

THE
AMCHEM
NEWS



VOLUME 8 No. 1

April, 1965



Happiness doesn't come from doing what we like to do, but from liking what we have to do.
—Wilfred Peterson.

There is only one proof of ability—results. Men with ability in action get results.
—Harry F. Banks.

Have the mental equipment to do your job, then take the job seriously, yourself not too seriously.
—Frances Willis.

No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave.
—Calvin Coolidge.

What we hope ever to do with ease, we must learn first to do with diligence.
—Samuel Johnson.

If wrinkles must be written upon our brows, let them not be written upon the heart. The spirit should not grow old.
—James Garfield.

We should correct our own faults by seeing how uncomely they appear in others.
—J. Beaumont.

A good listener is not only popular everywhere but after a while he knows something.
—Wilson Mizner.



THE AMCHEM NEWS

Vol. 8, No. 1 April, 1965

Published by
AMCHEM PRODUCTS, Inc.

Ambler, Pennsylvania

in the Interest of AMCHEM
Employees and Their Families

William A. Drislane, Editor-Art Director

On Our Cover

Researchers in all fields derive satisfaction in finding new uses for already-established products; Mel Sutherland and Hirsh Segal are no exceptions. Here Mel's VW bus serves as a private conference room when various kinds of interruptions in the lab interfere with a discussion on research problems.

EDITORIAL

Pesticides Help Preserve Foods, Not Poison Them

By F. J. STARE, M.D.

Chairman, Department of Nutrition, Harvard University

The current hysteria about agricultural chemicals has seeped in under the doorsills of American homes.

A woman recently said to me, "I feel like Lucretia Borgia every time I put dinner on the table. Am I poisoning my family?"

That concerned woman, interested primarily in the health and well-being of her family, deserves to have an end put to her confusion about agricultural chemicals, particularly pesticides. Her bafflement stems not from stupidity, but from the claims and counter-claims of self-appointed experts who usually don't know what they're talking about.

FACTS MISINTERPRETED

They are usually extrapolating to man some findings on birds, bees or fish or the unfortunate result of some child inhaling or swallowing large quantities of some pesticide. Such findings just don't extend to the use of agricultural chemicals in the growing, protecting or preserving of foods.

Let's set aside all arguments about how or why the current controversy started and concentrate instead on letting facts speak for themselves.

One irrefutable fact the critics of pesticides have been unable to answer is this true statement: there is not one medically documented instance of ill health in man, not to mention death, that can be attributed to the proper use of pesticides, or even to their improper use as far as ill health from residue on foods.

FACT AND FANCY

If anyone can bring forward any evidence to refute that, there are many agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration, the Public Health Service and the Food Protection Committee of the Food and Nutrition Board, that would welcome an opportunity to investigate the case.

In spite of this lack of evidence, many people now have the impression that pesticides contaminate our food supply and are harmful, probably lethal. This gap between fact and fancy must be closed or we will do ourselves great harm by allowing disease and famine to rule the earth.

POISON TO ANIMALS

Are pesticides poison? Of course, that's why they work. They are poison to the insects, worms, rats, weeds and other pests against which they are directed. Because of strictly enforced regulations and tolerance levels, however, the hazard to man from pesticide residues on foods is almost non-existent. They are dangerous if you handle them carelessly or leave them around where small fry may "play house" with them.

You can have confidence in our foods. They are not full of poisons as some food faddists would have you believe. They are nutritious and the quality is much better than it was a generation ago.

Eat and enjoy them.

Copyright 1965 Los Angeles Times
Reprinted with its permission

For this privilege we wish to express our gratitude to Mr. Rex Barley, Manager, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.



Section of lithographed aluminum before being formed into cans.

In Our Business a
CAN
Is a
CAN
Not a Bit of
Capricious
Choreography

HOW MUCH tin is there in a tin can? When we submit this question to our reader friends, excluding the cognoscenti and the beaker and Bunsen burner set, we hope it makes more sense than the TV commercial that asks "How long is an evening of pool?"

It will probably come as much of a surprise to all our uninitiated friends as it did to us (meaning the editor) to learn that there is just 1.5% tin in a "tin" can; the remaining 98.5% of material is sheet steel. The 1.5% is just a tin coating that is applied by electrodepositing the tin on the steel strip.

Since such a small amount of tin is used on a can, one would wonder why the steel industry would have shopped around for a substitute for the tin. But when we learn that tin ore is becoming something of a controlled commodity, with the principal sources of supply confined to Malaya and Bolivia, we can appreciate the steel industry's reasoning in seeking a replacement for the tin because steel canning stock requires a coating.

In a pilot run at Monroeville, Pa., aluminum is shaping up as a substitute for the tin coating. Through a vaporiz-

ing process, aluminum is attracted to the surface of the steel strip where it condenses and forms a layer of metallic aluminum on the steel.

With the growth of aluminum in the packaging field from 25,000 tons in 1960 to an estimated 125,000 tons in 1964 and a potential of 200,000 tons in 1965, it is easily understandable that can manufacturers would be more than receptive to aluminum plate as a replacement for tin plate. The main contributor to this fantastic increase has been the easy-open and the plain aluminum can tops which have accounted for 50,000 to 60,000 tons of aluminum in 1964.

The market for the easy-open top is expanding into areas beyond the brewing industry, where 75% to 80% of the beer cans manufactured in 1964 had easy-open tops. These areas include soft drinks, candy and nuts, fish and potted meats, and dried soups. This information comes from an extensive article in MODERN METALS magazine.

According to Cliff Sands, manager of Alcoa's container and packaging divi-

sion, as reported in the same MODERN METALS article, "40 to 50 billion cans of all types are produced per year."

Should a price squeeze force the steel industry to resort to aluminum for plating can stock, it would mean additional business for Amchem's Alodine® conversion coating chemical which already has a pretty firm grip on the aluminum coil field due to the reverse roll-coating method of application. "With reverse roll-coating," to quote MCD's John Geyer in the same MODERN METALS article, "it is possible to apply a uniform Alodine® coating to aluminum at line speeds of up to 1500 feet per minute . . . the conventional spray application of Alodine® is not suitable for these high line speeds if coating weight is to be held within the specified range."

Thus, regardless of whether containers are fabricated from all-aluminum stock or are made of aluminum-plated steel, Alodine® can provide the maximum adhesion for the interior liners. These liners, which are lacquer, acrylic or vinyl, are the final coating that eliminates contact between the contents of the can and the metal.

