

# NEWSLETTER

Vol. 7 July, 1975

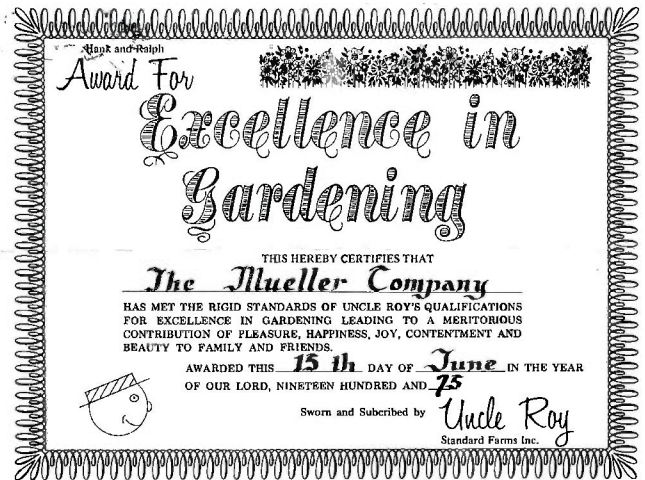
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Don Bathe, Coordinator

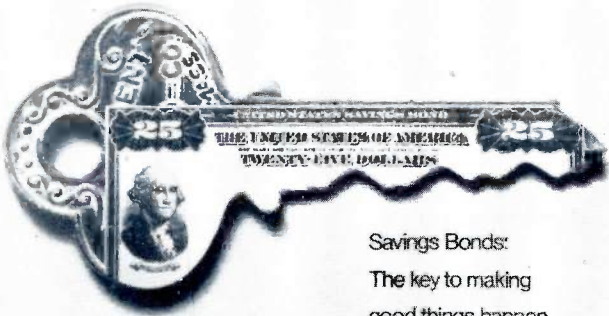
## BREA OPERATIONS TO BE CURTAILED

The Mueller Co. announced today that a decision had been reached to discontinue all foundry operations and the machining of brass and iron castings at the company's Brea, California plant. These operations will be absorbed by other company plants located in Decatur, Illinois and Chattanooga, Tennessee. Steel forging, steel machining, warehousing, general office functions, and the sales offices will continue to operate on the same basis in Brea as in the past. The reduction of operations will result in a layoff of over one-half of the 160 employees presently employed at the Brea facility.

In the statement released today, Harlan A. White, President of Mueller Co., stated "the decision to reduce the company's operations at Brea was reached only after much deliberation on the part of the Mueller Co. management and Board of Directors. Similar discussions have been held off and on for over five years, and we have always ended up with the decision to continue our foundry and associated operations on the West Coast. However, the current depression in the construction business has forced us to reevaluate our position, and we feel this move is necessary for the long-term health of our company. Mueller Co. is fully capable of and intends to continue to service the needs of its customers located west of the Rocky Mountains. We sincerely regret the problems that will be created for those employees who will lose their jobs as a result of our decision, and we will do our best to help them find other employment in the Southern California area."



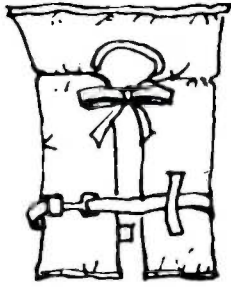
Willie Nash, in command of the lawn mower, is receiving an award from Marshall Foster on behalf of Uncle Roy from Standard Farms & Garden. Standard Farms & Garden is presenting these certificates this year to homeowners and businesses whose lawns show special care and attention.



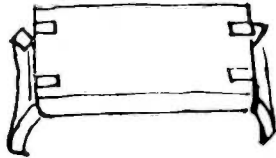
Savings Bonds:  
The key to making  
good things happen.

## A NOTE OF THANKS

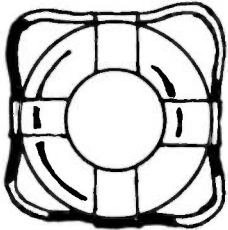
Jerry Roegner, chairman of project sandbox, gave thanks to Mueller Co. on behalf of the Decatur Jaycees for loaning a truck to deliver sand and tires to those eagerly awaiting kids who watched for the sand truck to arrive in front of their house. The children, with sandpail in hand, followed the wheelbarrows of sand being put into place.



