L. Brislin, F. Miller
Join Labor Relations & Corp. Compensation

Two additions to the Corporate Industrial Relations staff were announced late last year. Leo F. Brislin joined the Labor Relations group as a Staff Representative and Frank A. Miller was assigned to Corporate Compensation as a Wage Analyst.

Mr. Brislin is a native of Ashland, Kentucky and a graduate of the University of Kentucky. Prior to joining Sprague Electric he was associated with the Commonwealth of Kentucky at Frankfurt and with Philco-Ford in Connersville, Indiana. He has had extensive experience in industrial relations with particular emphasis in the field of labor relations. His present assignment at Sprague Electric involves labor relations activities at all plant locations with particular emphasis on the current contract negotiations in North Adams.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller and their three children reside on Maple Street in North Adams.

Frank Miller was a 1965 graduate of LeMoyne College, Syracuse, New York where he received a B.S. in industrial relations. Following graduation he joined the Coyne Industrial Laundry in Syracuse and in December of that year accepted a position with Ingersoll-Rand Corporation in Painted Post, New York. He has had considerable experience in industrial relations work and was Manager of Wage and Salary Administration at Ingersoll-Rand prior to joining Sprague Electric.

His work here is primarily concerned with salary classifications where he reports to Donald R. Millberry, Manager of Corporate Compensation.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller and their two sons reside in Williamstown.

DIVIDEND DECLARED

On February 2, directors of the Sprague Electric Company declared a quarterly dividend of 10 cents per share on the Company’s common stock, payable on March 11, 1970 to the stockholders of record at the close of business on February 13, it was announced by Robert C. Sprague, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer.

NASA Van To Visit North Adams Plants

Sprague Electric Company will host the National Aeronautics and Space Administration’s traveling space exhibit during the week of March 23rd. The exhibit is a part of NASA’s nationwide effort to inform all employees contributing to the program and the general public of space exploration, yesterday, today and tomorrow. It presents an historical review of rocketry, featuring models of the Saturn IB and the Saturn V launch vehicles, a model lunar base, and a movie presentation.

A miniature television camera and a receiver, using visitors as subjects, demonstrates in a small way how technology has advanced as a result of space exploration. The television camera is similar to those used aboard Saturn vehicles to study the vehicle systems during flight.

Present plans call for the display to be at all four plants and to also be available for viewing by the general public for at least one day. Sprague Electric has been the largest supplier of electronic components to the space program.

The exhibit will also be on display at Sprague plants in Nashua, Concord and Plymouth, New Hampshire; Sanford, Maine; and Worcester, Massachusetts.

Neal W. Welch Elected A Vice Chairman By Sprague Electric Board of Directors

Neal W. Welch was elected a Vice Chairman of the Board of the Sprague Electric Board of Directors at a meeting held on February 2, 1970. He will also retain his responsibilities as Chairman of the Executive Committee, the position to which he was elected in late 1968.

A native of North Adams, Mr. Welch is a 38 year employee of Sprague Electric. He was named Vice President of Sales in 1953 and in 1960 was promoted to Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing. In May 1967 he was elected Executive Vice President and in late 1968 assumed the newly created position of Chairman of the Executive Committee. He has been a Director of the Company since 1961.

Mr. Welch has been active in the Paris Division of the Electronics Industry Association and served as Chairman of its capacitor subdivision. He is a graduate of Bentley College.

Electronics Industry Registers 3% Growth In 1969; Little Increase Expected In 1970

The electronics industry had a very moderate growth rate in 1969 of about 3%, but the trends varied substantially within the various segments of the industry. It was achieved despite the very strong pressures to reduce military expenditures, and the increasing impact of tight credit on consumer expenditures for big-ticket durable goods. From an equipment standpoint the bright star continues to be the strong growth in the computer industry.

The component industry in total had a relatively good year, with continued dynamic growth in integrated circuits and a stronger than expected demand in many discrete component markets.

Consumer electronic equipment sales varied substantially during the year. Sales of sets were relatively strong early in the year, then dropped off in the early fall and seemed to be recovering again at year end. This overall U.S. market continues to be heavily influenced by imports in many product groups. A similar pattern is expected for 1970 with overall set sales close to the 1969 levels. Color TV sales in 1970 should reach about 6.5 million sets vs. about 5.0 million for black and white. Little change is expected in the other set categories in 1970.

