

MERRIMACK VALLEY WORKS
NEWSLETTER 

Vol. 5, No. 7

A Western Electric Publication

September-October 1972

wevalley club family outing

pages 4 & 5



Special - meet a V. I. R.

(VERY IMPORTANT RACOON)

on page 12

CLEAN & NEAT PAGE 6

CLEAN & NEAT PAGE 6

CLEAN & NEAT PAGE 6

How's Business?

A year ago the harshness of economic reality forced the Works to "adjust" its work force. In plain language several hundred employees had to be laid off.

Last month, after a slow but steady brightening of the business horizon, the last of the laid off employees were called back to work at Merrimack Valley.

Since then, Personnel has been hiring about 45 new people each week, mostly for the second shift.

Presently the 89000 shops under Manager John Hess are calling for more people, and some growth is anticipated soon in other areas.

A smaller but very important area of personnel growth was honored and highlighted on September 13, as the National Alliance of Businessmen presented the Works with an award for providing employment for disadvantaged people. Three individuals referred by the local N.A.B. office have already been hired at MVW, and there should be more openings under consideration for N.A.B. placement at this time.

To sum up the employment picture at this time, we expect to continue with a moderate, steady growth to the end of the year.

MVW Cafeterias Begin Offering Limited Reservation Service On A Trial Program

Bob Palmer, Canteen's manager of the Works cafeterias, recently announced a new service for his customers -- reserved seats.

Certain sections of the cafeterias will be set aside by reservation for groups as small as ten or as large as fifty for lunchtime parties. The service does not include setting up a meal, or cleaning the area afterwards.

To reserve an area for a certain day, call Lou Gatti on extension 3764.

DIAL-A-BUST

A West Virginia man recently placed what might be labeled a "wrong distance" call. It landed him in jail.

Calling from a pay phone in Charleston, he asked the operator to place a call to the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) office in Washington, D.C. Then he made a bomb threat against an airline.

He was arrested 20 minutes later --still talking.

Inadvertently, the call had been put through by the operator to the Washington office of the FBI rather than the FAA.

Ex-Quality Assurance Man Ordained in New York



Raymond Richard, a member of the Works Quality Assurance Department in the '60s, was ordained a priest for the Capuchin Friars on September 9.

Rev. Richard, who maintained close ties with his Western Electric friends during his years in the seminary, celebrated his first mass on September 17 in Newburyport.

Several Works people attended the ceremony at the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church.

*OUR APOLOGIES –
for being late,
but moving our photo lab
put us temporarily out of
business.
THANKS for being patient!
The Editor*

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MERRIMACK VALLEY WORKS
NEWSLETTER

Published By
Western Electric

For the information of employees of the
MERRIMACK VALLEY WORKS
North Andover, Massachusetts
Dept. 02040
Area Code 617-686-0600 Ext. 2594

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ELLEN LAHLUM

Bell System Continues Family Theater, Introduces Mini-Special

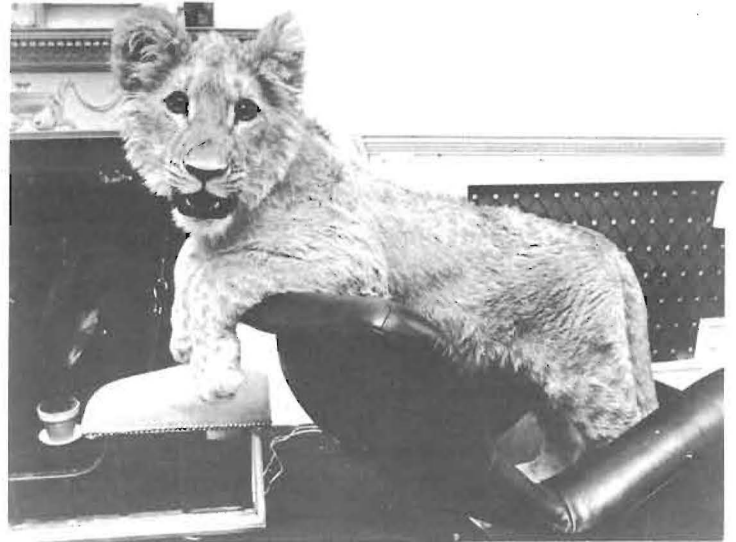
The Bell System Family Theatre will open its third television season Friday, October 20, with "The Lion at World's End," a true story of a domesticated lion and the efforts of his human friends to return him to his ancestral land in Africa.