Invequimica SPRAYS WAY To Success

NESTLING high and saucer-like in the northern end of the Andes in the state of Antioquia, Colombia, is Medellin, a city of 690,500 population. Most of us have had little reason for ever knowing that such a city existed. But a continuous flow of mail between Amchem and Juan C. Uribe Posada, Director of Marketing at Invequimica, Amchem's manufacturing associate for agricultural chemicals in Colombia, has made Medellin a familiar name to personnel in the International Division.

As an economics and marketing consultant in 1951, Juan Uribe decided to investigate the sales possibilities of chemical weedkillers in Colombia. An initial order to Amchem for a five-gallon pail of Weedone LV-4 and a five-gallon pail of Weedone® Brushkiller 64 launched the project.

Despite the skepticism of his sales prospects and the vulnerability to attack from guerrillas, Juan, with knapsack on back, persisted in demonstrating the effectiveness of these weedkillers in areas off the beaten path. He backed up these demonstrations with talks, a movie and free samples, with the result that his initial supply of herbicides was quickly exhausted.

IN A LAND where manana is supposed to be symbolic of the attitude of its citizens, such hard work and activity belied this adverse reputation and Amchem quickly appointed Juan as its sole representative in Colombia, supplanting a rather lethargic agent in Bogota.

An idea of the intensive effort that Juan put into his selling can be gained when we consider that in an area of less than 1/10 the size of Colombia's 839,520 square miles he sold 15 times more weedkiller than was previously sold by his predecessor in the entire country.

This success prompted Juan's father, Roberto Uribe, one of Colombia's leading industrialists and businessmen, to suggest to Juan that he become a manufacturing licensee rather than a distributor of Amchem herbicides.

When this request for status change was submitted to Amchem, it met with management's approval and Invequimica was established in 1957.

JUAN URIBE's brother, Alvaro Uribe, a graduate chemical engineer of Detroit University, came to Ambler for an in-

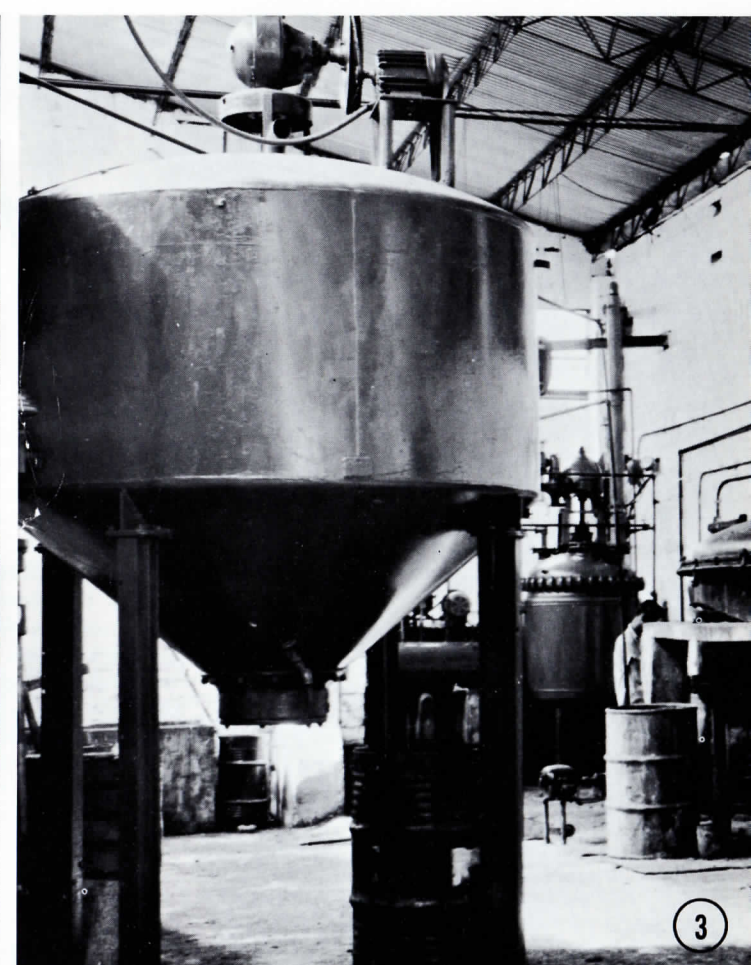
tensive training period in the formulating and manufacturing of Amchem weedkillers. This program paid off for Invequimica, for shortly after his return to Medellin, his company was in production.

Today, not only is Invequimica the leader in the manufacture and distribution of herbicides in Colombia, but those competitors who opposed Invequimica's importation of raw materials and manufacturing locally are now some of its best customers.

Included among Invequimica's extensive clientele is La Caja de Credito Agrario (House of Agricultural Credit—a type of Governmental farmers' cooperative) which buys and stores agricultural chemicals in its 454 warehouses in Colombia.

When Invequimica was established in 1957 it employed a total of three people. Today, just eight years later, it employs 27 in the manufacturing plant and 14 on its Research Farm, including an Agronomist and an Agricultural Engineer. It has a sales force of 12 headed by a Sales Manager. Also, there are local distributors with 20 sales representatives.

Continued on page 13



Opposite Page (1) Exterior View of Invequimica Plant in Medellin, Colombia. (2) Invequimica's first mixing tank. (3) Vast progress can be noted by this modern esterification plant when compared with Invequimica's original equipment in photo at left. (4) Invequimica executives, salesmen and secretaries actively participate in agricultural exhibits by giving demonstrations of the Company's many products.

TV Debut for STAN M'CLANE

SINCE MOST of us at Amchem were tending to our assorted chores between 2:25 and 2:50 P.M. on December 3, we missed seeing Dr. Stanley McLane, ACD Assistant Director of Biological Research, on WHYY-TV. For the same reason we missed the re-run the following day. However, judging from the laudatory letter from the Philadelphia Board of Education, it must have been a very interesting and enlightening program that Stan presented over the air.

Having read the script and the directorial procedure we wholeheartedly concur with producers Bess Barg and Abner A. Miller that Stan's initial TV venture was a great success. His topic, Herbicides, was excellently organized, logically developed and most interestingly presented.

The talk, illustrated with slides and visual demonstrations, proved the effectiveness, safety and economy of herbicide application on crops, rights-of-way and as an essential agent in a lawn-care program.

HE EMPHASIZED the importance of and necessity for right-of-way maintenance to utility companies, stating that clearance of such areas annually cost these companies \$200,000,000. "The cost of this herbicidal work," said Stan, "could provide electricity to each family in the Philadelphia area for two years."

Since this TV classroom special science series by Station WHYY is directed primarily to high school audiences, Stan gave his talk in terms that were easily understood by his listeners. He even injected a bit of comedy when he demonstrated the tenacity of cocklebur by attaching a sample to his mustache.

In relating the loss in crop yield, Stan said that weeds cost United States farmers four billion dollars every year

—or the equivalent of providing free food for every family in the United States for five weeks every year.

