

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 8 August-December, 1976

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Don Bathe, Coordinator

**DARNELL, NELSON, WARD
TO ALBERTVILLE**

Lloyd W. Darnell, Plant Manager of the Brea Plant, has been transferred to the Albertville Plant effective September 20, 1976 to fill the position of production superintendent. Mr. Darnell will continue to assume responsibility for the operations of the Brea Plant until such time the plant is officially closed.

Leon Nelson, general manager of the Carson Clamp and Fittings Plant in Birmingham, Alabama, has been transferred to the Albertville Plant effective October 1, 1976 as a process leader in the manufacturing division. Mr. Nelson will continue to assume responsibility for the operations of the Carson Clamp and fittings Plant.

Robert C. Ward, steel machining and assembly foreman of the Brea Plant will be transferred to the Albertville Plant, effective November 1, 1976 and will assume the same duties as he had in Brea.

**J. K. POTTS
EARNS DIAMOND PIN**

J. K. Potts' motto is "always carry a blank membership application form with you." Potts is one of five American Water Works Association members recently included in the exclusive Diamond Pin Club.

A diamond pin is earned by recruiting 25 new members into the association within two years. Potts, one of the Mueller Co. Sales Representatives in the Western District, recruited active and utility members.

**INTERNATIONAL DIVISION
EXPORT SALES**

Mueller Co. has employed Karl Miersemann to head up the International Division - Export Sales.

Karl, who started to work full time on November 8, is a native of West Berlin, Germany and moved to the United States with his parents in 1960. He graduated from San Jose University in January, 1969, with a B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering and a minor in Business Administration. In 1970 he joined FMC Corporation. In 1972 he moved into sales, first as a sales engineer, then export sales and service manager and most recently as product sales manager, mobile equipment (in the Airline Equipment Division of FMC).

Karl has traveled throughout the world, at first in Europe opening that market for Airline Equipment Division products, then moving on into the Mid-East, Africa, Far East and Latin America.

After receiving his training in Mueller products, Karl will spend a large part of his time overseas building contacts, relationships, representation and sales for Mueller Co.

**THREE RECEIVE
ENGINEERS LICENSE**

Dennis Humes, senior project engineer section leader, Dennis Stansifer, assistant project engineer and Garrett Terrill, product manager for the marketing department have passed the examination to receive their professional engineers license.

A fine achievement has been accomplished by all and for Mueller co.



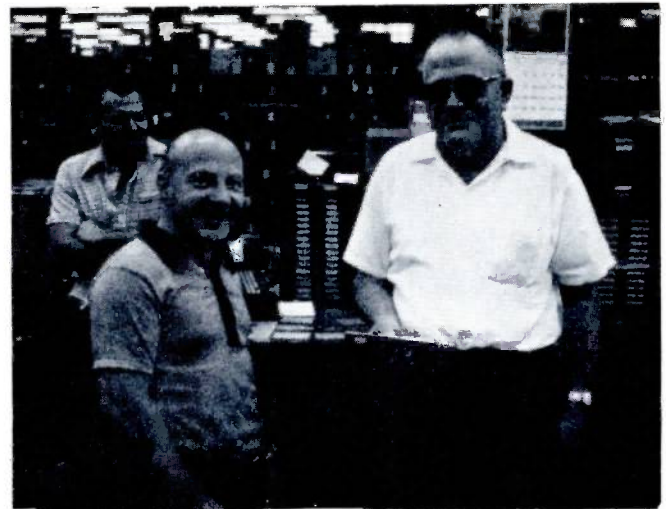
Robert Walley, right, receives \$1000 check from president Harlan White.



Leslie Gambee, right, receives his retirement from fellow worker Fred Fyke.



William H. Jeschawitz, left, has a happy time as he gets a big farewell from foreman Darrell Church.



Roy Harrison, right receives gift from Thomas Branson, Dept. 80.

A proud parent called up the newspaper and reported the birth of twins. The girl at the desk didn't quite catch the message over the phone. "Will you repeat that?" she asked. "Not if I can help it," said the mother.

FIRE'S TOLL

Nearly 12,000 persons died in fires in the United States last year -- about 6,500 of them in their own homes. Eighteen people die each day from fire where they live. These are people of all ages, but mostly the very young and the very old. The highest death rate by fire is among persons 65 and older; the second highest among children under five.

Fire cost the United States approximately \$4.4 billion last year. This means the average annual price of fire waste is \$20.40 for every man, woman and child in the nation. The total cost of fire -- including lost wages, sales and production, as well as buildings and contents destroyed -- is estimated at \$12 billion annually, or \$55.64 for each person.



America's No. 1 Tension Reliever.

FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

Decatur Plant

Fred C. Kessell, formerly jolt and roll over molder has been promoted to shift foreman, iron foundry.

Larry D. Cooper, formerly brass grinder has been promoted to assistant brass foundry foreman.

Johnny M. Hunt, formerly ladle man has been promoted to assistant brass foundry foreman.

Mr. Carl E. Floren, formerly Technical Director - Engineering Division, has been promoted to the newly-created position of Corporate Technical Director, reporting to the vice-president - operations. In this new position Carl will not only be responsible for the technical correctness of design and performance of MUELLER CO. products, but will also provide technical assistance and guidance on a broad scope of manufacturing problems in all of our plants.

Mr. Joseph L. Daghe, formerly Chief Engineer-R & D has been promoted to the position of manager of engineering projects. In this new position he will direct and be responsible for all Administrative and Technical functions of the engineering division which comprises both product engineering and research & development. He will report to the Vice-President-operations, and will have Technical responsibility for the product engineering activities in our other plants.



