Wise Owl Club Initiates Six

Six Chattanooga employees have been initiated into the Mueller chapter of the “Wise Owl” Club during its first year of activity.

The newest members of this exclusive organization, which only accepts persons who have avoided eye injury by wearing proper safety equipment, are Earven Baker, Jr., and Jimmy L. Sanders.

Earven, chipper and grinder in our cleaning room, escaped serious eye injury by wearing proper goggles which were prescribed for his job.

A chipping chisel used by a workman across from Earven broke, causing flying chips to shatter a lens in Earven’s safety goggles. Small glass fragments from the lens entered an eye, but they were removed with no serious injury and no loss of time.

Jimmie received his membership as well as retained his sight by wearing the prescribed safety equipment on his job as a chipper and grinder. A piece of metal from another employee’s work area hit Jimmie’s glasses, shattering the lens; but with no injury to his eye.

These two accidents point out that mishaps can occur through no fault of the injured employee, although about 80 per cent of accidents are caused by human weaknesses such as boredom, fatigue, or lack of attention.
MUeller Co.

in Brea

By Warren Wunderlich

Miss Linda Marie Musso, daughter of Jimmie Musso of the Brass Machine shop, is having a very interesting junior year in college. She is attending Vienna University in Vienna, Austria. Linda crossed the Atlantic on the Queen Elizabeth, then toured several weeks in England, France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany.

In her free time in Austria she is enjoying skiing at such places as Innsbruck, where the winter Olympics was held, and other fine ski resorts in Austria. At Christmas she had a trip to Venice and then on Easter she will visit Italy—going to Rome and other cities in Southern Italy. Linda stays in a private home in Vienna with a student from New York City, and is supervised by the "Hausfrau." She will return to California for her senior year at Mount St. Mary's College in the Los Angeles area.

One of the things, she says, that she really misses is the good old U. S. steaks.

At the end of the 12th week the Forging Department team is leading the league, but no team is going to have a runaway, as there is only a difference of five games between the first five teams. With Forging in the lead it shows what consistency will do as they have the lowest team averages for games and series and lowest total pins, but they are in first place.

Timmy Erickson has the ladies high series.

June Adkins has the ladies high game.

Jerry Collings has men's high series (even with worrying about whether he is soon to be the father of one, two or three.)

Seasons high game is shared by Frank Mecado and Walt Kahler.

CALIFORNIA HITCHING POST.

Rod Neal of the Brass Machine Shop is one of our recent newlyweds. Mrs. Neal is the former Glenda Bacon. The Neal's honeymoon trip to Idaho was interrupted by a serious accident. While traveling at night on the main highway, Rod topped a rise in the road, and there just in front of him was a car sitting without lights. Rod lost half a tooth but Glenda spent the next week in the hospital and surgery will extend for a year. We extend best wishes, but also sympathy because of their misfortune.

Best wishes also to Miss Diana Pitham, of the Sales Department, and Mr. Virgle Andrew Manning who were married in the Brea Congregational Church.

Gerald Koach of the Brass Assembly Department was married to Miss Katherine Burnaman. Congratulations. After a honeymoon in San Francisco the Koaches settled down right here in Brea.

Congratulations also extended to Tommy Lopez of the Brass Foundry and Jessie Ortiz.

Frank P. Fitzer, Jr., son of Frank Fitzer of the Steel Machine Shop, was married to Cheryl Jones in Port Angeles, Washington.

Frank, Jr. is just recently out of the Coast Guard. He is now working for the telephone company in Los Angeles. Our best wishes go to the newlyweds.

Congratulations to:

Doug and Susie Moore on the birth of a son, Ernest Jefferson Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Reynosa on the birth of their boy, Eugene Reynosa, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Koppers on the birth of their little girl, Christyanne. Troy is a Tool Grinder in Dept. 82.

Brea Plant Nominated

Our new plant in Brea has been named as one of 30 finalists in an annual contest to select the TOP TEN new plants in the country.