THE BEST indication of the success of Stan's TV appearance can be gained from reading the following letter:

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA
21st STREET S. OF THE PARKWAY

December 8, 1964

Mr. Gerald Romig, President
Amchem Products, Inc.
Ambler, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Romig:

I should like to offer my thanks and congratulations to your company and yourself for making Dr. Stanley R. McLane available for our ADVANCE SCIENCE series on Thursday, December 3.

Dr. McLane's program was perfectly organized and developed. It was a very model of a television science program. It was fully supported with visuals, slides, and a demonstration.

Dr. McLane made an excellent television personality. He showed to advantage on the studio monitor. His voice was easy and chatty, as befits television. His manner was engaging and relaxed. The director and the studio personnel were highly impressed.

From the comments we have already received, I should say that Dr. McLane's presentation was reassuring to those who are concerned about the use of herbicides. The comments were also enthusiastically favorable.

You may be certain that through Dr. McLane's presentation, your company has made a solid contribution to educational television.

I found it a source of deep personal pleasure to meet and work with Dr. McLane.

Sincerely,
Abner A. Miller

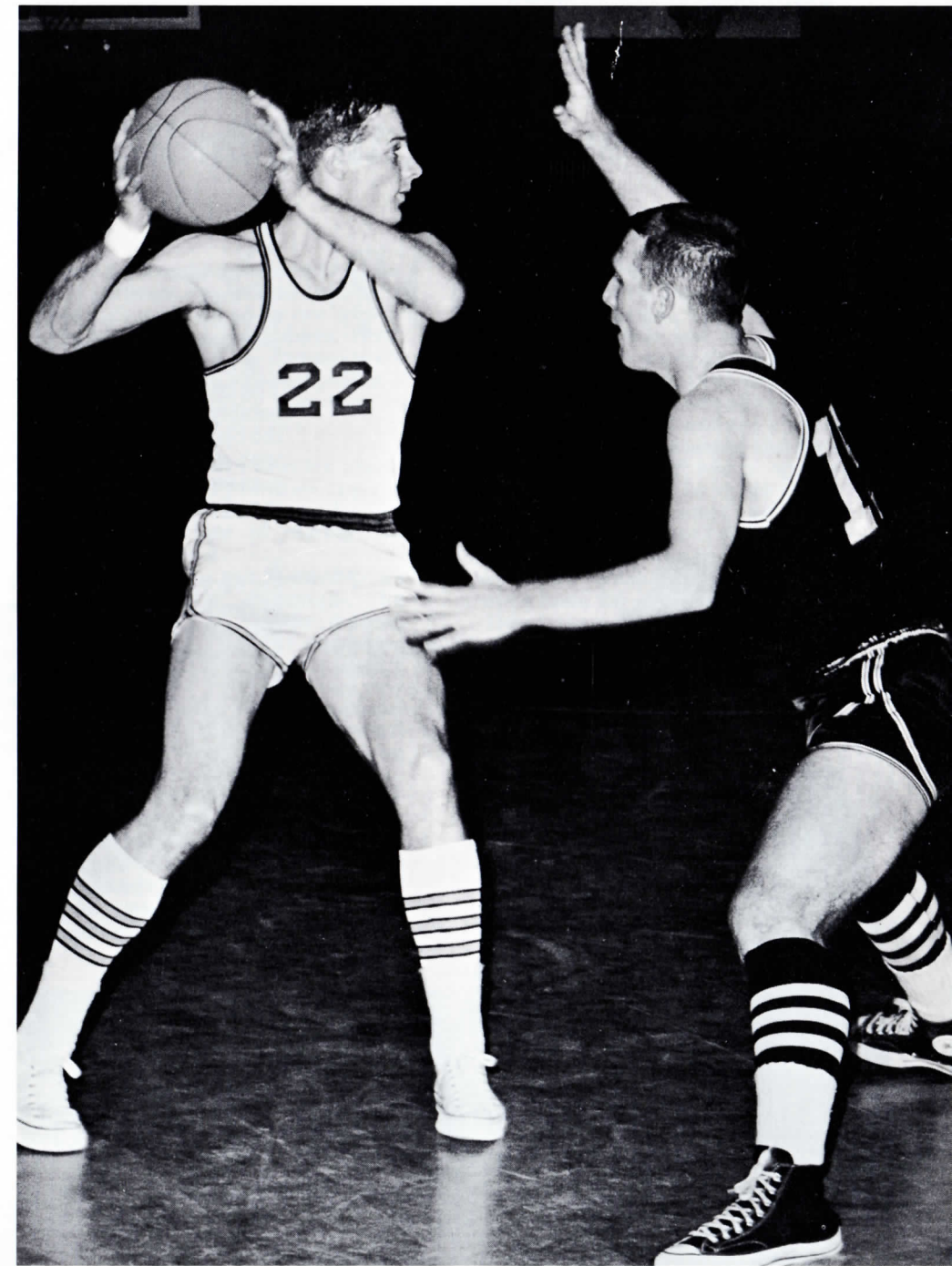


Marian Wendorf Is Outstanding Student Scientist

Marian Wendorf, 20-year-old daughter of Amchem's Fremont, Calif., plant superintendent Harold Wendorf, was chosen to represent the University of California, Davis Campus, at a symposium on American Women in Science held at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, Mass., the weekend of October 25th last year. She is a senior, majoring in microbiology.

Marian was chosen on the basis of her professional experience, even though she is still an undergraduate. This professional experience includes two years as a biology laboratory assistant in high school, two years as a National Science Foundation grantee doing research in serology (the branch of science, especially immunology, treating of the reactions, preparation, use, etc., of serums) at the University of California, and one year as a laboratory assistant in serology. She also did extensive research work in pheasant blood, and spent one year in research for the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu.

As a P. S., George Williamson, Vice Pres. at Fremont, informs us that the Wendorf family vacationed in Honolulu with Marian last September.



Earl Wilson's Son Stars on Court

Action shot of Mike Wilson (22), star guard at Kutztown (Pa.) State College basketball team, taken during Kutztown-Philadelphia Textile game last January 6. Mike is the son of Earl Wilson, Amchem evening force. Alert ball handling by Mike and his team mates enabled Kutztown to score a stunning 88-84 upset victory over Textile, unbeaten up until this encounter and ranked as the top small college team in east and eighth in the entire country at the time. Mike also played halfback on Kutztown's football team

this past fall. He was a stand-out performer in football, basketball and baseball at St. Matthew's High School, Conshohocken, before attending Kutztown where he is a senior.

Mike's younger brother, Tommy, a senior at LaSalle College, qualified as a professional basketball referee and officiated scholastic games this past Winter.

