

WE President Procknow, V.P. Joe West Visit MVW



Don Procknow (left), and Joe West watch Kerry Payne, Monolithic Crystal Filters, work under a microscope while Ginny Czerepak of the same department explains the different stages in making the A-6 filter.

When Western Electric's President, Don Procknow, accompanied by Executive Vice President Joe West and Vice President Morry Tanenbaum, visited the Works earlier this month they met an individual with first hand recollections of Alexander Graham Bell.

Mr. Melville Grosvenor, Bell's Grandson and Chairman of the Board of The National Geographic Society, had spoken at Phillip's Academy the night before where Dave Hilder had invited him to see the Works. Coincidentally he arrived during the inspection tour, and later entertained WE's top management with stories of growing up with the immortal Mr. Bell. Grosvenor recalled taking part in many of Bell's later experiments like the one which carried a man 200 feet aloft in a motorized kite.



Mr. Melville Grosvenor, Dave Hilder, and Don Procknow meet before lunch, discussing how Bell Companies like Western Electric have continued the work begun by Grosvenor's grandfather.

\$12 MILLION GOAL SET FOR 1974 COST REDUCTION

In line with an increasing trend of success in cost reduction, Baker Clotworthy, the Works' Engineering Director, has announced that the 1974 goal will be 12 million dollars. In 1973 the Works cost reduction effort chalked up 10.6 million in savings, a new high for this location, exceeding the expected goal by \$600,000.

The importance of cost reduction to the Bell System was emphasized in a recently published report by John deButts, A.T. & T. Chairman of the Board.

"Other major manufacturers conduct engineering cost reduction programs too. But the pervasiveness, size, longevity, and rigorous administration of the Western Electric program, together with its scrupulously-audited results, make it among the best in American industry."

The 10.6 million in savings does not include the results of the Clerical Cost

Reduction program, the Employee Suggestion System, or Purchasing Cost Reduction. Last year's figure is also an increase of \$2.5 million in savings over the preceding year.

INCREASED DEDUCTION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

People earning more than \$10,800 this year are going to pay more in '74 for Social Security taxes than ever before.

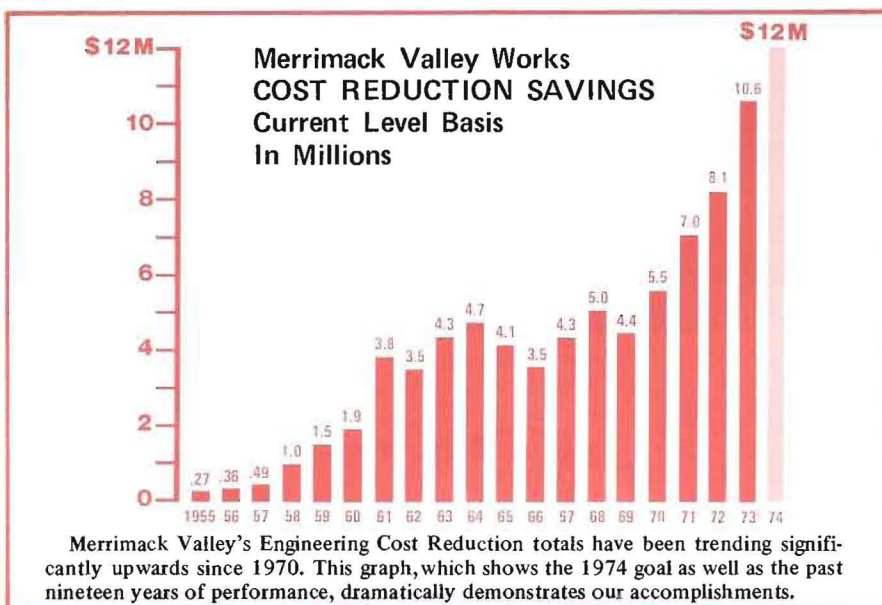
Under a new Social Security bill, the 5.85 annual percentage paid remains the same, but the wage base has been increased from \$10,800 to \$13,200. Thus while the maximum in Social Security Taxes paid last year was \$631.80 on \$10,800 in salary, this year's figure will be \$772.20 on \$13,200 in salary. People who earn less than \$10,800 will experience no change.