Included in these figures are sets manufactured abroad but sold under U.S. brand names; these accounted for 12% of the U.S. market for TV sets in 1969. The figures do not include the growing number of sets being imported for sale in this country under foreign brand names. The percentage of the TV set market represented by foreign brands increased from 11% in 1968 to 14% in 1969, and is expected to grow gradually. Thus, imports in total represented some 26% of the total TV market in this country in 1969, compared to 26% in 1968. In radio and phonographs, the percentages are substantially higher. Although U.S. production of color TV sets is expected to continue to increase, it is probable that U.S. production of monochrome TV will gradually decline, reflecting increasing off-shore procurement of these less expensive sets by U.S. companies, either by establishing manufacturing facilities of their own abroad or by branding sets purchased overseas from others.

The industrial electronic products area recorded another good gain in 1969 and it should increase by another 8% to about $7.8 billion in 1970. Various studies indicate that the long-term demand for computers and associated peripheral equipment is still far from saturated, and strong...
**Editorial**

**Take A Chance On Change**

Do you prefer to stick to the old way of doing things? Do you feel that as long as everything remains the same you know where you stand? Do you find yourself stubbornly sticking to the opinions and ideas you've always had? Does the prospect of change build up tension inside you?

If you must honestly answer yes to these feelings, you are not alone. It is human to resist change.

Many people fear change because it undermines a feeling of security. If you've made a place for yourself and know where you stand, you naturally don't want anything changed. You have learned your job and you know how to pace yourself to get the job done. You know what to expect from your boss and from your fellow workers. It is a natural feeling, then, not to want to lose these landmarks.

However, it is a fast changing world. Each of us might as well face that fact and prepare ourselves to meet the challenge of change. Actually, this challenge is not new to most of us. We have been meeting change throughout our lives — our business lives as well as our personal ones.

Starting school ... our first jobs ... perhaps changing jobs ... getting married ... becoming parents ... buying a home — these were big changes in our lives and we met the changes they presented.

But, over the years, we have changed — not for the mere sake of changing things, but to meet changing times and needs and situations. This was not all done, of course, without certain fears about the future. Yet, how many certainties are there for the future? Not too many, to be sure.

It may very well be that this is the crux of the problem we all face these days — that there is change all around us, in just about every aspect of our lives, which makes it all the more difficult to accept.

Perhaps there is a small amount of comfort in the fact that each and every one of us faces the same situation. The person working next to you may look entirely calm, but he too has his anxieties and tensions. He just may have had a little more practice.

What can we do then to meet the changes which we face, particularly those which affect our jobs?

First, remember it is normal to have some amount of fear; to resist change; to be concerned about something which affects you and your family. When we can admit that, we have already taken the first step to accepting change.

Don't be a pessimist and convince yourself in advance that a change won't work. If you don't look at the positive aspects, you prepare to defeat yourself, because your fears and anxieties have prevented you from seeing the possible good in change.

Take time to consider the past and review some of the personal challenges you have met and overcome. Change is a normal and necessary part of life.

Finally, don't keep all your worries and feelings to yourself or you'll be climbing the wall. If you have concerns, tell someone about them. Not just anyone — that only makes you a griper. Talk it over with someone who can help you — someone who is in a position to lay your fears to rest. Someone who, if your fears are well-founded, can do something to change the situation.

Above all, remember that you can do yourself more harm by arbitrarily resisting change than by accepting it. Give change a chance. It just might work out.

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**Sprague Electric Log**

Vol. XXXII

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1970

MARION H. MANION
Manager, Corporate Publications

JUDITH S. COLLINS, Associate Editor

Sports Editor: JOAN BURY

Photographer: PAUL F. SPRAGUE
**Rockville Plant Sold To Vectrol Group**

The Sprague Electric Company has sold its Rockville, Maryland operations to Vectrol, Inc., a new firm organized by the management and engineering group of the facility. Officers of Vectrol, Inc. are Robert L. Vollmer, President; Roy A. Mitchell, Vice President, Sales; and Nicholas G. Muskovac, Vice President, Engineering. Mr. Vollmer was previously Plant Manager for Sprague Electric, while Messrs. Mitchell and Muskovac were Marketing Manager and Chief Engineer respectively.

Mr. Vollmer stated that a number of new products will be developed for introduction later in 1970.

**Mark Belanger Guest At Sports Night**

Mark Belanger, brilliant young shortstop of the American League pennant winning Baltimore Orioles, was the guest speaker at the annual Sports Night of the Sprague Management Club held on Wednesday, February 11 at the 1896 House.