The one-hour special will be presented at 8 p.m. on NBC. Appearing with the lion (named Christian) are Bill Travers and his actress-wife, Virginia McKenna, stars of the movie "Born Free."

The episode depicted in this Family Theatre special began in February of 1970 when Bill Travers, long a campaigner against the caging of wild animals, wandered into an antique furniture shop in the World's End section of London's Chelsea. It was there that Travers was introduced to Christian and the adventure unfolded.

Christian's owners, Anthony Bourke and John Rendall, natives of Australia who emigrated to England, had purchased

EASY LIFE - Christian, star of the Bell System Theatre presentation, "The Lion at World's End", Friday, October 20, 8 to 9 p.m., relaxes on his favorite chair in owners' flat above a London antique shop. The one-hour TV special tells of the efforts to return the zoo-born lion to his ancestors' native Africa.



the zoo-born lion at a London Department store. They were housing him in the antique shop and in their living quarters above the shop.

The lion grew from 30 to 160 pounds in less than a year. Bourke and Rendall soon realized that they couldn't

keep Christian in their flat much longer but they didn't want to send him to a zoo.

Their search for a way to insure a pleasant life for their growing friend was under way at the time Travers visited the shop. They recognized Travers immediately and appealed to him for a solution.

Having agreed to help them, Travers contacted George Adamson (whose work with lions inspired "Born Free") and government officials in Kenya to make arrangements for Christian to be domiciled in the African jungles.

Aided by his human friends, Christian learned to accept and be accepted by other lions. He was ready for a new way of life which he would soon find thousands of miles away in Africa.

Anniversaries

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

NAME	DEPT.	OCT.
Shattler, Alfred E.	89440	4
Johnson, Donald E.	27580	15
Heddemon, Dana E.	89430	17
Steele, Dorothy E.	14960	28

TWENTY YEARS

Allatt, Genevieve H.	81480	1
Cartier, Ernestine B.	89660	1
Desmet, Joseph M.	12380	1
Flanders, Rita D.	89650	1
Gariepy, Cecile G.	89660	1
Gaudette, George C.	81530	1
Logan, Stella B.	89460	1
Moynihan, Francis J.	12340	1
Pineau, Rita G.	80420	1
Rizzotti, Gloria	89480	1
Thompson, Hector C.	12370	1
Murphy, Cornelius W.	89630	2
Collins, Fred L.	81960	3
Fuller, Robert A.	12340	4
Bergeron, Raymond E.	14940	7

Bogalis, Bessie	89340	7
Legacy, Amelia H.	89480	7
Picard, Virginia B.	89480	7
Pierce, Helen C.	81570	7
Salvetti, Adelina M.	81410	7
Kalil, Mary R.	80420	8
Webster, Carroll C.	02130	8
Gosselin, Noel M.	14510	9
Krzakowski, Mary M.	81690	9
Klotzle, Thelma W.	89660	12
Congo, Susan H.	81640	13
Brown, Melburn G.	12430	15
Janco, Anne L.	81580	15
Johnson, Richard M. Sr.	12420	15
Kliszka, Sophie K.	81450	15
Lacroix, Rita H.	81920	15
Maranto, Virginia P.	89430	15
Miserlis, Kaliopé	89460	15
Monfet, Cecile O.	80420	15
Nastasia, Sylvia B.	81580	15
Sadewicz, Benjamin J.	27530	15
Shay, Elizabeth E.	81640	15
Witham, Kenneth P.	81480	15
Schena, Richard A.	89610	17
Brown, Austin C.	14160	18

continued on page 6

MINI SPECIALS . . .