Originally there were about 6,000 plants entered in the competition sponsored by FACTORY MAGAZINE. The results of the judging will not be known until the May, 1965 issue of the magazine. Regardless of the final outcome, we have scored well to be among the finalists.

(Cont'd. from Page 1)

Frank A. Speer, Vice-President for Manufacturing
William E. Murphy, Assistant to the President

Re-elected to the Board of Directors were:

Albert G. Webber, Jr., Chairman
Joe H. Gardner
George McAvity
Adolph Mueller II
Ebert B. Mueller
Frank H. Mueller
John A. Schuler
Mrs. Lenore Mueller Schmick
Franklin B. Schmick
Harold M. Sherman, Jr.
John F. Thurston

Re-elected officers of Mueller, Limited were:

George McAvity, President and Chief Executive Officer
R. M. Nicolson, Vice President and Director of Marketing
R. J. Skippon, Vice President and Manager of Engineering
C. S. Browett, Treasurer, Secretary and Plant Controller
L. M. Coates, Factory Manager
J. Milne, Assistant Secretary

Re-elected to the Board of Directors were:

John F. Thurston, Chairman
Lyle R. Huff
George McAvity
J. Milne
Ebert B. Mueller
Frank H. Mueller
R. M. Nicolson
R. J. Skippon
A. G. Webber, Jr.

MAIN CONNECTIONS
This interesting display using soaps, shampoos and detergents to get across a safety message was built in Decatur and has made the tour through the factory. This illustrated message says “Halo” everybody. “Duz” the fact that you and your “American Family” haven’t had to send out an “SOS” mean that “Lux” with you? Not on your “Lifebouy”. Safety is no “Breeze” and you have to work at it “All” of the time. If we’ll pull together like a “20 Mule Team” we can make accidents “Vanish” with the “Tide”. Let’s start a “Trend” and practice safety with a “Zest.”

DECATUR

SCENE

“Watertown, U.S.A.,” the working exhibit of a typical city water system, has been given to the City of Decatur by Mueller Co.

The model, which was built in 1957 to commemorate the company’s centennial anniversary, is now located just outside the City Council Chambers in one of the City buildings.

The diorama was first shown at the American Water Works Association convention in Atlantic City in 1957. Since that time it has traveled an estimated 25,000 miles and has been viewed by about 150,000 persons around the United States and in Puerto Rico.

Carolyn Ashcraft, daughter of Harold Ashcraft of Dept. 80, has been named homecoming queen at Stephen Decatur High School. She also represented her school in the “Elite Eight” queen contest at the state basketball tournament in CHAMPAIGN.

Decatur personnel increased their contributions to the United Fund campaign this year by more than 11 per cent and gave a total of $7,773.

Two out of every three employees gave cash or pledged to the countywide appeal which this year exceeded its goal of more than $551,000.

Harlan White, Mueller Co. general controller and general chairman for the Macon County United Fund campaign, said that the increase in participation and giving expressed at Mueller and throughout the county made it possible to reach this year’s goal. “The Mueller people and the citizens of Macon County are to be congratulated for accepting these civic responsibilities.”

Departments 20, 36 and 48 should receive an extra pat on the back for achieving 100 per cent participation.

“I insured my voice for $250,000,” said the famous singer.

“And what,” asked a jealous contemporary, “did you do with the money?”

from the U.S. and Canada on the council, helping to prepare and present practical training through the extension method.
Ronald M. Nicolson has been appointed president of St. Jerome Industries, Limited, a Quebec corporation and a subsidiary of Mueller, Limited.

Mr. Nicolson has also been named vice president and director of marketing for Mueller, Limited. He formerly was vice president and general sales manager. As a result of the change, Sig Sigurdsen has been promoted from assistant sales manager to sales manager.

Mr. Nicolson will continue his residence in Sarnia and in addition to his present active participation in the management of Mueller, Limited, will absorb the extra responsibilities of the St. Jerome position.