Papa Earl and Mrs. Wilson are hoping that graduations at Kutztown and LaSalle won't fall on the same day.

Why R&D?

The Modern Group Research and Development Idea In Action at Amchem's MCD

THE MODERN industrial organization cannot afford to relax and enjoy the fruits of its labors. Competition, obsolescence, and world-wide technical progress demand a continued flow of new products and processes. This is the task of Research and Development.

R & D in the modern age can function only as part of an organization. The pattern of new product invention and development has changed notably over the years. No longer is the inventor the solitary worker. As the boundaries of knowledge are extended, new skills become necessary, with elaborate and expensive equipment, and with specially trained personnel. The inventor is now part of a group, and the smooth functioning of the group is all-important.

IN DECEMBER, 1962, a new Amchem policy was outlined with respect to Research and Development in the Metalworking Chemicals Division. The basis of this policy is the appointment of group leaders who are responsible through their groups for all phases of technical activity. Each group is a specialist and concentrates on the products and processes that would be utilized or applied in specific types of major industry. The object of each group is to: Carry out the necessary basic research; invent new products and obtain the necessary information for the prosecution of patent applications; assist in the field development of these new products, and assist in solving product application problems.

In January, 1963, the following four groups were organized: The Aluminum Group, The Steel Group, The Corrosion Inhibitors Group, The Strip Line Group. As can readily be seen, these groups are definitely aligned with the Company's business objectives. Also, as can be understood, the nature of the group effort must change as the Company's product emphasis changes.

As an additional part of the plan, the Director of Research, to whom all the Group Leaders report, would set up additional service groups as required. These additional groups now comprise: The Analytical Research Group, The Systems Engineering Group, and The Cleaners Group. Other necessary facilities, such as a pilot plant group, are in operation.

FOR THE PAST fifty years—during the whole life of Amchem—one cardinal principle has guided the operation of Research and Development: The chemist must be familiar with the operation of his product in the field, which means that you will rarely find all the chemists at their laboratory desks at all times. One might be in Seattle or Minneapolis on an Alodine® line; another might be running a field test on a new pickling inhibitor in another part of the country, but all of them keeping in contact with the Sales Department at all times. However, this travelling cannot be permitted to stop the flow of new ideas and new products. The intention is that ideas should flow both ways, *from the laboratory to the field, and from the field operation back to the laboratory.*

And as to accomplishments? Actually the chemist has little inclination to boast of these, because for one success there have been many failures. However, there have been a comparatively good number of present and past successes, and it might be interesting to take a look at many of them.

THE LARGEST growth area for aluminum is now in the container applications field where Amchem is leading in the general field of coatings for aluminum can stock.

The Reasons for this leadership are new cleaners for aluminum, the Amchem Roll-Coat Alodine process, and new Alodine chemical conversion coatings. Other Amchem achievements in metalworking chemicals are new Alodine applications on military planes and space exploration equipment; Alolac®, a new corrosion-preventing product for use on various metals under storage conditions; Granoblack® for the production of a dark, heavy phosphate coating for use on non-critical components of cars. Also new Granodines® for producing phosphate and chromate coatings on steel and galvanized steel for appliances, and for the

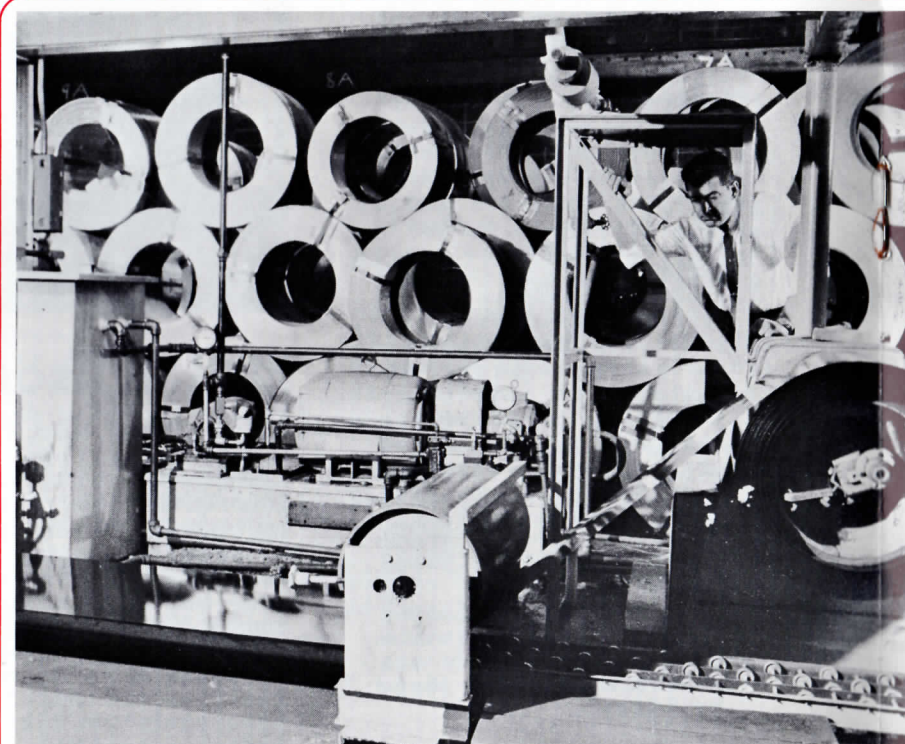
coating of continuous metal strip; new Granodraw® for the drawing and forming of various shapes, including wire, for both mild steel and alloy steels; Kephos®, which permits the formation of phosphate coatings from non-aqueous solutions. Also Phosteem®, the new, convenient, method of applying a phosphate coating; the amazing developments of Lineguard®, which applies electronic control to the operation of many Amchem processes, including the first automatic control of zinc phosphating baths and the first automatic control and replenishment of Alodine coating baths for can stock.

Other successes are: New Rodine® developments in oil well acidizing, in industrial chemical cleaning, and for the new, high-speed HCl pickling and new process for the production of a "liquor-finish" coating on steel wire.

THUS WE HAVE some progress to report and group effort continues. But individual effort is just as important as it always has been, and if every member of R & D believes he must produce to keep the Company going, then he is assuming the right attitude towards his responsibilities.