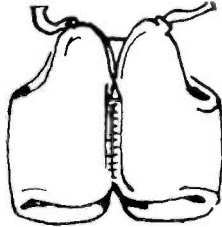
**Buoyant Vest**



**Buoyant Cushion**



**Ring Life Buoy**



**Special Purpose**

**THE DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN SINKING OR SWIMMING**

During the summer months, many Americans add swimming, boating and water skiing to their list of recreational activities. However an accident can quickly turn recreation time into recuperation time. The use of proper equipment and safety rules can avoid a case of summertime blues.

Personal flotation devices, (PFD's) which include vests, jackets, ring buoys and cushions are an essential part of marine safety. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. reminds you that no one can recuperate from drowning.

..An important thing to consider is whether the UL label appears on the device. UL Listed, Coast Guard approved PFD's have been subjected to tests of UL Standard 1123 or 1175 and the U.S. Coast Guard safety regulations. The UL label assures you that the design and construction of the device has been tested with regard to buoyancy, strength, fire resistance and other relevant factors.

..There are various types of personal flotation devices. You should purchase the type that best suits your needs. Type II devices are designed to turn an unconscious wearer from a face-down to a face-up position in the water. Type III devices, such as jackets and vests are especially designed for comfort and should allow a conscious person to maintain a position either on their back or near vertical in the water. Type IV devices (buoyant cushions and ring life buoys) may be thrown into the water to assist a person who has fallen overboard. You should never wear a buoyant cushion on your back, like a pack -- it might turn your face underwater.

..The size requirement of a PFD is dependent upon whether the person using the device is a child or an adult. Children's vests come in two weight categories: (1) for persons weighing under 50 pounds and (2) for persons weighing 50 to 90 pounds. Special purpose buoyant devices now come in three sizes for children:

under 30 pounds; between 30 and 50 pounds; and between 50 and 90 pounds. A child should be provided with a size that will fit snugly enough to prevent him or her from slipping out. An adult should never try to get by with a child's device. Also, the type of clothing that is to be worn under the device should be considered in choosing the correct size.

..Remember that no personal flotation device is a substitute for adult supervision.

..UL engineers recommend that you make sure your PFD's are thoroughly dry and that you store them in a well-ventilated area. Never store the devices near heat, in direct sunlight, in the bottom of a locker or in deck storage boxes where moisture could accumulate. Avoid abusing the equipment. For example: don't use your PFD as a boat bumper. If the device shows evidence of being rotten or defective, cut it up and burn it to be sure no one will use it.

Statistically, the greatest number of drownings has taken place among good swimmers. Wear your personal flotation device whenever you are in or near the water. **WEAR IT, DON'T STOW IT!!!**

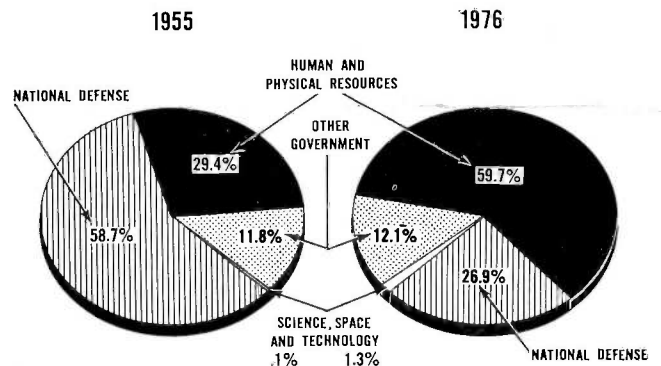
**FAMILIAR FACES  
IN NEW PLACES**

**Jack P. Parsons**, formerly Foundry engineer has been appointed to the new position of metallurgist and Foundry processing engineer.