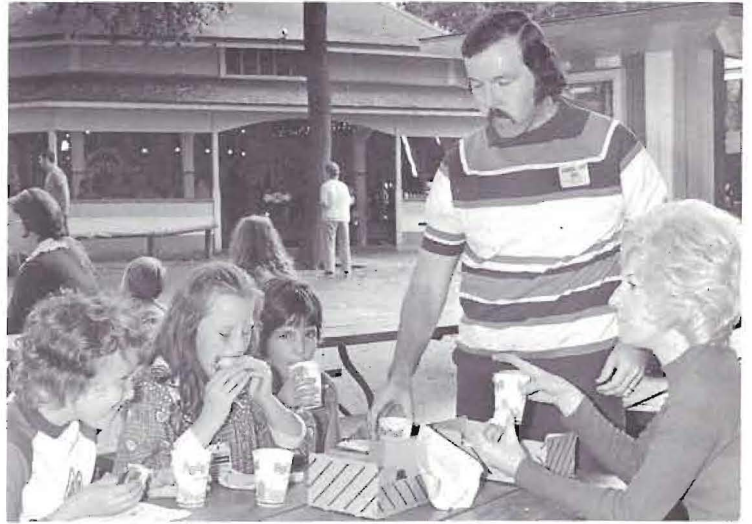
This year AT&T's Long Lines and the associated companies have joined in sponsoring a new concept in TV programming, the "Mini-Special" Show on local channels in prime time. The 30-minute specials will be hosted by Odd Couple star, Tony Randall and brought to the viewer by Long Lines and the 23 Bell Telephone Companies.

The series of specials, called TOP OF THE MONTH will begin in October. Each month's program will feature topics suggested by the month's events presented through song, dance, and comedy.

wevalley club family outing

September 9 — Canobie Lake Park — 5600 people on a rainy day





The Company ?

Housekeeping at Merrimack Valley involves the same sweeping, washing, waxing, picking up, and everything else that goes on in a home. However, the sheer size of the Works, the largest factory under one roof in the Commonwealth, turns simple cleaning chores into unbelievably complicated strategies deploying equipment and professional cleaners.

It's almost like a battle, one that is never resolved, but which must be fought again each shift. Over one hundred men and women see that the battle is won, each day, most of them employees of Western Electric's cleaning contractors.

Every 24 hours the housekeeping people at Merrimack Valley clean and wax 20,000 square feet of floors, the equivalent of over four regulation basketball courts. It takes 120 gallons of floor wax every week.

They are also responsible for cleaning and supplying 71 rest rooms each day. While everyone knows about cleaning, few people realize these rooms require huge quantities of supplies, like 315,000 paper towels each week.

Other battlefields in the war on grime include the medical department and the cafeterias. Each are scrubbed spotless every night.

Breezeways and stairways are particularly vulnerable because of heavy traffic, so housekeeping people sweep and vacuum them every day.

But cleaning isn't the only part of housekeeping. Painting, most recently done in imaginatively varied colors around the shops, is a continuing part of good housekeeping. Even groundskeeping falls into the housekeeping category.

Housekeeping is nothing short of big business in a place the size of Merrimack Valley, but in view of the investment involved, Western Electric feels that it's good business as well.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?



Lionel Dichard of WE's own cleaning contractors shows part of WE's own procedures for keeping the factory clean in different areas of the plant. Over 8,000 cleaning procedures are employed every day. But one responsible person, Newcomb of D2 Carriers, is always ready to hit the bucket.