George Gardner
March 1, 1965

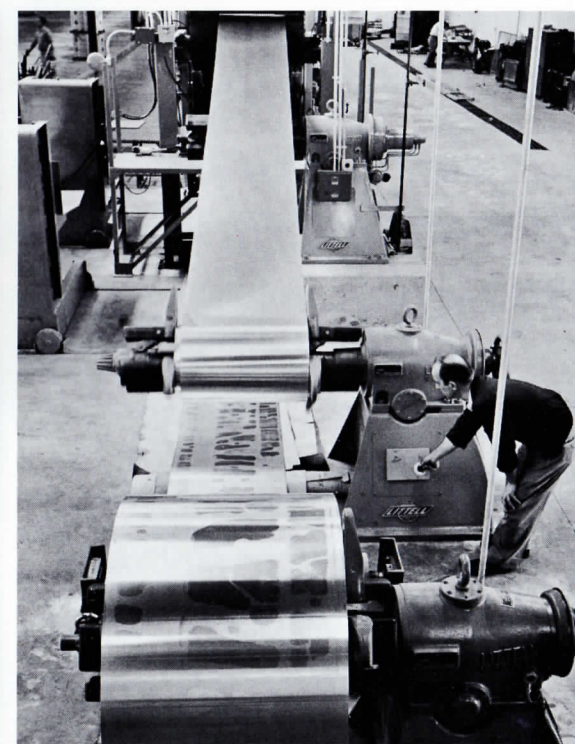
The man behind it all.
Dr. Richard F. Reeves,
MCD Director of Research,
who heads the R & D Group Program.



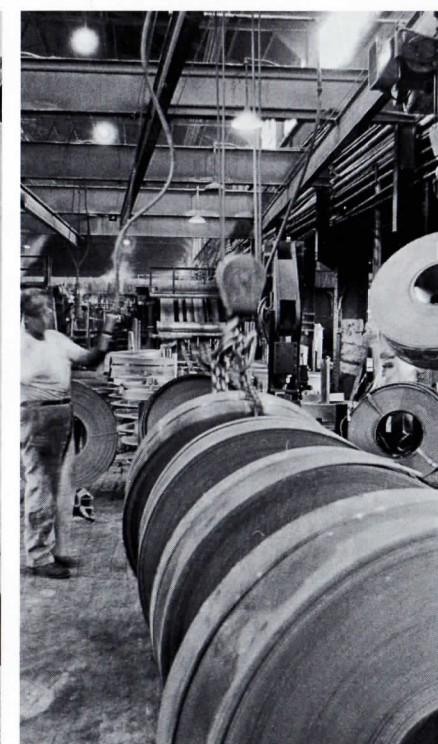
Granodine #92 applied on galvanized steel strip.



Coating steel wire with Cuprodine.



Uncoiling aluminum prior to application of Alodine 1200R.



Rodine in use for pickling mild steel strip.

Amchem Buys Detroit Chemical Firm's Assets

IN A MOVE to further expansion of its products, Amchem purchased the assets of Sno-Flake Products Company, Detroit, Michigan. Date of acquisition was Jan. 1, 1965.

Sno-Flake manufactures a versatile line of chemicals used in the finishing process of automobile bodies. In no way do they conflict with, but rather supplement, Amchem's already established pre-paint metalworking chemicals and include such specialties as products that, when applied to a newly

formed and welded auto body, can reveal possible defects in the metal. Other Sno-Flake chemicals facilitate the maintenance of automobile spray booths. Sno-Flake also makes post-paint cleaning and polishing chemicals as well as chemicals that detect water leaks in auto bodies by fluorescence and a sensitive light. This product is called "Fluor-O-Trace C."

The entire Sno-Flake line is now being offered by Amchem's MCD Sales Staff, which has completed a training program on the functions of these products. Arrangements are also being made by Amchem's International Division to have the Company's overseas associates manufacture the Sno-Flake line under licensing agreements.

Sno-Flake, a 50-year-old company, naturally, has directed its sales to the automotive market which is heavily concentrated in the Detroit area.

At the time of Amchem's purchase, the owner was M. D. (Maurice Dexter) German, who was also president and treasurer of the firm. Presently, Mr. German is acting as a consultant.

Sno-Flake currently employs 12 people: four in sales, including newly appointed sales manager Thomas B. McCarthy, two in the laboratory, two in the office and four in the plant.

At the time of acquisition, President Romig said: "Amchem can now offer its customers in the automotive and metal-working industries a more diversified line of metal treating and pre-paint chemicals, specialty compounds, coatings and preparations to meet virtually all metal production requirements."



(Above) Among Snow-Flake facilities is this completely equipped laboratory. (Below) Exterior view of Sno-Flake plant and offices.



E. G. Law (L), President, and S. W. Armstrong (C), Secretary-Treasurer, Allied Chemical Services Ltd., Calgary, Alta., Canada, our mfg. associate, pay visit to President Romig.



Hugh Gehman (Second from Left), Manager, MCD Development, receiving signed proclamation from Ambler Mayor John Troster (Sitting) for YMCA week, January 24-31. Hugh was chairman of membership campaign.



Ray Robinson, Machine Shop, tries out new centrifugal fiberglass lawn sprayer on which he worked. Sprayer was designed by Tex Waldrum and patented by Amchem. The sprayer is now in the process of manufacture.



J. Noel Fitzgerald (Left), Assistant General Manager and Peter Ferens, Manager Agricultural Chemical Sales, Ivon Watkins-Dow Ltd., our New Zealand assoc.



Jean Robinson, ex-ACD Research secretary, pays social call on her former co-workers and introduces her recently adopted twin daughters.

Our Candid Camera Visits Plant Christmas Party



Johnny Chimenti breaks into act with vocal rendition of the popular classic "Oh, Marie."



Comely professional vocalist gives out with neat set of pipes and graceful hand.



Retiree Ross Rile (Left) happily reminisces with Graham Smith (Center) and Bill Cole (Right).



Don Small (C) receiving twenty-five year solid gold watch and diamond service award from Pres. Romig. Russ Bishop (L) is present.

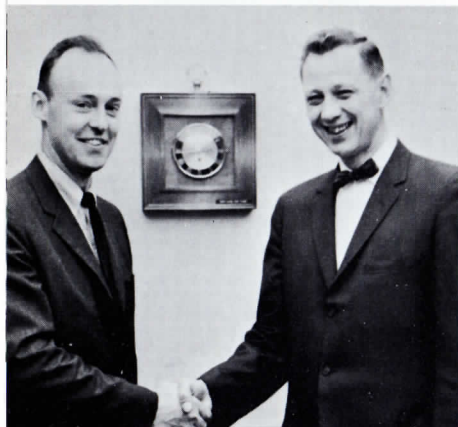


Al Sinclair (R) is recipient of twenty-year service award from F. P. Spruance, Jr. (L). MCD Sales

Congratulations!

These are the men and women of AMCHEM who have received Service Award Emblems between December 1, 1964 and April 1, 1965.

