

NEWSLETTER

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STRIKE CONTINUES IN CHATTANOOGA

(Chattanooga) . . . The strike at the Mueller Co. plant in Chattanooga continues with no significant developments to report at this time. Three unions representing the majority of production workers have been on strike since their contracts expired June 6.

A large portion of the brass and iron production in the Decatur Foundry is normally used in Chattanooga and as a result of the work stoppage there about 125 workers at Plant 4 in Decatur have been working only four days for a number of weeks.

The union contract limits to five the number of weeks that the work schedule can be cut to 32 hours. The contract reads: "It is agreed the work week may be cut to thirty-two (32) hours in a department in order to maintain a working force for a period of five weeks during a calendar year, but after the exhaustion of this five (5) week period it is agreed that the working forces should be cut and a forty (40) hour week will be maintained for the employees with the greatest seniority unless both parties mutually agree to a further reduction in the work week."

This defined limit was reached the week of July 20, but orders for castings were at a sufficient level following plant vacation shut-down that it was necessary for the foundry to work five days during the week of July 27.

Future foundry schedules will be worked out according to casting needs and as mutually agreed to by the company and union, pending the resumption of work in Chattanooga.

FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

(Decatur) . . . William R. Knorr, formerly products manager for the Headquarters Sales Division, was promoted July 1 to the newly created position of sales training coordinator. His primary duty will be product instruction and familiarization, plus coordinating with the general sales manager such phases of the sales training program as company indoctrination, in-plant training, sales policies and procedure and field training.

Arvil D.E. (Gene) Hullinger, formerly senior industrial engineer, was promoted July 13 to manager of industrial engineering in Decatur. He succeeds Thomas C. Gerstner who resigned to accept a job with a company in Syracuse, Indiana.

Dan N. Morris, formerly computer operator, has been promoted to programmer trainee in the Data Processing Section, effective July 7.

MUELLER IS A "GOOD" COMPANY

"Mueller is a good company because it makes good products," was a comment made recently.

The speaker wasn't referring to Mueller "quality" but rather the end use of the products. He talks, perhaps idealistically, about Mueller products being used in water supply, sewage treatment and natural gas distribution--industries which make the world a better place to live.

Many critics of the "establishment" claim certain businesses or industries are "bad" because they contribute to pollution, make products used in war, or fail outwardly to improve our nation or the world.

Many people refer to Mueller Co. as a "good" company, but few of us have ever thought of our inanimate products from the point of view of a humanitarian.

2 NEW ASSIGNMENTS MADE IN MANUFACTURING

(Decatur) . . . Two assignments in the Manufacturing Division occurred July 20 as the result of Brea Plant Manager Eli A. Lockard's hospitalization following a serious car accident July 10.

Paul Hickman, vice president-manufacturing, has announced that Lloyd W. Darnell has been appointed acting plant manager in Brea pending the return of Lockard who is on a medical leave of absence recovering from injuries.

Darnell worked as assistant plant manager in Brea from May of 1967 until December of 1968 when he was promoted to assistant manager of the Decatur factory.

Charles W. Moore, assistant to the vice president-manufacturing, has been appointed acting assistant factory manager at the Mueller Co. plants in Decatur. Moore was assistant factory manager in Decatur from 1959 to 1961 and also served as assistant factory manager in Chattanooga for three years.

U.A.W. COMPANY CONTRACT EXPIRES IN ST. JEROME

(St. Jerome, Quebec) . . . The contract between Mueller and the United Auto Workers Union representing workers in the Mueller foundry in St. Jerome expired June 15, but production continues even though no agreement has been reached.

Under Canadian law and after the contract has expired, the union must request the government conciliation service to participate in talks and no strike may occur until at least 60 days after this request.

YEAR 2000 IS NEAR ENOUGH TO PLAN FOR

(U.S.) . . . The year 2000 is a mere 30 years away . . . it is no farther ahead of us than the New Deal is behind us . . . it is only as removed in time as Pearl Harbor.

The next 30 years promise to be as dynamic as the last 30 according to a recent Chamber of Commerce of the United States study done by a special committee in the Economic Analysis and Study Group.