The new rates will affect WE as well as employees as the company not only sends its employees' contributions to the IRS, but must also match, penny for

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MERRIMACK VALLEY WORKS NEWSLETTER

Vol. 7, No. 2 A Western Electric Publication February 1974



Unfair! L-5 Lady Chained To Bench



It's true.

Anna Driscoll, L-5 Carrier Printed Circuit Boards, has been chained to her workbench.

Anna, and quite a few other people in her department, have begun wearing static discharge bracelets to drain any static electricity they may be carrying out of their bodies through the chain that plugs into the workbench.

Static electricity can actually burn out integrated circuits while an operator handles them, and the voltage that a person can discharge is more than plentiful. Just walking across a linoleum floor in dry weather you can pick up 4,000 volts and in some cases as many as 13,000. Shuffling across a carpet you can pick up a static charge of as many as 39,000 volts.

Getting back to Anna's chain, don't worry, it unplugs at the end of the day like everyone else's.

All Wevalley Club
Officers,
Directors, and
Representatives!
Don't forget the
Annual Dinner Dance
Haverhill Country Club
Saturday, March 30
Cocktails at 6:15
Dinner at 7:15

In Memoriam

Leo C. Laliberte, Quartz Crystal Unit
Assembly Department, January 29, 1974.

Michael Korbel, retired, January 31,
1974.

Wilfred A. Desroches, Crystal Filter
Department, February 21, 1974.

Dorothy L. Uihlein, Crystal Filter
Department, February 22, 1974.

Four Red Cross Instructors Finish Training

Four MVW men are among fifty area first aid instructors who have just completed a totally new retraining course sponsored by the American Red Cross.

(From left) Bill Johnston, Purchasing; Bob Burnell, BTL; Mitch Michaud, BTL; and Vin Deacy, Plant Protection, were all certified as Red Cross Instructor Teachers; that is, they are now trained to teach other instructors how to teach the updated Red Cross approach to first aid.

The course involved a total of 30 hours at the Lawrence Boys' Club, where they covered subjects like cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, emergency childbirth care, victim vehicle extrication, and neck and back injuries in water accidents.

The Red Cross manual which preceded this recent update was published in 1957. The new course, a multi-media program, was developed for the Red Cross as a public service by A.T. & T.



Call 4716
Newsline For
Today's Headlines

Call 4455
Congressional Tape Talk
To Reach
The Headliners

CHANGING DEDUCTIONS COULD ENLARGE PAYCHECK

Almost as certain as the annual hair-pulling of income tax preparation is the discovery that either too little money was withheld during the preceding year, or too much. While the disadvantage of not withholding enough to cover the tax bill is obvious, giving up too much and receiving a healthy refund is no blessing either. It means a smaller paycheck, and money held for "savings" without interest returned.

Under some conditions, these situations may be improved by either increasing or decreasing the number of exemptions, or allowances based on the number of dependents claimed by you, which would lower or raise the amount of tax withheld by the company from your paycheck.

The amount to be withheld is determined by the company from a W-4 form (available from WE stationery supplies as NC 30-209) on file in the payroll department for each employee. The W-4 shows the number of your allowances and becomes out of date when your number of dependents change.

W-4 forms claiming increases in exemptions and resulting in less tax withheld can be made at any time, while those claiming fewer exemptions must be made within ten days of the time the change occurred in order to become effective during the current tax year.

Promotions

February 1 sees Tom Doyle as New Assistant Manager

Thomas J. Doyle was promoted from Department Chief, Resin Casting, to Program and Service Manager on February 1.

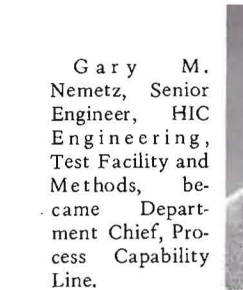
Mr. Doyle received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Merrimack College, and holds a master's in business from Rutgers University. He became a Department Chief in 1969. Mr. Doyle currently lives in North Andover; also on February 1:



David C. Penkus, Senior Engineer, Digital Data System Engineering, became Department Chief, Facilities Planning and Manufacturing Systems Development.



