

NEWSLETTER

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**JOURNALISTS STRESS URGENCY
TO DEVELOP U.S. RESOURCES**

According to **AGA NEWS**, three leading oil and gas journalists told the Gas Men's Roundtable that the energy crisis stresses the urgency to develop domestic resources.

The journalists included Jim Collins, president and editor, **Energy Intelligence Weekly**; Clyde La Motte, editor, **Washington Energy Memo**; and Gene T. Kinney, Washington editor, **The Oil and Gas Journal**.

"Up to now, the President has limited action almost entirely to programs to cut and rearrange consumption patterns," said Collins. "That is necessary, if we are to avoid an economic tailspin in the United States. But, I would think the President would use the present situation to press much harder for actions to increase domestic supplies." He pointed out that to encourage private domestic development of oil, gas, coal, atomic power and other energy forms the Administration and Congress must "develop policies in a bipartisan manner."

"This means letting the price of crude, and oil products rise, as well as decontrolling gas prices. Until we develop more energy sources and temper environmental requirements with energy needs, we will have to accept policies that will seriously retard economic growth," he said.

La Motte remarked that he is assuming the Nixon administration will now put more push behind its proposal to Congress calling for deregulation of the wellhead price of natural gas.

"Simon for some time has given the clear indication that if prices are allowed to rise, consumers will seek ways of curtailing their energy use and companies will be more willing and able to make the big investments that will be required if the facilities are to be built to meet the nation's critical energy needs," La Motte said.

Kinney pointed out that warnings about an impending energy crisis had been sounded many times over the previous two decades by prominent individuals and organizations, but that the predictions had gone unheeded.

"The current Middle East unpleasantness" Kinney said. "need not be a disaster if, as Secretary Schultz now properly suggests, we learn from it."

**DECATUR PLANT ENERGY
CONSERVATION PROGRAM UNDERWAY**

The energy conservation program that started in late October with a meeting of the supervisors from Plants 1 and 4 is well underway.

Walter Taylor, plant engineering office, who has been assigned to the energy conserving program, reported that the program is making everyone energy conscious.

Some of the areas that first received attention were:

- *Setting the thermostat at 68 degrees.
- *Insulating all hot water and steam supply pipes.
- *Checking all machines and air lines for cylinder and nozzle leaks.
- *Turning off inside and outside lights.
- *All windows are being sealed with caulking, aluminum duct tape or clear plastic sheeting.
- *Faucets, flush valves and shower heads are being checked in all restrooms for leaks.

Thirty-two work orders have been issued to date. Twenty-one or approximately 70% of these have been completed.

**RETIREES'
LUNCHEONS**

The women retirees are having their meeting and get together at the Elks Club on Wednesday, February 6, at 12:00. All women retirees are invited to attend and have lunch.

The retired men's luncheon will be February 14 at Swartz's restaurant. The January meeting was held January 9 with 19 members in attendance.

**RETIREE'S CHECKS
FROM CITIZENS BANK**

Beginning with the January retirement benefit checks, all retirees of the U.S. Plants or their widows will be paid through the Citizens National Bank. Due to the transferring of records the January payment may arrive a little later than usual.

GALA CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Mueller Co. Children's Christmas Party in Decatur was attended by 1200 people on Saturday, December 15, at St. Teresa High School gymnasium.

The children were fascinated with the juggling, gymnastic performance and the visit of Charles Gregory who has appeared many times as guest on the Captain Kangaroo television show.

They were delighted with the visit of Santa Claus during the show, as he went through the audience to visit with them individually.

U.S. SAVINGS BONDS BY PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

All in the family.



Take stock in America.
Buy U.S. Savings Bonds.

Issue Price	Denomination
\$ 18.75	\$ 25.00
37.50	50.00
56.25	75.00
75.00	100.00
150.00	200.00
375.00	500.00

HOUSING STARTS SHOW AN INCREASE

Housing starts unexpectedly rose in November, the first monthly increase since July. The Commerce Department reported that new housing starts for November increased 3.8% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,698,000 units from a pace of 1,636,000 units in October.

Multifamily dwellings, especially those with five units or more accounted for all of the November rise in housing starts.

The November rise in the housing-start rate, nevertheless, came as a great surprise to analysts after the sharp decline in housing starts in recent months.

Housing officials generally are predicting that actual housing starts next year will fall to around 1.6 million from 2.05 million this year.

FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

Bernard (Ben) Jones, liaison engineer, Decatur has been promoted to the position of Manager, Liaison Engineering and Quality Assurance.

David M. Younger, quality control technician in Decatur has been promoted to the position of Quality Control Supervisor.

Bill Baney, formerly industrial engineer has been promoted to second shift foreman in Department 80.

Rex M. Clayton, junior tool engineer in Brea has been promoted to the position of Shipping Department foreman.

