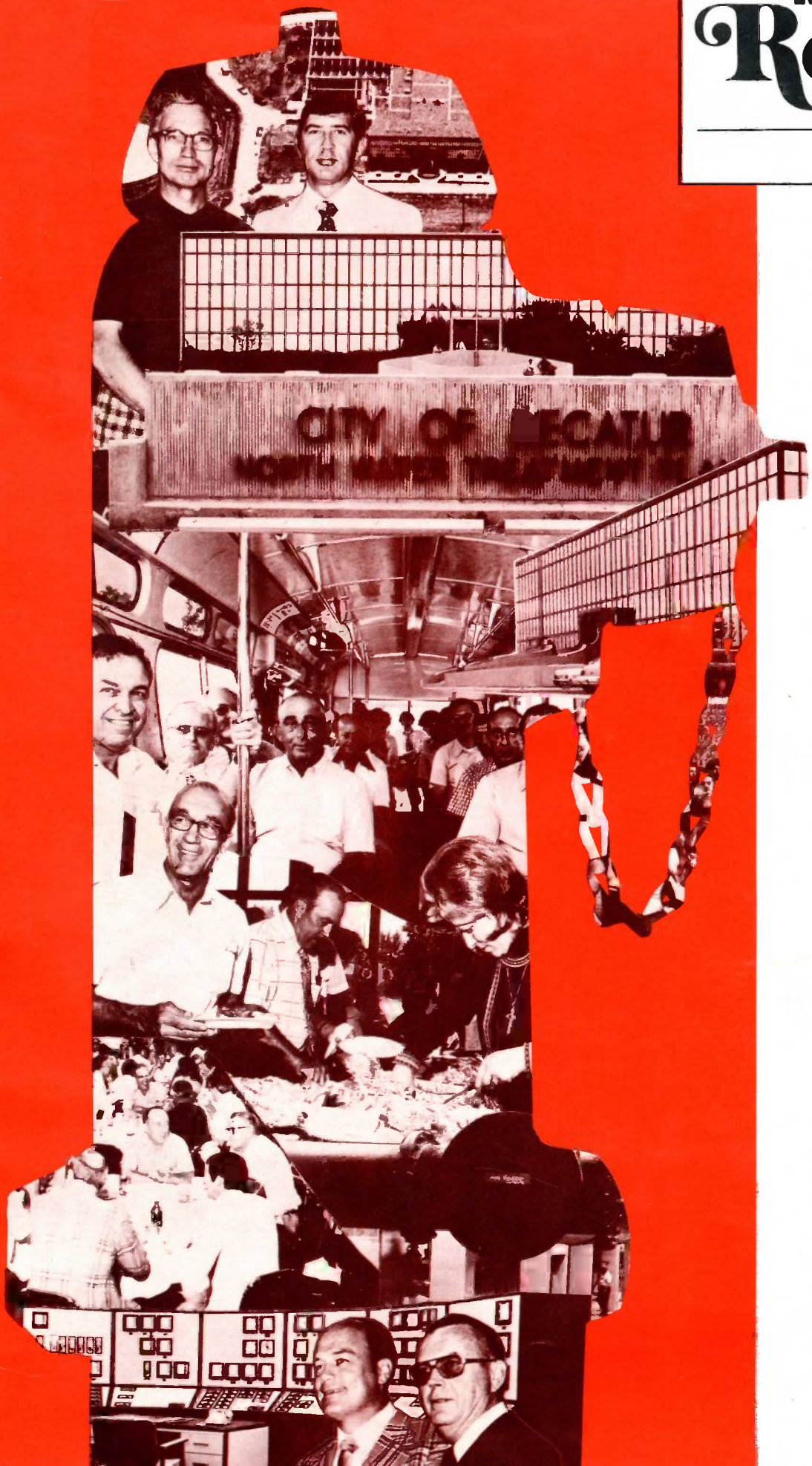
MUELLER Record

WINTER 1975



CITY OF DECATUR · ILLINOIS

FEATURE: Decatur's New North Water Treatment Plant. Page 3.

MUELLER Record

WINTER 1975

Published by
Mueller Co.
500 West Eldorado St.
Decatur, Illinois 62525

Jim Cussins
Editorial Consultant

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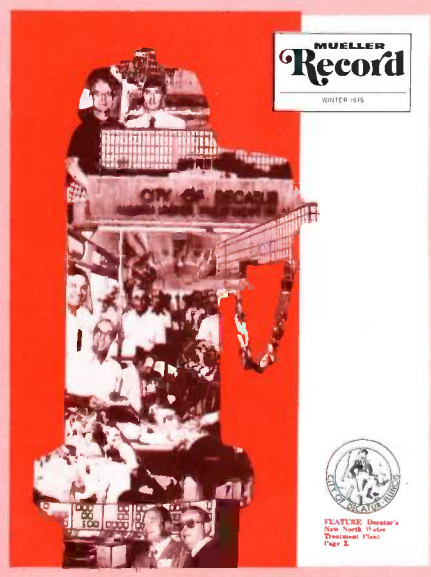


About the Cover:

The outline of a MUELLER Modern Improved Fire Hydrant contains a montage of scenes of the new Decatur, Illinois North Water Treatment Plant taken during the recent Open House. See stories starting on the following page.

$8 Million North Water Treatment Plant Completed in Decatur, Illinois

Story Material Submitted by J.W. "Bill" Coffey, Mueller Co. Sales Representative, Peoria, Ill.

Editors Note: This story about one city's water system in the heartland of America is typical of thousands of others across the country. Competent and dedicated people who deserve the thanks and praise of their fellow citizens are often unsung, even unnoticed "heros" of their community.

Six million gallons of water a day are now pumping through Decatur, Illinois' new $8 million water treatment plant, completed this summer in MUELLER CO.'S home town.

One technician sitting at a panel of monitoring devices controls the entire plant, which can process up to twelve million gallons a day with its present facilities. However, the design of the new plant has provided for increasing the capacity up to 30 million gallons per day with only minor additional construction.

The buildings are laid out in an axial arrangement with process equipment and tanks located along Lake Decatur, so that "mirror expansion" on the other side of the axis can be completed with no new major buildings and no interruption in service to the community. The new facility is used in addition to the city's 50-year-old filtration plant near the Lake Decatur Dam, which is at the other end of the lake (12 miles away).

The new plant uses split treatment to clean the water, chosen as the most economical way to provide soft water to the industrial community. In one of the three new water treatment basins, a large portion of raw water is overtreated with lime to remove the magnesium hardness. This produces very soft water, which is channeled to a second basin where it is neutralized as it is mixed with a balance of raw water and soda ash. In the third basin the water is further neutralized by recarbonation.

The plant is located on the northeast side of Decatur, where most of the heavy industry is located in this industrial city of nearly 100,000. It is economical to have the treatment plant there because it will take less power to produce and deliver the water to the factories.

The overall design for the

In the foreground a MUELLER Modern Improved Fire Hydrant. In the background the North Water Treatment Plant.

$8 million project has received much attention for its economical and advanced technical features. The project received the Consulting Engineers Council of Illinois' award for architecture and engineering earlier this year.

Open House

In August the new facility was introduced at a visitation day and conference to the professional community, represented by the Illinois section of the American Water Works Association, the Illinois Environmental Association, and the Central Illinois Water Plant Operators Association. As representatives from these groups toured the buildings and studied the engineering features some of the topics discussed were: (1) the plant's ability to allow either split or conventional treatment, (2) the Greenleaf style filters with no filter gallery, (3) dual sludge lines to separate calcium and magnesium sludge, (4) bulk chemical storage including liquid alum and carbon slurry, (5) variable speed service pumps for high industrial consumption, and (6) the return and refiltering of sludge bed supernatant.

The master of ceremonies for the conference program was William R. O'Connell, director of Decatur's Water Department and Senior Trustee of the Illinois Section of AWWA. He introduced Decatur's Mayor Jim Rupp who welcomed the conferees and visitors. Also introduced was Lawrence M. Madden, manager of the water and sewer commission of Freeport, Ill. and chairman of the Illinois Section of the AWWA. During the meeting Ed Milanski, partner with Bainbridge, Gee Milanski and Associates, Decatur consulting engineering firm, reviewed the history and development of the new water treatment plant. In addition, two engineers from Warren & Van Praag, Inc., consulting engineers headquartered in Decatur, Fred Johnson and Gordon Dill, gave talks on "Financing a New Treatment Plant" and "Design and Construction of a New Treatment Plant" respectively. These presentations were followed by luncheon. Then, chartered buses transported the group to the new plant for conducted tours. An evening picnic was held at the plant. A total of over 160 people attended the conference and participated in the tour and festivities.