- ★ **25 YEARS** ★
Donald E. Small
- ★ **20 YEARS** ★
A. L. Sinclair
- ★ **15 YEARS** ★
Jaroslaw Sweryda
- ★ **10 YEARS** ★
Lloyd J. Brecht Thomas J. Bueter
John D. Breen Kenneth C. Kramer
William J. Thomas
- ★ **5 YEARS** ★
George Blattner Joan Mariotz
Robert Coleman Andrew Mayersky
Anthony Della Donna Joseph Myers
James E. Esposito Merrill J. White



Tom Bueter (R) receives 10 year service award from Leo Damsky (L). MCD Sales



Lloyd J. Brecht (C) is receiving ten-year award from Jack Price (L), Tom McCarthy (R). MCD Sales



George Blattner (L) receives 5 year service award from Harry Bailey (R). Maintenance



Bob Coleman (R) is presented with five year service pin from Guy Gochnauer. Receiving



Anthony Della Donna (C) receives 5 year award from Jim Roberto (R). Present is G. Mancini (L). Traffic



Jim Esposito (R) is recipient of 5 year service award presented by Russ Bishop (L). ACD Lab



Joan Mariotz (R) is presented 5 year service award from Sam Caterisano. Accounting



Andy Mayersky (L) receiving ten year service pin from Frank Boland (R). MCD Mfg.



Joe Myers receives 5 year award from Guy Gochnauer (R). Receiving



Merrill White (R) receiving; Maurice Turner (L) presenting five year award. ACD Sales

THE AMCHEM NEWS

Invequimica, Continued from page 4

Sales have risen constantly so that at the end of 1964 they were 18 times what they were at the end of the first year (1957).

This is a fine tribute to the entire Invequimica Organization, especially to its executive staff which consists, in addition to Marketing Director Juan Uribe, Alvaro Uribe, Plant and Production Manager; Alvaro Roa, Director of Research and Development; J. A. Zapata, Sales Manager, and Eli Ramirez, Chief Accountant.



Alvaro Uribe (left) and his brother Juan (right) flank Warren Weston, Amchem International Division Manager on one of his early visits to Invequimica, Medellin, Colombia, S.A. in 1957.



Juan Uribe (left at door of truck) travels to pasture country to demonstrate weed killers to ranchers. Note cans of Weedone® on roof of truck cab.



Farmers in the Uraba region are gathered for demonstration of Weedone. Man at right is armed to protect against bandits.

Profit in Flies? You Bet!

From "Adventures of the Inquiring Mind," a 64-page digest of the scientific and engineering contributions of General Motors during the last half century, we gleaned a very interesting anecdote which is associated, in an indirect way, with Amchem. It's related in a chapter headed "Too Slow, Too Fast." Here it is:

"If you had walked through a plant that day (in the pre-1920s) you would have seen hundreds and hundreds of bodies standing around (not human, but auto, W. P. A. had not yet arrived. Ed's. note.) just waiting for the paint to dry. Shuffling the bodies around the plant scratched a good portion of them which meant more hand finishing

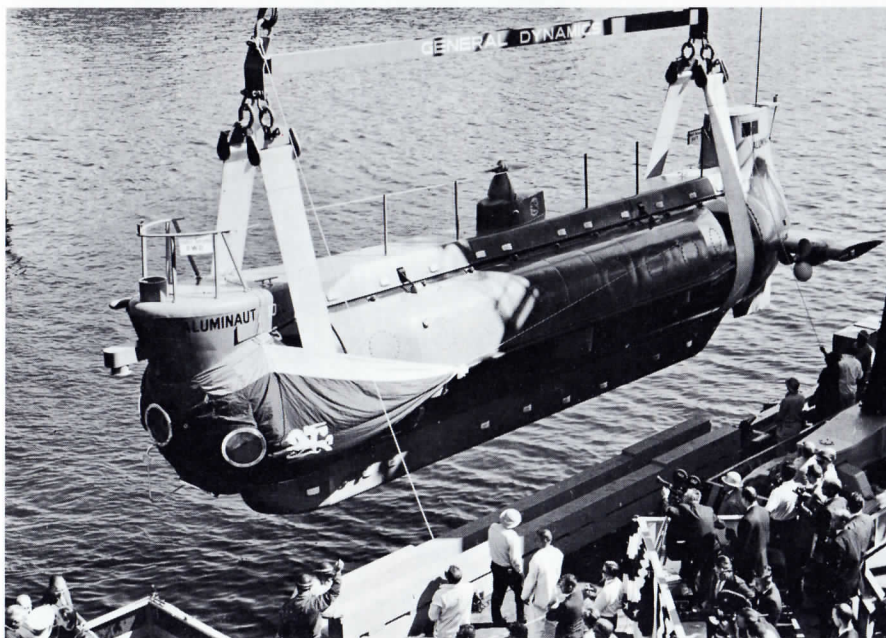
and drying time. And after World War I, when the closed bodies were becoming more popular the problem became even worse. Ralph Wirshing of the General Motors Research Staff recalls some of the problems of the body finishers. For instance, if after a coat of varnish was applied it sagged, the painter had to revarnish it on his own time. However, if an insect, like a fly, should stick to the drying varnish, this was considered an act of God and the painter would refinish the section on company time. Ralph said this was the origin of the custom of the painters to hire small boys to catch flies for them. Then if the varnish sagged all the painter would have to do would be to get

a fly from the bottle in his pocket and stick it on the sagging spot—it then became an act of God and the company paid the bill."

Aside from the humorous aspects, which all anecdotes are supposed to contain, the most interesting part of the incident for us is that the Ralph Wirshing, who is mentioned, is the father of Charles R. (Chuck) Wirshing, Sales Manager, MCD Western District, whose name has frequently appeared on these pages.

Ralph Wirshing retired a year or two ago after a working-lifetime at GM where he made notable contributions to the finishing phase of auto body production. He is also mentioned in other sections of the GM booklet.

Foster Products Used in Submarine *Aluminaut*



The ALUMINAUT, world's deepest-diving submarine, is lowered into the Thames River by a gantry crane during launching ceremonies, September 2 last, at Groton, Connecticut.

CONTINUING its close business relationship with the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corp., Amchem's Benjamin Foster Company has had the distinction of supplying the adhesives and vapor barriers used on the ALUMINAUT, the world's deepest-diving submarine. Built of aluminum, it is capable of diving almost three miles and displaces 75 tons. The ALUMINAUT is 50 feet long and it can carry three men with an ocean-going laboratory deep enough to explore 60 per cent of the ocean floor. The aluminum hull is cycle dried, with walls six-and-one-half inches thick. It can stay submerged with its load for three days and "walk" over the ocean floor on its "sea legs". A close-circuit TV system and four portholes let its occupants observe the terrain.