Richard P. Romeo, Section Chief, Safety, became Department Chief, Multiple Wound and Spool Coils and Resin Casting.



Gary M. Nemetz, Senior Engineer, HIC Engineering, Test Facility and Methods, became Department Chief, Process Capability Line.



Joseph H. Bellefeuille, Senior Engineer, HIC Engineering, Test Facility and Methods, was promoted to Department Chief, that same department.



John J. Procopio, Jr., Order Analyst, Plant Construction, was promoted to Section Chief, Plant and Machine Maintenance.



David W. Manning, Section Chief, L-5 Carrier Panels A and W, was promoted to Department Chief, Film Integrated Circuits and Beam Crossover.

Richard L. Bouchard, Investigator, Appraisal and Control, became Section Chief, DDS, 1 ARDS Assemble, Wire, Inspection, and Test.

Richard F. Anastasi, Product Quality Checker, Quality Assurance and Results, became Section Chief, D2, TAM12, DDS, VIF Assemble, Wire, Inspection, and Test.

Gary R. Underwood, Information Systems Staff Member, Management Science and Manufacturing Shop Information Systems, was promoted to Section Chief, FIC Assemble and Mirror Plating.

Eleanor D. Grandmaison, Tester, Small Toroidal Coils, was promoted to Section Chief, Coil Assembly.

Peter R. Contarino, Engineering Associate, Industrial Engineering, became Section Chief, Coil Process Test and Coil Final Test.

L. David Murray, Training Associate, was promoted to Section Chief, Coil Assembly.

Social Security—continued from page 1

penny, those taxes with its own payments.

The idea behind the Social Security tax is simple: during working years employees, employers, and self-employed people make Social Security contributions which are pooled in special trust funds.

When earnings stop because a worker retires, becomes disabled, or dies, monthly cash benefits are paid to replace part of the earnings his or her family has lost.

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ARTHUR BELLEVILLE
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JAMES P. CHASSE

AGGRESSO RINGS BELL AT METHUEN MALL



Aggresso meets the first customer of the night at the Methuen Mall. W.E. advisor Bill Fox backs out of the picture giving the company's members the job of making sales.

From left: Fox, Lori Polombi, Brenda Cardoso, and Barbara Watkoff, an advisor from Merrimack College.

Aggresso, the Merrimack Valley Works - sponsored Junior Achievement company, was busy ringing bells this month at the Methuen Mall.

For three evenings and a Saturday, all local J.A. companies gathered at the shopping center to market their products, and after the first evening Aggresso walked off with first place for design of product and display.

But while half the company was selling patio bells in Methuen, the other half was busy at the J.A. center in Lawrence making a product change - wall flowers, plaques which display bright artificial flowers.

Aggresso has over \$800 in sales already and is still going strong.



While the Kevin Dem Michael P mini-compa



Jerry Mansfield, Merrimack College advisor, and Richard Bonin take inventory before production starts on the new product line.

Therese Ann Fili and John McIntosh set up the production line, as by now their advisor lets them decide the most efficient way to put together the plaque.



**WE
MACHINES
DECIDE
WEATHER
OR NOT
WE BUY**

Ever wonder how things that W.E. buys for you or the Telephone Company people get tested before someone buys them by the millions? Things like ballpoint pens, phone booths, linemen's hardware, ladders, capacitors?

It's done by faking out Mother Nature at W.E.'s Purchased Products Engineering and Inspection Facility in Springfield, N.J., where the products Western Electric purchases for the Bell System are tested, inspected, and sometimes improved.

Since these purchases are used throughout the United States, they must perform under a wide range of environmental conditions. That's where fooling Mother Nature comes in, as the PPE staff

recreates weather conditions like temperatures from -40 degrees F to 300 degrees F, or humidity up to 98 percent. Then there's another machine that speeds up aging or corrosion, and another that can cram a month's sunshine into 24 hours of ultra-violet light, with intermittent rainfall.