Anniversaries from page 3

NAME	DEPT.	OCT.					
Holloran, Evelyn D.	89320	19	Dowell, Beatrice A.	80420	22	Allard, Roland A.	89450 28
Kocher, Daniel W.	27140	20	Elias, Edward A.	81480	23	Gonthier, Joseph N.	89510 28
Sanville, Richard J.	14920	20	Cox, Henry J.	81410	24	Kmiec, Genia K.	80420 28
Tomzak, Julia V.	03660	20	Duggan, John E.	31130	24	Rossi, Guido A.	81620 28
Behan, Francis A.	89510	21	Harris, Robert J.	12340	24	Webb, Rita S.	80420 28
Davis, Walter W., Jr.	12420	21	Keamy, Kenneth J.	12330	24	Comeau, Grace P.	89630 29
Grasso, John J.	81920	21	Leoncyk, Helen A.	81620	25	Danielian, Arlene B.	81590 29
Leahy, David J.	89530	21	Picard, Emily G.	89340	25	Boiselle, Ronald N.	89650 30
Skladany, Bernard J.	21710	21	Easefow, John	21710	27	DeParis, Augustine	12220 30
			Lowell, Allan A.	14150	27	Podlozny, Sophie S.	89630 30
			Mufson, Paul M.	21510	27	Turchi, Bruno	89550 30

HOUSEKEEPING POSSIBLE?

You?



The Plant Services Section housekeeping activity. While constant, there are different problems. Empty trash baskets, there are emptied each day. Activity is constant, as Irene demonstrates. It's your job

While most people at Merrimack Valley do not make their living keeping the Works clean, they do recognize the importance of keeping the place tidy while they make their living.

The adoption of housekeeping responsibility for all employees at the Works reaches people through many avenues. First and probably strongest is the individual's own training and personal sense of order. Another is the influence of supervisors and fellow workers. The most official is a Housekeeping Committee of Assistant Managers, chaired by Ron Lindquist of Works Service. Members of this committee generally describe the housekeeping obligations of an employee as normal neatness, and an awareness of one's surroundings. Trash belongs in a wastebasket; minor spills should be mopped up; clutter shouldn't collect anywhere. Most importantly, big jobs should be handled by the professionals who can be contacted by your supervisor. But you have to alert your supervisor to a housekeeping problem if he hasn't yet discovered it.

According to the committee, housekeeping has greatly improved over the summer. This has been the result of a lot of people consciously putting out that second effort. But what can really add to the problem is just around the corner — the New England winter. Salt and slush and extra clothing are only a few of winter's stumbling blocks.

This year the problems of cleanliness in the snow season are intensified as Merrimack Valley changes direction in its production, with many operations carried on in clean room environments. Even people who don't work in super-clean areas are affected by the cleanliness of their surroundings.

So there is real responsibility for everyone to think "neat" and this winter, even neater.