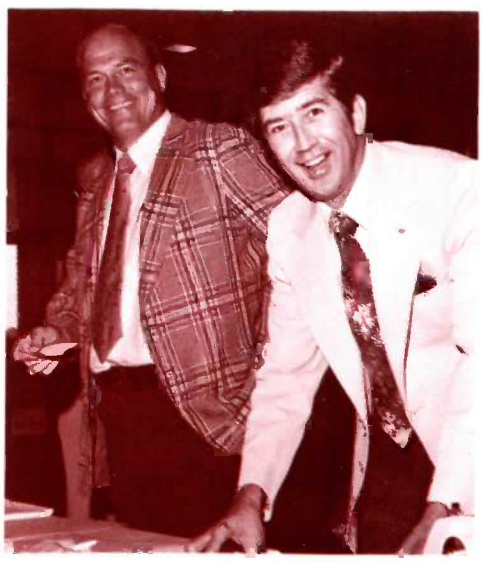
The look of the plant to the non-professional open house visitors was as striking as its technical aspects were to the engineers. Gold reflecting glass makes up the facade of the central building, and the sand-blasted concrete walls form a dynamic contrast to the glassed entrance.

One Hundred Years Ago

Decatur has been treating water for its residents and industry since 1870, when the Decatur Waterworks was established. The city's population then was 7,161. Then as now, the growth of local industry was the most influential factor in developing a water producing system. (This water system indirectly lead to the founding of MUELLER CO. See page 10.)

The first system in Decatur consisted of a few water mains supplied by a 0.5 MGD Cameron pump installed in a well near the intersection of Wood Street and Broadway. When this supply proved inadequate, the construction of a river intake and pumping station was begun, in 1871. Three pumps and a mile of water main were installed. This 12-inch cast iron main is still in service on Decatur's South Main Street.

The drought of 1871 resulted in the construction of an infiltration gallery along the river. When completed in 1874, it improved the clarity of the water and increased the quantity of water available. Four years later a wooden dam across the river channel was begun. By 1910 the city had added pumps,



Dave Resler, left, Mueller Central District Sales Manager, and Bill Coffey, Mueller Sales Representative, are seen registering for the day's events.

Getting together before the meetings start are Don Gibson, Asst. Director, Decatur Water Dept.; Dave Resler, Mueller; Bill Coffey, Mueller; W. R. O'Connell, Director, Decatur Water Dept.

View of the luncheon crowd.

Dave Resler shows some ISAWWA members how he used to put away Southern fried chicken when he was a MUELLER Sales Representative in Birmingham, Alabama.

Ed Milanski presents the history of the Decatur Water Works and the development of the North Water Treatment Plant.

A happy ISAWWA tour member lines up to receive his chicken & fixin's at the picnic which was held following the tour.

One of the three chartered buses that transported the visitors to and from the North Water Treatment Plant.

pipelines, electric generating equipment, and its first filtration plant.

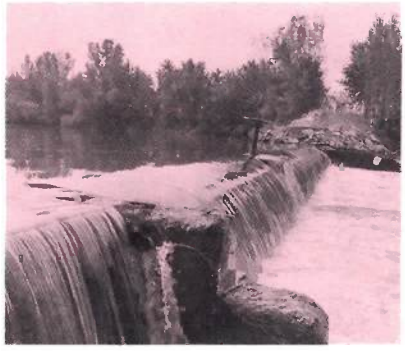
The present high dam was begun in 1920 to further increase Decatur's water supply, and storage was begun in Lake Decatur in 1922. The capacity of the water treatment and filtration plant on its banks was increased to 18 MGD by 1926, and by 1946 extensive additions and rehabilitation to the pumping station, piping, and machinery had occurred. During this time the first sedimentation survey of Lake Decatur was conducted, and subsequent tests have been made every ten years. The original water storage capacity of the lake had decreased to 65% by 1966.

In the late 1940's the plant was further improved to include recarbonation equipment and high service pumps. A prolonged drought in 1953 and 1954 resulted in a construction project to furnish bascule type movable gates on top of the spillway crest. Refined filters were among additions to the entire system made in 1955 and, in 1960, after some local controversy, fluoridation of the water system was initiated.

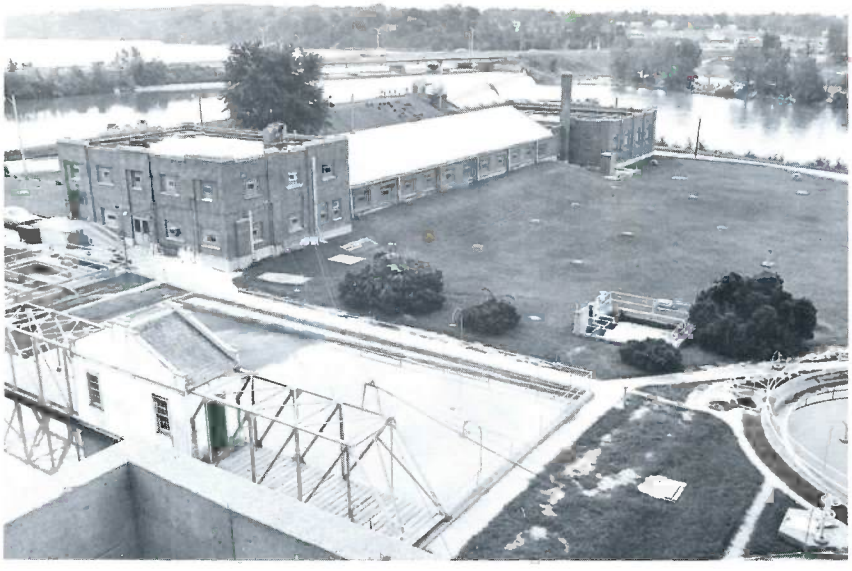
Decatur Still Pioneering

In the 1960's Decatur constructed sludge disposal lagoons to eliminate discharge water plant wastes in the Sangamon River. The construction of a filter backwash pumping station was also recommended by the city's commissioned engineering study during this time. Finally, in 1974, the Environmental Protection Agency granted the city $660,000 for the construction of the backwash facility.

The City Council authorized the preparation of a comprehensive water system report in 1968 which resulted in the construction of a 5 million gallon concrete storage reservoir completed in 1971.



Original dam built in 1878.

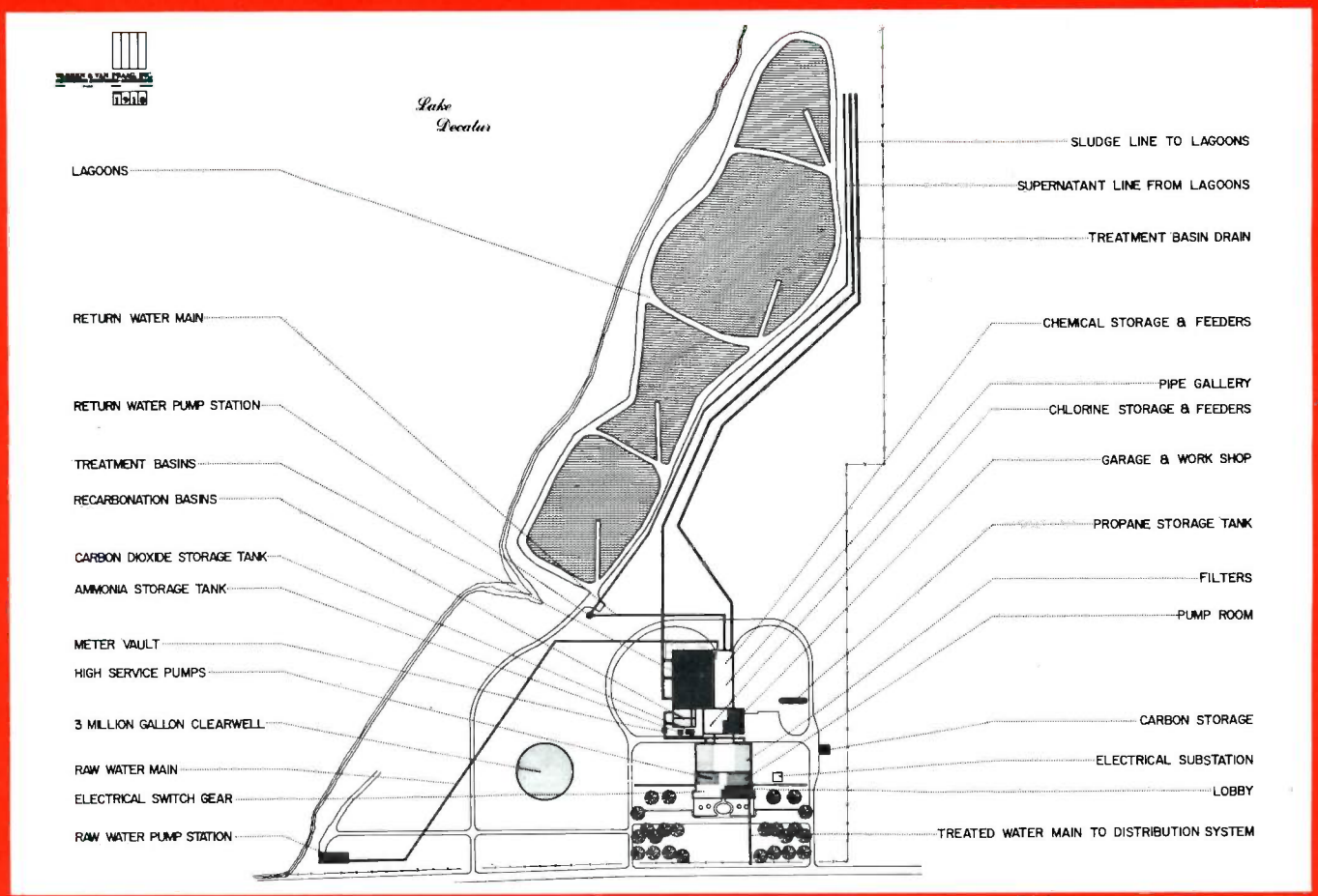


Original water treatment plant with dam and Lake Decatur in background.