There are other machines at the center that do more than make weather, like the slip tester which measures the slipperiness of waxed floors by sliding a simulated foot across simulated floors.

Even common pen refills get theirs in a mechanical writing machine which draws circles on a moving sheet of paper. To measure up to Bell System standards, a refill has to draw one continuous line of at least 5,000 feet.

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TWO MEN GRADUATE AS TOOLMAKERS

Two men, Edward Pinaud and Robert Roberts, have just become the 56th and 57th graduates of Merrimack Valley's Toolmaker Training Program after completing the four-year apprenticeship course.

Edward Pinaud (left) goes over some last details in the training program with one of his instructors, Sal Genualdo. Ted is married and is from Westville, New Hampshire. His mother Miriam also works here at Merrimack Valley in the L-4 Repeater Department.



Robert Roberts, (right) checks measurements with Training Associate, Sid Peck. Bob comes from Plaistow, New Hampshire, and is married with two daughters. Bob's father is Harold Roberts, Supervisor in the Facilities Planning and Manufacturing Systems Development Department.

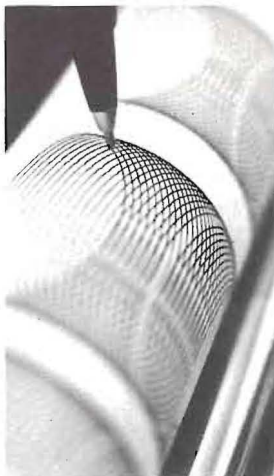


The rest of the Aggresso team is out selling bells, laughing. W.E. advisor Wade Culberson, John McIntosh, and Ferro are busy designing the prototype for the company's second product, flower plaques.

Gary Matthes and Bill Fox set up part of the display which won first place at the Methuen Mall.



ING UP. This ball point pen can be drawing concentric circles for an entire writing life. It's through its paces by the pen at Western Electric's Products Engineering in Springfield, N. J. To keep up to WE standards, a pen must draw an unbroken line for more than 5,000 feet long. The pen is one of several made by Purchased Products Engineering people to enhance the products WE buys. Bell System are of the quality at the lowest pos-



GATTI'S GALLEY

With the costs of foodstuffs increasing it becomes more difficult to prepare a nutritious meal that's economical as well. So here's a recipe that may help meet both requirements.

| <i>Ham with Lentils</i> | <i>Feb. Prices</i> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 2 lb. Daisy ham | \$2.58 |
| 1 lb. Lentils | .55 |
| 1 medium-sized onion | .03 |
| 2 carrots | .06 |
| 1 stalk of celery | .02 |
| 2 ounces of olive oil | .15 |
| | \$3.39 |

Wash and then soak lentils for an hour.
Dice and chop onion, carrots, celery.

Heat olive oil in large pot, braise chopped vegetables. When golden brown add lentils with two quarts of water. Add Daisy ham (uncut) to pot, let boil gently for two hours. Remove Daisy ham and slice into strips, return to pot and serve into soup dishes. Served with Italian or French bread, makes a good wintertime dish for a family of six to eight.

Retirements



Helen M. Sears, a Wireman in the L-4 – L-5 Bay MMX-2 Panel and Bay, A and W Inspection and Test Department, retired on February 11. Mrs. Sears lives on Chester Street in Lawrence and has been with Western Electric for 20 years.

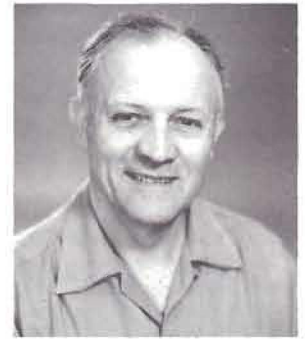


Wallace C. Lambert will retire on March 18 after over 23 years of company service. Mr. Lambert is a Tester in the T-1 System Terminals and Networks Department and lives on Old Ferry Road in Haverhill.



Kenneth S. Lord, a Guard in the Plant Protection Department retired on February 10. Mr. Lord lives on Old Road in Plaistow, N.H., and has been with Western Electric for 30 years.