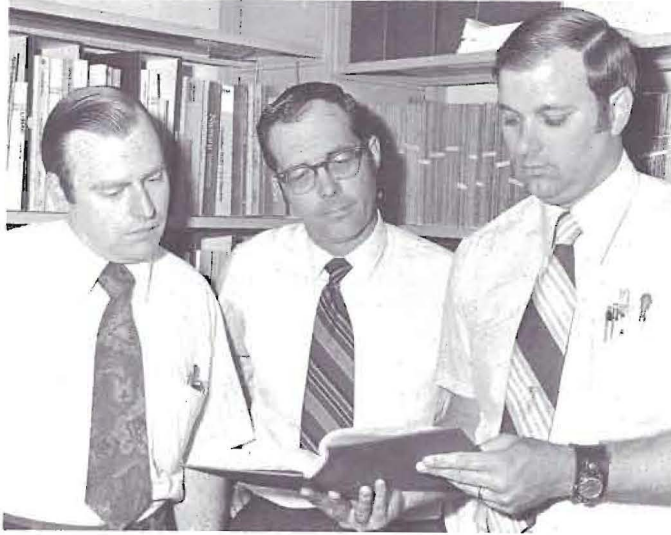
FIFTEEN YEARS

Morrill, Eleanor B.	89650	2	Skinner, Robert A.	21570	16	Bazin, Lucille V.	89490	23
Bickford, Ruth H.	89610	6	Kennedy, Phyllis D.	02130	17	DeOrio, Clara L.	89490	23
Jameson, Richard J.	03660	7	McCarron, Jeanette A.	89560	17	Garofalo, Frank L.	14180	23
Marston, Sarah J.	81580	8	Perry, Joanne M.	89630	17	Richardson, Dorothy J.	89610	23
Rosa, Blanche Z.	89660	9	Menasian, Aline E.	14910	19	Blackwell, Irene D.	81450	25
Budrevich, Clare M.	81460	10	Woidyla, Peter P.	81720	19	Kiley, Dorothy H.	89610	26
Blomgren, Hazel L.	81910	13	Carbone, Robert A.	27560	21	Audette, Albert E.	27140	28
McLellen, James R.	81580	13	Hahn, Robert O.	27140	21	Fritzsche, Helen	12430	28
Kinsella, Emily M.	81450	15	Janzegers, Raymond	21740	21	Taylor, Marjorie M.	89560	28
			Kamieneski, Walter J.	80420	21	Baillargeon, Doris E.	03690	31
			Nadeau, Norma R.	27420	21	Samia, Alice F.	81410	31

Three MVW Men Earn Degrees

Three Merrimack Valley men recently earned degrees through part time study.

(From left) Robert Clark of the L5 Carrier Repeaters Department turned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the Lowell Technological Institute; John Dowrick Jr., Installation Engineering Department, took a Master's degree in industrial management; and Robert Kramer of Process Capability Line for A-6 Filter and Monolithic Crystal Filter Engineering finished his B.S. in industrial engineering at Merrimack College.



Western Electric Sponsors Ten Scholarships

Western Electric will again sponsor ten merit scholarships for the children of employees. National Merit Scholarship Tests will be administered on either October 24 or 28.

The tests, which are given in high schools across the country, are open to students who will leave high school and enter college in 1974. Any student who intends to take the test should contact his principal as early as possible this semester to make the necessary arrangements.

Students who achieve outstanding success on the qualifying test (called the preliminary scholastic aptitude test/national merit scholarship qualifying test) are termed semifinalists and take a second test during December of their senior year. Those who confirm their original achievement are named merit finalists, and from this group the ten Western Electric merit scholars are chosen. Selection is made on the basis of merit by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation; Western Electric's participation is simply to provide the funds for the scholarships.

The amount of the scholarship is determined in terms of the winner's financial needs in attending the accredited, four-year American college of his choice. The stipends range from \$250 to \$1500 per year for the four years of school.

Neither parents nor the student need fill out special application forms to qualify for a WE-sponsored scholarship. Participation is an automatic process which begins when the student achieves semi-finalist status. For those wishing further details, a booklet describing the

program is available by writing to: Scholarship Booklet, Educational Relations Organization, Room 1626, 195 Broadway, New York, N.Y.



Pete Dion of the Piece Parts Department surprised the rest of his foursome with a five iron hole-in-one on the 16th hole of the Merrimack Valley Country Club.

ITAMS TAKE FIRST SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP



The undefeated Itams (Italian-Americans) won for the first season of the WEVALLEY Club Soccer League.