But before that, in 1969, the City Council of Decatur committed the city to building a new water treatment plant in order to keep up with the growing needs of the city's residents and industries. Months were devoted to analysis of the topography of proposed sites, water quality in Lake Decatur, and treatment processes best suited to treat the type of water Decatur has. The site chosen is a triangular area bordered by Lake Decatur and near major industries. Ground breaking took place in late 1972, and today, three years later, the new treatment plant has already assumed a major role in supplying water for Decatur. W.B. Sands, Director of Public Works for the City of Decatur in discussing the North Water Treatment Plant said "It furnishes better water at higher quantities and pressures at a lesser unit cost for the Northeast portion of the City where the majority of industry is located."

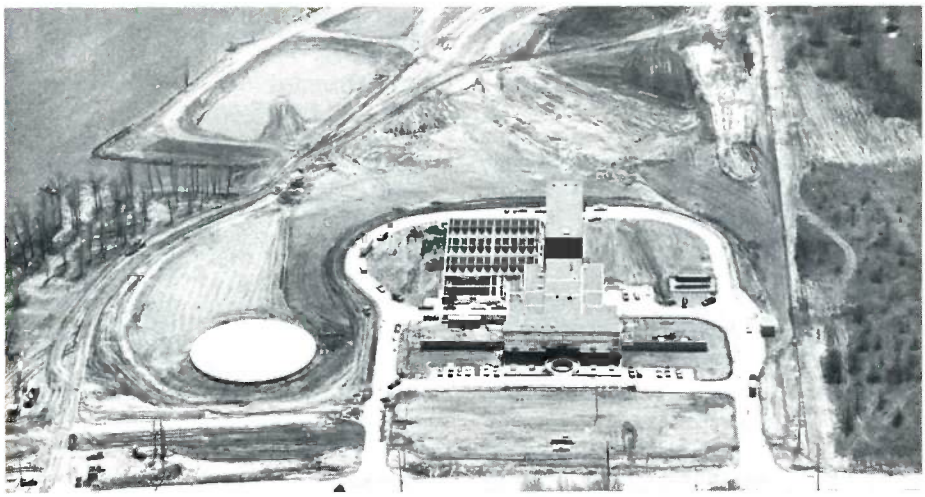
When the current improvements at the existing plant are complete, the two plants will be operated at varying rates dictated by changing demands within the community. Decatur now has the capability of supplying water so that even if the population should increase 50% or more its residents and industries can still be assured of receiving excellent water quality in sufficient quantities.

Present dam built in early 1920's located east of original dam.



Drawing of North Water Treatment Plant

Technical Information About the New Decatur North Water Treatment Plant



Aerial view of North Water Treatment Plant.

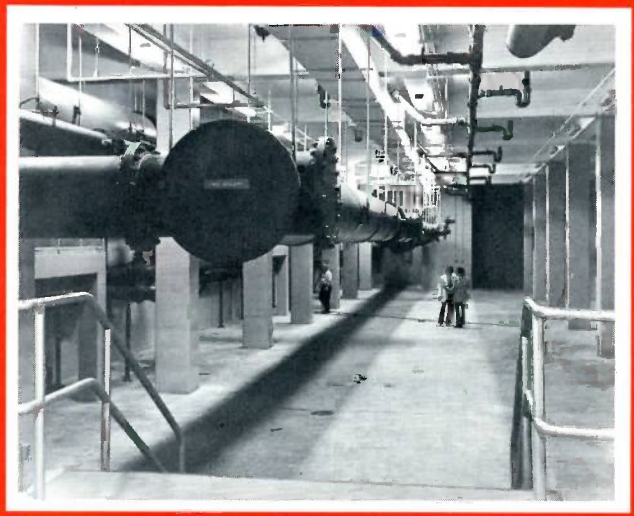
Construction

The first contact the water has with the split treatment process is at the intake line. Two 36-inch intake lines extend into Lake Decatur from the new plant. One is 300 feet long and the other is 1200, and each has an electric fish screen. The intakes are connected to the suction side of three raw water pumps located at the pump station at the northeast corner of the plant site.

Filter room.

Chemical storage.

Treatment basins.



Pipe gallery.

The raw water pump station has four levels which extend 33 feet below the ground. The bottom level houses the intake lines and three pumps. The second contains the motors and discharge piping. The third level holds the discharge header, carbon slurry tank and feeder, a copper sulfate feeder and the dehumidifier. The ground level is for the electrical switch gear and chemical storage.

Eleven hundred feet of 36-inch raw water main connect the pump station and the plant, which is built in a "T" shape. A lower level of the "T" is a pipe gallery and pump room and the ground level houses the chemical feed system, the garage and work shop, and the filter operation controls and high service pump motors. The top level includes chemical storage, laboratory, and the control panel.

The raw water enters the plant at the south end and is immediately metered; a signal from the meter is transmitted to the control panel to a rate and ratio control system. Then the water goes to the treatment basins in amounts determined by the ratio controller, which has been set by the plant operator. In most cases the center basin receives the major portion of the raw water. The treated water is collected in lateral flumes and mixed in a mixing flume. Finally it is collected and piped to the recarbonation basins.

Sludge Solution

As with all lime treatment units, there is sludge. Due to split treatment there are two kinds: the center basin produces high magnesium sludge and the exterior basins produce high calcium sludge. Because of this diversity there are separate sludge lines and lagoons; four lagoons have been constructed over ten acres.

A clear supernatant is produced as the sludge settles in the lagoons. In each lagoon the supernatant is collected by adjustable overflow pipes and returned to a return water pump station. A 1250 GPM pump lifts the supernatant back into the treatment process. Reclaiming it this way reduces the overall chemical cost because it has already been treated.

Automated Treatment

At the ground level of the treatment plant, above the pipe gallery, are the chemical feeders. There are three lime feeders, and one each for soda ash, fluoride, polyphosphate, and coagulant. Above the feeders is a bulk storage tank which is loaded with lime and soda ash from a blower truck. Alum and carbon are also delivered by tank trucks.

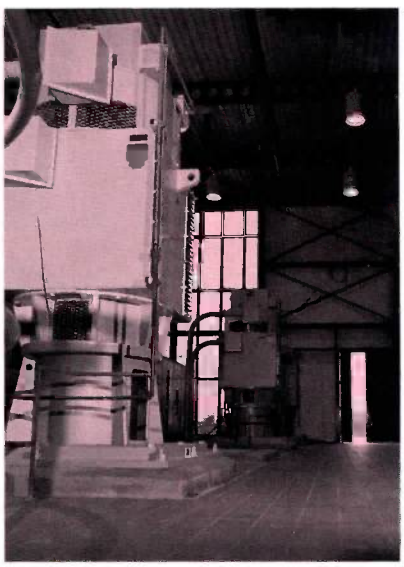
Chlorine is delivered in ton cylinders and is transferred to storage by an overhoist. Three chlorinators are connected to a distribution panel that sends chlorine to the raw water pump station, the south raw water pipe, and locations ahead of recarbonation and filters, as well as each high service pump suction. Two chlorine analyzers continuously monitor the raw water and plant effluent. Ammonia is stored in a 2000 pound tank and discharged into the wet wells at the high service pumps.

As the water enters the recarbonation basins, CO_2 gas is fed into the water through 14 carborundum tubes. It then enters a 42-inch main that leads to the filters; the water is metered at this point so the operator can determine the flow entering each filter.

The filters for this plant are two 4-cell Greenleaf filters, each composed of four 24' x 22' cells. By using these filters the need of a pipe gallery is eliminated. Flow control and backwashing are accomplished by a vacuum control system in the center of each filter. The plant operator is signaled by an electrode suspended in the filter when the water level is right for backwashing.

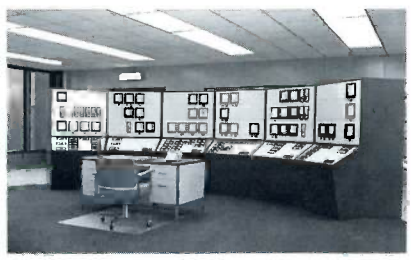
A wet well under the high service pumps receives the water after it has been through the filters. This well holds 300,000 gallons of treated water; three vertical turbine high service pumps deliver it to the distribution system.

