

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: 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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shop talk

FEBRUARY, 1979



Letter from the editor

This may appear to be a pompous way to start as your new editor -- by writing about myself. However, if you recognize me and know what I'm up to, maybe you'll stop pointing when I enter the plants and help me find my way out when I'm lost among you. Which, by the way, I do quite well -- get lost.

Monday, February 12, was "D" day -- get up before Dawn, Drive like crazy (I live in Wichita) and Don't do anything dumb day. It was also my first day. I spent much of it talking to people in the personnel department and touring through the plants. By Tuesday, the honeymoon was already over. I no sooner dropped my coat than Gary Van Dolah summoned me to a branch administration managers' meeting where I was expected to take pictures with a camera whose operation was as familiar to me as one of Hesston's windrowers. From there I was whisked to Dennis Schmidt's office to be informed that four of you had not been photographed for the February issue and that the pictures were needed by Friday. I spent the next hour and a half looking for people in faraway places I didn't know existed when I agreed to take this job.

Following the amusement in the Plant II canteen when, due to nervousness (mine), I had to make Harold Schlicht pose three times before I could get a good picture, I came back to my office to collect my thoughts.

I found out some interesting things that day, though. You are friendly (only two tried to get me with their forklifts, and I'm giving them the benefit of the doubt). First aid is a good place to warm up on the long journey from Plant III back to Corporate. Safety glasses, unlike sunglasses, belong on the nose not on top of the head. I feel at home here already.

Nicole C. Hada

Editor's Note: The following letter was received this month. It is addressed to Tyna Rush, former editor of Shop Talk and the person responsible for coordinating the United Way fund drive at Hesston for the past few years. Before forwarding it to Tyna in Reno, Nevada, we thought we would share it with you, the people responsible for its success.

Ms. Tyna Rush
Hesston Corporation
420 W. Lincoln Blvd.
Hesston, Kansas 67062



By virtue of the financial support from people within your firm, the United Way of Harvey County is working! We are pleased to inform you the 1979 United Way goal of \$122,000 has been attained.

Only through the combined efforts of employer and employee, can we properly respond to the needs of people in Harvey County. The continuous effort to plan, budget and support the needs of our agencies will remain to be our goal.

Please communicate to your employees our gratitude for their generosity. Thanks to you, we continue to work . . . The United Way!

Sincerely,

Ted Ice
President

Gary Baugh
Drive Chairman

Royce Mitchell
Payroll Division Chairman

No clock-watching for these Hesston retirees



Marie Loepp plans to sleep in once in a while now that she's retiring. Husband, Henry, Customer Services, smiles anyway.



Everett Brooks stands in front of one of the weather station awards given to retirees by the Hesston Corporation.

Some folks worry about what they'll do once they retire and have all that time on their hands. Neither Everett Brooks nor Marie Loepp are among them.

Marie retired 1/26/79 from Hesston's engineering department after nearly a dozen years of full-time and another dozen years of part-time work putting blueprints on microfilm. Except for one short 8-month period, Everett Brooks, #909, spent 21 years as a Hesston employee, cutting, welding and doing rework until 2/2/79, the day he retired.

Looking Back

Looking back over the years, Everett remembers working on

the first swather ever built by Hesston, back when the company had about 100 employees. "Those were good times. Once the company sent me to Texas to do rework. Then they flew me to Denver and then to Montana." Everett now has a nephew who is a crew chief in rework, a brother named Benny who works in assembly, and a son, Wesley, in receiving.

Marie, too, looks fondly back on her years at Hesston. "There's something special about people in Engineering and I've enjoyed working with them; and I've truly enjoyed the work I've done here." Marie estimates she's put over half a million (600,000) blueprints on microfilm during her 23 years.

Friends and co-workers presented Marie with a decorator clock, as well as flowers and a crepe-maker at the party. Everett received a new fishing rod at his party a week later. The corporation presented each retiree with a colonial, maplewood weather station award for their many years of service.