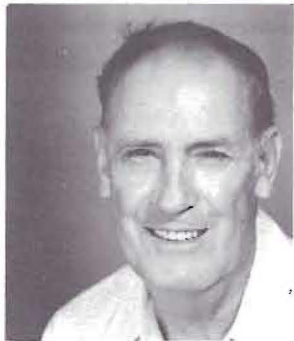
Front row: Jarle Dahl, Manufacturing, Test and Development Engineering; Charlie Marino, Installation Engineering, Carrier Systems; Dave Best, Hybrid Integrated Circuit Engineering; WEVALLEY Girl Graciela Gou, guest cheerleader; Nunzio DiMarca, Urban Affairs Department; Nick Carnett, Public Relations Section; and Joe Salvo, Hybrid Integrated Circuit Engineering; back row: Phil Campaigne, Hybrid Integrated Circuit Engineering, Assembly and Encapsulation; John Qualters, Systems Specification & Source Document Engineering - Toll Terminal Products, Quality, Practices; Mac Elmshwiller, Member of Technical Staff; Bruno Buccini, Apparatus Store C6, Raw Material Store C5 Section; Carlo Lavinia, Manufacturing, Test and Development Engineering; George Marotta, Industrial Engineering; Jim Dawson, Apparatus Store C6, Raw Material Store C5 Section; and Ken Dors, D2 Inspection & Test Section. The league later presented the team members trophies at a banquet in Haverhill.

Retirements

John Shaboo retired on September 5 after 18 years with Western Electric. Mr. Shaboo was a Tester in the Testing and Bonding Section and lives at 720 Fourth Street, El Cajon, California.



James C. Robertson, Supervisor of the Coil and Filter Final Test and Inspection Section, will retire on October 31 with over 43 years of service. Mr. Robertson lives on Columbia Park, Haverhill.



Kermit R. Fitts, a Machine and Equipment Mechanic in the Maintenance, Machine, Mechanical Section retired on September 29. A resident of Bonnie Acres in Hampstead, N.H., Mr. Fitts has almost 27 years of service.



Almont Lacerte will retire on October 23 with over 28 years of service. Mr. Lacerte is a Machine and Equipment Mechanic in the Maintenance, Machine, Mechanical Section and lives on Fifth Avenue in Haverhill.

William L. Radcliffe will retire on October 11 after 18 years of company service. A Laboratory Assistant assigned to the local Bell Laboratories, Mr. Radcliffe lives on Winter Street, Salem, N.H.



Walter F. Wroble of Dunbar Street in Arlington retired on September 19. Mr. Wroble was a Supervisor in the Coaxial Cord Section and had over 34 years of service.



SAMARITAN CREDITS WE SAFETY FILM



Leon Boucher

Last month when Leon Boucher of the Apparatus Stores Department was driving home through Boxford, he saw a figure lying by the side of the road. Stopping, he found an injured man, semi-conscious, near a battered bicycle.

Leon, who had just seen a safety film here at the Works about accidents, kept the victim quiet and convinced him not to move. Then he flagged down another passerby who called the police and sent an ambulance. Then Leon directed traffic away from the side of the road to protect the victim, who was soon picked up and rushed to a hospital. He was admitted with a broken leg and multiple contusions and abrasions.



Adele A. Masse of Hillside Place, Haverhill, will retire on October 31. Miss Masse is a Bench Hand in the Resin Coating Section and has over 27 years with Western Electric.

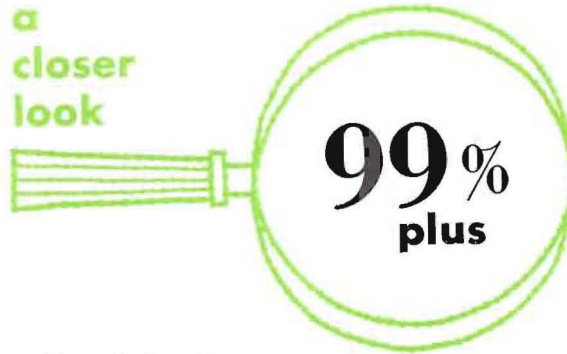
Andrew W. Murray, a Millwright in the Field Construction Section, retired on August 16. Mr. Murray was with the company for nearly 20 years and lives on North Main Street, Salem, N.H.

Did You Know That??