The entire water treatment operation is controlled from the control panel above the filters. This 18-foot panel can monitor 96 operations and control 61 plant functions. A new similar supervisory panel was installed at the Lake Decatur Dam plant as well, so that the functions of Decatur's total water producing facilities are highly coordinated.

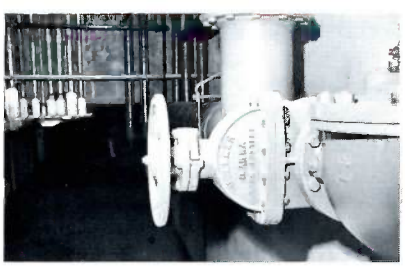


High service pump room.

Laboratory.



Control panel and office.



One of many Mueller gate valves installed in Decatur's water treatment plant.

W. B. Sands, Director of Public Works, inspects the new water treatment plant.

View of the Lobby of the new water treatment plant.

Decatur's First Water Works Led to the First Mueller Tapping Machine

H. Mueller.

It is significant that Mueller Co. products are part of the new Decatur North Water Treatment Plant since the building of the city's first water works over 100 years ago proved to be the springboard for Heironymous Mueller, the firm's founder, to become one of the principal pioneers in developing water equipment by inventing the first water main tapping machine. Here's how it all started, as related in a book issued to commemorate the company's 50th anniversary.

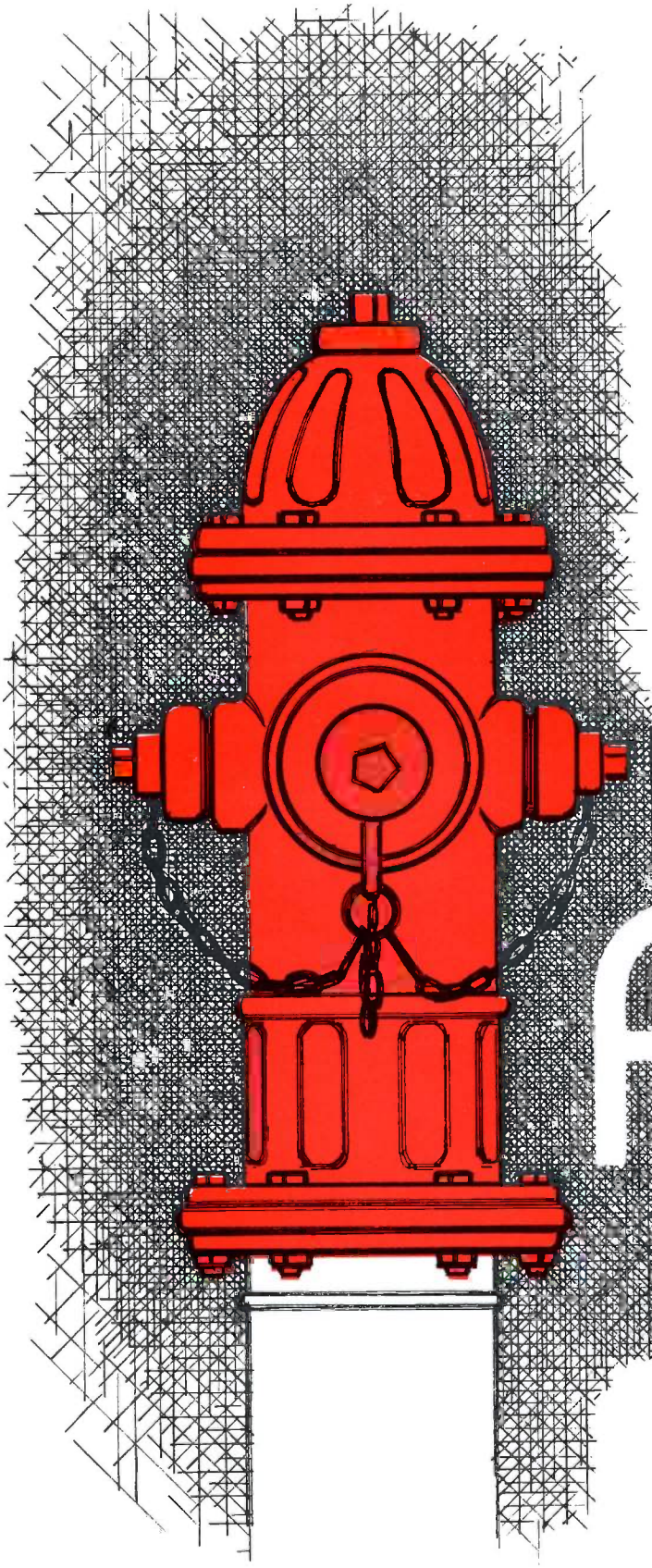
The building of the (Decatur) water works in 1870 afforded the first noteworthy opportunity for the expansion of the business and Mr. Heironymous Mueller was quick to grasp and turn it to advantage. There had previously been no need of plumbing firms in this city but the establishment of the water works created the necessity which was met and the initial step taken leading to a manufacturing enterprise. It also was the doorway leading to the first important invention—the water main tapping machine.

Martin Forstmeyer was mayor of the city and appointed Mr. Mueller as city tapper, the duties of which position consisted in making service connections with the street mains. The primitive method of making a tap was an inadequate and unmechanical operation objectionable to as finished a machinist as Mr. Mueller. A hole was drilled in the water main until only a thin piece of iron remained to retain the water in the main and with a hammer a corporation stop was driven through. In most cases before this could be done a great deal of water had escaped. One day after a workman had failed in inserting a corporation stop Mr. Mueller himself went into the trench and by the time he had succeeded found himself engulfed to the neck in water. When he finally completed the work he said: "This thing has got to stop."

From that moment until the tapping machine was a reality his mind was in a state of unrest. He concentrated his inventive power upon the one idea to the extent that some intimate with him thought it would be his mental undoing. After weeks of study he leaped from his bed one night, exclaiming vehemently, "I have got it." The perplexing problem which had befogged his mind was suddenly solved and in an instant the principle stood out plainly. Unwilling to trust his memory he seized a piece of paper and made a rough sketch of his plan. After that there never was a doubt as to the ultimate success of the tapper. The following day Mr. Mueller secured drafts of his plan and step by step the tapping machine was developed, crude at first it is true, but nonetheless effective. Improvements were made as shown necessary by actual service and it was not long before the demand for machines began. Other inventions in water works goods came more easily and rapidly.

Inability to get corporation stops to work successfully with the tapping machines resulted in the addition of a small brass foundry and making of these stops threaded to correspond to the thread of the machine tool. A couple of molders found employment in the foundry which was then regarded as a side issue. No one would then have risked the prophecy that the brass business would eventually be the leading and predominating department.

From the early developments by our founder until the present, MUELLER CO. has grown and expanded to two plants in Decatur and other plants and facilities in Chattanooga, Tennessee; Brea, California; Birmingham, Alabama; Albertville, Alabama; Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, and St. Jerome, Quebec, Canada, and has become a leading manufacturer of Distribution Products and Equipment for the Water and Gas Industries. □



The F.H.A.P. SOCIETY was formed with the single goal of establishing the common Fire Hydrant as an uncommon art form, recognized and acknowledged for its sculptural beauty and unique qualities as a true example of "form following function."

The F.H.A.P. SOCIETY had its beginning in 1969 when Harvard O'Neille, lecturing at Rice University in Houston, challenged the audience of design students to name the single most nearly-perfect example of "form following function" in a manmade object. From the response came the nucleus for what is now an international organization whose members are "connoisseurs of artistic form and creative design, lending support and encouragement to those of us who are dedicated to the appreciation and preservation of the Fire Hydrant as a true art form."

THE F.H.A.P. SOCIETY

A "F.H.A.P. FLAP" occurred within The Society when, in 1974, international headquarters of the group was moved from Dallas--where The Society was chartered in 1972--to Atlanta, Georgia. A compromise reached by the Board of Governors then established the international headquarters in Decatur, Illinois.

Since its formation in 1969 and chartering in 1972, the F.H.A.P. SOCIETY now has members in every State of the Union as well as many foreign countries. It is a non-profit organization and has no regular meetings (hence, no dues or assessments, no speakers, fundraising or membership campaigns) and no politically or socially motivated programs.

Membership to the Society is by invitation only. A F.H.A.P. Member in good standing may nominate a person for membership. If you are interested in becoming a member see your Mueller Sales Representative and he will nominate you for membership. All nominations are reviewed by the Society's Board of Governors and accepted for membership or rejected. Their decision on whether or not a person qualifies for membership is final. However, rejection does not mean that a person cannot be renominated at a later date and be accepted if his or her qualifications have changed.

On January 27, 1975, for the first time in F.H.A.P. SOCIETY History the Society held what is hoped to be an annual F.H.A.P. SOCIETY NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD LUNCHEON. The Luncheon was held in the Board of Directors Room at the popular Chattanooga Choo Choo Restaurant in Chattanooga, Tennessee. (See story on page 16.)