From those gifts you'd think the rest of us think all retirees have to do is watch the weather and count the minutes. But now you know that's not true.

Looking Forward

Plans for retirement are as different as the people who retire. Most of the time, however,

persons who have worked for many years look forward to spending their leisure time doing the things they only get to sample when they are fully employed. Like fishing -- or camping -- or quilting -- or spending more time with family.

"I've got me a 17-foot camper that hooks on the back of my car. Me and my wife are going to go fishing," Everett said after his retirement party, looking smug. When asked what the biggest fish he ever caught weighed, he said, "Caught a 7-pounder once, a channel cat. That wasn't the biggest though. Hooked one bigger one time, but he broke my line and got away." Everett generally uses perch for bait and sometimes goldfish, even liver. His favorite fishing hole is the country club just outside of Peabody where he was born and raised. "The country club is a quarter mile wide and one mile long and the game warden can't come in," he says. Since Everett retired, some Hesston employees are going to miss their walnut cookies, because another of Everett's hobbies is "crackin' walnuts". He collects the walnuts around the Peabody area and uses a large nut cracker which he cranks by hand. Then he gives them away, except for the few he freezes.

Everett's wife, Pearl, says he retired at the wrong time, missing all the fall cleaning. She says she likes to do what he likes to do and they plan to spend their time fishing, gardening and camping.

During Marie Loepp's retirement party last month (where we photographed her with husband, Henry, another Hesston employee) she said she was planning on catching up on all the things she's been putting off while she worked. She wants to do some quilting, learn to macrame, organize her collections of photographs and recipes and "spend more time with my three grandchildren." She thinks she may even sleep in once in a while.



The cold facts

Winter brings with it not only the onslaught of cold weather, but also that annoying and most common ailment -- the cold. On any winter's day, over 30 million Americans are sneezing, coughing, blowing, shivering or otherwise enduring the miseries of a cold. And that's just part of the picture.

Authorities now think that colds are likely to occur even more frequently when people are under emotional stress than when they are subjected to climate changes causing chilling, exposure or overheating. So while colds usually strike in winter and fall when people are confined and in close contact, if your body resistance is low, you are likely to catch a cold over and over again throughout the year.

A cold is caused by a virus to which the body is particularly susceptible when its resistance is lowered. There are perhaps 150 different kinds of viruses, which is why a person can get several colds every year, year in and year out, and why no effective cold vaccine has ever been developed. One cold infection doesn't prevent another. It may provide temporary immunity to reinfection from the same virus, but it doesn't give immunity to any of the other cold viruses.

A person really "catches" a cold, and direct contact with someone who's infected is the best way to get one. Cold and flu viruses are very short-lived in the air; some die in minutes, most in a few hours. So to catch an infection a person needs to be in fairly close contact with other people under reasonably confining conditions. Most known cold viruses can be transmitted by kissing; handling contaminated objects, such as handkerchiefs; using contaminated drinking glasses or utensils; via handshakes and especially through coughs and sneezes.

Prevention of a cold is difficult if not impossible. Most authorities agree that the best method of avoiding the common cold is to help your body build up resistance to disease by getting a sufficient amount of rest and relaxation, engaging in some regular form of physical exercise suited to your age and way of life, and especially by maintaining a good balance of nutrition in your daily routine.

Sound nutrition must be maintained to strengthen the body's natural defenses to a cold. If the natural body defenses fail and you get a cold, the best you can do is to relieve the annoying symptoms and make yourself as comfortable as possible while the disease runs its course in 3-14 days.

Although the advice to take two aspirin, rest and

drink fluids has become a cliché, this approach is probably the most reasonable and effective method of dealing with minor colds and flu. Here's why.

Aspirin will generally help relieve headaches, muscle aches and soreness and will lower the fever of a cold or flu. The usual dosage is two aspirin every four hours, particularly in the afternoon and evening, when symptoms are most intolerable. If you find that aspirin upsets your stomach, try one of the aspirin substitutes.

