



# bradley News

Friday, March 18, 1977

The following editorial appeared in the February issue of Assembly Engineering Magazine and was written by Editorial Director Bob Kelly.

## So Who's to Blame?

In a recent Viewpoint editorial entitled "The Cruel Thief," I stated that lagging productivity in the U.S. was *one* of the factors allowing all of us to be robbed by inflation. This statement prompted a response from a number of readers who took issue with the idea of blaming our inflationary problems on *productivity*. In essence these readers placed the *real blame* squarely on the shoulders of government, because of excessive spending and the printing of too much money.

Frankly, I don't disagree at all with the view that government spending policies and the creation of a larger and larger supply of money is a powerful factor behind inflation. And there's no doubt a lot of truth in the often quoted statement concerning the reason for inflation as being too many dollars chasing too few products. Since government at federal, state and local levels is a Big Buyer of our nation's goods and services, excessive spending (and especially wasteful spending) becomes a matter of serious concern to all of us. But when it comes to problems of this type most of us are content with griping and groaning among ourselves. We do absolutely nothing about letting our lawmakers know exactly how we feel about their spending policies—So Who's to Blame?

There's another side to the story of government spending, however. Ask yourself *why* government budgets have been expanding so swiftly—what's behind it? Isn't it largely due to the fact that *everything* government buys costs more? Even though government itself may be one of the causes for inflation, it too is caught up in the inflationary spiral. The materials, products, and services that government buys cost more to a large extent, *but not entirely*, because wages and salaries are increasing at a much faster rate than productivity. But, you say, a lot of government spending is for welfare programs—how about that? Yes, but even here the things welfare recipients buy cost more, so once again productivity is the culprit. So *we* in turn are at least partly to blame for excessive spending by government. The inflationary spiral is a vicious cycle—like a cat chasing its tail.

If we're looking for someone to blame for inflation we've got to look at ourselves as a nation. A nation of over 200 million individuals who in one way or another play a part in inflation, whether we're willing to admit it or not. But of much greater importance than who to blame is *how* can we break the vicious inflationary cycle—ultimately we're led back to *productivity*.

### CREDIT UNION NOTICE

The Board of Directors of the Roper Employees Credit Union have decided that, due to the increase in the cost of postage and account cards, statements will be only sent out twice a year instead of quarterly as has been done previously. The mid year statement will come from the Credit Union Office and year end will come from the auditor.

Employees are reminded however that anytime they wish to check their accounts all they have to do is call the Credit Union Office or stop in, in person.

### TELEPHONE CALLS

Since January 1 of this year we have hired about 100 new people and it seems that all of them have relatives or friends who are calling them, or trying to call them during working hours. Practically all of our factory workers are on jobs from which it is practically impossible to call them away from the job. So do not call unless it is an extreme emergency, and, if you do call be prepared to state what the emergency is.

We have written about this situation before but maybe the new employees haven't been told before. If you are a new employee, spread the word. No phone calls please!



### OLD TIMER OF THE WEEK

This week's honored employee is ALFRED DIONNE who started his Bradley career on June 23, 1948, at the age of 22 after having previously managed a gas station. He actually started here a year earlier but left to work on the railroad, a move he now says was a mistake. His first job when he returned was in Stores and Receiving, but he then went to Assembly where he stayed for twenty-seven years. Just last month he transferred to Return Goods where he is now a Repairman.

AL went into the Army just before the end of World War II and served only a year and a half. He was attached to an armored division and spent almost a year in the Philippines at a replacement depot near Manila. He was a T5 at the time of his discharge.

AL and his wife TERESA have been married for twenty-seven years and have three children and one grandson. Son LARRY has been a Dispatcher here for the past seven years. Son GARY is employed at Theesfeld Pallet Co. in St. Anne and daughter MARY is an 8th grader at St. Anne Academy.

This OLD TIMER, who is genuinely liked and respected by all who know him, has farmed 80 acres between Aroma Park and St. Anne since 1953. AL was laid off the day before his wedding so the DIONNES had no honeymoon. They spent their belated honeymoon in Hawaii five years ago, and went to San Diego earlier this year. When the Nogales operation began, AL spent nine weeks there helping set up the chain saw line.

### INSURANCE CLAIMS

Once again we must remind employees who have insurance coverage with the company for themselves or other members of their family. If you or any covered members of your family have an insurance claim, you must come to 1st Aid to sign the necessary claim papers.

We extend deepest sympathy to the family of Retiree WILLIAM NEUMANN who passed away last week.

### "THE BIG SPLIT" by Terry Dupuis

Tonight was a better night of bowling than it was last week because the ball wasn't taking as much as it did last week. The high honors tonight went to DAN LAFOND who put together a nicely rolled 589. DANNY was consistent because his high game was only a 206 followed by a 193 and 190. STAN PHARISS put together the high game of the night with a 6 in a row 233 game. STAN, who opened the first frame of that game still made the board, with that he is in 4th place in high game actual. With only 5 more weeks of this second half there is still only a 3½ point spread between 3 teams.

Tonight the Tool Room crushed Maintenance while Truckers 3 over Dispatchers, Engineers 3 over Painters, Welders 3 over Stores and Office 3 over Assembly.

Good games and series were by DAN LAFOND 206-589, BOB CRAWFORD 204-566, PETE GERACI 556, WILLARD ESSINGTON 201-559, MARVIN STANLEY 211-535, DOUG DANKEL 535, GERALD REAGAN 529, GENE BARWEGEN 528, DON BAYLOR 519, STAN PHARISS 233-515, RICH CLODI 513, GALE ALBERS 512, LOU CONNOVER a 510 and FRANK MCNASH a 204.

Splits were picked up by SAM RAIMONDO who converted the 5-7.

### BLOOD PROGRAM

Department 35 and BILL SIKES seem to be doing a real good job of carrying our blood program the last few weeks. On Thursday, March 10th, the following employees donated blood.

ALAN BISAILLON	D/35
TOMMY BROWN	D/35
DONALD FENNELL	D/35
LEN SOULIGNE	D/35

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