The Founder of the F.H.A.P. SOCIETY was introduced after the following words by the F.H.A.P. SOCIETY'S International Secretary, Host, and Master of Ceremonies, W.E. Murphy.

"We are met for the purpose of expressing

Recipient of the First Annual F.H.A.P. National Achievement Award for 1974 is Jason Williamson, (second from left) Memphis artist, for his painting in the foreground entitled "Fire Eaters". The award was made at the first annual F.H.A.P. Society National Award Luncheon, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Shown with Williamson are, (left to right) Earl E. Bright, Plant Manager of MUELLER CO.'s Chattanooga plant, Harvard O'Neille, F.H.A.P. Founder, and W.E. Murphy, International Secretary of F.H.A.P. The photo was appropriately taken following the luncheon next to a Mueller Fire Hydrant.

W.E. Murphy, International Secretary of F.H.A.P. and Executive Vice President of MUELLER CO., addresses the first annual F.H.A.P. Society National Achievement Award Luncheon at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Restaurant in Chattanooga, Tenn. Others shown here are, (left to right) Chattanooga Commissioner of Fire and Police Gene Roberts, Chattanooga Commissioner of Public Utilities Steve Conrad and George Piper, Chattanooga Mueller Plant Sales Office Manager.

appreciation for an object that has become an important part of our culture and our time—the fire hydrant.

"While the fire hydrant should be technically termed an inanimate object, composed of parts made from iron, steel, brass, rubber and other materials, it has an animate character and purpose, and it certainly represents and portrays a very animate group of persons who, over the past century, have contributed to the design, development, production, installation, and usage of the object of our appreciation.

"That the appreciation we are here to note and record is shared by many is a little noted fact. Let me illustrate. First, the valiant members of our Fire Departments in all temperatures and weather conditions must be quick and responsive to check the ravages of a fire. The hydrant must be as quick and responsive, and in all extremes of weather too. Thus the fireman holds a true sense of appreciation for the fire hydrant.

"In a like manner, the Water Department furnishing the water to fight a fire appreciates a hydrant that performs as expected, lasts almost forever, protects the quality of the potable water supply, calls for little maintenance, and has an affordable valve cost.

"The home owner, whose property is protected, and whose insurance cost is lowered by the proximity of a hydrant is an appreciator.

"On a very warm day in mid-summer in a hot city where the city fathers have provided a spray nozzle to cool a bunch of hot kids at the fire hydrants brings another group of appreciators to mind.

"Creative appreciation was expressed by some Indiana women who were weary with bridge and macrame. They sought to beautify their neighborhood and were inspired to paint the hydrants in their yards to resemble people. (Editor's Note--F.H.A.P. is not truly in favor of this activity for we feel the true beauty of the hydrant is fully represented in its form, design, construction, all of which follow function. At the same time, F.H.A.P. is not taking a negative attitude toward this activity, feeling that it is basically harmless, and it is one further way a fire hydrant can be useful in bringing pleasure and comfort to people.)

"In the Mardi Gras in New Orleans, one man designed and wore a costume that made him a moving and living hydrant. The list of appreciators could go on and on. . .if we had time, but today we are gathered to pay honor to one man, selected as the winner of the First Annual F.H.A.P. Award of Merit. His appreciation has been evidenced in the art medium. He has created the beautiful water color on display here which is inspired by and has as its central theme a fire hydrant--assisting a fire captain in his noble task of fire fighting."

After a review of the history of the Society, its purpose, goals, etc., Founder O'Neille introduced the awardee, artist Jason Williamson of Memphis, Tennessee, owner of the Golden Fleece Art Gallery, and presented him with the SOCIETY'S 1974 NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD SCROLL. In doing so, O'Neille remarked, "Jason Williamson has furthered the cause of Fire Hydrant Appreciation through his inventive genius and unique creativity in the field of Fire Hydrant Art, truly exemplifying the F.H.A.P. SOCIETY credo of members dedicated to the recognition of the Fire Hydrant as a true art form."

O'Neille then presented Williamson with an engraved ceramic replica of one of the most beautiful fire hydrants in use today and unveiled for the members of the press and other luncheon guests the watercolor painted by Williamson which won him the F.H.A.P. SOCIETY Award.

Artist Jason Williamson proudly displays the F.H.A.P. 1974 Achievement Award Scroll he received on the left. In the photo on right, the special engraved ceramic fire hydrant lamp he received in appreciation of his painting "Fire Eaters" which in O'Neille's words, ". . .has furthered the cause of Fire Hydrant Appreciation. . ."

Entitled "FIRE EATERS," the powerfully dynamic painting features a Fire Department Captain opening the valve of a Mueller Fire Hydrant, surrounded by the smoke and flames of a raging fire. Model for the painting is Memphis Fire Department Captain Graline Brawneer who is pictured in full fire-fighting regalia.

The watercolor has been purchased by MUELLER CO. (W.E. Murphy is also Executive Vice-President of MUELLER CO., the world's largest manufacturer of Fire Hydrants) as the nucleus of MUELLER CO.'S permanent collection of Fire Hydrant Art.

Williamson, in a surprise move after accepting his awards, made a presentation of his own on behalf of the Board of Governors of the F.H.A.P. SOCIETY. He presented to W.E. Murphy a certificate which acknowledged his election as the first F.H.A.P. FELLOW to be honored by the SOCIETY. Murphy, a long time advocate and champion of FIRE HYDRANT-PHOBIA, was obviously moved by the unexpected honor.

Runners-up in the competition for National Achievement Awardee were Ruth von Karowsky of South Bend, Indiana, and Mario Espinosa of New Orleans. Mrs. von Karowsky is the person responsible for designing patterns by which fire hydrants can be painted to resemble American Revolutionary War Heroes as part of the nation's Bicentennial Celebration. Espinosa received national attention when, in the 1974 Mardi Gras Festival Parade he was costumed as a Fire Hydrant.

Hugh Park, Columnist for the ATLANTA JOURNAL, received Honorable Mention, along with columnists Dick Hitt of the DALLAS TIMES HERALD and Allison Sanders of the HOUSTON CHRONICLE--for his feature story entitled "Harvard O'Neille's Crusade." National attention was first focused on the Society as a result of Hitt's TIMES HERALD column labeled "A Serious Case of Hydrantphobia"' and his subsequent and controversial exposure of "The FLAP over F.H.A.P." Allison Sanders is president of the Houston Chapter of The F.H.A.P. SOCIETY and in August of 1973 first raised a question regarding needless embellishment of Fire Hydrants with his remarks published in THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE under the heading "Patriotic Fireplugs?"

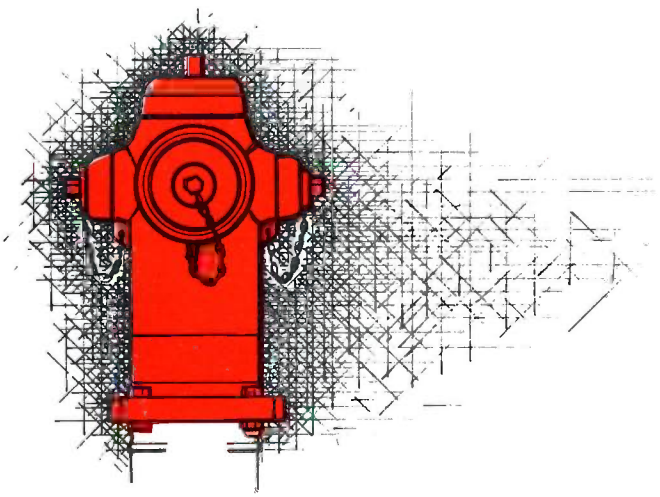
Among those attending the Award Luncheon in addition to Williamson, Murphy and O'Neille were Mrs. Peggy Williamson, who is also an artist, Warren D. Crawford, Decatur, Illinois who is General Sales Manager for MUELLER CO., Earl E. Bright, Plant Manager for MUELLER CO. in Chattanooga, Ed Limbach, Manager of Tennessee American Water Company, Chattanooga Fire Chief W.H. Jett, Chattanooga Commissioner of Fire & Police Gene Roberts, Chattanooga Commissioner of Public Utilities Steve Conrad, representatives of the press, and a number of other F.H.A.P. Members. Many of those present, who were obviously interested in the F.H.A.P. SOCIETY, were honored by being made F.H.A.P. SOCIETY Members.