L. Merlin Coates, Factory Manager of Mueller, Limited, was also elected a director of St. Jerome Industries.

Officers and directors of St. Jerome Industries, which is primarily an iron foundry, are:

R. M. Nicolson, President and Director
George McAvity, Vice President and Director
Leopold Potvin, Plant Manager, Plant Supt., and Director
Rolland Lapierre, Controller, Office Manager, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer and Director
C. S. Browett, Secretary-Treasurer and Director
R. J. Skippon, Director
L. M. Coates, Director

James White retired from Mueller, Limited after 23 years as head electrician with the company.

Jimmy's fellow-workers presented him with an easy chair, a smoker and an original wall plaque displaying a small brace and bit.

To keep himself active, he plans to do small jobs for his family as the need arises, and more leisure time will be spent at the White cottage in Port Franks on Lake Huron.

Best Wishes Jimmy for a long and happy retirement.

After 22 years with Mueller, Limited, Henry (Harry) Jewitt retired.

Harry worked first in the War Department. After two years he transferred to the Ground Key Department for seven years and then took up the job of Receiver's Helper—this job he performed until his retirement.

Fellow co-workers of Harry's presented him with a beautiful F.M. radio for his listening pleasure during his leisure time.

Our best wishes go to Harry.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the following employees and their families on the passing of a loved one:
Andrew Mackrell and Mrs. Mackrell in the loss of Mrs. Mackrell's father.
Wilbur and Clayton Nesbitt in the loss of their father.
Alice and Thomas Ward in the loss of Alice's father.
Claude Furlotte in the loss of his father.
Paul Isomaki in the loss of his mother.

Sympathy is also extended to retiree Robert Barnes in the loss of his wife, Gerry.

After a lengthy illness, Alex Elderbroom of the Streamline Department passed away. He had been with Mueller, Limited since March 3, 1947.

Manuel Furlotte, retired from Mueller, Limited since March, 1958, passed away December 24th after a lengthy illness.

Congratulations to the following proud parents:
Pat and Mrs. Johnston, a daughter, Colleen Elizabeth.
Jim and Mrs. Wilkie, a daughter, Anne-Marie.
Gary and Mrs. Wadsworth, a daughter, Kelly Anne.
David and Mrs. Coulter, a son, Brian David.

For a story on Jimmy White's retirement see the column on the left.
Rox Named Traffic Manager at Chatt.

James D. Rox has recently been named to the new position of Traffic Manager for Mueller Co. in Chattanooga.

Prior to joining Mueller Co. to establish a Traffic Department, Jim was terminal manager for Eagle Motor Lines in Atlanta and more recently in Chattanooga.

Jim, 34 years old and a native of Birmingham, Ala., received his degree from the University of the South at Sewanee, Tenn., in 1954.

He is married and the father of a five year old son.

Decatur Retirees

A number of Mueller employees in Decatur retired recently.

Walter Andes, who had been a drill and power press operator in Dept. 70, retired after nearly 18 years.

Ralph Stevenson, janitor in Dept. 32, retired after 12 years with the company.

Corey Simpson, who had worked for the company 15 years, retired Feb. 3. He had been a milling machine operator in Dept. 80.

Albert Griffith, a Mueller man for more than 22 years, retired from his job as a packer in Dept. 70.

Employees Increase Fund Contributions

Chattanooga employees increased their contributions to the local United Fund campaign by seven per cent this year, to again help put the appeal over its goal of $1,328,228. Never has this united appeal failed to meet its goal during its 42 years of operation.

This year's goal was four per cent greater than last year's, but the Mueller employees displayed their concern for those less fortunate by upping their giving by a total of seven per cent.

Mrs. Clara Kaiser Dies in Florida

Mrs. Clara Kaiser, 81, daughter of the late Philip and Mary Shorb Mueller, died in Sarasota, Fla.

She was the widow of Fred W. Kaiser, Sr., and had been living most of the time in Florida since 1938.

