

Shop Talk newsletter

This newsletter from Shop Talk is a quarterly publication by the Hesston Corporation for active and retired employees. Topics in the newsletter include: company and employee news, retirements and service anniversaries. This publication funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission through the Kansas State Historical Records Advisory Board.

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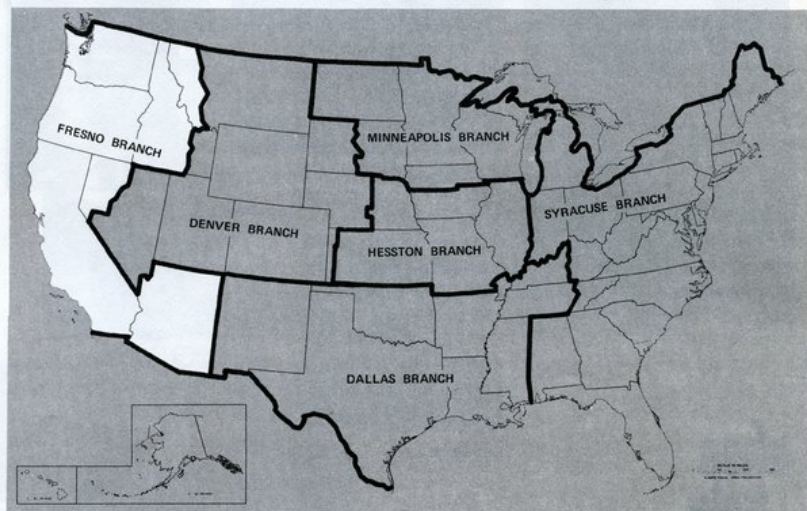
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Fresno Branch to Begin Operations October 1

With the beginning of the 1970 fiscal year on October 1, the newest Hesston branch office, located at Fresno, California officially begins operation. This branch will serve the entire West Coast area previously covered by three distributors, H. C. Shaw Company, Polson of Oregon, and Polson of Washington.

At the same time, our contract with the Todd Company expires and thus the entire Southeast area will become "Hesston country" and will be incorporated into the Syracuse branch. All of the United States and Canada will then be served by our branch organization.

"The branch development program has been part of our long-range plans for several years," stated Lloyd Smith, director of marketing. "We have, however, accelerated the development, taking one big step in 1969 rather than several smaller ones as originally planned. There are many advantages to be gained by



Fresno Branch Offices



having our own sales organization, such as better service to our dealers and customers, greater efficiency in handling orders, plus the advantage we gain in having our own sales force concentrating on Hesston products only, rather than many, as is the case with a distributor arrangement."

A great deal of planning and work go into creating a new branch office, and the work on the Fresno branch really began many months ago. A corporation was organized in the State of California. This corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hesston Corporation; the best location for the branch headquarters had to be selected;

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territories within the branch were aligned and realigned; office furniture and supplies had to be purchased; all branch stationery and forms had to be printed and shipped from Hesston; personnel for the branch had to be interviewed and hired, or transferred from other branches and departments within the company; parts had to be packed and shipped to the warehouse and then unpacked and binned. Finally, during the last week in August meetings were held with members of the Marketing Division and all branch personnel to discuss all phases of the work ahead.



Les Downing, Br. Serv. Mgr.



Al Plenert, Service Rep.



Ron Musselman, Br. Adm. Mgr.



Gary Voorheis, TM



John Ross, TM



Charles Smith, TM



Dick Nebel, Area Sales Mgr.



Vern Oesterreich, Area Sales Mgr.



Carl Styger, TM

"We feel confident that we have assembled a fine group of people in the Fresno branch and that we are now ready to go to work and make a real impact on the West Coast farm equipment market," Smith said.

The fact that we now cover all of the U. S. and Canada doesn't mean this is the end of our branch development program. As our penetration of the market increases, it will probably be necessary to have more than one branch on the East Coast and more than one on the West Coast. We must always be flexible enough to rearrange branch areas and territories within branches in order to give maximum service to our dealers and customers. ■



Katherine Lape



Loretta Bell

shop talk

... published by Hesston Corporation, Hesston, Kansas, for employees and friends.

