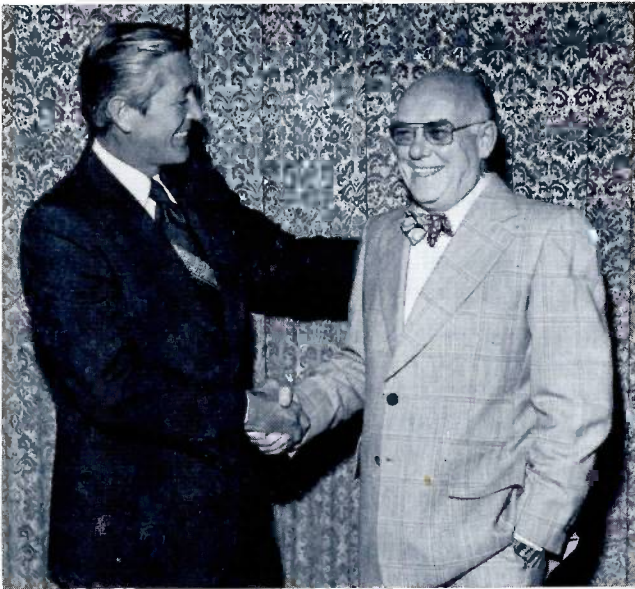


NEWSLETTER

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Don Bathe, Coordinator



Ronald M. Nicolson, Vice President of Mueller, Limited was honoured at a retirement party on March 26th. George McAvity, President, is seen above extending the Company's best wishes for many years of good health and happiness. Ron leaves Mueller with thirty-six years of service, having joined the Company on March 20, 1939. He was elected to the Board of Directors on January 16, 1947, and, in addition to his position as Vice President, Ron was also responsible for the operation at St. Jerome, Quebec. Before coming to Mueller, Ron spent nine years with Nicolson & Co. Ltd., a family owned business in Saskatchewan, Alberta.

TAX REFORM ACT OF 1975

One last "tip" ... Now that the Tax Reform Act of 1975 is in effect, the income tax withholding rates will be **reduced** for the remaining months of 1975.

The amount of tax withheld depends, of course, upon the amount of salary or wages you earn, and the information you furnish on Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, on file with your payroll department. Even under the new withholding tables many individuals may continue to be overwithheld and some individuals may be underwithheld.

You should consider filing a new Form W-4 now with the personnel department if:

1. You are not claiming all the withholding allowances to which you are entitled, or you have 4 or more exemptions.
2. You are married and both of you are employed.
3. You are now claiming an additional withholding allowance due to large itemized deductions.



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS DEDICATION

In the interest of education, Mueller Co. has always been there to aid and assist. In appreciation, the University of Illinois dedicated a laboratory in honor of Mueller Co., namely "Mueller Dynamic Laboratory." Present for the dedication at the University ceremony was Harlan A. White, president, Mueller Co.

W.R. LEOPOLD RECEIVES CERTIFICATE

W.R. Leopold, while attending an engineering banquet at the University of Illinois, received a "College of Engineering Certificate of Appreciation" for service advancing the best interest of the college.

NEWS BRIEFS

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Fleischauer will be celebrating their golden wedding anniversary on June 22, 1975 at the First Christian Church Fellowship Hall, Lovington, Illinois from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Carl retired from Mueller Co. in 1968 after more than 26 years of service.



USINGER SKATES TO VICTORY

Doris Usinger, records clerk, Dept 44, participated in a cerebral palsy skate-a-thon at Danceland roller rink Saturday, March 29, beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 4:00 p.m. Starting were 123 participants with 85 finishing. Each skater had sponsors who pledged money to cerebral palsy for each hour completed. Decatur merchants donated the prizes to the winning skaters. Doris was the winner of a ten-speed bicycle by completing the 8-hour event and having the most money donated by her sponsors to cerebral palsy.

Service Awards

Chattanooga

10 Years: John R. Ford, Charles L. Kelley, Raymond M. Morton.

20 Years: Terrell F. Gray, Clabon Fairbanks, Homer Green, Talmadge Pittman, Nehemiah J. Jones.

Brea

10 Years: Austin C. Harvey

40 Years: Vance Ziebarth



B.S. Sigurdson, general sales manager at Mueller, Limited, Sarnia, Ontario, assumed those job responsibilities at Mueller, Limited which were formerly held by Ron Nicolson.

