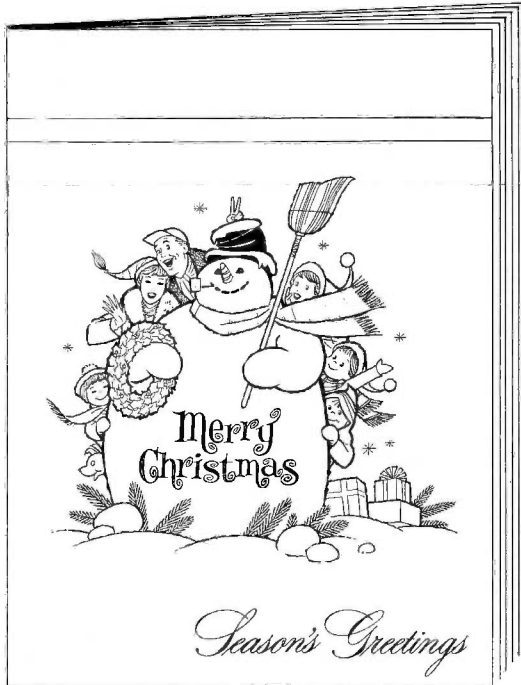


**NEWSLETTER**

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Don Bathe, Coordinator

**SOCIAL SECURITY TAX LID  
RISES TO \$15,300 IN 1976**

The amount of earnings subject to the Social Security payroll tax will increase to \$15,300 next year from the current \$14,100, the Social Security Administration announced.

The tax rate will remain at 5.85%, so a worker earning the maximum will pay \$895.05, up \$70.20 from this year. Employers must pay the tax also.

The Social Security law required that the wage base, which affects the amount of benefits as well as the tax payment, be increased as average wage levels rise.

An estimated 18 million workers--about one in five who are covered by the program--earn more than \$14,100 a year and will have some increase in their taxes.

The higher wage base will bring an additional \$2.1 billion into the Social Security fund next year, the agency said. It also will mean that workers will be able to earn larger Social Security Benefits.

**ALBERTVILLE PROGRESS**

Progress on the construction, installation and start-up of the Albertville Plant has been moving at a fairly rapid pace throughout the last quarter of 1975. This progress was highlighted by the recent start-up of one of our 50-ton electric furnaces and the pouring of the first mold.

On Saturday, November 29, 1975, a ladle containing 14,000 lbs. of molten metal was transported from a foundry in Attalla, Alabama to our plant in Albertville, a distance of approximately 25 miles, and poured into our furnace to start the melting process.

Assisting Mueller Co. in moving the molten metal by convoy were the Duckett Construction Company, Boaz and Albertville Police and Fire Departments, along with the Alabama State Police.

On Sunday, November 30, 1975, the first mold was poured.

**BLANTON FROM BREA TO DECATUR**

Effective October 13, 1975, Mr. Max Blanton was transferred from brass machining foreman, Brea, to assistant foreman Ground Key Division, Decatur. Max's experience as foreman in Brea will assist us in the manufacture of products transferred to Decatur.

**LOWERING THERMOSTATS  
AT NIGHT DOES CONSERVE**

Setting thermostats below 68 degrees Fahrenheit at night has not become a widespread practice partly because many people believe that the energy required to reheat the house in the morning wipes out the saving. Not so, says energy conservation study at Holifield National Laboratory.

The study estimates that lowering thermostat settings from 72 degrees to 68 degrees can cut energy consumption by 2.3 percent. Moving the setting back to 60 degrees at night can boost savings to 3.6 percent, and to 55 degrees raises the total to 4.1 percent.

**FAMILIAR FACES  
IN NEW PLACES****Brea**

**Tom R. Myers** from inventory analyst to supervisor of data processing.

**Decatur**

**Garrett D. Terrill** formerly assistant project engineer has been promoted to project engineer.



Joe Fyke of the Core room shows his cake and retirement gift presented by his fellow workers.