Foster products used on the ALUMINAUT are Insulation Adhesive 82-08; Sealfas 30-36 top coated with Vinyl Vapor Barrier 30-42.



BOB SMYTHE GEO. RUSSELL, JR.

Bob Smythe Finds Home-away-from-home with the George Russell Family

George Russell, who heads Amchem's Engineering Dept., and Mrs. Russell have been hosts to a young New Zealander, Bob Smythe, an exchange student at Wissahickon High School. Bob was featured in an article in the Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine, November 29. The story dealt with Bob's pride in being able to earn an award emblem in football—a sport he had never played before coming to Ambler last August—as a member of Wissahickon's team last Fall. He is currently running the mile on the school's track team, but he has no designs on fellow-countryman Peter Snell's records.

Bob is a schoolmate of the Russells' son, George, Jr., a senior at Wissahickon and a gymnast specializing on the apparatus.



Daughter of ACD Sales Rep. Don Taylor Named *Miss AMIBEN* 1965 at Convention

Selling AMIBEN is a family affair in Indiana. Pictured is Zo Ann Taylor, the center of attention at the annual convention of the Indiana Grain Dealers Association at the Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, in January. Zo Ann, daughter of the Don Taylors, Franklin, Indiana, presents the AMIBEN story to Chas. Bowman, an Association officer. Observing are: Gordon Tacilett (l.) of Monterey, Indiana and Robert Warren (r.), Sales Manager of Chester Hybrids, Valparaiso, Indiana. Mr. Warren is an active AMIBEN booster and an Amchem distributor. Because of Zo Ann's persuasive personality AMIBEN reached the hearts of the 750 dealers present.

Zo Ann's Dad is Amchem's ACD representative in Indiana.



Representing Amchem at seminar on finishing, last Oct. 27 at Security Aluminum Co., Detroit, are: Jack Mercer (L), Tom Bueter (3rd from left), Jim Thirsk (R). Other gentleman is Art Monson, Security Aluminum.



Construction Department is Winner in Best Percentage of Improvement Safety Contest for the year 1964. (Back row—L to R): John Farzetta, Frank Pulli, John Pistilli, Anthony Serratore, Robert Wright. (Front row): John Zollo, William Pistilli, Frank Piacitelli, Carroll Crabbe, Andrew Lawrence.

Amchem Forms Own Golf League

In order to accommodate all those employees who wanted to play competitive golf this season, it was necessary for Amchem to form its own league. For the past few years Amchem had been a member of the Suburban Industrial Golf League.

In response to a letter circulated among male employees last February, a total of 39 expressed a desire to participate. At a noontime meeting, February 22, bylaws were adopted and the following were elected to guide the league's operation for 1965: Jim Thirsk, Secretary; Ralph Lelii, Treasurer; Merv Hubbard, Gabe Mancini and E. Piescuik, Golf Committee.

According to Lelii, Montgomeryville Golf Club on Route 202, has been reserved for use on Tuesday evenings beginning April 27 and continuing through August.

Qualifying rounds to establish handicaps were played on Good Friday, April 16, but an early press date prevents us from being able to publish the results.

Along the Party Line

Got (and Gave) Rocks Dept.: MARY ANN GLYMP, Inventory Control, got one the size of a locomotive headlight from a "fella" named Harry Harp, April 3. Wedding is set for January. LORRAINE ZANGRONE, ACD Research, is going to have BARBARA EGNER, same department, for a sister-in-law. Barbara's brother Ed is establishing this relationship.



For almost 24 years, TONY VARSACI has been surrounded by pretty girl co-workers, so take a look at what it took to yank Tony off the eligible bachelor list. Her name is Angela Iosca and she hails from his South Philly neighborhood. Wedding date is June 12. KAY ANN LORENSKI, Treasurer Naylor's secretary, is sporting a sizable chunk of ice given by Bill Wagenmann, Feb. 21. Wedding to take place May 15.

Elected: GEORGE GARDNER, MCD Research, was approved for membership in the National Association of Corrosion Engineers. Notification to this effect came in a congratulatory letter from NACE Executive Secretary T. J. Hall, Headquarters of NACE is in Houston, Texas.

JOHN GEYER, Technical Assistant to

President Romig, has been elected to membership in the Aluminum Siding Association, headquartered in Chicago. John has the distinction of being the only member in this organization who represents a supplier.

Outlook: Showers. Wedding shower for DODI DOBSON, Purchasing, at noon, Tuesday, January 19, in Accounting Office. Her friends rallied 'round a decorated cake large enough to hold an ice review. By the looks of the gifts, Corning and other suppliers of kitchenware should report good business for the first quarter of '65. (Also see "Wedding Belles")

Baby shower for CLAUDETTE (Heath) CUPITT, Accounting, at noon hour, Feb. 3. The large assortment of gifts attested to the generosity and good taste of her co-workers.

Wedding Belles: Pretty girls make prettier brides — example: Comely DODI DOBSON, Purchasing, looked like the cover of *BRIDE'S MAGAZINE* as she walked down the aisle on the arm of BOB TOMLIN, MCD Research after Nuptial Mass wedding ceremony at St. Anthony's, Ambler, February 6. Reception followed at Springfield Hotel, Flourtown.

And from Fremont: "The coral peach tones of Tropicana roses set the theme for the recent wedding of CAROL ANN McDAVID and WILLIAM BROWN

ODOM." Thus read the opening paragraph in a Fremont newspaper describing the wedding of Carol Ann McDavid of the Fremont Accounting Office. The description of Ann's gown would do credit to the editor of *VOGUE* or *HARPER'S BAZAAR*. Space limitations prevent its inclusion here.

Heirs to Illness: It was a return trip to Einstein Medical Center for DAN SHAW, ACD Sales, in January. BILL GANNON spent most of the winter confined to his Doylestown domicile as result of a broken leg sustained before Christmas. ED LACKO had a surprise attack in the office that resulted in an emergency trip to the hospital and then home for an extended rest.

AL SINCLAIR, MCD Eastern District Sales Manager, took up temporary residence for three weeks, beginning March 8, at 3401 N. Broad St.—that's Temple University Hospital—where he had a date with the surgeon . . . and you may be sure that they didn't discuss Alodine. By the time the NEWS is in circulation Al should be back and talking up Alodine.

NERETTA GAISER, Secretary to Technical Director AL DOUTY, suffered a multiple fracture of the right wrist which confined her to her Flourtown home for 10 weeks. EDITH HABLETT, Patent Dept. and DOROTHY EUSTACE,

Continued on page 16

SAFETY CONTEST

End of February, 1965

Following are the standings of the various departments.

A. ACCIDENT FREQUENCY RATE - Frequency rate of each department is based on performance of the past 11 months, plus current month.