WAGES, BENEFITS OUTGROW PROFITS

Between 1946 and 1973, corporate wages and salaries increased 460%, employee benefits increased 1,600%, but corporate after-tax profits increased only 212%. The cost to corporate employers for employee benefits now exceeds after-tax profits, according to a Chamber of Commerce of the United States publication.

Some Time Ago

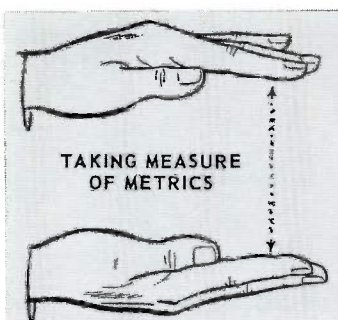
At MUELLER

In February, 1908, the Rev. William A. Sunday conducted a revival meeting in Decatur and on one particular night 1,200 seats were reserved for Mueller employees, families and friends. "About everyone at the factory is going and going to take someone else. Eleven hundred tickets had been given out there by Friday morning. The seats reserved are in the center section." According to the **Decatur Review** the evangelist was planning to ask for conversions to "the faith" on the night the Mueller people were attending and seats were going to be difficult to find.

On the previous Tuesday noon, the Rev. Mr. Sunday held a "rousing" service in the foundry at Mueller. "A few minutes after 12 o'clock, Fred Fischer passed out hymn books to the men gathered around an improvised platform on the west side of the foundry room." Robert Mueller presented the Rev. Mr. Sunday with roses and then Adolph Mueller formally introduced the speaker. The 250 workers were told by Rev. Mr. Sunday: "The worst enemy of the Mueller factory and of the labor union and of your wife and children is booze."

The next day about 60 women from the core room and office at Mueller listened to Mrs. Sunday deliver a 30-minute talk from a platform erected in the core room.





TAKING MEASURE OF METRICS

ZERO CENT.
IS
32° FAHR.

IF THE U.S. GOES METRIC--

Americans will have to adjust to new weights, sizes and distances if this country moves to the metric system.

For example:

- .A kilometer on the highway equals 5/8 of a mile.*
- .A kilo of meat equals 2.2 pounds.*
- .A liter of milk or gas -- 1.1 quarts.*
- .100 grams of cheese -- 3.5 ounces.*
- .20 degrees centigrade -- 68 degrees Fahrenheit.*
- .A meter of fabric -- 3 feet, 4 inches.*
- .A 30 centimeter ruler -- 11.8 inches.*
- .The 100-meter dash -- 109.4 yards.*
- .A 91-60-91 beauty queen -- 36-24-36.*



**POLLYANN BEATTY
TO GERMANY**

Pollyann Beatty, daughter of Vern Beatty, our sales representative living in Bellevue, Washington has journeyed to Southern Germany to enroll in a 22 week intensive course of Bible study at the Capernway Bible Institute in the village of Bodenseehof. Pollyann learned about Capernway from a friend while attending Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California. She finished school at Seattle Pacific College where she earned a P.E. degree.

Service Awards

The following Mueller employees received service awards during December and January.

Chattanooga

10 Years: Wayne Powell, William F. Pack, William J. Elder, James S. Womack

20 Years: Carlos E. Ward, Leslie Hill, Hollis B. Cunningham

Mueller, Limited

20 Years: Kathleen Gardiner, Phyllis Turner

30 Years: Frank Petronski

Decatur

10 Years: William E. Murphy, Richard L. Roberts, Daniel E. Fyke, Robert D. Byers

20 Years: Herbert H. McDonald, Dominick L. Cortense

40 Years: Hugh Baker

Retirements

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

Mueller, Limited

Harold Coates, security guard, 46 years, 4 months, 11 days, Sept. 14.

Gordon Karr, production control supervisor, 48 years, 6 months, 26 days, October 26.

Everitt Shrigley, tool maker, 47 years, 10 months, 2 days, Nov. 13.

Wilfred (Mike) Scott, Brass Shop foreman, 27 years, 9 months, 28 days, Nov. 19. (Disability)

Chattanooga

Hugh Mackey, core maker and paster, 35 years, 10 months and 1 day, Dec. 28. (80 Plan)

Duke Hollingsworth, machine operator, 31 years and 15 days, Dec. 31. (80 Plan)