Mrs. Kaiser is survived by: one son, Fred, Jr.; two daughters, Mrs. Aristotle (Phyllis) Jannapoulo and Mrs. Earl (Betty) Robison; two brothers, Frank H. Mueller and Clarence S. Mueller; one sister Mrs. Leda Brownback, and three grandchildren.
A DAY AT JA

A First-Hand Look at our Free Enterprise System

Fred Pierce (left) Credit Manager at Mueller Co. and adviser at MUEL-CO reviews some bookkeeping procedures with JA company treasurer Steve Smith.

Lloyd Darnell (right) leads a tour of Junior Achievers through the Mueller Co. warehouse and factory.

A first-hand course in the free enterprise system is being taught weekly by three Mueller men in Decatur.

For eight months during the school year, Lloyd Darnell, Fred Pierce and Hugh Baker spend a number of hours each Monday acting as advisers to MUEL-CO, a Mueller Co. - sponsored Junior Achievement firm.

This grass roots course in economics, where the participants are some of the investors, directors and employees of their own corporation, introduces high school students to the workings of business today.

An important part, the role of "looking over the shoulder," is played by the advisers. In preliminary meetings of a company they will advise in respect to product, financing, organization and the many details that accompany the founding of a Junior Achievement corporate structure.

Once the organization is set up, the adviser is expected to be able to fade into the background as the student-officers take charge.

Each teen-ager in the Mueller program had to buy a $1 share of stock so he became one of the owners. Each student is a member of the board of directors which elects company officers from among its ranks so each is involved in decision-making as a board member.

In addition, each is involved in production and sales, and is ex-
MTJEL-CO officers for the first half of the JA business year were, from left: Steve Smith, treasurer; Tom Jones, president; Irene Bockstahler, secretary; Mike Spanbauer, vice president, sales; and Patricia Taylor, vice president, production.

Mueller President John Thurston buys first share of public stock from MUEL-CO President Tom Jones.

Mike Spanbauer goes over the details for the company’s sales campaign with Hugh Baker.

Lloyd Darnell, Standards Engineer at Mueller, who served as JA adviser for production, supervises one of the young “workers.”

posed to participate in these phases of business.

The realism of business is impressed further upon these young entrepreneurs by paying taxes, wages, dividends, rent and all of the other overhead which add to the cost of doing business.

MUEL-CO learned the importance of diversification of products and produced two different articles. A trunk latch, which keeps partially opened trunk lids from flopping, and a wall plaque made from “fried” marbles were both marketed by the Mueller group. The marbles were placed in a frying pan and heated. After they were hot, they were dropped in a pail of water where the sudden temperature change caused them to shatter inside, leading to unusual patterns in the marbles. The marbles were then mounted to form clusters of grapes.

Twelve Junior Achievement companies are in operation in Decatur and more than 100,000 young people participate in JA activities around the country.

In addition, untold thousands of advisers enjoy their work with the young people, showing them that business and profit are interesting, challenging and necessary.
The second Value Analysis program strictly for Mueller Co. personnel was finished in November and the first cooperative program involving a few Mueller people was held in February for Chattanooga area firms.

About 100 Mueller personnel from Decatur, Chattanooga, Sarnia and Brea have participated in this specialized course on Value Analysis as the program scope continues to broaden.

Value Analysis has been referred to as a "method of brainwashing an individual into thinking for himself." Another refers to it as a "systematic method of boat-rocking."

Members of Value Analysis, Inc. of Schenectady, N. Y., prefer to define it as an organized means of obtaining higher value from a product or a procedure by getting the same or better performance at lower cost, without sacrificing essential quality.

Ben Finley, Manager of Value Analysis, reports that 23 projects are now in process dealing primarily with products from all plants. He adds, however, that analyses of procedures and methods within operational departments will also be undertaken.

A number of projects have been presented to Management for study, others are being evaluated by Engineering and still others are ready for a formal presentation to the Management Committee. One change in manufacturing process resulting from a Value Analysis project has been authorized and put into effect.