Mark was one of the top contributors to the Oriole’s cause last year as they swept to the American League flag. The former Pittsfield high school basketball star batted .287, the second highest mark compiled by a major league shortstop. He batted in 51 runs, had 11 game winning hits, and scored 76 runs.

Mark was named the top fielding shortstop in the American League in a poll of players, coaches and managers and will receive his first Golden Glove award during opening game ceremonies in April at Memorial stadium.

Mark has been a member of the Orioles for the past three years and has played as a regular the past two seasons. Last year, he was hailed by such veteran observers as Bobby Doerr, Mayo Smith, and Frankie Frisch as one of the top shortstops in over two decades in the American League. His improvement, traced to hard work and excellent tutelage by batting coach Charlie Lau, resulted in his raising his lifetime batting average from .198 to .237.

Mark first attracted attention as an amazing athlete while a sophomore at Adams Memorial High School. In 1959 shortly after graduation he joined the Research and Development Laboratory for Electronics in Boston. He also served in the U.S. Navy for three and one half years as a lieutenant j.g. Prior to joining Sprague Electric he was employed by the Laboratory for Electronics in Boston.

Mr. Rowe joined the Company in 1967, coming from General Electric Company, where he had been employed in various engineering and marketing posts for more than 15 years. His previous responsibilities at Sprague Electric include those of Senior Product Specialist for solid tantalum capacitors and Senior Product Specialist for magnetic components.

**B. Carpenter Named Asst. Gen’l. Manager**

Benjamin Carpenter Jr. has been named Assistant General Manager of the paper and film capacitor operations, it was announced by William S. Templeton, Vice President, Operations.

Mr. Carpenter will make his headquarters at the Brown Street plant. He comes to Sprague Electric from the Hitchiner Manufacturing Company of O’Fallon, Missouri, where he had been Plant Manager. He was previously with Fansel, Inc. of North Chicago, Illinois in various marketing, sales and corporate planning positions.

Mr. Carpenter holds the degrees of bachelor of science in mechanical engineering and master of business administration from Northwestern University of Evanston, Illinois. A veteran of the United States Navy, Mr. Carpenter served on active duty for seven years, five as a line officer on destroyers, including two years on recall during the Korean War.

**Promotions Announced In Marketing Group**

John P. Driscoll, a nine year employee of Sprague Electric, has joined the Corporate Marketing group in North Adams as Product Manager for a-c capacitors. He comes to North Adams from the St. Louis Office where he served as District Manager for the past two years. Prior to that time he was associated with the Boston Sales Office as a Product Specialist. In his new position, Mr. Driscoll succeeds Donald J. Rowe who has been named to the new position of Coordinator of Special Accounts.

Mr. Driscoll is a graduate of Boston College and has taken courses toward his masters degree at Northeastern University. He also served in the U.S. Navy for three and one half years as a lieutenant j.g. Prior to joining Sprague Electric he was employed by the Laboratory for Electronics in Boston.

Mr. Rowe joined the Company in 1967, coming from General Electric Company, where he had been employed in various engineering and marketing posts for more than 15 years. His previous responsibilities at Sprague Electric include those of Senior Product Specialist for solid tantalum capacitors and Senior Product Specialist for magnetic components.

**John Dubis Graduates From Apprentice Course As Journeyman Tool and Die Maker**

John R. Dubis was honored by his fellow Machine Shop employees for successful completion of the four year apprentice tool and die maker program. The party, held at Brodie Mountain, featured the presentation of four certificates, a set of tools and a purse.

The apprentice program includes on-the-job training plus a four year course of study through the International Correspondence School. The ICS certificate was presented by John Gifford, Machine Shop Foreman. A certificate issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts qualifies Mr. Dubis as a Journeyman Tool and Die Maker. Presentation was made by George H. Bateson, Industrial Relations Manager. Certificates from the International Association of Machinists and from Sprague Electric were awarded by Fred Baker, local IAM President and John H. Winant, Vice President of Facilities and Industrial Relations, respectively.

Mr. Dubis also was given a set of tools by Sprague Electric and a purse from his fellow IAM employees. The tools were presented by William Newman, Machine Shop Superintendent, and John Evans, an apprentice, presented the purse.