Drinking plenty of liquids is particularly important if a fever is present because the body will require more fluids at that time. Fluids help to liquefy mucus, break up congestion and will aid in preventing complications such as bronchitis and ear infections. Hot liquids are especially effective congestion relievers. Try a freshly brewed cup of herbal tea. Known as tisanes, herbal teas have been used to treat minor ailments for hundreds of years and are still prescribed today in parts of Europe for a variety of medical complaints. Chamomile tea, for example, is soothing for a sore throat while elder tea has a sedative effect.

Rest is desirable simply because you'll feel better if you avoid the burdens of excessive or even normal activity. In general, some reduction of your own level of activity is recommended -- the reduction depends upon the severity of your cold and the type of activity in which you normally engage.

If you have a painful sore throat, try gargling with warm salt water every three hours or so. Wet heat increases circulation, rushing in white blood cells that kill bacteria and red blood cells that oxygenate the tissues, bolstering their resistance to infection.

Nasal sprays or drops containing decongestants can relieve nasal and sinus stuffiness. Be sure, however, to stick to the recommended dosage and don't use them longer than three or four days at a time. Another method of reducing nasal congestion involves a combination of kitchen ingredients. Mix two cups of ice cold water, a teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda and one tablespoon Epsom salts until the ingredients dissolve. Dip a folded washcloth into the solution and squeeze out the excess water. Place the compress over the nose and sinuses, keeping the cloth cold enough to chill the nose, contract swollen nasal passages, relieve congestion and lower nasal temperature.

For your sore, tender nose (suffering from too much rubbing or blowing), try using a simple petroleum-based ointment and a little gentleness. And remember not to blow your nose too hard to prevent forcing an infection into the sinuses and ears.

A physician should be consulted if you have a high fever or severe headache that doesn't respond to aspirin, if you develop an earache, or if you have severe symptoms that persist beyond a week.

Finally, try patience and fortitude. Your body will eventually rid itself of the virus and repair the damage -- if left to its own devices and if you are basically in good health.



Home energy quiz

What is your "E.Q."? Unlike I.Q., "E.Q." measures your energy quotient. The test below is designed to tell you how well you understand energy conservation around your home.

Sheer intelligence is not enough to get 100 percent and some facts may surprise you. The data have been adapted from the Federal Energy Administration and private and business studies.

Many figures come from estimates, but they are the best available.

A score of 15 is energy-conservation genius.

A score of 14-12 is expert.

A score of 11-10 is good, but needs improvement.

A score of 9 or lower gets a warning: "A fuel and his energy are soon parted."

1. A leaky faucet, which wastes enough water to fill a coffee cup every 10 minutes, in one year would waste enough water to fill:

A. 6.5 bathtubs B. Lake Erie C. Tank five feet in diameter, 22 feet long.

2. A government study estimates one-third of all gas burned by Americans for home cooking is not used to prepare food that is actually eaten. This is because:

A. Burnt food is thrown away B. Gas leaks C. Pilot lights

3. Frost-free refrigerators save on electricity because they do not have to be periodically turned off, defrosted, and started up again.

A. False B. True

4. Light bulbs give out more light per watt than do fluorescent tubes.

A. False B. True

5. How much in fuel costs can you save if you set your thermostat at 78 degrees during the summer? A. 1-10 percent B. 12-47 percent C. 50 percent and over

6. The United States, with six percent of the world's population, consumes how much of total world energy?

A. 6 percent B. 12 percent C. 25 percent D. 33 percent

7. Using wind energy to generate electricity for homes is a good idea, but the right kind of winds can be found only in the Rocky Mountain area.