Herman E. Yelle, a Utility Operator in the Crystal Filter Department, will retire on March 31. Mr. Yelle lives on Friend Street in Amesbury and has 18 years of company service.



John L. Sargent of South Green Street in Bradford will retire on March 31. Mr. Sargent has worked for Western Electric for 19 years and is a Millwright in the Plant Construction Department.



Neal M. Blake will retire on March 12 after over 16 years of company service. Mr. Blake is a Production and Quality Checker in the Appraisal and Control Organization and lives at Bonnie Acres in Hampstead, N.H.

Joseph A. Gelinas, a Carpenter in the Plant Construction Department, will retire on March 31. Mr. Gelinas lives in Derry, N.H., and has been with the company for 21 years.

Lila D. Wilbur retired on February 26 after 18 years of company service. Mrs. Wilbur lives on Florence Avenue in Lowell and was a Test Equipment Operator in the Duolateral Coil Department.

Anniversaries

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS

| Name | Dept. | March |
|------------------------|-------|-------|
| Gurley, Howard L., Jr. | 30400 | 30 |

THIRTY YEARS

| | | |
|----------------------|-------|----|
| Anzaldi, John | 89630 | 2 |
| Cuomo, Leonora V. | 89480 | 2 |
| Whitmore, George E. | 14940 | 2 |
| Saliba, Alice | 89930 | 3 |
| Goldthwaite, Mark | 89490 | 6 |
| Lavallee, Donald A. | 89610 | 6 |
| Wedgwood, Frances | 89610 | 6 |
| Chatigny, Alfred | 89490 | 12 |
| Welch, Hannah M. | 89490 | 13 |
| Giard, Andrew G. | 89660 | 16 |
| Hartford, Charles W. | 14160 | 23 |
| Ciardello, Ernest D. | 14190 | 29 |
| Allen, Ralph L. | 89610 | 31 |

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|----|
| Johnson, Arnold G. | 27410 | 18 |
| Gosselin, Leo J. | 89930 | 23 |
| Dobbin, Rose M. | 89630 | 27 |

TWENTY YEARS

| | | |
|---------------------|-------|----|
| Marquis, Ida H. | 14960 | 3 |
| Baker, Fred H. | 03740 | 8 |
| Beland, Pauline T. | 02320 | 13 |
| Cloutier, Thelma E. | 81820 | 18 |
| Giarrusso, Lucy M. | 81850 | 26 |
| Gates, Edith G. | 89610 | 30 |
| McDonald, Evelyn V. | 81820 | 31 |

FIFTEEN YEARS

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------|----|
| Carlson, Roy C., Jr. | 12470 | 2 |
| Sweeney, Robert F. | 80420 | 2 |
| Lapham, Stanley M. | 21310 | 5 |
| Alartosky, Robert R. | 02140 | 6 |
| Coombs, James P. | 12410 | 16 |
| Carey, Rose M. | 03690 | 23 |
| Matthes, George T. | 02100 | 23 |
| Jardine, Stephanie C. | 81820 | 25 |
| Caldwell, Robert S. | 89870 | 26 |
| Noel, Chanel G. | 89840 | 26 |
| Pappalardo, Mary M. | 89330 | 28 |
| Kryzynski, Alan R. | 03670 | 30 |

Phoenix Counselor Honored For Service

Is Ray Rourke your Phoenix Mutual Insurance counselor? If so, you might want to congratulate him because he has just been named a President's Club Associate by Phoenix for "an outstanding record of sales and service to the public."

4 people take \$1780 in Awards

Four MVW people recently finished a day's work substantially richer than usual as they collected a combined \$1,780 in suggestion award checks.

John Ricci, Packing, Shipping, and Warehousing Department (seated at right), received a \$765 check from Director Cliff Kimmerle (left) and

Assistant Manager Bill McKissack for his idea to reduce the size of delivery tickets.