Sigurdson, a graduate of McGill University, Montreal, joined Mueller, Limited in 1956 as a sales representative. He later joined the office staff as sales manager-water and gas distribution products and became general sales manager in 1972.

He is a member of the Rotary Club, Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario, Canadian Gas Association, American Water Works Association and a member of the Board of Children's Aid Society.

Prior to joining Mueller, Limited, Sigurdson was a salesman in Western Canada with Linde Air Products (Division of Union Carbide & Carbon Corporation) from 1947 to 1955.



How did women's lib get started? Could it possibly be after all these years they just got tired dancing backwards?

Retirements

Chattanooga

Burpie Brown, furnace yard laborer, Iron Foundry, 24 years, 2 months and 10 days, April 3.

Frank Puffer, order interpreter, Sales Department, 40 years, 8 months and 19 days, May 5.

L.C. Stewart, Core Room helper, 24 years, 6 months and 18 days, March 31 (80 plan).

Samia

Ronald M. Nicolson, vice president Mueller, Ltd., 36 years, March 26.

NEWS FROM BREA
(By Mary Lou Bellante)

The Brea facility would like to give honorable mention to our industrial nurse, Dee Glaser, and Eric Peterson, Manager of Industrial Engineering. Both were instrumental in carrying out "life-saving" first aid-- though not, in these cases, for our employees. Dee was asked to wash away the dirt and dust from the eyes of a misguided bird found by employee Doug Moore (from the Plating Room) somewhere in the rafters. Having administered this TLC - the bird promptly rejoined his feathered friends on the outside.

No one knows how the two dogs got into the pit in the Forging Department but efforts to lower milk into the pit were disregarded by the dogs. Mr. Peterson donned work gloves and cautiously lowered himself into the pit -- not knowing whether the dogs were hurt (and might snap). Turns out they were "stuck" in the grease and dirt, and weren't sure they could operate their legs when set up on the floor of the Forge Shop. It couldn't have been too bad tho, for the Mueller "tar babies" still hang around -- but their pit is carefully covered.

HOUSING STARTS FELL

Housing starts and new permits for future housing construction both fell in March to the second-lowest rates on record, according to the **Wall Street Journal**, but the dorps in the rates from February were small, indicating that the long home-building slump could be bottoming out.

Housing starts last month, declining for the third month in a row, ran at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 980,000 units, down less than 1% from the upward-revised February rate of 986,000 units, according to figures from the Commerce Department.

Despite the continued declines in the rates for both housing starts and permits, the March figures offer "some hope" that the housing picture has stabilized, according to Michael Sumichrast, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders.

Mr. Sumichrast said he expected a little better March, but the difference (from February rates) was so slight that we have some reasonable degree of confidence that we have bottomed out. Mr. Sumichrast indicates we should begin to see some very slow improvement from now on. He further states for one reason, there are signs that the recent bill offering home buyers up to a \$2,000 tax credit on the purchase of a new house begun before March 26 has "really started to move sales." Mr. Sumichrast does not believe it is going to create many new starts immediately but as builders start selling off the current inventory of more than 600,000 unsold units "we'll have more starts."

Housing economists expect that any pickup in total housing starts came in the Northeast while the rates of housing starts rose in each of the three other regions.



Frank Fritzer receives his retirement gift from plant manager Lloyd Darnell on the day of his retirement on April 22.

**LENTZ ELECTED
SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT**

Benjamin C. Lentz, 30 Grove Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey, was elected Morris Hills school board president on March 18, 1975.

Lentz, a native of the Philadelphia area and a graduate of Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management, joined Mueller Co. in 1961 as sales representative for western New York.

Prior to joining Mueller Co. he worked in the sales division of Amco Co. of Philadelphia, a petroleum handling equipment company and two years for a distributor of Mueller Co. products.

NEWS FROM CHATTANOOGA
(By Jack Malone)

MOSS ELECTED TO POST

Farrow K. (Jack) Moss, General Foreman of the Assembly Department was recently elected to the post of senior counselor of United Commercial Travelers of America. The United Commercial Travelers of America have accomplished many outstanding achievements in its work with retarded children. Not only is it the first national organization to work with retarded children, but also the society has provided scholarships for more than 3000 students in preparation for work with America's handicapped youngsters.