John Dubis joined Sprague Electric in 1966 on graduation from Adams Memorial High School. He was employed in Quality Control and the Tantalum Department until 1961 when he joined the Research and Engineering group as a Technician. In January 1966 he began his apprenticeship in the Machine Shop.

He also served with the National Guard and was on active duty from September 1962 until March 1963.

**5% Interest Rate For U. S. Savings Bonds**

U.S. Savings Bonds provide an even more attractive means of saving with the increased interest rate announced late last year. Bonds now pay 5% when held to maturity as compared to the former rate of 4½%.

The new interest rate applies to all outstanding Series E and H United States Savings Bonds regardless of when they were purchased. The new rate is retroactive to June 1, 1969. Thus, there is no reason for a savings bond owner to redeem a previously purchased bond in order to buy a new one.

It was also announced that, with the increased return on Series E and H bonds, the “Freedom Shares” which were issued during the past few years will be discontinued on June 1, 1970. “Freedom Shares” were a special form of United States Savings Bond which brought a higher return than the standard bond.

Series E United States Savings Bonds now mature in 5 years and 10 months...

**TOTAL IMMOBILITY**

Automobiles are multiplying three times faster than people and five times faster than roads necessary to accommodate them. Freeways are obsolete before completion.

Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, who put all these facts in a book called Megalopolis Unbound, believes that the search for perfect mobility is leading to total immobility.
Your Health

by DR. THOMAS V. URMY
Corporate Medical Director

Emphysema - Just What Is It?

The frequent appearance of the term, emphysema, in current warnings regarding the deleterious effects of cigarette smoking has made the word almost as familiar to the layman as to the physician. Yet many people, although aware of the fact that it is a disease of the lungs, have a very imperfect idea of just what it is, and why its apparently increasing prevalence has been related to the inhaling of cigarette smoke. Actually doctors have recognized the condition for many many years. It was described long before people began smoking cigarettes.

The word, “emphysema,” of Greek derivation, means literally “an inflation,” and this actually is a good description of the basic characteristic of the disease. The sufferer’s lungs are in a constant state of overinflation due to certain changes in their structure, the most important of which appears to be loss of the high degree of elasticity normally present. Few people know that a normal lung which ordinarily completely fills its side of the chest will contract to a size not much bigger than a man’s fist if air is allowed to leak into the space between the lung and the surrounding chest wall and to thus abolish the negative pressure normally found there. It is also probably true that most people think of the mechanism by which air is drawn into the lungs and then expired as being similar to the action of a bellows, with the chest walls and the diaphragm acting to alternately suck the air in and then force it out. Actually in normal breathing the expiration, or breathing-out phase, involves little if any muscular activity. The muscles of the chest and the diaphragm simply relax and the lungs shrink by their own elasticity. Only when we blow, cough, or sneeze do we appreciably reinforce this action with our chest and abdominal muscles. A person with emphysema, however, must do this with every breath. His lungs lack the degree of elasticity needed to discharge the air by their own contraction alone.

Despite the assistance provided by the muscles of the chest and abdomen the emphysema sufferer still finds his air exchange imperfect. The diseased lung tissue is just less compressible. Also since the muscle action exerts pressure on the whole lung, not just the slices containing the air, the small bronchial tubes, through which the air must pass to get out, tend to be distorted and compressed, a further contribution to less rapid and less complete emptying. With air thus trapped in the lung’s air space there is less room for new air when the subject attempts to breathe in. The whole result is shortness of breath especially on attempts to exercise. Its severity varies with the extent of the emphysema. It can be extreme.

What is the cause of emphysema? There are actually several possible contributing causes including aging and, in some individuals, an hereditary predisposition. However, it is generally agreed that in the vast majority of cases the main, or possibly only, cause is the chronic bronchitis which almost universally accompanies emphysema. Extension of this infection from the bronchial tubes, is felt to be responsible for the scarring and loss of elastic tissue in the surrounding lung tissue. In addition swelling of the lining membranes of the bronchi and increased secretion of mucus add to the obstruction of the air flow.

As far as treatment is concerned it is not possible to undo the scarring and the loss of elasticity once it has occurred. However, various measures can be taken to stop their progression by combating the bronchitis. With means presently available, this is not easy but significant results are being achieved by a careful program involving the prompt treatment of acute respiratory infections, the judicious use of antibiotics and the elimination as far as possible of all factors which may reduce resistance to infection or add to the bronchitis.