The first two VA seminars were held in Decatur at the Mueller Lodge for only Mueller personnel.

The most recent one involving Mueller people took place at the Read House in Chattanooga where another area firm sent participants for nine days from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Attending from Chattanooga were: Stan Kuhne, Coy Jones, Wheeler Cage, Jack Malone, Bob Lusk, Jack Vincent, Zane Roach, Ralph Shafer and Jack Barker. From Mueller, Limited were: Jim Chute, Sig Sigurdson, Murray Taylor and Harry Dowding.
Some of the Many Faces Of Value Analysis
Three 25-year veterans surround Jane Cranston who recently completed 30 years with Mueller Co. From left to right, are: George Turner, Paul Hawbaker and George Van Walters.

SERVICE AWARDS

BREA
10 Years: Joseph Raynard, Norval Heldebrand, Thomas Stephens.
15 Years: Manuel Valadez, Paul Duncan, Dorothy Barnett, Frank Mecado.
25 Years: Charles Newell.
30 Years: Eugene Warren.

CHATTANOOGA
30 Years: Napoleon Gaither, Frank Puffer, Ulysses Reed, Marcus Daniel.
40 Years: Homer Massey.

Albert Banting (second from left) receives his 35-year service pin from Foreman Ed Ellenor while Harry Dowding and Don Thain look on.

Sam Round (second from left) reminisces with Harry Dowding, Gilbert Murray and Don Thain following the awarding of a 25-year service pin to Sam.
These five recently all celebrated their 25th anniversaries with Mueller Co. They are, from left: Carl Rentfro, Charles Brownlow, Fred Monska, Charles Johnson and John Maxwell.

DECATURE
20 Years: Marie Adams, Mildred M. Johnson.
30 Years: Jane R. Cranston, J. K. Potts*, Thomas Edwards.
35 Years: Charles E. Burcham, Ben Taylor.
40 Years: Anthony (Buddy) Grossman.
45 Years: Helen M. Brannan, Richard Dannewitz, Margaret E. A. Behrends.
*Denotes outside sales.

SARNIA
5 Years: Marilyn Ostachuck, Daphne Park, Paul Isomaki, Barbara Klimmek, Adrian Van Horne, Ian Milne, Donald Thain.
10 Years: Mary Savrda, Natalie Vlaiovich, John Smith, Gilbert Murray, Clarence Geffs, Harry Dowding, David Potter, Garfield Cross.
15 Years: Paul Bedard, Thomas Ward, Edmond Theriart.
20 Years: Ivan Maw, Malcolm Tigwell, Earl Sitter, Roy Parr and Beatrice Quinn.
25 Years: L. Merlin Coates and Samuel Round.
35 Years: Albert Banting.
*Denotes outside salesman.

Helen Brannan (far right) proudly displays the 45-year service pin which she recently received. Admiring the pin are, from left; Phyllis Ground, Jane Cranston, Christine Freemon, Lyle Huff and Vivian Doolin. Mrs. Brannan is company cashier.

Ben Taylor
35 Years
Decatur
About 125 years of Mueller Co. seniority are evenly divided between this quintet. In the foreground is Mel Cross. In back, from left, are: Clarence Hill, Mel Hayes, Bob Salogga and Leo Kramer.

L. M. Coates, Factory Manager at Mueller, Limited, receives congratulations upon completion of 25 years of service from President George McAvity.

WHAT WAS THAT NAME?

The name on the back of the shirts of the Decatur city team handicap bowling champs reads: "Hipsher's Friendly Service," but in fine print it could read "Mueller."

Three of the five members work at Mueller and the other two have close family ties with the company. Lynn Edwards, Bill Knorr and Bill Leake all work at Mueller, while Wayne Inman is the husband of May Inman who works in the Mail Room, and Jay Mueller is the son of Cost Accountant Bill Mueller.

This quintet rolled a 3,061 to win the handicap team division of the 25th Decatur Bowling Association tournament.