**Clarence A. Berner**, formerly Brass Foundry foreman has been promoted to general foreman of the Foundry division.

**Darrell G. Church**, formerly assistant Brass Foundry foreman has been promoted to Brass Foundry Foreman.

**TRENDS IN FEDERAL DOLLAR OUTLAYS**



Using the federal budget as a yardstick, major changes have taken place in national priorities in the two decades following the resolution of the Korean War. The budget proposed for Fiscal Year 1976 indicates that during this period the proportion of dollar outlays for human and physical resources has increased from about 29 percent to more than 59 while national defense outlays have declined from 58 percent to about 30 percent. The current 59 percent for human and physical resources covers education and manpower, health, income security, veteran benefits and services, agriculture and rural development, natural resources and environment, commerce and transportation, community development and housing.

Study of another budget category covering science, space and technology reflects a peak effort in 1966 at about 5 percent of outlays, which has now declined to 1.3 percent. Proportions for other government expenses have remained relatively constant over the period.



**NEWS FROM CHATTANOOGA**  
(by Jack Malone)

**New officers elected** for the Foremen's Club for the 1975-76 year are:

President - John Harp      Vice-president - Ralph Fickle  
Secretary - Clyde Grooms      Treasurer - Jim Kean

## Retirements

### Chattanooga

**Roy L. Worley**, finished product assembler, Assembly Department, 20 years, 24 days, June 30 (disability).

## Service Awards

### Chattanooga

10 Years: Walter E. King

20 Years: Percy Applebet, Charles A. Edwards, Ray E. Edwards, James L. Godwin, Mickey N. Hope, Al Houston, Theodore L. Lindsey, Clarence McDaniel, Sherman Mobley, Floyd E. Peters, J.B. Sheffield, Willard B. Wooten, Roy L. Worley

30 Years: Curtis L. Hicks

### Decatur

10 Years: Rex L. Camfield, Alice M. Jestis

20 Years: Evelyn M. Cox, Roy L. Dingman

### Samia

10 Years: Alfred Sauve

30 Years: Stanley Pulyk

40 Years: Norman Gilbert

### KITCHEN FIRST AID

First aid methods have changed considerably in the past few years. The most noticeable changes are in the simple area of first aid often needed in the kitchen. For instance, for minor burns, first aid experts now recommend immediate cold water applications. If the burn is on a finger, or part of the hand or arm, simply plunge the affected part in ice-cold water. Minor cuts and scratches, the kind you can so easily get using paring knives, graters and can openers, stay minor and are less likely to become infected when thoroughly washed with an antibacterial soap. Washing with mild, gentle soap cleanses the area immediately. Then the antibacterial soap continues to build up an invisible shield that keeps many bacteria under control. Keep an antibacterial soap in the kitchen for your first first aid!

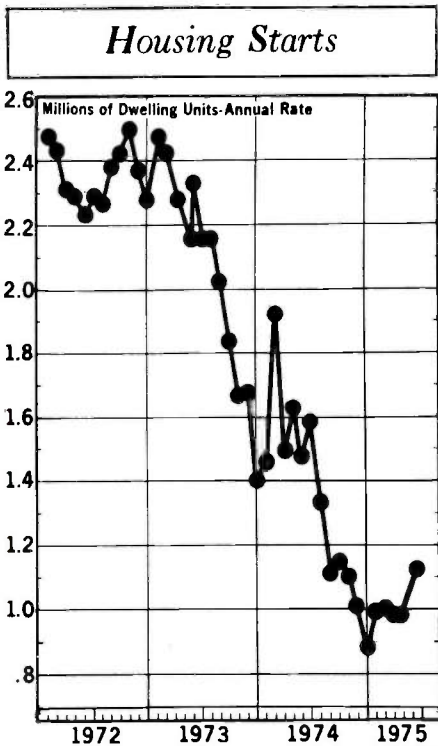
### HIGHWAY SAFETY QUIZ

#### True or False

1. Next to illness and disease, highway accidents are the leading cause of death for Americans under age 25.
2. If everybody used safety belts, the traffic death toll would be cut by 6,000 to 8,000 a year.
3. One out of every four drivers of motor vehicles in the U.S. will have a traffic accident this year.
4. There are about a million alcoholics who drive in the U.S.
5. Most traffic accidents are caused by defective vehicles.
6. An average of 30 pedestrians a day are struck and killed by motor vehicles.
7. Most states have traffic safety education programs extending from kindergarten through grade 12.
8. About one out of every six highway bridges in the the country are unsafe.
9. Because speeds are higher on Interstate highways they are more dangerous than conventional roads and streets.
10. Bicycle riders must follow the same rules of the road as car drivers.