1. Construction
2. Research
3. Packaging
4. Maintenance
5. Receiving
6. MCD Production
7. ACD Production
8. Shipping

B. PERCENTAGE OF IMPROVEMENT - Percentage of Improvement is based on performance of all preceding months within the current calendar year as compared with standings at the close of the previous year.

1. Packaging
2. Receiving
3. Maintenance
4. Construction
5. Research
6. MCD Production
7. ACD Production
8. Shipping

Introducing New Members of the Amchem Stork Club

KIMBERLEY DAWN FLOWERS

... February 1, 1965

Father: Donald Flowers (Ferndale Plant)

JOSEPH G. SOARES, JR.

... March 3, 1965

Father: Joseph G. Soares (Fremont Plant)

ALAN SCOTT PULLI

... February 27, 1965

Father: Frank Pulli (Construction)

Welcome to Our New Employees

(Not previously listed in The NEWS)

NAME

WILBUR E. ANGLE, JR.
ESTHER P. CIOCCA
LOUENA I. CROSBY
WILLIAM J. FERGUSON
JOHN P. FINCH
DONNA A. GINIECZKI
HOWARD R. GUNAGAN, JR.
MARY K. HEISLER
BERNICE A. KROUT
MARK A. KUEHNER
GERALD ALAN MAJOR
ROSEMARY NEVADOMSKY
JOSEPH G. PALS
SALVATORE A. PASQUALI
THOMAS N. TAYLOR
JAMES LEE VAN DEREN
R. MARTIN WHITAKER, JR.
JAMES B. WILLIAMSON
ELIZABETH YOUNG

HOME TOWN

Fremont, Calif.
Ambler, Pa.
Lansdale, Pa.
Richboro, Pa.
Roselle, Ill.
Ft. Washington, Pa.
Hatboro, Pa.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Glenside, Pa.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Toronto, Canada
North Wales, Pa.
Levittown, Pa.
Ambler, Pa.
Windsor, Ontario
Tuscon, Arizona
Ambler, Pa.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Norristown, Pa.

ASSIGNED TO

Plant, Fremont
 Accounting
 ACD Sales
 ACD Research Farm
 ACD Sales
 MCD Sales
 MCD Production
 MCD Sales
 ACD Research
 MCD Lab
 MCD Sales
 Publications
 MCD Research & Dev.
 MCD Production
 Plant, Windsor
 ACD Sales
 Maintenance
 Maintenance
 Accounting

And the Following from Sno-Flake Products Co.

JOHN S. BLACK
LLOYD J. BRECHT
ROBERT E. CAVANAUGH, JR.
DORIS M. DeGROOT
ROBERT A. GRAHAM
STEPHEN J. GURA, JR.
CARL O. JORDAN
HERMAN P. MANGUM
THOMAS MCCARTHY
OTTILIA MODRZYNSKI
FRANK I. NOVAK
DONALD J. VAN ITTERSUM

Birmingham, Mich.
Grosse Point Farms, Mich.
Detroit, Mich.
Detroit, Mich.
Detroit, Mich.
Detroit, Mich.
St. Clair Shores, Mich.
Detroit, Mich.
Grosse Point Park, Mich.
Detroit, Mich.
Prescott, Mich.
Detroit, Mich.

MCD Sales
 MCD Sales
 Lab, Ferndale
 Office, Ferndale
 Lab, Ferndale
 Plant, Ferndale
 Plant, Ferndale
 Plant, Ferndale
 MCD Sales
 Office, Ferndale
 Plant, Ferndale
 MCD Sales

PARTY LINE Continued from page 15

MCD, report that Neretta wishes to express her thanks for the many cards and notes she received from her Amchem co-workers.

★ ★ ★

Hot Stuff: ED RUTH, nursemaid to the big boilers among other things, was elected fire chief of The Wissahickon Fire Co. for 1965. This is the second time that Eddie has been elected to this position. He held the same office 1959-1961. He is permanent fire chief at Amchem.

★ ★ ★

Baton Carrier: HUGH GEHMAN's son, Wayne, former Upper Dublin high school quarter-miler has been running a fast third leg on Princeton University's speedy one-mile freshman team this past winter. Hugh was a pole vaulter in the pre-fiber-glass era for the *Tigers*.

★ ★ ★

Journalists: Pat Roberto, daughter of JIMMY ROBERTO, Traffic Manager, and 1964 Graduate of the Academy of the Sisters of Mercy, Gwynedd Valley, was a feature writer on the Ambler Gazette last summer. Pat now attends Penn State. Wayne Slingluff, son of Company Secretary LYLE SLINGLUFF, was one of eight local high school students who spent part of their Christmas vacation helping to produce the New Year's edition of the

Ambler Gazette. In addition to the regular newspaper reportorial, editorial and production assignments which accompany such journalistic undertakings Wayne by-lined an interesting appraisal of the track situation in the area high schools. Wayne, who has been a member of Wissahickon high school's track and cross country teams for the past three years, is headed for Trinity University, Hartford, Conn., next fall.

★ ★ ★

Color Slide Circuit: Patty Horn, 16-year-old daughter of Packaging Department Supervisor JOHN HORN, has had a busy Winter lecturing before various church and community groups in the Perkiomen Valley and showing slides of her experiences as an exchange student in the Philippines last summer (Amchem News, Oct. 1964).

★ ★ ★

Alumnae News: Cynthia Gehret, erstwhile secretary to JOE TORCHIANA and presently attending the University of Wyoming, Laramie, has been Mrs. John C. Harksen since January 29. He's a geology student at the University of Wyoming.

★ ★ ★

Ferndale Fodder: JACK MERCER, MCD Sales, Midwest Dist., knocked off a nine-point, 2,000-pound buck during the hunting season, according to Ferndale correspondent PHYLLIS WHEELER. "The

coup de grace," stated Jack, "was administered with a shot in the mid-section of the hind quarter, and the buck finally died of frustration and drowning."

★ ★ ★

Traveler: We had a friendly missive from PAUL DENCKLA, our ACD distributor in Antigua, B. W. I., telling us about a six-week sea-land trip that included stop-offs in Panama and South America. "The 'high point' was crossing the Andes by car at 12,000 feet. The large cities on the East coast are fabulous," wrote Paul.

★ ★ ★

Question: Ask TONY VARSACI about an emergency call from JOE TORCHIANA to MICKEY KRISAN on the morning of January 22 that fizzled out.

CONDOLENCE

We extend our sincere sympathy to Max Zerbich and the other members of his family on the death of his Mother, February 12, at her home in Ambler.

Also, we express our sincere sympathy to Anthony Varsaci on the death of his 12-year-old nephew, Gilbert Varsaci, whom Tony loved like a son. Death occurred last December 9.