In this last regard the marked statistical association between chronic bronchitis and cigarette smoking makes the latter’s elimination not only logical but of utmost importance to effective treatment. Needless to say, the same restriction is equally important in the prevention of this common and disabling condition.

Infernal Revenue Service Answers Taxpayer’s Questions On Income Tax

Q. How much can a person earn and still be claimed as a dependent?
A. Generally, a person cannot be claimed as a dependent if his gross income is $600 or more. The only exception is that your child or stepchild who is under the age of 19, or is a full time student may be claimed as a dependent regardless of his earnings as long as you provided more than one-half of his total support for 1969.

Q. I am enrolled in a course of study for which I do not receive any compensation. Besides room and board, are there other costs that can be deducted?
A. Yes. The amount revived as a scholarship for study at an institution of higher learning maintains a regular faculty and curriculum and has a regularly organized body of students in attendance is not taken into account in determining total support.

Q. I am a divorced woman receiving child care from my ex-husband. He paid about $700 in 1969 towards the support of our son. Who gets to claim our son as a dependent?
A. Usally, the parent who has custody of the child for the greater part of the year is entitled to the dependency deduction. However, if the other parent contributes at least $600 during the year to the support of the child, he or she may be entitled to the deduction. A more detailed explanation can be found in Publication No. 501 entitled: “Your Exemptions and Exemptions for Dependents.”

Q. I am itemizing my deductions and I was wondering which taxes are deductible?
A. Deductible taxes include real property taxes, state income taxes, personal property taxes, state and local excise taxes and state and local gasoline taxes. Some nondeductible taxes include federal income, social security, excise, estate, gift or inheritance taxes, cigarette and meals taxes and auto licenses and excise.

Q. Where do I deduct the Massachusetts excise tax on my car? I can’t find a place for it on my income tax return.
A. The Massachusetts excise tax on the value of an automobile is deductible as a personal property tax on Schedule A of Form 1040.

Q. I bought a new car last August and had to pay an extra Federal excise tax on the purchase price. Can I deduct this tax?
A. No. Federal excise taxes on automobiles, tires, telephone service, and air transportation are not deductible.

Q. My wife has misplaced the tax form we received in the mail with the name label attached. Where can we get a new label?
A. You will not be able to obtain a new label. Use a blank form and write in your names, addresses and social security numbers. Make sure that you enter the correct social security numbers so that your return will be processed as quickly as possible.
Modern New Cafeteria Being Constructed At Marshall Street Plant

A modern new cafeteria at Marshall Street is under construction and will be completed within the next two months. It is the second and final step in providing modern, efficient food and beverage centers for Sprague employees.

The new cafeteria service area, shown below, will provide self-service centers for sandwiches, fully prepared meals, salads, desserts and beverages. Each center will have a large access area so that patrons will not be confined to lines waiting to get their meal.

A partition will separate the serving area from the dining room proper which will feature wall-to-wall carpeting, wall paneling, and an attractive colonial decor including round and rectangular wooden tables and mate's chairs. The ceiling has been lowered in the entire area. The service area has diffused lighting and the dining area will have attractive wagon wheel lighting fixtures. The entire cafeteria will be air conditioned for year round comfort.

It is hoped that more employees will plan to patronize the cafeteria which will boost facilities equal to any restaurant in the area. With increased use, the cafeteria will be able to provide a large menu selection which will be advantageous to all. Full meals will be prepared by a national food organization and will be comparable to those in area restaurants. Lunch can be eaten and time will be available to do any necessary shopping or work.

The cafeteria is now being managed by Canteen, Inc., one of the country's largest industrial food companies. Plans for the renovation were prepared under the direction of John LaMarsh of Canteen Associates, Lakeview, Connecticut.

Canteen is now operating all employee food service areas in North Adams. Attractive new vending machines were installed in all four plants about six months ago.

HOSPITALITY DRINK
by Margaret Mazinski

For a relaxing drink during this flu and virus season, try the following:

1 jar Tang
1 cup instant tea
1 1/2 tablespoons cinnamon
2 packages lemonade mix (like Kool-aid mix)
2 cups sugar
1 tablespoon cloves

Mix all dry ingredients well. Put into a jar with cover. For a soothing hot drink mix 2 tablespoons of mixture in cup of hot water or if you prefer mix with ice water for spiked iced tea.
“Welcome Back” To Our Sprague Sprouts

Tina, age 2, and Jimmy, 3, are the happy children of Arlene Rondeau of the Spray Room, and grandchildren of Jeannette Rondeau of Film Products. No wonder grandma is so proud!