Readers are encouraged to submit pictures and stories that they feel would be of interest to other employees. All Hesston personnel may advertise in the "Shop Swap" column, free of charge. Items submitted for publication should be signed by the sender.

Editor: Nelson Galle
Contr. Editors: John Siemens, Jr.
Pete Keenan
Kenny Miller
Staff Artist: Dennis Schmidt
Lithography: Gary Blankenship
Herb Schroeder



Bud Fuller, TM



Ron York, TM



Dan Temple, TM



Gordon Lower, TM



Pete Ediger, Br. Parts Supv.



Gerald Jantz, Br. Order Mgr.



Work Measurement Training

During the month of August a training program was held by the Industrial Engineering Department for all employees in Department 901.

• Instruction was given by Ben Carney on work simplification, factors affecting speeds and feeds, types of cuts made and types of tools used in machining.



Know Your Company Engineering Shop

Building a new product for the first time is an interesting and challenging experience. This is the everyday task of the Engineering Shop employees. It is interesting because this is where ideas become reality—where new products are built and perfected before becoming production machines. The big challenge for the mechanics is to build parts to print tolerance without using weld fixtures, jigs, or other special tools.

Of the 20 employees in the shop, 18 carry the classification of experimental mechanic B or A. There is one expediter and one custodian. Functions covered by the experimental mechanic classification include machinist, welder, layout man, fab machine operator, and assembler. Every mechanic in the shop must be able to perform all of these functions.

According to Ed Burrows, engineering shop manager, "The Engineering Shop is a vehicle in which the designer's creations and innovations are translated into tangible form. The Engineering Shop performs two very important functions: (1) It implements the engineer's dreams, and (2) It checks prints by building machines from prints before release to Manufacturing."

The work of the Engineering Shop is a part of the team effort on which Hesston Corporation is built. "The teamwork and cooperation between the Engineering department and the Engineering Shop are important elements in the successful performance of our job," according to Adin Holdeman, engineering shop foreman. "We work very closely with the draftsmen and engineers in the development of an experimental machine. Often an engineer will tell a mechanic of a need for a component that will operate in a certain way and the mechanic will construct the component from just this verbal description. This is a real challenge to the creativity and ingenuity of our mechanics."

Every detail part, except purchased goods, is handmade in the Engineering Shop. At any given time there are between 1,000 and 1,500 parts prints in the shop.

The Engineering Shop is also responsible for expediting and receiving of all pur-



Ed Burrows — Product Proving & Eng. Shop Mgr.