In America, a new breed of specialist has emerged known as the "futurist." These people are thinking about the future because they increasingly realize that many of today's decisions rest on conjectures about the future, on speculations about what life will be like tomorrow and about how political, social, economic, technological and international developments will shape tomorrow's world, the report begins.

While indulging in long-range future-oriented thinking, the study committee warns that we need to keep firmly in mind the distinct possibility of such calamities as depression, world war, and other problems which could disturb the pattern of speculations.

To condense the 40-page report into a few words is impossible, but to summarize, the problems of 2000 are the same as they are today--people problems. If we can feed, educate and find worthwhile jobs for the expected booming world population, then our outlook is promising.

Clearly, population growth is a major factor in all planning for the future. In the year 2000, there may well be almost 7 billion people in the world--double the present total. The U.S. may grow from 200 million to 325 million. By 1985, it is almost certain that the U.S. will grow by 64 million people--an increase that is equal to all of those who now live in all 24 states west of the Mississippi River.

To meet the food needs of the growing world, food production must quadruple by 2000.

Although food production must go up, few new jobs will develop in this area. About 1½ million new jobs must be created for each of the next five years alone to absorb the labor supply which is growing because of age changes, more women entering the work market and more nonwhites seeking jobs.

As for the projected needs for labor in 1975, the growth in service-producing activities will continue. We are the only country in the world which deploys a majority of its workers in the production of services rather than goods. Service workers reached half the labor force in the 1950s and the rise has been continuing ever since. By 1975, service employment will reach about 65 per cent. The fastest growing sector of the service industry is government and this promises to continue to grow.

The labor force profile for 1975 could be:

More than one out of every six workers will be engaged in government service.

One out of every five persons will be earning a living by buying and selling.

Less than five per cent of the work force will

produce all of the food, feed and fibers in the agricultural sector.

The unskilled will represent less than five per cent of the work force.

Increasing affluence, rising education, new methods of production, and a vastly changed future environment are bound to change people's attitudes toward the value of work. The concept of hard work as an all-consuming necessity has already been called into question by the younger generation.

Added to these notions is the fact that by 1975 no more than 25 per cent of the work force will be directly involved in manufacturing products, mining, growing crops and constructing buildings.

A study by one of the largest U.S. corporations found that tomorrow's blue collar workers may adopt present-day middle-class work values, while the professional and scientific workers of the future may tend to a less driving, more avocational attitude of work.

In addition, the average work week will continue its historical decline and the length of vacations will increase. It is predicted that the American of the year 2000 will work only 31 hours weekly on the average. Some Americans may prefer two 20-hour per week jobs to keep busy and to increase income. Others may prefer to work for pay only six months per year. Still others may prefer to work very hard for pay for 10-15 years so that they can retire at age 40 and indulge in other activities for the rest of their lives.

The Chamber of Commerce report goes on to say that by the year 2000, family purchasing power will be about two-thirds above the present. (Prices in the year 2000 may be about 60 per cent above current levels, but wages tend to increase about twice as fast as prices, so buying power will rise.) By 2000, hourly wages will average \$7.50, compared with \$2.82 today.

Talking about the future is a very risky business in a world where social change is so rapid and where knowledge is said to be doubled at five year intervals. However, there is a purpose to be served by indulging in speculation about the future for it will help us think about tomorrow's opportunities and challenges and perhaps enlighten us a little about some of the things happening today.

Retirements

The following list gives the retiree's job at time of retirement, years of service and date of retirement.

Brea

William J. Beaudry, Assembly Dept., 13 years, 7 months and 21 days, July 10.

Decatur

Harold Taylor, machine repairman, 36 years, 3 months and 6 days, July 12.

Carl Smith, electrician, 28 years, 3 months and 7 days, July 7.

Service Awards

The following Mueller employees received service awards during July.