Anthony (Buddy) Grossman
40 Years
Decatur

DECATUR DEATHS

We wish to extend our sympathy to families of Decatur employees or to employees who lost a member of their family during the past few weeks. Our sympathy to:

The family of retired employee Earl Brock.
Lew Miller (Dept. 70) in the loss of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Cleo Bird.
Otto Peake (Dept. 102) in the loss of his father-in-law, Antone Schneider.
Willie Roman (Dept. 42) and John Roman (Dept. 23) in the loss of their father, John Roman.
Donald Durbin (Dept. 69) in the loss of his father-in-law, Harry Carren.
Floyd Curry (Dept. 79) in the loss of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Lucy Davis.
Jack Mooney (Dept. 37) in the loss of his mother, Mrs. Margaret Mooney.
The family of retired employee O. Clyde Porter.
The family of retired employee John T. Curry.
Ray Kileen in the loss of his father, Frank Kileen.
Leo Kramer (Dept. 80) in the loss of his daughter, Miss Irene Kramer.
Sam Beavers (Dept. 10) in the loss of his father, Sam Beavers.
Amos Bailey (Dept. 10) in the loss of his wife, Mrs. Miriam Bailey.
The family of retired employee Carl Reynolds.
Robert Finch (Dept. 10) in the loss of his father, George Finch.
John Morrison (Dept. 81) in the loss of his mother, Mrs. Margaret Ann Morrison.
Maurice Setton in the loss of his father, George Setton.
John Enlow (Dept. 47) in the loss of his mother, Mrs. Iva Enlow.
Michael Tirpak (Dept. 80) in the loss of his infant daughter.
The family of Walter Behrns, retired employee.
Standards Dept.

Changes Made

Three changes in the Decatur Manufacturing Division have been announced by Factory Manager A. L. Sefton.

Vincent J. Ermovick, former time study engineer, has been named foundry division methods engineer. Moving into the Standards Department as time study engineers are Ben B. Jones and George H. Kopp.

Ermovick, a 1960 graduate of Millikin University has been a time study engineer since he joined Mueller Co. in 1962.

Kopp has been with Mueller since 1953, spending most of his time as a molder in the brass foundry.

Jones has been a draftsman in Engineering since he joined Mueller Co. in 1954.

Roach Promoted

Zane Roach, draftsman in Chattanooga since joining Mueller Co. in 1960, has been promoted to head products draftsman and records clerk.

Zane graduated from Ooltewah High School, attended the University of Tennessee for two years, served three years in the Navy and is now attending the University of Chattanooga in the evening.

He worked as a draftsman at the Chris Craft plant in Chattanooga prior to joining Mueller.

Local 838, Allied Industrial Workers, has been successfully represented in a local basketball League by this team of Decatur factory employees. Team members, from left, front row, are: Rusty Logue, Bob Davis, Gary Skelton and Tom McGeorge. Second row: Bruce Knots, Howard Hull, Larry Conners and Melvin Johnson. Third row: Coaches Ben Taylor and Bert Sturgis. Missing when the photo was taken were Ray Lane, Gary Hicks and Jerry Collins.

Hospital Nuns Pay Tribute

To Robt. Muellers

The hospital sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis recently paid tribute to Robert H. Mueller and his widow, Mrs. Louise Mueller.

The Order, which operates St. Mary’s Hospital in Decatur, has named the hospital’s department of radiology the Robert H. Mueller Department of Radiology.

A formal dedication of the section was held on March 31st.

The naming of a department is unusual in hospitals operated by the Order, but this was done to express gratitude for long community service by Mrs. Mueller.

Mr. Mueller was chief engineer and retired from the company’s board of directors in 1948. He was a patient in St. Mary’s for a number of months prior to his death in October of 1963.

Gloria Schmitt, daughter of Robert Schmitt (Dept. 37) recently graduated from nurse’s training at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago.
Homer Massey receives best wishes from Bill Tidmore, Chairman, International Association of Machinists at Chattanooga. (See below for story)

Chairman, International Association of Machinists at Chattanooga.