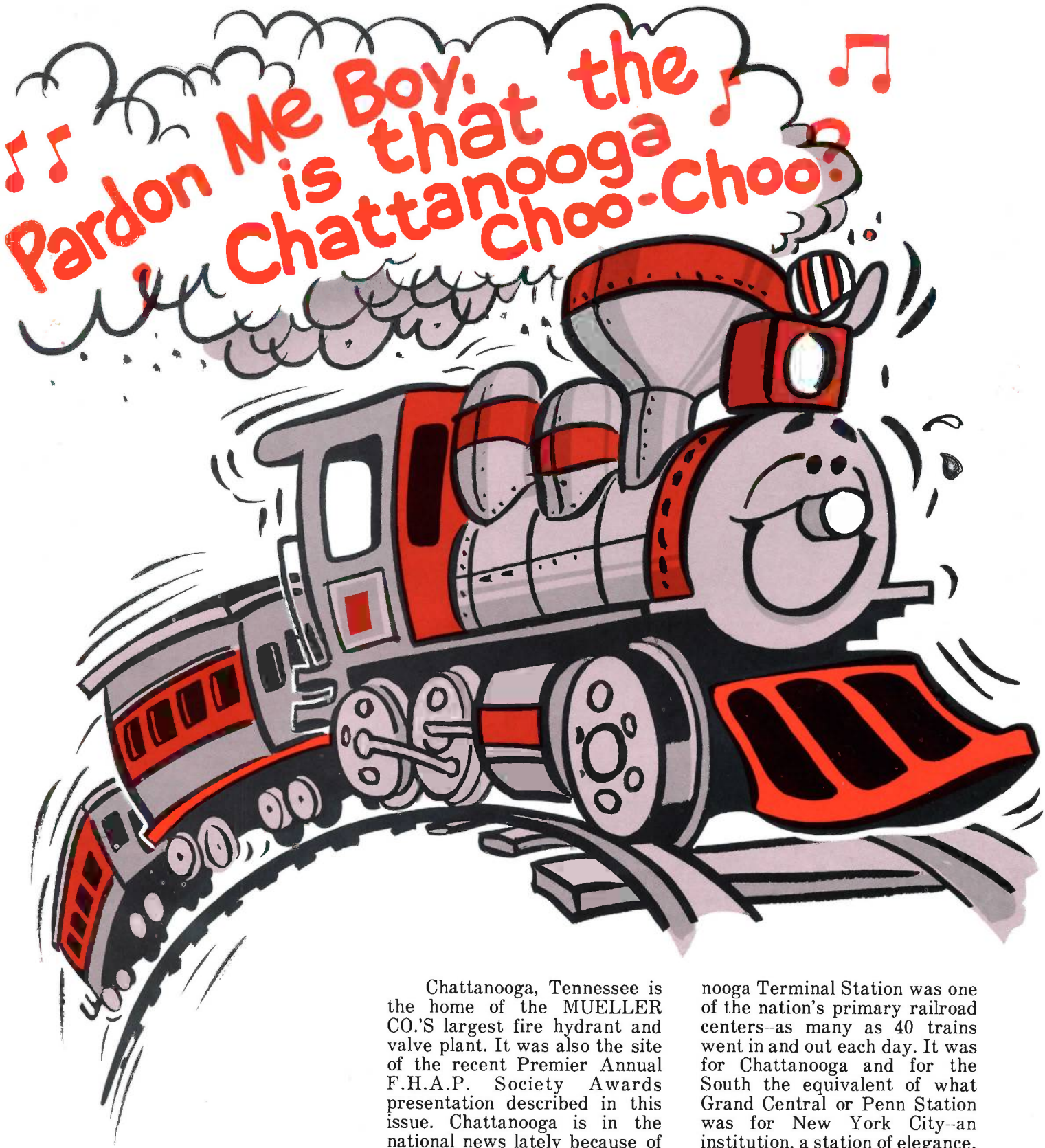
In a surprise move, Artist Jason Williamson, recipient of the F.H.A.P. 1974 National Achievement Award, presents F.H.A.P. International Secretary W.E. Murphy with a certificate which acknowledged Murphy's election as the first F.H.A.P. FELLOW.

"As art director for a number of nationwide companies and publications and as a member of the American Watercolor Society (he was the first president of the Tennessee Watercolor Society) I have received many valued honors and awards," Williamson commented after the awards ceremonies, "but to be singled out as the 1974 Awardee of the F.H.A.P. SOCIETY is perhaps the high point of my artistic career. Fire Hydrants will continue to be a favored and meaningful subject to me."

After the Luncheon the following comments were made and recorded: Why was artist Williamson chosen for the honor this year? "His painting of the 'FIRE EATERS' shows what the fire hydrant is all about. . ." said O'Neille. "The fireman faces danger, and saves lives and property in all types of weather," put in Murphy, "and so does the fire hydrant." "Form follows function, and we believe that there is no other sculpture, be it milk bottle or Grecian urn, that so well achieves its purpose while remaining a thing of beauty, as the fire hydrant," added O'Neille.

"We applaud the efforts of Ruth von Karowsky of Indiana, who paints the hydrants there to honor various American Revolutionary War heroes," said founder O'Neille, "but we feel that the hydrant needs no such embellishment." Another person nominated for the coveted first National Achievement Award was Mario Espinosa. "Mr. Espinosa had the right idea when he dressed himself as a 'living fire hydrant' at last year's Mardi Gras," explained Mr. Murphy. "But he really lost the award when he dressed small children as dogs and had them follow him around," said Mr. O'Neille. "As you know, we don't think that's very funny."





Chattanooga, Tennessee is the home of the MUELLER CO.'S largest fire hydrant and valve plant. It was also the site of the recent Premier Annual F.H.A.P. Society Awards presentation described in this issue. Chattanooga is in the national news lately because of something else, however: the city's abandoned railroad depot has been converted into the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Hilton Inn complex, one of the nation's most exciting and popular new entertainment attractions.

In its heyday, the Chattanooga Terminal Station was one of the nation's primary railroad centers--as many as 40 trains went in and out each day. It was for Chattanooga and for the South the equivalent of what Grand Central or Penn Station was for New York City--an institution, a station of elegance, a source of civic pride for the community. And in 1975, 66 years after its construction and after its eventual abandonment due to the decline in railroad travel, the station is again a bustling source of pride for the Tennessee city.

Condemned in 1970

The decision to tear down the terminal in 1970 prompted a Chattanooga businessman, B. Allen Casey, to develop a plan involving the Hilton Inn and the Southern Railroad, to restore the station to Victorian-style splendor and turn it into a family entertainment complex. In the first year after opening in April, 1973, the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Company drew more than one million people for meals alone.

Something for Everyone

Visitors to the complex can stay in authentic sleeping parlor cars on the original Chattanooga tracks; the modernized cars are part of the Hilton Motor Inn on the site. The elegantly redecorated main terminal building houses two of several dining areas. The Grand Dome dining room is thought to be the world's highest free standing dome--85 feet from the floor to the dome of the former main waiting room—and with the Palm Terrace it seats 1300 people.

Flanking the main terminal in what formerly were baggage and freight handling facilities is a series of specialized shops, carefully chosen by developers for their uniqueness. Included is a Sasparilla and Sweet Shop, a train shop for model train enthusiasts, and a shop selling only hand-made dolls. The modern 103-room Hilton Inn sits about 1000 feet down the tracks from the terminal building. The tracks themselves are now formal gardens with fountains and gas lights.

The palm Terrace was once the main concourse of Southern Railway's Terminal Station. Today, gazebos, plantings, a 40-foot waterfall, and 1200 trellis lights make this award-winning room a favorite setting for lunch and dinner.

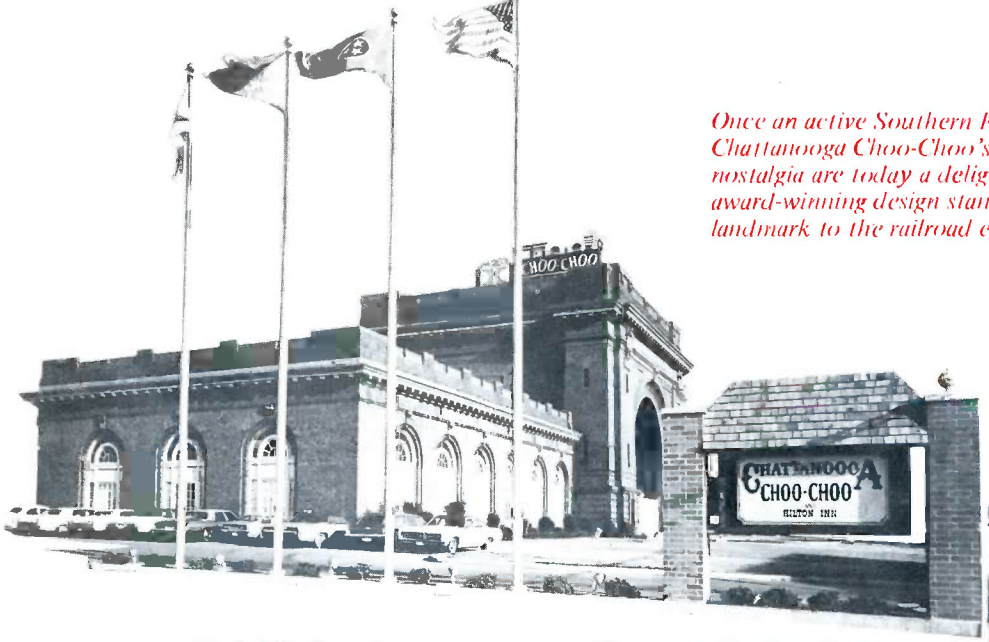
The Authentic Trains

The main attraction is the Chattanooga Choo-Choo itself, an old locomotive similar to the one that pulled the first passenger train from Chattanooga to Cincinnati on March 5, 1880. On the track next to it, travelers can enjoy cocktails in the refurbished club car from the original Wabash Cannonball.