Mueller, Limited

- 20 Years: Arthur Hutchingame
 30 Years: Basil Thompson, Eric Wood, Robert Bannister, Robert White

Brea

- 5 Years: Tom Summers, Delmar Cox, Fern McCallum
 15 Years: Gerald Wheat
 20 Years: Fred Liebherr

Chattanooga

- 5 Years: James R. Millsaps, Edward Hughes, Johnny Bryson, Jerry M. Myers, J. Michael Dorsett
 10 Years: James H. Dunnigan
 15 Years: Bennon Dees, James O. Hise, Norena R. Gann, J.L. Barron, Albert Lee Thompson, Persie L. Campbell, Emory L. Bolden, James W. Rice, Reecie Evans, Odell Taylor, John A. Foster, Jr.
 20 Years: Robert C. Walton, Marvin S. Boykin, Berry L. Ayers, James L. Owens
 25 Years: Edward Parham

Decatur

- 5 Years: Harold E. Fyke, Robert R. Finney, Patricia A. Herring, James Paslay, Mildred Hicks
 10 Years: Lee R. Smull, Thomas Manks, Robert L. McCoy
 15 Years: James W. Jones, Vance E. Heckman
 20 Years: Kenneth L. Moore, Elmer O. Ball, Delmar E. Bagenski, Floyd W. Erlenbusch
 30 Years: Paul R. Ammann, Kennes K. Karnes, William O. Misenheimer

Outside Sales

- 15 Years: Louis P. Mautz, Paul B. Watts
 20 Years: Frank R. (Dick) Seevers

RETIREES PLAN AUG. 13 MEETING

(Decatur) . . . The Mueller Co. men retirees in Decatur plan to resume their regular monthly meetings on Aug. 13 at Ashby's House of Plenty, King and Monroe streets. Last month's meeting was canceled because of a fire at the restaurant in mid-June, but it is expected to be re-opened around the first of August and should be ready for the retirees.

CREDIT UNIONS--PEOPLE HELPING EACH OTHER

There is strength in numbers and as a result the world is full of special interest groups today, made up of individuals who have a common cause or reason for organizing.

One of the common denominators today is money and so we have the basis for the success and growth enjoyed by credit unions. A credit union is a common interest group which agrees to save together and to lend money to each other as needed.

There are more than 52,000 credit unions around the world, including 23,500 in the United States and increasing at the rate of about two per cent a year. These numbers include 19 credit unions in Botswana, Africa; 307 on the Fiji Island; 4,500 in Canada; 27 on Barbados in the Caribbean and four representing employees of Mueller Co. and Mueller, Limited.

Of the 36 million members worldwide, more than 2,800 of them are Mueller employees and their families who have about \$3 million of the \$16 billion in savings found in credit unions all over the world.

This is big business handled, managed and administered by the members of the credit unions themselves.

Credit Union operations are not new. The Mueller Co. Employees Credit Union in Decatur celebrated its 25th anniversary last year and in November the Mueller Co. Employees Federal Credit Union in Brea will have its 20th birthday.

Although all of the Mueller credit unions have enjoyed success for a number of years, the credit union movement dates back to 1849. The story began in a farm village of Flammersfeld in Western Germany where depression was sweeping the country and villagers were reduced to destitution and perpetual debt bondage.

The mayor of Flammersfeld decided that his people could help themselves only by banding together to help each other. The result was the first credit union which had these three conditions:

1. Only those who belonged to the credit union could borrow from it.
2. Loans would be made only for "provident and productive purposes."
3. A man's character would be the most important security for his loans.

These guidelines continue to steer the credit union movement today which provides from 10 to 15 per cent of all installment lending in North America.

Alphonse Desjardins, a Canadian parliamentary reporter, organized North America's first credit union in 1900 among the poor of his economically depressed hometown of Levis, Quebec. Spurred by Boston merchant Edward A. Filene, the Massachusetts legislature nine years later enacted the first credit union law in the United States.

For millions, credit union membership spells security, financial independence and better living.

5 UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WORKING SUMMER JOBS

(Decatur) . . . Five university students are working their summer vacation in various departments of Mueller Co. in Decatur.

Two mechanical engineering students are working in the Engineering Division's student co-op program. Under the co-op program, the student, who has advanced beyond his freshman year, spends the equivalent of a semester in a work situation and the next semester on campus and in classrooms, alternating his training between the two under a closely supervised program.