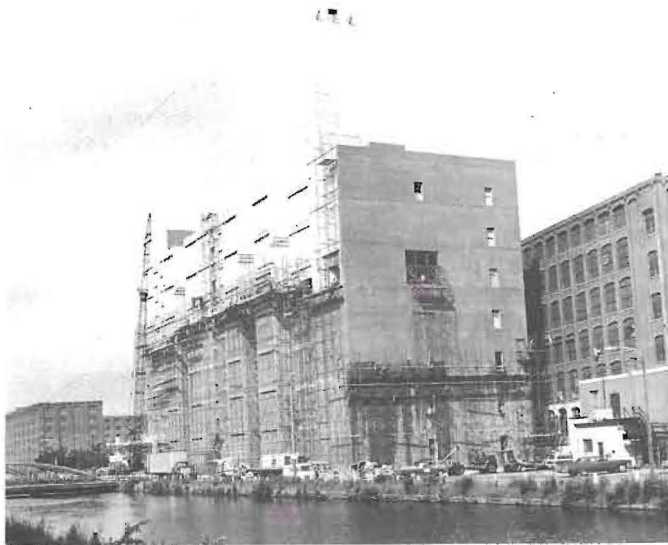
Charges for treatment rendered within 72 hours of an accident are covered by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Hospital charges are covered in full, doctor's charges at 80%.

This month's **CLOSER LOOK** explains several of the physical development projects that the New England Telephone Company has initiated in the Merrimack Valley Area.

a
closer
look



New England Tel. Builds For Tomorrow



Standing over the canal that cuts through South Lawrence, New England Telephone's new switching center is a concrete example of communications growth in the Merrimack Valley.

In 1971 the New England Telephone company published a pamphlet entitled "Communications for a Growth Area -- THE MERRIMACK VALLEY." In it, New England Tel discusses the unbelievable increase in demand for telephone service despite an economic lull throughout the Valley.

"During the 1970 downward slide in business and employment in the area, telephone service grew, gaining 10,000 more telephones in service and processing 760,000 more calls than in 1969."

Clearly, there is increased demand. The most visible response to this demand can be seen right now, at 425 Canal Street in Lawrence, where New England Tel is involved in a massive building project.

Near the end of 1970, ground was broken for the facility, which already has the appearance of the seven story switching center that should be completed next year. The cost involved will be nearly \$33 million.

The project involves the installation of 4A switching equipment and ESS. (Electronic Switching System), the Bell System's most modern call switching equipment. (The principal WE locations for ESS manufacture are the Hawthorne and

Columbus Works.) According to an official Telephone company release, ESS equipment will eventually replace all of Lawrence's present local calling facilities, and Lawrence will then become the first New England city to be served entirely by the system.

The 4A switching equipment will help speed long distance calls for customers in Lowell, Chelmsford, Tewksbury, Billerica, Dracut, Dunstable, Westford, Wilmington, Tyngsboro, and Hudson and Pelham, New Hampshire. The Canal Street facility will also route some long distance calls now switched through Manchester, New Hampshire.

The building itself is heavily reinforced with concrete because of the equipment it will house, and will be faced with brick. In addition, the architects have designed the structure to permit a vertical expansion of up to 10 stories. A

tower rises 50 feet above the 10 story mark to allow for future additional microwave facilities.

About 60 people will be employed in the facility. ESS equipment is already in use in Cambridge, Brighton, and Boston. Incidentally, the Bell System has set the year 2000 as its objective for converting the entire nation to electronic switching systems.

Another New England Tel project that was extremely visible to MVW employees this summer was the installation of 25,375 trench feet of conduit in North Andover, Haverhill, and Lawrence. Excavations ran much of the length of Osgood Street, directly across from the Works. Construction includes 33 manholes along the cable routes.

The telephone company began this half million dollar underground cable project again because of growth of consumer demands in the Valley area. The present Lawrence-Haverhill frame to frame toll cable reservation and its T-1 carrying capacity would be exhausted this year. Parts of the new cable routes will relieve this burden within the year, and the entire job should be finished in 1973 allowing for further increases in consumer demands in the Merrimack Valley.