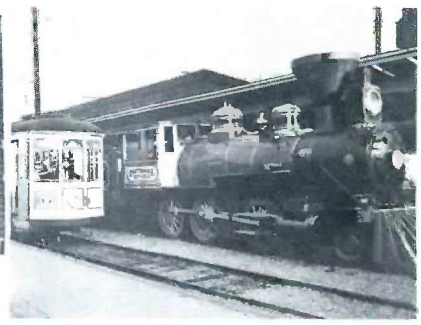
Down the way a bit is the Savannah, Franklin D. Roosevelt's private car during his first term as president. On other sidings, across the rail yard, are the 24 sleeping cars each divided into two handsome 40 by 10-foot suites, decorated in the Victorian manor, so today's rail buffs can have a taste of what it was like to travel by luxurious private cars at the turn of the century.

There is also the Station House lounge, which offers live nightly entertainment, a tiny movie theater that shows a 35-minute film on trains, and for kids of all ages, a model railroad that will be the largest in the world when it's completed next year.

The Victorian Salon, once the Station Master's office, now provides visitors with the luxurious atmosphere of the Gay 90's. Situated between the Palm Terrace and the Grand Dome, the Victorian Salon is the perfect place to meet friends for cocktails and relaxation.



Once an active Southern Railway station, the Chattanooga Choo-Choo's 24-acres of beauty and nostalgia are today a delight to young and old. The award-winning design stands majestically as a landmark to the railroad era of the 1800's and 1900's.



While visiting the Chattanooga Choo-Choo, one enjoys riding on America's only 5¢ Trolley ride through formal gardens and past the Chattanooga Choo-Choo steam locomotive. The conductor is an ordained orthodox rabbi.

Model Railroad

The Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club is building the HO gauge model. The club members have already put in 8000 man hours and spent over $10,000 (provided by the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Company.) When it's finished the model will have the scaled down equivalent of 3500 miles of model railroad track, 100 locomotives, 600 cars, and 250 or more structures. The display consists of a model of Chattanooga's Terminal and Union stations at one end and Cincinnati's Union Terminal at the other. This symbolizes the fact that the first train out of the Southern Terminal when it opened in 1909, left Chattanooga for Cincinnati. Years before, in the 1880's, the first passenger train left Cincinnati for Chattanooga, a journalist dubbed it the "Chattanooga Choo-Choo"--and that's when it all began.

Five-cent Trolley Ride

Another popular attraction is a ride on the Canal St. Trolley. This authentic New Orleans streetcar built in 1924 runs around the rail yard providing novel entertainment as it ferries guests from the Hilton Inn to the restaurant and shopping area.

A lot of the fun in riding comes from meeting the conductor, 35-year-old David Steinberg, who is an ordained orthodox rabbi and a recognized ferreoquinologist (rail fan and scholar). A veritable walking encyclopedia on the history of transportation, with a sense of humor to match, the bearded Steinberg wears an old-fashioned conductor's outfit and talks all day with interested tourists. He wrote a book on the history of Chattanooga streetcars and a thesis on all the depots and stations in the city, which developer Casey read. These studies got the two men together and Casey hired the rabbi at the beginning of the restoration.

The Choo-Choo Hilton Inn offers its guests the unique experience of spending the night aboard a real railroad parlor car decorated in the elegant style of the Victorian era. The railroad cars are situated alongside the formal gardens of the 24-acre Chattanooga Choo-Choo complex.

Plans for the Future

Allen Casey is planning to add 100 rooms to the motor inn at the terminal, and he's hoping to turn an old warehouse across the street into a convention center and banquet hall seating 1000 people. He is pleased with the effect that the entire Choo-Choo project has had on its surrounding area, which is the downtown area of a large city with its share of urban problems.

"One of the appeals for our investors was that they felt it would be a catalyst for the downtown area," Allen said. "Now it's just been announced that a new $5 million library will be built a few blocks away, and a new coliseum and convention hall is being planned also nearby." He added happily, "Everyone in Chattanooga is very proud of the Choo-Choo. When they have guests, they bring them here. I'm like a little boy with a big train set. I don't know of anybody who enjoys coming to work every morning as much as I do." [ ]

INDUSTRY NEWS

AWWA EXCEEDS BUILDING FUND GOAL

R.J. (Mike) Davoust of Chicago (left), Building Fund Chairman, and C.A. (Charlie) Black of Boco Raton, Fla., President of the AWWA, proudly display the 'score' board which shows that the AWWA exceeded its $580,-000 Building Fund Goal. The fund drive, which was for the new headquarters building in Denver, Colo., went "over the top" at an appropriate time--during the annual AWWA Convention this past June.

Mueller Ripples

BEER HYDRANTS DON'T QUENCH FIRES. . .JUST THIRST

When the New Hampshire State Fireman's Association held its convention in Merrimack, N.H. this fall, the registrants quenched their thirsts on beer that flowed from a Mueller Fire Hydrant. Working with the nearby Budweiser Brewery, the Merrimack Fire Department rigged up the Mueller Hydrant in the registrant tent to dispense Bud through the pumper nozzle. . .spigot handle and all. To go with the beer, the Merrimack fire fighters had a big steak and chicken barbeque going on, on the adjoining fire house grounds.

Also featured at the convention was an exhibit of over 50 pieces of fire fighting equipment and related items, special competition for such things as the oldest and newest pieces of equipment and a big banquet on the last night.

The Merrimack Fire Department put a special effort in putting on the convention since it was the department's 50th anniversary. And to top it all off, Merrimack Fire Chief Herb Duxbury was elected president of the association for the coming year.

General Edward Haseltine (left), plant manager of the Merrimack Budweiser Brewery; Merrimack Fire Chief Herb Duxbury (center) and Mueller Co. Sales Representative Jim McClintick (second from right) serve Budweiser Beer from the Mueller 'Beer' Hydrant to two registrants at the New Hampshire State Fireman's Association Convention, Bill Umbreight (second from left) and Al Lash (right).

SPECIAL EDITORIAL

As many of you are aware, MUELLER CO. is a leading manufacturer for the Gas Industry as well as the Water Industry.

In August, MUELLER CO. started a special advertising program to urge our readers to write their Congressman, members of the administration and the press asking for favorable support and action on decontrol of wellhead gas prices. We are convinced that in the long run this will:

1) ease the energy crisis
2) provide more employment
3) reduce critical material shortages
4) reduce foreign energy dependence.

We have had some wonderful responses to this program and some action has been taken in the Senate, but a lot more voices from the voters must be heard by our representatives if the goal of DECONTROL is to be reached. YOU CAN HELP!

How can you help? Write your Congressman!

A small booklet prepared by us lists all the pertinent information you might need and what actions you as voters must take to let the members of Congress know how you feel.

Simply write the Editor of the MUELLER RECORD and he will be happy to send you a copy. A portion of our original ad is shown on this page.

If we can get Congress to decontrol the wellhead price of new gas now, we'll get:

more energy which means

- ☐ **more jobs**
- ☐ **more and better new products**
- ☐ **more housing**
- ☐ **more impetus for our economy**

It's true. By decontrolling the wellhead price of new gas, we can achieve all of these things, and at a surprisingly low increase in cost.

More available gas (and it is there in known reserves) not only solves the energy crisis by taking pressure off of oil consumption, but helps industry to expand, increases housing starts, permits new product development and creates jobs in all of these areas.

Natural gas accounts for ⅓ of our nation's energy requirements. And 50% of our industrial economy runs on natural gas. So it is of the utmost importance that this nation provide the proper economic incentives for the development of new natural gas sources to keep our economy moving ahead.

BUT, because of the tight rein federal legislation holds on the wellhead price of new gas, no developer has the incentive to tap the over 600 trillion cubic feet of gas in our known reserves. If we don't start tapping them soon, we run the risk of sliding further into a recessive economy with its attendant disasters—rising unemployment, greater welfare costs, more factory closings and all the other deterrents to maintaining and advancing our standard of living.

We must decontrol now! It's later than Congress thinks!

Only the Federal Government, through Congress and the Federal Power Commission, has the power to solve this problem before it is too late. Already the shortage of natural gas has reached crisis proportions in many industrial areas, causing plant closings and unemployment. By the end of summer, we will be almost 30% short of the supplies we need to keep our economy moving. Next winter, if it's a cold one, plants will close and homes will be cold—and the following year it will be even worse—unless Congress acts now! There is no valid reason other than politics for several hundred people in Washington to stand in the way of the progress and comfort of over 200 million Americans.