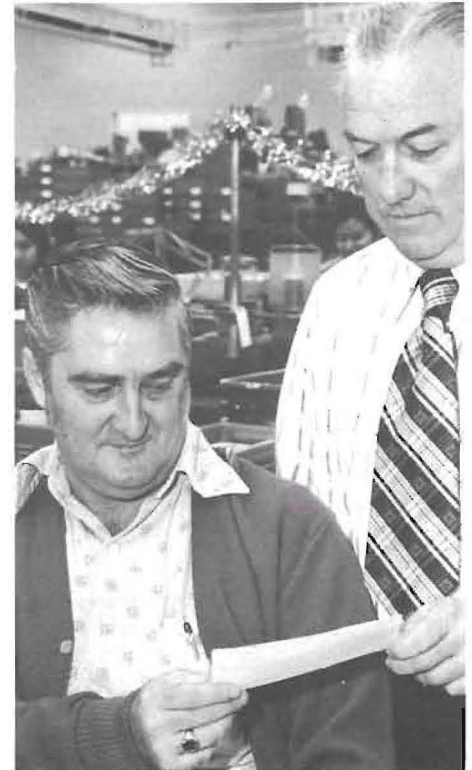


Natalie Nimmo, Benefits Department, received \$420 for her suggestion to change the type of bound memory album provided to retirees by her department. Assistant Manager George Matthes made the presentation.



Roland Benoit, Plant and Machine Maintenance Department, earned \$300, presented by Assistant Manager Ron Lindquist. Roland's suggestion added improvements to a stitch bonding machine, reducing down time.

(far right) Robert Hart, Duolateral Coil Department, accepted a \$295 award from Assistant Manager Hughie Boyle (since retired). Robert suggested adding a pulley to a winding machine which increased its capabilities.



A Reminder To Participants In The Bell System Savings Plan

If you received any proceeds (payments) in AT & T stock from the Bell System Savings Plan because of periodic partial distribution or withdrawals in 1973, you are reminded that you should determine your tax liability prior to filing your income tax return for '73 (due to be filed by April 15, 1974).

Participants should refer to a letter distributed on April 2, 1973 which outlined the appropriate steps to figure tax liability. Additional copies of this letter are available in the Benefit Service Department. Also, the people in the department are available to answer questions of a general nature pertaining to these tax obligations on x2841, 3423 or 3424.

Kaleidoscope

What did they Do before 1850?

The bathtub was invented in 1850, while Bell didn't invent the telephone until 1875 . . . thus if you had been living in 1850, you could have sat in the bathtub for 25 years without having the phone ring once . . . and though you may not have had any calls, you would finally end up with one unbelievable ring.

Car pooling, Passengers, And Profits

The increased pressure of gasoline's high price and short supply prompts a few reminders for people who have started carpooling . . .

First, insurance . . . have you enough insurance to cover injury to your passengers? . . . does your policy change if you are using your automobile to carry paying passengers? . . . we can't tell you, but your insurance agent can . . . before it's too late, find out.

Second, taxes . . . have you taken, or are you taking, cash in exchange for transportation? . . . it *is* income, so straighten out your records . . . before it's too late.

Give your cold Through contact

Kissing doesn't but touching might . . . that's the new word on how colds are spread . . . according to researchers at the University of Virginia Medical School, the cold virus doesn't feel comfortable on the mucous membranes that line the mouth . . . carriers spread their colds by blowing their noses and leaving the virus behind on anything, or anybody, they touch.

Don't pine away Over being Boxed in

The Rocky Mountain Casket Company offers the latest idea in unique furnishing for the future . . . for \$125, plus shipping, you can buy your coffin now and use it as a cabinet, pool cue rack, bookcase, coffee table or sandbox . . . in fact, an extra \$10 buys four shelves and two wine racks designed to fit inside . . . perhaps to keep the occupant happy and well read?

Once More, With Feline!



Western Electric will co-sponsor another National Geographic TV special, "The Big Cats," on Friday, March 15, 1974, at 8 p.m., Eastern Time, over the ABC-TV network. The program will explore the plight of lions, tigers, North American mountain lions and other big cats as man's environment encroaches upon their own. Shown here are Siberian tigers, which have been successfully bred in many zoos of the world. There are fewer than 300 Siberians in zoos, however, and even fewer of these rare, endangered animals in the wild.