Other recent additions to New England Telephone's Merrimack Valley operations include a \$750,000 Directory Assistance Operating Center on Plaistow Road in Haverhill, and a Direct Distance Dialing Center in Salisbury. Another facility similar to the new Salisbury Center will be completed in Peabody next year.

continued on page 11

In Memoriam

Guy E. Sturgis, Metal Finishing Section, August 19, 1972.

Ethel P. Daley, Multiple Wound and Spool Coil, C56 Department, August 26, 1972.

Evelyn R. Wyatt, Quartz Crystal Final Test Section, September 15, 1972.

William E. Siegel, Tool Construction and Maintenance Section, September 30, 1972.

Suggestion Makes Bob McCarthy \$2125 Richer

Robert McCarthy (right) earned a \$2125 suggestion award for his idea of changing components in the D2 Channel Bank. Bob is a Product Quality Checker in the Quality Appraisal & Control Section. The award was presented by Director Bill Banton.



Linda Droese, a Technical Clerk in the Engineering Standards, Practices & Regional Coordination Functions Department, earned a \$275 suggestion award for her suggestion to use a new longhand form, eliminating unnecessary typing.

Director Baker Clotworthy presented the award.

CLOSER LOOK *continued*

According to the telephone company's '71 Merrimack Valley pamphlet: "Our continued growth in telephones and calling volume . . . indicates the fundamental strength of the area and the bright prospects ahead . . . We pledge an unceasing effort to provide quality service to meet the growing communications needs of our area customers in the promising days ahead."

THIS CASE STAYED CLOSED

New York Tel's Richard Zielinski had just finished a job when he heard shouts of "Stop-thief!" and looked up to see two men chasing a beer truck that was being stolen. Zielinski gave chase in his phone truck. A policeman and a city pest control car soon joined in pursuit, and eventually the makeshift posse curbed the stolen truck. The thief was apprehended following a chase on foot. Zielinski turned down an offer of a free beer, saying it wasn't his brand. But he had to admit this was an unusual "case".

GATTI'S GALLEY:

For people who like or don't like liver, try this recipe.

For ingredients use one pound of liver (calf or beef), one medium size onion, a quarter pound of butter, two ounces of olive oil, a quarter cup of vinegar, a cup of beef bouillon.

1. Slice and saute the onion gently in the olive oil until golden
2. Add butter
3. Slice liver into finger length pieces
4. Flour them and add to the onions, cooking over a low flame, turning and stirring until brown.
5. Raise the flame and add vinegar, stirring gently.
6. Lower flame and simmer for three or four minutes.
7. Add bouillon slowly and let simmer ten minutes more, slowly stirring
8. Serve

Also, here's some important information about oven cooking bags. About 125 reported cooking bag explosions or fires have occurred since the bags came on the market. The first few reports were enough to prompt an investigation by both the Food and Drug Administration and the oven bag manufacturers. They decided "bumping" was the problem. Bumping is what happens when a superheated liquid suddenly bursts into a boil, and this is thought to be the reason oven bags explode.

As a safety precaution, cooks are advised to add at least a tablespoon of flour to the bag. Shake it to coat the inside surface thoroughly before putting in the meat. Manufacturers of the bags are convinced that adding the flour will prevent bumping.

Introducing "What's-his-name"

If "what's-his-name" looks slightly official with his Ma Bell watch fob and pocket of pens, it's no accident. He's the new Merrimack Valley Works Mascot. What's-his-name will be popping up now and again working with the different organizations at Merrimack Valley Works. And there's been a rumor that he's going to be employed as Dave Hilder's personal assistant. But in any case, before he can even get an "E" number, he needs a name, and your kids can help. Ask your youngsters under 10 years old if they have any ideas, then have them mail their suggestions here to the NEWSLETTER, Public Relations Department. The youngster with the best name for "what's-his-name" wins a \$25 savings bond, and our racoon can get his name on a pass and come in through the door. In case of duplicate names, the earliest entry is the winner, and if a further tiebreaker is needed, the winner will be drawn out of a hat. Entries must be received by November 15.