Back again this summer in the engineering office is Larry Weld who is a senior at the University of Missouri at Rolla. Beginning the co-op program this summer is Bruce Kopetz, sophomore at Bradley University, who is working in the Engineering Test Lab.

Three Millikin University students, two in Industrial Engineering and one in Advertising and Sales Promotion, are working in areas allied with their majors. John Mitchell, a senior in marketing, is working in Advertising and Sales Promotion, and John Phillips and John O'Riley, seniors in business and industrial management, are working through a Millikin IE intern program and receive some credits for it. Through the summer, the latter two men will be exposed to various phases of industrial engineering as they work in cost estimating, tool engineering, methods and time study.

Rich Dulaney, who worked in this IE program last summer, graduated this spring from Millikin and has been hired by Mueller Co. as a full-time member of the Industrial Engineering Section.

One other college graduate joining Mueller Co. on a permanent basis this summer is Thomas J. Boehme, a math and economics major from Rose Polytechnic Institute, who is in the company's sales training program.

BIG TAX BILL COULD HIT WORKING COUPLES

(Washington) . . . Married couples who work may face a whopping tax bill next April because too little was withheld from their pay this year, the Internal Revenue Service warns.

Withholding has never been geared to retain full taxes due on the combined income of a working couple. Now a new low-income allowance included in the Tax Reform Act of 1969 makes this disparity even greater. The IRS suggests that working couples claim fewer exemptions so that more is withheld through the year

TURN THE OTHER CHEEK. A truck driver was sitting by himself in a little diner in Tennessee, miles from nowhere, when three motorcycle toughs strolled in. One of them helped himself to the driver's hamburger, another to his coffee and the other took his pie. The driver meekly got up, paid his bill and left. The waitress stood by the cash register, watching as the huge trailer truck pulled away. Referring to the driver, one of the toughs said, "He ain't much of a man." "Nope," said the waitress. "He ain't much of a truck driver either. He just ran over three motorcycles."

News Briefs

(Chattanooga) . . . E. J. (Jim) Hosto, plant engineer at the Chattanooga plant, has been elected president of the Chattanooga Tri-State Chapter of the American Institute of Plant Engineers. Jim served as vice president last year and heads the organization for the 1970-71 year.

(Decatur) . . . Herman E. Jackson, Mueller retiree who worked many years in the Advertising, Sales Promotion and Catalog sections, recently was elected international president of the Dale Carnegie Alumni Association at its international convention. Herman and his wife have been members of the association for more than 20 years.

JACK JOHNSON BEGINS FIELD SALES TRAINING

(Decatur) . . . Sales Trainee Jack B. Johnson moved to the Portland, Oregon area about Aug. 1 to work with F. V. (Doc) Martin in the field phase of the company's sales training program.

Martin's territory currently consists of the western two-thirds of the states of Washington and Oregon, but eventually will be split in anticipation of Martin's retirement in February, 1972.

Upon Johnson's completion of his field sales training program about Dec. 1, 1970, he will be assigned to the Oregon sector of the present territory and continue working with Martin until his retirement.

By Dec. 1, 1970 the territory's split will be clearly defined and Martin's successor in the Washington portion will be named.

Johnson, a native of New Kensington, Pa., started with Mueller Co. in the Brea Sales Office in 1966 and entered the sales training program in 1968. He and his wife Peg have three children.

SURCHARGE ON INCOME TAX CAME OFF JULY 1

(Washington) . . . Income tax deductions on your pay checks should be a little less after July 1, thanks to the Tax Reform Act of 1969 which eliminates the surcharge on income tax. Originally the tax was 10 per cent, then reduced to five per cent from Jan. 1 to July 1. A couple of examples using a worker being paid every two weeks and claiming four exemptions illustrates the changes. If our worker makes from \$240 to \$250 every two weeks his withholding should be about \$1.80 less per pay period. A similar worker making from \$300 to \$320 every two weeks should have his withholding tax reduced by about \$2.60 every pay period. Less tax means more income!

WHAT'S NEWS WITH YOU?

If you have any ideas for stories or news items about events, awards or accomplishments of you, your family, and men in service, pass them along to Editor Joe Penne in Decatur.