Adin Holdeman — Eng. Shop Foreman



John Schrag — Eng. Production Supervisor



Gillian Adams — Gen Ofc. Clerk A

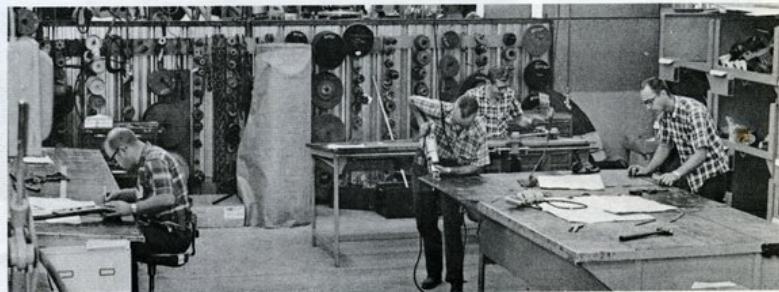


Gary Vogt — Eng. Control Technician

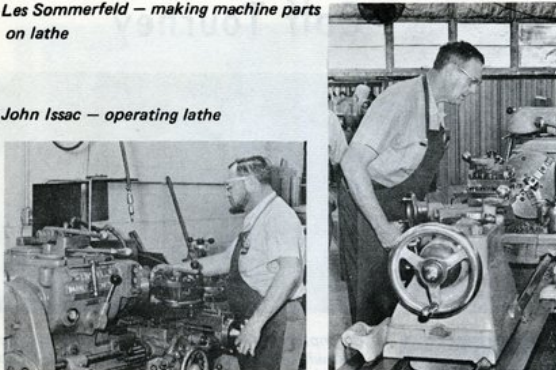


Harvey Stucky — Shop Expediter

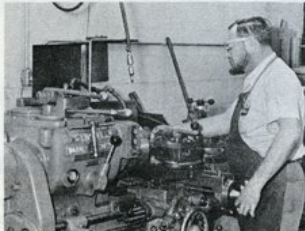
Fabrication Dept. L. to R. — Virgil Schmidt, Frank Westbrook, Kermit Banman, and Kent Graber



*Les Sommerfeld — making machine parts
on lathe*



John Issac — operating lathe



Duane Duerksen — Welding



Anton Fast — sawing a part

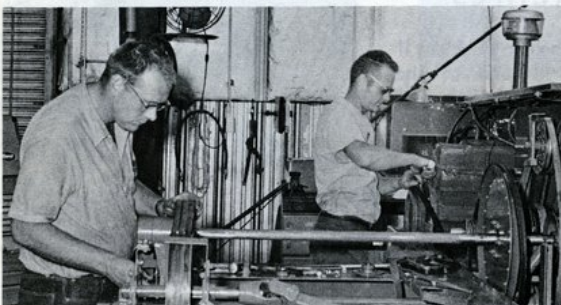


Howard Ratzlaff — brake specialist — does all forming work

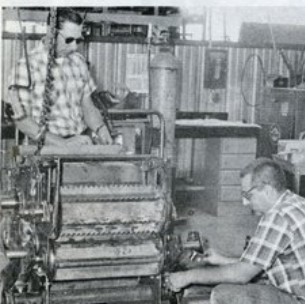


Orville Yoder — milling machine

Assembly — Galen Hiebert (left) and Jerry Schroeder



*Assembling a test prototype — Perry
Klassen (left) and Jim Gronau*



Ernest Schmidt — custodian

Assembly — Charles Gehring



chased parts for the Engineering department; for making parts for the field test group and shipping them to the field; and for making parts for test fixtures in the lab.

John Schrag, engineering production supervisor, schedules work in the shop in such a way that the shop load is kept at a steady level of activity. He reviews projects with the engineer for completeness before release to the shop. He is responsible for definition of the project—translating engineering concepts into working terms for the mechanics. He supervises one general office clerk A and one engineering control technician. The general office clerk processes prints and orders parts from prints. She also expedites purchase requisitions. The engineering control technician expedites prints and parts and gets them to assembly by the time they are needed.

Adin doesn't remember exactly when the Engineering Shop became a separate function from production, but believes it was around 1952 when the first engineer was hired. "Before that, we didn't work from blueprints," said Adin. "We would have an idea, build it, and put it on the machine. If it worked, we left it on."

Ed Burrows summed up the goals of the Engineering Shop in this way, "We try to build prototypes as close as possible to production models the first time. This helps to minimize production problems, as well as quality and reliability problems, that might arise when converting from handmade models to assembly line models."

news

EVENTS
AND
PEOPLE OF
INTEREST

Citrus Harvester Development

Hesston Corporation recently entered into an agreement with International Terra Firma Leasing Corporation for joint development of a citrus harvesting machine. This is a short-term agreement for production of ten prototypes—five to be made by ITF and five to be made by Hesston.

After these machines have been completed next spring, a decision will be made regarding a production contract.

Mel Yorgensen, senior field test technician, has moved from Gilbert, Arizona to the Longwood, Florida area temporarily to assist in testing the new harvester. Rex Weigand, senior product engineer, is also in Florida working on this project.

Bloodmobile

Tentative plans are for the bloodmobile to be in Hesston about the middle of October. Definite dates will be announced later.