A. False B. True

8. A home with a hill in the backyard may have higher heating bills than necessary.

A. False B. True

9. Many home owners can have the advantage of \$5 a barrel oil by investing only \$300.

A. False B. True

10. Americans in their residences use what percentage of the nation's total energy consumption?

A. 71 percent B. 62.5 percent C. 48 percent D. 22 percent E. 15.5 percent

11. Outside air can be used in summer to cool a house.

A. False B. True

12. You can save on lighting bills by changing the color of your home furnishings.

A. False B. True

13. Storm or double-pane windows can cut heat loss through window glass by as much as:

A. 10 percent B. 30 percent C. 50 percent

14. How many pounds of coal must be used to provide the power to burn a 60-watt light bulb continuously for one year?

A. 3 B. 25 C. 60 D. 600

15. Humidity levels in homes affect:

A. Static electricity B. Respiration C. Heating and cooling needs D. None of these E. All of these

ANSWERS

15. E. Proper humidity levels make people cooler in summer, warmer in winter, at the same temperatures.
14. D.
13. C.
- for artificial lighting.
- covering reflect more than dark-colored ones, reducing the need
12. B. True. Light-colored walls, rugs, draperies and furniture good for this purpose.
- brought in to help cooling systems. An attic fan is particularly
11. B. True. After sunset, normally cooler night air can be local government usage is included in the non-private figures.)
- percent; and transportation, eight percent. (Federal, state and
- 37 percent. Industry accounts for 41 percent; commercial, 14
10. D. Use of private automobiles brings private energy usage to divided into \$300 equals \$5 per barrel.
- year, and 60 barrels over the insulation's lifetime. Sixty barrels
- ceiling insulation will save the equivalent of seven barrels of oil a
9. B. True. An FEA official estimates that \$300 spent in home drainage will solve this problem.
- is a greater heat loss through walls than if the soil is dry. Proper
8. B. True. If water runoff collects around the foundation, there
- A. D.
- much as 1.5 trillion kilowatt hours of electricity every year by 2000
- estimated that a major windpower program could generate as
- in the area of the Great Plains and the Northeast coast. It is
- exploitable wind energy averaging more than 12 mph is available
7. A. False. The Federal Energy Administration (FEA) says as 800 million Chinese do for all purposes.
6. D. For air conditioning only, Americans use as much energy where you live in the U.S.
- between 12 and 47 percent in cooling costs depending upon
- degrees (from 72 to 78 degrees, for example), you should save
5. B. If the 78 degree setting raises your home temperature six much light per watt.
4. A. False. Fluorescent tubes produce nearly four times as defrost automatically.
- effort to defrost, these appliances use less energy than those that
3. A. False. Although manual defrost refrigerators take more make coffee or tea.
- won't boil away, but can be brought to a quick boil when you light downward; keep a pot of water above the pilot light. It tips -- have an authorized maintenance person adjust the pilot account for one-third of all gas used in residential cooking. Two
2. C. It is estimated that pilot lights for stove tops and ovens year equals 3,285 gallons.
1. C. Filling an eight-ounce coffee cup every 10 minutes for one



Social Security taxes increase

If your paycheck seems a little smaller, don't be alarmed. Social Security (FICA) taxes increased again.

This year the payroll tax rate increased to 6.13 percent of the first \$22,900 earned by an employee. This compares to the 1978 tax rate of 6.05 percent of the first \$17,700 earned.

For persons earning \$10,000 a year, Social Security taxes will increase \$8 a year and for persons earning \$15,000, \$12 a year. A person earning \$20,000 will have an increase of \$155, while a person earning \$22,900 or more will have the maximum increase of \$333.

The company is similarly affected by the higher tax rate since it contributes equal amounts.

The 1979 increase is the 22nd since Social Security began in 1937, when the employee paid 1 percent of his first \$3,000 of earnings and the tax was matched by the employer.

In 1957, Social Security, which began as a retirement program, was expanded to include payments to the disabled. Hospital insurance for the elderly was added in 1966. In 1973, the last major change resulted in automatic cost-of-living increases in benefits.