Jack N. Malone, manager of employee relations, Chattanooga, presents the winning ticket of a color television set to Wanda S. McCary, secretary to the plant controller. This award was given in connection with the United Fund Campaign. Each employee who contributed a Fair-Share was eligible to participate in the drawing.

## FLEXIBILITY--KEY TO FUTURE SUCCESS OF GAS INDUSTRY

Flexibility which changes challenges into opportunities has made possible the expansion and maturity of the natural gas industry over the years, American Gas Association Chairman Paul E. Reichardt said today.

"Those industries that can adapt to changes in market, changes in technology and changes in supply are the industries that will survive. The gas industry has shown over the last century and a half that it possesses the ability to adapt."

Reichardt, who also is chairman, president and C.E.O. of Washington Gas Light Company, Washington, D.C., said, "Our industry was founded upon a commitment to a highly flexible gas energy system, supplying our customers in an efficient manner through pipelines.

"Our sources of this gaseous fuel have been varied and will continue to vary. As an industry we have not committed ourselves to any one source of energy,"

Reichardt explained, "but to a system, and we are flexible enough to adapt that system to any sources which become available."

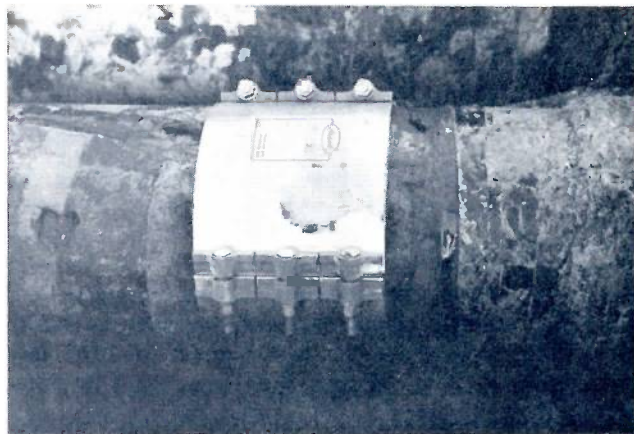
Reichardt explained that although the industry is unable to obtain all the natural gas it desires, it has retained its flexibility by rediscovering synthetic fuels.

"The old manufactured gas obtained from coal and oil doesn't hold a candle to the synthetic gas of today," he said. "We have taken an old solution and improved upon it. Modern synfuel is nonpolluting and more efficient..."

"The synthetic gas of tomorrow may be derived from plant biomass or sewage, or perhaps we'll be piping hydrogen. These supplies have no limit and should provide the industry with a viable fuel source for generations," he added.

"America must be informed," Reichardt said. "Consumers must realize that gas is a modern fuel; that it is highly efficient, and enhances our environment rather than polluting it.

"Americans must understand that the gas system, whether it be hydrogen, natural gas or synthetic gas, is supported by an industry that is flexible and dynamic, and by a group of individuals who don't know how to say 'no'" Reichardt concluded.



## MUELLER PRODUCT DOING A JOB

A 16" gas main punctured by a bulldozer causing many area residents to evacuate their homes and road blocks to be set up near Mt. Zion, Illinois was saved from disaster after a three hour gas leak.

Illinois Power Company servicemen were called to the scene and found that the punctured gas main could be repaired by putting an Adams Clamp around the main. The supervisor reported what was needed to the Illinois Power Co. office who called W.R. Rohman in the Sales Department and within a few minutes an Adams Clamp was on the way to the trouble area from our warehouse.

The punctured gas main was successfully sealed and the area was returned to normal with the residents breathing a sigh of relief.

# Retirements

## Brea

**William A. Cosman**, Stop grinder, 28 years, 11 months and 24 days, October 10, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Chester Howes**, meter yoke solderer, October 31, 1975, (early retirement).