Film to be Shown

A film, THE HANDTRAP TEST, will be shown to all shop employees at extended break periods in October. This film shows various ways injuries may occur to hands and gives the viewer a chance to score himself on being able to recognize some "traps" which cause these injuries.

The schedule of the showing for the various shops will be released in the near future.

TV Special



This picture was taken at television station KLBK TV in Lubbock, Texas, during the video taping of a 30-minute color special entitled "Hesston Special Crop Report: Cotton '69."

Seated from left to right are: Program Moderator Horace McQueen, Farm Director of KLBK TV and Hesston Territory Managers Bob Greer, Don Priddy, James Lott and Jerry Ross.

Abe Enns Retires

A retirement party was held in the Plant II canteen on August 29 in honor of Abe Enns who retired that day after five years of employment at Hesston. Abe came to work at Hesston on August 31, 1964 as a trades helper. On September 14, 1964 he was promoted to packager, which classification he held until his retirement.



His fellow workers presented Abe with a fishing tackle box which he plans to put to good use. Nelson Galle presented a wall barometer from the company in appreciation for Abe's five years of loyal service.

Best wishes for much happiness, Abe!

Golf Tourney



Championship flight, L. to R. 1st- Bill Fish, medalist with 79, second, George Olsen, third, Dennis Schmidt.

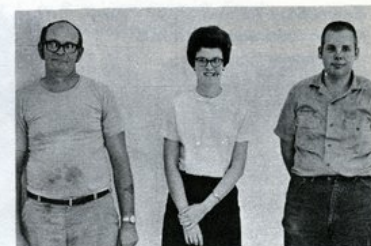


First flight, L. to R. 1st, Gene Knutson; 2nd, Howard Hershberger; 3rd Gary Kingsley.



Second flight, L. to R. 1st, Bill Long; 2nd, Gary Vogt; 3rd, Walt Schmidt.

Fishing Contest



Winners, L. to R. Bass-2lbs., James Neufeld; Northern Pike-3lbs. 9 oz., Sharon Hall; Flathead, bank line-22lbs., Lanny Stucky. (Not pictured) Channel, bank line-2lbs. 8oz., Bob Baldwin; Channel, pole line-5lbs. 4oz., John Renfro; Crappie-1lb. 2-1/2oz., Richard Fulk.



Schroeder



Goosen



Camp



Eck



Priddy



Friesen



Nightingale



Marshall



Balzer



Hanson



Duerksen



Stucky



Goering



Hague



Krehbiel



Yoder



Osborne



Chard



Funk



Jantz



Blankinship

10 Service Years

Raymond D. Schroeder - Tooling
Jacob Goosen - Welding
Alvin Friesen - Welding
John C. Nightingale - Welding

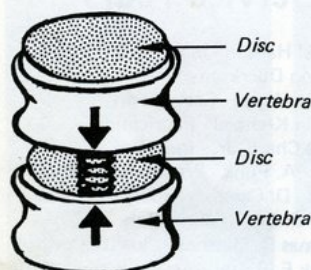
5 Service Years

Darrel Hanson - Machine Shop
Melton Duerksen - Shear
Stanly Hague - Fabrication
Merlin Krehbiel - Fabrication
Billie Chard, Jr. - Ind. Eng.
Larry A. Funk - Production Control
Rollin D. Camp - Welding
Detrick Eck - Fabrication
Thomas R. Marshall - Quality Control
Frank E. Balzer - Assembly
Delbert E. Stucky - Assembly
Edwin Goering - Shear shop
Marion K. Yoder - Shear shop
James H. Osborne - Assembly
Lewvinn L. Jantz - Fabrication
Robert E. Walton - Welding (Service Leave)
James G. Decker - Fab. (Service Leave)
Bob Blankinship - T. M. Hesston Br.
Don Priddy - T. M. Dallas Br.