You can help

We urge you and all your friends to write, wire, call or buttonhole your Congressman and tell him to get busy and repeal the control on wellhead prices of new gas. To help you do that, if you do not already have facts handy to tell them, we have prepared a booklet that lists the important Congressional committees who influence energy legislation, and their chairmen; statistics you can quote proving the necessity to increase gas availability for our economy; trade paper editors you can write to urge stronger editorial cooperation in the fight; a reprint of a series of talks, given before a series of audiences—including some Congressional committees, by C.J. Gauthier, Chairman of Northern Illinois Gas Company; and a special button for your lapel which bears the message DECONTROL GAS ENERGY. Let us send you this booklet and button right away. Remember, even if your Congressman agrees with the industry spokesmen, he isn't going to vote to decontrol until he hears from you—the voter. The cost is small (the fact book tells the story), the need is great and time is short. Do it *NOW*.

MUELLER NEWS

THE MUELLER CO. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Seated from Left to Right) Harlan A. White, Bessie I. Mueller, Lenore Mueller Schmick, Frank H. Mueller, Robert V. Krikorian, Adolph Mueller II, A.E. Staley III. (Standing from Left to Right) Dudley J. Godfrey, Jr., John A. Schluter, William E. Murphy, John S. Mueller, Philip M. Mueller. Adolph Mueller II, A.E. Staley III, John A. Schluter, John S. Mueller, and Philip M. Mueller are the Great-Grandsons of the Founder of MUELLER CO.

MUELLER CO. RE-ELECTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of MUELLER CO. Mr. John S. Mueller, business consultant, was elected to fill a vacancy which existed on the Board of Directors. Others re-elected to the board were Dudley J. Godfrey, Jr., Robert V. Krikorian, Adolph Mueller II, Mrs. Bessie I. Mueller, Frank H. Mueller, Philip M. Mueller, William E. Murphy, John A. Schluter, Mrs. Lenore Mueller Schmick, A.E. Staley III, and Harlan A. White.

John S. Mueller is a graduate of Michigan State University and attended law school at Hastings in San Francisco. His business consulting firm is located in Tiburon, California.

The following MUELLER CO. officers were elected at the Board of Directors meeting which immediately followed the annual meeting of shareholders:

Frank H. Mueller	Chairman of the Board
Harlan A. White	President and Chief Executive Officer
William E. Murphy	Executive Vice President
W.R. Leopold	Vice President-Operations
Charles W. Moore	Vice President - Manufacturing
Robert W. Mallow	Secretary-Treasurer
Dan L. Carlson	Assistant Secretary

MUELLER LIMITED ELECTS DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Members of the Board of Directors of Mueller, Limited, Sarnia, Ontario, who were elected at the shareholder's annual meeting are C.S. Browett, Harry J. Dowding, W.R. Leopold, George McAvity, Frank H. Mueller, R.M. Nicolson, and Harlan A. White. W.R. Leopold, Vice President-Operations, for the parent MUELLER CO., was elected to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of L.R. Huff.

The following officers were elected following the shareholder's meeting:

Harlan A. White	Chairman of the Board
George McAvity	President and Chief Executive Officer
R.M. Nicolson	Vice President
Harry J. Dowding	Manufacturing Manager
C.S. Browett	Secretary-Treasurer
Kenneth Romphf	Asst. Secretary-Treasurer

LEOPOLD

MALLOW

CARLSON

HUFF

FLOREN

W. R. LEOPOLD

W. R. Leopold was elected to the newly created officer position of Vice President-Operations by the Mueller Co. Board of Directors at the company's annual meeting held in Decatur on February 13. Leopold previously held the position of Vice President-Engineering.

In his new position as Vice President-Operations, Mr. Leopold will have overall responsibility for all engineering and manufacturing operations of the U.S. plants. In addition, he will exercise general supervision over the Company's Canadian subsidiary, Mueller, Limited.

Leopold joined Mueller Co. in 1956, coming to Decatur from Stratford, Conn. where he was senior engineer--special projects for Lycoming Division of AVCO.

He is originally from Newark, N.J., and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, and a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N.J. He was named a Fellow by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in 1972, and received the Edwin Church award in 1973 for his work in engineering education. Also in 1973, he was made an honorary member of Pi Tau Sigma, a national engineering honorary fraternity at the University of Illinois, and an Eminent Member of Tau Beta Pi, a national honorary science fraternity at Rose-Hulman Institute.

ROBERT W. MALLOW

Robert W. Mallow, assistant secretary and budget director, has become Secretary-Treasurer.

Mallow joined MUELLER CO. in 1956 as an internal auditor. In 1958 he was promoted to plant controller, in 1959 was promoted to budget director and was elected assistant secretary in 1970. He is a native of Urbana, Illinois and a graduate of the University of Illinois.

He was associated with the accounting firm of Gauger and Diehl before joining MUELLER CO.

Mallow has been active in community programs, serving on the city council and the budget committee of the Decatur and Macon County United Fund.

DAN L. CARLSON

Dan L. Carlson, internal auditor at Mueller Co. since 1972, has been promoted to the position of general controller and assistant secretary, reporting to the president.

Carlson, a native of Galesburg, Illinois, graduated from the University of Iowa and is a certified public accountant. Prior to joining Mueller Co. he was with Hyster Company serving as budget and cost supervisor, plant controller and was corporate cost accounting director for world wide operations at the home office in Portland, Oregon.

LYLE R. HUFF

Lyle R. Huff, vice president and secretary-treasurer, retired from MUELLER CO. on January 31, 1975. At that time Lyle had completed almost 25 years of service with the company in the Financial Division.

He was elected to the Board of Directors of MUELLER, LIMITED, Sarnia, Ontario in 1962, and a vice president of MUELLER CO. in 1965.

Before coming to MUELLER CO. he was an auditor for Phillips Petroleum Company, an instructor in accounting and business law at the University of Illinois, and a member of the staff of the accounting firm of Gauger and Diehl.

CARL E. FLOREN

Carl E. Floren has been promoted to the newly created position of Technical Director—Engineering Division of Mueller Co. Floren, who has a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Southern California, joined the California Plant of Mueller Co. in 1951 and was transferred to Decatur in 1953. He has served in various engineering capacities during which he has received numerous patents, and has been Chief Engineer—R & D for the past six years. Active in many technical societies, he is currently Chairman of the South Central Group—Central Section of the ASME.

When a Texas school class was told that the next day they would learn to draw, 18 youngsters showed up with pistols.

And then there was the new bride who went through 6 boxes of cake mix trying to concoct a birthday cake for her husband. Every time she put the cake in the oven, the candles would melt.

off the Record

The cart in the supermarket is the most expensively run vehicle in the world.

Bride: We're out of ice cubes.
Groom: How come? Did you lose the recipe?

One problem of retirement: You have more time to read what your problems are.

A heavy drinker was warned by his doctor that he was suffering from too much water in his body. "That's impossible," said a close buddy, "you don't drink any water - all you drink is booze."
"I know," said the tippler. "It must be those darned ice cubes."

To make a long story short, there's nothing like the boss walking in.

An adult is a man who has stopped growing at both ends, but not in the middle.

Weather forecasting has been speeded up but it is still several hours behind arthritis.

Send your oil driller a "get-well" card today.

"What do you get when you cross a rooster with a gorilla?"
"I don't know but when it wakes you up in the morning, you'd better get up."

Hard work will never hurt you, unless it's the hard work of your competitor.

A man is known by the company he thinks nobody knows he's keeping.

Japan has solved its energy crisis. It is going to import 200 billion tons of sand from Saudi Arabia and drill for its own oil.

Father: "Grab a snow shovel and give me a hand."
Teenage son: "Okay, but where do I plug it in?"

America has oil wells that are untapped and phones that are.

After buying a $50,000 insurance policy before a plane trip, a salesman stepped on a nearby scale. Out came one of those fortune-telling cards. It read: "A recent investment may pay big dividends."

With corruption in government, crime, inflation, kidnappings, skyjackings, shortages, etc., it was much more peaceful when we were at war.

Last Feb. 13, a divorce lawyer in Miami sent out 2500 Valentines to businessmen dipped in French perfume and signed, "Guess who?"

The best way for a man to avoid getting up in the morning with a grouch, is to get up before she does.

What's wrong with working for chicken feed? Today it's worth $14 a bushel.

If you think there's no one who cares if you're alive, don't file your income tax and see what happens.

All work and no play makes Jack a favorite with the IRS.

Why do those sheiks need all that oil money? It's 95 degrees there most of the time and their wives wouldn't know what to do with a fur coat.

Steno: "Why did you give up your water bed?"
Typist: "Harold and I were drifting apart."

It is selling that makes the world go round. Not love. Love just keeps it populated.

Where there's smoke, there's too much energy being wasted.

UNSYMPATHETIC MANAGER
The Yankees once had a rookie who was having a lot of trouble handling fly balls. At the end of one inning in which he had flubbed a couple of flies, the rookie said to Casey Stengel, "Those cross winds are really giving me trouble." "Son," said Stengel, "those aren't cross winds, those are trade winds - and you're going to be traded by nightfall."

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