Each improvement in benefits has pushed up the tax to the point that it will bring in almost \$130 billion in 1979. That will be redistributed to 34 million elderly or disabled Americans and their dependents.

New year checklist

During the past year:

Did you change your name, address or telephone number? If so, send a change of address card to the Personnel Department.

Did you have a change in your beneficiary on your group life insurance? If so, contact the insurance secretary at extension 477.

Did you need to add or drop any dependents from your insurance coverage? Under Blue Cross-Blue Shield, dependent children are covered until they reach 18 if they are living at home as dependents or until age 21 if they are dependent college students. Dependent life insurance coverage is available for children until age 18 provided they are living at home as dependents or until age 23 if they are dependent college students.

Was your Social Security number correct on your paychecks? If not, contact Payroll.

Did you need to change the number of dependents for withholding tax purposes? If so, contact Payroll.

Activity Committee News

FAMILY NIGHT

Don't forget Family Night Saturday, March 17. Watch the bulletin boards for more information.

Service Anniversaries

20 YEARS

Harold Klassen, Shear Shop
Jim Ratzloff, Plant III, n.p.

15 YEARS

Harold Schlicht, Shear Shop, n.p.

10 YEARS

Chester Unruh, Assembly (1947)
Myron Perkins, Kansas City

5 YEARS

Leonard McDonough,
Maintenance
Albert Groke, Parts
David Burkett, Machine Shop
Judith Palmer, Machine Shop
Betty Wilson, Machine Shop
Gary Eason, Shear Shop
Vance Cook, Fab Shop, n.p.
Larry Vickrey, Assembly (1917)
Thomas Chamberlain, Assembly (1947)

Roy Kasper, Welding (1949)
Robert McCart, Welding (1949)
Kenneth Cook, Packaging (1964)
Keith Hershberger, Corporate
Tillman Hershberger, Engineering
Glenden Thiesen, Engineering

Organizational Changes

Jim Schroeder, draftsman to
product designer, Engineering,

Ron Roots, senior test technician
to engineering shop foreman,
Engineering.

Philip B. Coopridge, senior test
technician, Engineering, to regional
service manager,
Denver, n.p.



KLASSEN



UNRUH



CHAMBERLAIN



KASPER



PERKINS



MCDONOUGH



MCCART



COOK



GROKE



BURKETT



K. HERSHBERGER



T. HERSHBERGER



PALMER



WILSON



THIENZEN



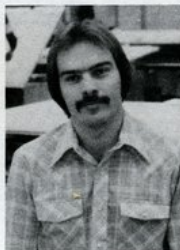
ROOTS



EASON



VICKREY



SCHROEDER

Thank you

Dear Hesston Employees:

Thank you for all the flowers, cards and other acts of kindness shown to us since Galen's passing.

Mrs. Galen Hiebert and Children

Swap Shop

Wanted: "Luv" infant seat. 345-8147 or Greg Krehbiel (Dept. 987).

Rental: New ranch, 3 bedr., 1-1/2 bath, 2-car gar., fenced yard, basement. Deposit and \$300/mo. No lease. Avail. 2 wks. 327-2307.

Sale: Older tri-lev., 3 bedr., 2 bath, fam. rm., fireplace, near Roosevelt sch. Ext. 838 or 283-8916 (Newton). 1760 sq.-feet with low utilities.

Sale: 1975 Mercury Bobcat Wagon, V-6 motor, radials, all options -- priced to sell! Ext. 440 or, after 5:00 p.m., 327-2412.

shop talk

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Member of International Association of Business Communicators and Kansas Business Communicators.



The six most important words:

"I admit I made a mistake."

The five most important words:

"You did a good job."

The four most important words:

"What is your opinion?"

The three most important words:

"If you please."

The two most important words:

"Thank you."

The one most important word:

"We."

The least important word:

"I"