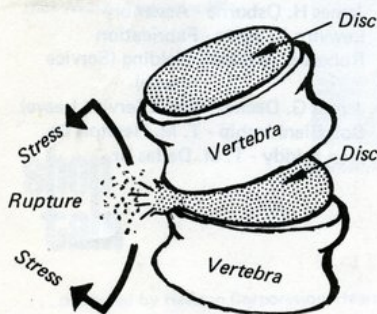
Backaches

Back problems ranging from aching muscles to ruptured discs are a source of pain and suffering to many people. An understanding of the back structure may be helpful in preventing these problems.

The "backbone", or spine, is not a single bone, but is composed of a pillar of small ones called vertebrae. To permit the spine to twist, bend, and cushion shocks, each vertebra is separated from the next one by elastic discs. These discs compose about one-fourth the length of the spine and are made of springy cartilage with a small oval center. Vertebrae, which also protect the spinal cord, are held together by ligaments about the same as other joints of the body. Muscles surround much of this area.

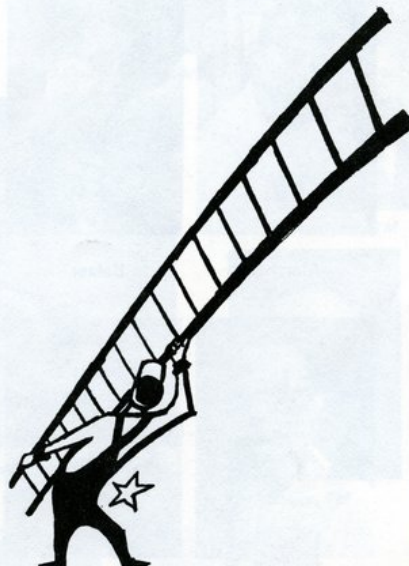


SHOCK ABSORBER



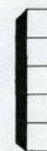
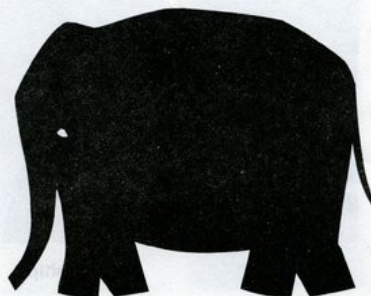
Injuries to the back are usually due to muscles stretched or torn. They are not very strong and often undergo extreme stress. The illustrations are a good example of why muscles are injured. More serious injuries involve a ruptured (slipped) disc, which occurs when two vertebrae pinch a disc and force it out of shape. This may put pressure on the spinal cord and cause pain in the legs as well as the lower back.

Back problems may be reduced by fol-



lowing some simple rules. Correct posture is important. Everyone knows it is simpler to hold a ladder straight than to hold it at an angle. The same applies for the muscles in the back holding the spine. Think tall, walk tall, sit tall—keep your back straight.

Weight control is also important. The spine, assisted by muscles of the back, stomach and sides, carries the weight of the upper part of the body. An overload on the spine and back muscles is caused by overweight.



◀ Pile blocks in a straight stack. You find the stack can support a lot of weight.

The same is true of your spine



◀ Tilt the stack in one direction and you find it can bear much less pressure.

The same is true of your spine



◀ When you tilt the block pile and also twist it, it becomes so weak it almost falls apart by itself.

Proper lifting is extremely important. Pile a stack of blocks in a straight stack—you will find it can support considerable weight. Tilt the stack in one direction and it will bear less weight. Then tilt the block pile and also twist it and it becomes almost useless. All these illustrations are also true of the spine.

Proper lifting should be done with the back straight and the legs bent. This keeps the spine straight, and the muscles of the back are not overtaxed. Lifting is accomplished by using strong leg muscles and the mechanical leverage of the feet, knees, and hips. Remember, safe lifting is easy lifting!

This is why the stress of poor lifting amounts to many times the weight of the object being lifted.



Shoemobile

Fifty-Seven pairs of safety shoes were sold at the Shoemobile on August 20. The Shoemobile will be here again in October.