Brea

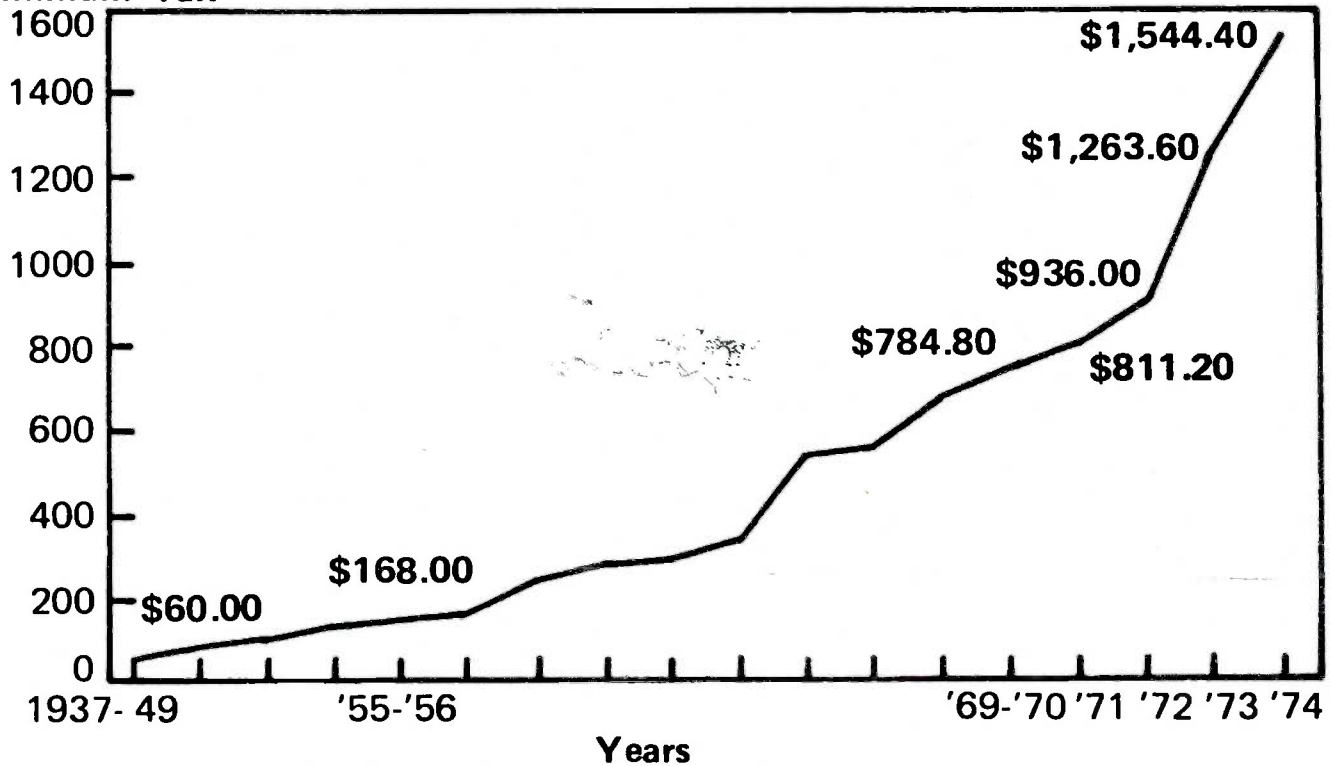
Clayton P. Travis, toolmaker, 33 years, 1 month and 14 days, Jan. 9.

Decatur

Noah D. Mayberry, janitor in Dept. 32, 14 years, 8 months and 9 days, Jan. 30.

SOCIAL SECURITY TAX SCHEDULES

Minimum Tax



SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS RAISED

Social Security benefit increases of 11% are scheduled to take effect in two steps: 7% in April and the other 4% in July.

The 11 percent increase means the average monthly benefit for a single person, now \$167, will go to \$185 in July and the average benefit for a couple

from \$277 to \$310.

To help pay for the bigger benefits the bill increases the maximum annual wage on which the Social Security payroll tax is levied. Under existing law the maximum, which was \$10,800 last year, would go to \$13,200 on Jan. 1, 1974.

A.G.A. STRESSES SAFETY AS WELL AS CONSERVATION

F. Donald Hart, president of the American Gas Association, in response to a concurrent resolution in the House of Representatives calling for turning off all top burner pilots on gas ranges, stated, "A.G.A. is taking every reasonable step it can to encourage conservation of our country's natural resources, however, our paramount concern must be the public safety."

"Top burner gas range pilot lights are designed to provide automatic ignition when the gas burner valve is opened. If the pilot accidentally goes out, the gas escaping is not enough to create a hazard," Hart said. "However, if there is no top burner pilot, and if the burner valve is accidentally turned on, enough gas can escape to create a hazard."

For this reason, the American National Standard for ranges was changed more than 15 years ago to

require automatic top burner lighting as a safety measure.

Hart also pointed out: "Range top burner pilots use only a minute amount of the total gas consumed in the country and the heat which these pilots generate is useful in the home 3/4 of the year when the outside temperature drops below 68 degrees." At the same time he agreed that turning off pilot lights on top burners during the summer months would conserve some air conditioning fuel, at the same time, pointing out that gas supply is not as critical in summer months.

As an indication that gas ranges, even with pilots, are more efficient than other comparable ranges, Hart referred to the Council on Environmental Quality, August, 1973, report on Energy and the Environment. That report states: "...all the gas-fired appliances are more efficient than their electric counterparts; 1.4 times as much energy is needed to run an electric stove than a gas stove."