#### Answers.

1. False. Highway accidents are the leading cause of death for Americans under 25--period.
2. False. Experts estimate that between 10,000 to 15,000 lives a year would be saved if everybody used safety belts. Predictions are that 6,000 to 8,000 lives a year would be saved simply by passing laws in every state requiring the use of safety belts.
3. True.
4. False. There are eight million alcoholic drivers in the U.S., and another 17 million high volume social drinkers.
5. False. Vehicle defects are the principal cause of only seven percent of the nation's highway crashes. Almost all accidents have multiple causes. Driver error including the failure to perceive danger signs in time to do something about them, is the most frequent contributory cause of traffic mishaps.
6. True. The total is more than 10,000 pedestrian deaths a year.
7. False. Most states have some kind of program for those of driving age, but few states have comprehensive safety programs for all age groups.
8. True. Out of 563,000 highway bridges in the country, more than 88,000 have been classified as "critically deficient."
9. False. The Interstate highway System was purposely designed as a high-speed system and it is twice as safe as conventional roads and streets.
10. True. But it is possible, even advisable in dangerous situations, for a cyclist to change to pedestrian rules by dismounting and walking his bike.



**HOUSING STARTS  
PACE CLIMBS**

The long-awaited pickup in home building may have begun last month, as housing starts rose 14% from April to the highest annual rate in eight months.

Starts in May were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,126,000 units, up from the April Rate of 986,000 units, the Commerce Department said. This was the highest monthly pace since last September.

Building permits for future housing construction also were issued at an increased rate in May.

Housing economists said the May housing statistics generally were in line with their previous forecasts that there will be a recovery in home building this year, but that it will be a slow one that will provide only a modest boost to the general economy.

The May increase in housing starts was "a modestly satisfactory" one, but the May rate of building permits didn't indicate any "great strength" soon for future starts, according to Harry Schwartz, chief economist of the Federal National Mortgage Association.

Michael Sumichrast, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders, noted that despite the May increase in housing starts, last month's rate still was the lowest for any May since 1947. He went on to say although it is not a great recovery it is at least going in the right direction.



Did you hear about the boy termite that fell in love with the girl termite?"  
 "So what happened?"  
 "They lived happily ever rafter."



**SANDY GAYLOR TO COMPETE  
IN "MISS ILLINOIS" PAGEANT**

Sandy Gaylor of Taylorville, Illinois will compete in the "Miss Illinois" Pageant to be held in Aurora, Illinois July 21 through the 26th.

Sandy is the 18 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray High of Taylorville. Her mother, Phyllis is the Head Bookkeeper of our Decatur Accounting Department.

She was sponsored by the Jaycees in the "Miss Taylorville" contest in August of last year. Having been chosen "Miss Taylorville" she is now eligible to compete in the 1975 "Miss Illinois" Pageant.

Sandy attended Eastern Illinois University last year and plans to return in the Fall, studing Clothing and Merchandising as a Home Economics major.

She is fond of sports, especially water skiing and gymnastics. Having been a student of ballet for the past ten years, this will be her talent for the competition.

During the contest she will be chaperoned by Mrs. Myrna Barding, Chief Payroll Clerk in Decatur. Myrna will live with Sandy for the week long contest seeing that she has the right clothes at the right time, at the right place. In addition to these duties she must screen all telephone calls as well as be present anytime Sandy has visitors. In fact her only free time is during Sandy's rehearsals and some of that time will be spent preparing for a skit the chaperones will present for the contestants one night during the week.

The winner of the "Miss Illinois" Pageant is eligible to compete for the "Miss America" title. GOOD LUCK, SANDY!



The most valuable gift you can give another is a good example.