A Public Service of
This Magazine &
The Advertising Council

How would you like to sign the work you do?

It's a shame that most of us don't get to sign our work. Because we'd probably do it better. Just out of pride. And that could mean better products and services for everybody. So, even if you don't have to sign your work, do the kind of work you'd be proud to put your name on.

America. It only works as well as we do.

The National Commission on Productivity
and Work Quality, Washington, D.C. 20508
This ad is the work of Orrie Frutkin and Gavino Sanna.

Service Awards

Chattanooga

10 Years; Bobby Hatfield, Willie Hinton
20 Years; Eugene Clayton, John B. Hensley, William A. Oden

Decatur

10 Years; Judith A. Webb, Frances Biehler, Darrell Crist
20 Years; Alva D. Womack, Wilbur R. Leopold, Robert W. Mallow, Clarence Berner
30 Years; George Denning, Paul D. Funk, Lloyd Smith, Nelson E. Hoffman, George Binkley, Donald McQuality, William H. Boehm, Gerald A. Stanley, William Knorr, William J. Kaigley, Herman Stolte, Charles Ashmore
40 Years; William H. Jeschawitz, Edna I. Rybolt, Charles L. Schroeder, James O. Fair, Dale A. Wilkins

Sarnia

30 years; Andrew Hayes (Correction form last issue) E. Maguire
10 Years; Bob Macklin

Retirements

Chattanooga

Robert L. Keahey, maintenance helper, 6 years, 10 months and 18 days, August 31, 1976 (disability).
Everett W. Smith, plant messenger, 22 years, 2 months and 24 days, July 30, 1976 (80).
J. R. Woodrow Sells, first aid attendant, 13 years, 1 month and 25 days, September 30, 1976 (disability).

DECATUR

Hubert Dial, No. 5 turret lathe B operator in Dept. 70, 17 years, 2 months and 23 days, September 17, 1976 (disability).
Leslie E. Gambee, single purpose indexing lathe operator in Dept. 80, 31 years, 6 months and 7 days, August 10, 1976 (80 plan).
Roy F. Harrison, check screw and lock wing drill press operator in Dept. 80, 35 years, 4 days, October 4, 1976 (80 plan).
William H. Jeschawitz, sand muller operator Dept. 60, 39 years, 10 months and 5 days, August 7, 1976

OUTSIDE SALES

Richard C. Sponsler, sales representative, 24 years, 15 days, December 16, 1976.

HOUSING STARTS

LED August 18%

Housing starts last month jumped 18% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,814,000 units from the August pace of 1,542,000 units, the Commerce Department said. The rate was the highest since February 1974 and was 39% above the year-earlier pace of 1,304,000 units.

Starts of single-family housing continued strong in September, rising 9% from August to the highest rate since February 1973. But the big gain was in the previously weak multifamily sector, which spurred 46% ahead of August to the highest rate since May 1974.

Housing analysts said the strong rise in apartment starts and permits centered in projects with loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration. The Commerce Department's statistics don't separate FHA-backed construction from other types. But "it's pretty clear that the main reason for the apartment increase" was the accelerated FHA activity, said Michael Sumichrast, chief economist for the National Association of Home Builders.

Housing officials generally agreed that the FHA programs should continue to help support an overall housing recovery. Sales of single-family housing "have been improving considerable" and "we are looking for strong activity to continue on both single and apartment building through this year and into next year," said John Hart, president of the home-builders association.

"I think it's encouraging to see this rise in September starts and permits, said Harry Schwartz, chief economist for the Federal National Mortgage Association. "However, no one can be certain that apartment construction will be maintained because the September figures reflect the first surge of projects financed by special FHA programs," the Fannie Mae official added.

SOCIAL SECURITY TAX WILL RISE

ON WAGES ABOVE \$15,300 in '77

An estimated 19 million American workers earning more than \$15,300 will have to pay higher Social Security taxes next year, the government announced.

The Social Security Administration, as expected, said the wage base upon which the taxes are levied will increase January 1 to \$16,500 from \$15,300 this year. That brings the maximum tax to \$965.25 or \$70.20 more than this year. The tax rate will remain unchanged at 5.85% each on employers and employees.

The maximum tax on the self employed will rise to \$1,303.50 from \$1,208.70, while the amount of outside earnings a Social Security retiree can draw without reducing his or her benefits will increase to \$3,000 from \$2,760.

The agency said the increase in the taxable wage base, which is required by law to keep pace with the average increase in wages, will produce an additional \$2.3 billion in taxes next year.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT FORMS COMPANY



"Today's Industrial Leaders of Tomorrow" (T.I.L.T.) was the name of the new company formed by the youths of the junior achievement group sponsored by Mueller Co., Decatur.

Tim Irwin, president of the T.I.L.T. Company explains to president Harlan A. White about the product that they will be making, plus the company stock he had for sale. The transaction was completed when Tim presented Mr. White with his share of T.I.L.T. Company stock.

The Mueller Co. employees that will be advisors with the Junior Achievement this year are Myrna Barding, George Paxton, Wm. Baney and Robert Mulverhill.

The policeman watched as the man stumbled from the bar, and proceeded to cross the parking lot. After tripping several times, running into poles and car fenders, and slipping once on an empty bottle, the man finally stopped at one car and fumbled with a set of keys.

"You're not going to drive now, are you?" asked the cop.

"Sure," said the drunk, "I'm in no condition to walk."