Harry Jewitt's co-workers mark his retirement with a gift and best wishes after more than 22 years with Mueller, Limited. At the time of his retirement, Harry (left) worked as a receiver's helper.

Homer Massey, a machinist at Chattanooga for about 40 years, retired about the first of the year after being on a leave of absence for a number of months.

Homer came to work in 1924 as a machinist for the Columbian Iron Works and in 1944 he was classified as an "AA" operator. Four years later he started running the large Bullard machine and held that job for the past 20 years.

An excerpt from his 1933 service record could aptly describe Homer's 40-year term of service. It reads: "Homer is good, reliable, steady, fast, progressive, cooperative and agreeable." What more needs to be said, other than he will be greatly missed by his co-workers in Chattanooga.

Upon his retirement, he was presented with a new television set by his co-workers.

We wish for him and his family the best of fortune, and we invite Homer to come back to see us.

The only man at Mueller Co. to have a school named for him, Orville Spencer, retired recently after more than 41 years of service at Mueller Co. Service to his community was also an important part of Orville's life. He served 18 years as a member of the Lakeview School District's board and only became inactive in this area when the district merged with the Decatur district. About five years ago a new elementary school was named for Orville in recognition of his many years of hard work for the Lakeview district. When he retired he was a stock clerk in the Shipping Room. The stock room and shipping areas were "home" for Orville during most of years at the company. In the photo, Orville (right) received congratulations from a long-time associate of the Shipping Room, George Turner.
Shirl Tish (left) receives best wishes from Leland Hartwig and a gift from his co-workers in the Brass Foundry at Plant 4. Shirl, who was special metal man, retired recently after more than 41 years of service at Mueller Co.

L. B. (Mac) McKinney (left) shows a retirement gift to Harry Dickerson and Bob Taylor. Mac was a lathe operator in Dept. 80 and had been at Mueller more than 42 years.

A very popular gal in the Decatur office, Estella Livergood, retired recently after more than 42 years with Mueller. “Stell” worked as a payroll clerk for many years prior to her retirement. A tribute to her popularity with her co-workers was a party held in her honor at a local restaurant. More than 75 workers and spouses turned up for the event. She is shown examining a miniature fire hydrant that was given to her by fellow employees for her charm bracelet.

About 22 years of Mueller Co. service at Brea ended recently with the retirement of Kathryn Thompson. Katie, who worked in the office, also helped out as MAIN CONNECTIONS correspondent and will be greatly missed. She plans to spend some time traveling and we can only say —“Have fun, Katie.”
New Billing System Set Up

A new billing system aimed at speeding up some office procedures while reducing chance for errors is being installed in Decatur.

A Friden Computyper system, which utilizes punched cards, will eliminate much of the manual typing of repetitive data as well as make available valuable sales analysis information as a by-product.

Outside computer services will digest certain information automatically punched on the cards and store it in its system until it is called upon to produce a number of reports and information dealing with sales dollar volume, corresponding manufacturing cost, sales by location, customer, type of product, and prices charged.

Permanent edge-punched cards, which supply such basic repetitive information as customer number, customer class (jobber, gas, etc.) sales territory, type of sales, product list price, size code, catalog or part number, tax, freight charges, and many other items, will be fed into the Computyper to prepare the order/invoice copies.

As the pre-selected cards are run through the Computyper, printing the repetitive data, the machine carriage will also pause at certain points on the billing form so that such variable information as the date, order number and quantity ordered can be inserted manually.

This is done by a machine operator through a familiar typewriter keyboard.

Once all of the necessary information is included on the order/invoice, extensions are made automatically, producing subtotals, net totals and grand totals.

While the Computyper is performing its primary tasks on the order/invoices, it simultaneously punches tabulating cards through connection with an IBM card punch machine.

The tab cards store the information which is later passed on to the computer. Sales which are transacted in Brea or Chattanooga will be recorded on regular IBM key punch and verifier machines at the respective plants and forwarded to Decatur.