**Bernell C. Larson**, turret lathe B operator, 28 years, 8 months and 19 days, October 31, 1975.

**Rose A. Marino**, meter yoke packer, 20 years and 10 months, November 7, 1975.

**Charles R. Newell**, 25 years, 3 months and 26 days, November 14, 1975, (disability).

**Paul J. Packer**, bending machine operator, October 24, 1975, (80 Plan).

**Paul J. Sims**, finish reamer, 17 years, 11 months and 12 days, September 26, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Edward J. Vogel**, Brass Foundry and Core Room foreman, 29 years, 7 months and 11 days, September 26, 1975, (80 Plan).

**Vance H. Ziebarth**, assistant Brass Foundry and Core Room foreman, 40 years and 5 months (80 Plan).

## Chattanooga

**Marion Ashmore**, operator Thompson-Gibb upset machine, 16 years, 11 months and 24 days, September 30, 1975, (disability).

**Charles A. Bynum**, shell core machine operator, 27 years, 11 months and 18 days, November 28, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Elmer Coffman**, core maker & paster, 29 years, 2 months and 11 days, November 18, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Y.C. Cothran**, finished product assembler, 29 years, 5 months and 10 days, November 28, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Earnest T. Cowan**, #2 slinger molder, 31 years, 1 month and 5 days, November 28, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Seth Fowler**, tool maker, 31 years and 10 months, October 10, 1975.

**Otto Glass, Jr.**, rollover molding machine operator, 33 years, 8 months and 26 days, November 28, 1975, (80 Plan).

**Leslie Hill**, core inspector and service man, 21 years, 10 months and 22 days, November 28, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Leroy Jeffries**, chipper and grinder, 22 years, 3 months and 23 days, November 28, 1975, (80 Plan).

**Abraham Madden**, automatic core machine, 26 years, 3 months and 10 days, November 28, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Marvin W. Montgomery**, core cleaner, 27 years, 5 months and 4 days, November 28, 1975 (80 Plan).

**Richard Waller**, cleaning room service man, 24 years, 2 months and 8 days, November 28, 1975 (80 Plan).

## Decatur

**John L. Bolsen**, receiving clerk, 27 years and 4 months, December 31, 1975.

**Elmer Ray Caudle**, automatic rod machine operator, 45 years and 15 days, December 31, 1975, (80 Plan).

**Glenn H. Curry**, Lead Department group leader, 38 years, 10 months and 24 days, November 28, 1975 (disability).

**Joseph J. Fyke**, core blowing machine operator, 35 years, 1 month and 29 days, November 28, 1975.

**Leonard L. Lourash**, #5 turret lathe operator "A", 35 years and 19 days, December 31, 1975.

**R. Wilber Loy**, 365 N.B. automatic operator, 23 years, 1 month and 1 day, December 12, 1975 (80 Plan).

# Service Awards

## Chattanooga

10 Years: Maxine C. Hutchinson, Arnold A. McKelvey, James O. Weater, Freddie Warren.

20 Years: Earven Baker, Jr., Curtis Barber, John W. Griffin, John Halsey, Jr., Dillard Johnson, Frank Killingsworth, Edgar B. Montgomery, James T. Nance, Charles R. Vaughn, Richard Waller, Jr., Edward O. Watkins, Alexander Petty, Derrell F. Pettyjohn.

30 Years: Robert Hogue.

## Decatur

10 Years: Raymond L. Ewing, Ralph W. Henderson, Bradley L. James, Stanley Lange, John Williams, Harry B. Edwards.

20 Years: Walter Mitchell, Harlan A. White, Ronald W. Brunner.

30 Years: Zodius W. Embry.

40 Years: Vernon H. Brunner, Carl M. Dodwell, William A. Mueller, Jack C. Rubicam, Ethel M. Turley.

## Sarnia

10 Years: Shiela Wright.

30 Years: Helen Jolesen, Howard Sayman, Richard James.

## NEWS FROM CHATTANOOGA

(By Jack Malone)

### SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY SPEAKS

The Chattanooga Manufacturers Association was honored during its annual meeting on October 15 by the presence of William E. Simon, Secretary of the Treasury. The meeting was held at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo New Convention and Concert Hall. Secretary Simon was interrupted by applause numerous times during his hard-hitting speech on the economic condition of our country. He is an individual who has displayed such good sense and free expression of it that it is surprising he has been able to survive in office in Washington.