**MANUFACTURING ENGINEERS
INSTALL OFFICERS**

New officers for the Chattanooga Chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers were installed during ceremonies held recently. Glenn Cottrell, Tool Engineer, was installed as chairman, and Rufus Yates, Senior Tool Methods Engineer, was chosen as first vice president.

CHECK YOUR WATER SAFETY IQ

- After a hard game of running about on the shore and getting overheated, the best thing to do is:
 - Run and dive into the water to cool off.
 - Wade into the water gradually right away.
 - Sit down on land until the superheated condition disappears.
- To avoid succumbing in cold water a swimmer should:
 - Swim rapidly to keep the body warm.
 - Swim at a moderate pace to keep the body warm.
 - Move as little as possible to stay afloat.
- You are swimming in heavy surf and find yourself being carried out to sea. You should:
 - Swim towards shore at an angle.
 - Swim to one side and not against the current.
 - Stop swimming and float with the current.
- A wooden rowboat with a hole through the bottom and carrying a proper load in deep water should:
 - Sink to the bottom.
 - Float and still support passengers.
 - Always be abandoned by the passengers.
- You are out in a boat in rough water and the boat capsizes. You should:
 - Get away from the boat, tread water and call for help.
 - Try to swim to shore.
 - Hang onto the boat.
- You are swimming in open water and get a severe cramp in your leg. You should:
 - Roll over to a face-down position and massage the aching part.
 - Swim to shore as quickly as possible.
 - Tread water and call for help.
- A person fully clothed in jacket, shirt, trousers, etc., who accidentally finds himself in deep water should swim to safety using:
 - The American crawl.
 - The breaststroke.
 - The back drawl.
- A person who has fallen into water over his head while wearing rubber boots should:
 - Have to work real hard to stay up.
 - Float readily as a rule.
 - Sink to the bottom and stay there.
- A human body immersed in water should become:
 - Lighter than it was on land.
 - Heavier than it was on land.
 - The same weight as on land.
- All people aboard a boat, canoe, or sailboat should by law
 - Have a personal flotation device available aboard.
 - Wear a personal flotation device.
 - Wear a ski belt.

SAFETY IQ ANSWERS

- (c) Sudden great change is a shock to the system.
- (c) Exertion brings fatigue and loss of heat.
- (b) This maneuver takes you away from the current and conserves your energy so you can swim back to shore in a straight line.
- (b) A wooden rowboat or a canvas canoe full of holes will still support the proper load each carries normally.
- (c) Boats usually float.
- (a) The face down position enables you to float while you are relieving the cramped muscle.
- (b) Keep all the weight of water soaked clothing in the water where it is lighter by far and by so doing the swimmer makes his way to safety with less effort.
- (b) Although the use of the legs is sharply reduced in propelling the body, the body has about as much buoyancy as without the boots.
- (a) Water is a heavier medium than air; hence the body in water is lighter than it was in air.
- (a) Federal law requires that each craft carry a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device except that racing shells must be accompanied by a craft with devices for those aboard both craft. Whitewater canoeists may wear flotation gear of a specified type.

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If you look like your passport photo, you probably need the trip.

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An old-timer at a teenage dance: "Well, if this doesn't bring rain, nothing will."

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GOLD AND DOLLAR WEAKEN

Gold weakened further on international markets during the month of April and so did the U.S. dollar according to the **Wall Street Journal**.

London's five major bullion dealers marked their common gold price down \$3.25 an ounce and later another 25 cents, setting it at \$164 an ounce, off \$3.50.

Dealers said the market appeared nervous after the price had fallen through what had been supposed to be a support level of \$170.40 an ounce. That is the price at which France has valued its bullion reserves.

One of the reasons behind gold's recent decline, dealers said, had been the dollar's surge in currency markets. However, the dollar weakened a bit, partly because of lower U.S. Treasury bill yields.

In Frankfurt, the dollar fell to 2.3880 West German marks from 2.3920. In Paris, it fell to 4.20 French francs from 4.2060 and in Zurich to 2.573 Swiss francs from 2.5750.

In Tokyo, the dollar was unchanged at 291.33 yen as the Japanese central bank announced a cut in its lending rate to financial institutions to 8½% from the record 9% level prevailing for the past 16 months.

Officials said slowing inflation and a pronounced business decline prompted the slight easing in the government's tight-credit policy initiated in early 1973.