Mr. Simon further expressed the real truths of our present day trends and pointed out that total economic chaos could result in the future unless there is a turnaround in sound economic legislature by Congress.

Mueller Co. was represented by Stanley Kuhne, George Piper, Jack Barker and Jack Malone along with some 700 members and guests.



### JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT FORMS COMPANY

Omega Co. president, Bob Finch, presents charter and stock certificate to Mueller Co. president, Harlan A. White.

The Omega Co. consists of 22 boys and girls from the high schools in Decatur. The company is formed by selecting a name, electing officers and picking a product to make. This year the Omega Co. will make planter boxes.

The Junior Achievement company sponsored by Mueller Co. operates as a company under the supervision of Mueller Co. employees.

### HOW TO MAKE AN EMERGENCY PHONE CALL

In case of an emergency, a telephone may be the only link between you and the help you need. But in order to get aid in a hurry, you'll have to do more than just pick up the receiver and yell "Help!"

Plenty of people don't know how to make an emergency phone call. Remember these four points--just in case:

1. **Tell where emergency happened.** Give the street number, the name of the street, and, if you live in an apartment, the floor and number of your home. Then repeat them. A brief description of the house or building will also be helpful, particularly at night. If the incident occurred on the street, be specific about location; name some landmark or tell the names of nearest intersecting streets.
2. **Tell what has happened.** Is your home on fire? Is someone bleeding badly? Has someone had a heart attack? Has someone accidentally swallowed a poison or drug overdose? What?
3. **Tell who you are.** That's important when the emergency is not obvious to the outsider, especially if a multi-family dwelling is involved. A neighbor, asked for directions, will be more likely to recognize your name than your house number.

4. **Tell what kind of help is needed.** Explain what kind of equipment you think will be necessary.

A lot to remember? No--it takes about 10 seconds to deliver that kind of information.

After you cover those important points, don't hang up immediately. Give the person to whom you are talking a chance to ask questions.

To make such a call, you obviously waste precious time fumbling through a phone directory. So be prepared by posting these numbers near your phone: the fire department, police department, local poison control center if there is one, office and home numbers of your family doctor, a hospital, pharmacist, ambulance service, taxi company, gas and electric companies, and one or two reliable neighbors. And, don't forget the obvious--the phone number and address of a relative or close friend.

What if it is at night and the lights will not work?

All you have to do is dial "0" for the operator. Just feel for the finger hole right below the fingerstop, then pull the dial around as usual. If you have a push-button phone, feel for the middle button in the bottom row.

Make sure that you and everyone in your family--including children and baby-sitters--know how to give vital emergency information quickly and clearly.

### HOUSING STARTS IN OCTOBER HIT 16-MONTH HIGH

Housing starts in October rose to the highest level in 16 months.

At a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,458,000 units, last month's starts were up 15% from the revised September pace of 1,268,000 units the Commerce Department said. The September rate, initially reported by the department to be 2% below August, was revised upward to nearly match the August rate of 1,269,000 units.

Last month's rate of housing starts was 32% higher than the pace of 1,106,000 units a year before when housing construction was in the midst of a sharp decline. And it was the highest monthly rate since June 1974 when starts were at a seasonally adjusted rate of 1,533,000 units.

Housing analysts cautioned, however, that the October spurt in housing starts probably doesn't signal the beginning of a strong pickup in home building following the recent months of slow but sluggish recovery. "It's moving in the right direction," said Michael Sumichrast, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders. But he contended that the October rate was a statistical "aberration" because the permits for future construction issued in recent months "can't support that high a level of starts."

In the light of this indicator of future activity, the October rise in housing starts "is a favorable development," said Harry Schwartz, chief economist for the Federal National Mortgage Association. "But it isn't any basis for saying we're going to move ahead strongly" in home-building.