Tammy Dickie is the daughter of Jim of Union Street and granddaughter of Jim and Catherine Dickie.

Little Michelle Daub, daughter of Richard of Film Products, is all business as she rides her hobby horse.

Two year old Connie Tatro is the daughter of Barbara of Western Electric and granddaughter of Cecile Tatro.

Lisa and Julie Champagne, daughters of Clark of Maintenance are the granddaughters of Betty Champagne and Howard Chilson.

Two-gun Tohe Cote is the son of Doris Cote of Western Electric and grandson of Betty Elias, also of Western Electric.

Peter and Lori Gentile are the lovely grandchildren of Eunice Gentile, Tantalum, and Dorothy Brothers, Filters.

Sheridan LaBombard will graduate this June from Drury High School. She is the daughter of Catherine of Tantalum.

Another 1970 Drury graduate will be Roberta Wolfrum, daughter of Julie Wolfrum, also of Tantalum.

John Kawa is the handsome son of Alice Kawa of Tantalum Finish. He is a nephew of Lucille LaBonte and Ruth and Joe Allard.

St. Joseph’s student Shaun King is the son of Barbara King, Tantalum. A fine looking young man!

JoAnn Pisano is the daughter of Dominic of Filters and granddaughter of Alice Pisano of Tantalum.

Baby Dennis and brother and sister Todd and Dawn Kuzia are the grandchildren of Nabby Skorupski and Orella Kuzia.

Stephen and Craig Collins are the handsome sons of Judy Collins, Associate Editor of the LOG. Their father, Phil Collins, was formerly employed in Incoming Inspection.
Student Unrest - 1890

"We have been having tremendous student riots. They began at Petrovski Academy, where the authorities banned the admission of young ladies into student quarters, suspecting these latter... of political activity. From the academy it spread to the university, where, surrounded byACTs and Achilles heavily armed and mounted, and equipped with lances, the students are making the following demands:

1. Complete autonomy of the university.
2. Complete freedom of teaching.
3. Free access to the university without distinction of creed, nationality, sex, or social background.
4. Admission of Jews to the university without restriction and equal rights for them with the other students.
7. Abolition of the police function of the inspectors.
8. Lowering of fees for courses.

"This I have copied from a manifesto, with some abridgements. I think most of the fuss had been kicked up by the bunch of ( . . . ) and the sex that craves admission to the university, although it is five times worse prepared than the male."

—Letter from Anton Chekhov, 1890

Yvonne Perris of the Beaver Street Metal Clad Finish Department, retired February 13 after 27 ½ years of service. During the lunch hour on February 10, Yvonne was the guest of honor at an in-plant party. James Sherry, Plant Manager, thanked Yvonne for her many years of service and presented her with a wallet and collection from her many co-workers and friends at Beaver Street.

Yvonne Perris, (center) of Metal Clad Finish, was honored by her co-workers with a luncheon held on February 10th. She retired on February 13 after 27½ years at Sprague Electric.

Farewell Luncheon For 'Jo' Sullivan

Josephine Sullivan, a 17 year employee, was honored recently by friends in Check Inspection at a farewell luncheon held at Howard Johnson's Restaurant. Josephine and her husband Pat have moved to Agawam, Massachusetts. He was formerly a Sprague employee, also.

She joined Sprague Electric in 1953 and was employed primarily in Western Electric until 1959 when she was named a Check Inspector. She remained in Check Inspection until resigning to join her husband. Jo will be sorely missed by her coworkers and friends.

Passing Thoughts

If you open your mouth by mistake, close it with an apology. ***

Doubt increases proportionately to your increase in knowledge. ***

Only one spring divides summer from winter. ***

The dreamer uses reality as a workshop for his thoughts.

Harvey DeGrenier, Sprague Products Sales Order Administrator, posed proudly for this four generation photo. Little Antonio DeGrenier was born December 9, 1969. With him, in addition to his father, are great-grandmother, Pasqualina Girgenti, and grandma, Angelina Ciaburri, a former employee in the Ceramics Department.

It was Christmas Eve at the North Pole and not a single snow flake was in sight - they had all fallen in North Adams, we assume! Santa Claus knew he would have a problem with his sleigh and reindeer, but he also knew the children would be waiting and he couldn't disappoint them. We don't quite know how he did it, but he arrived right on schedule.
**'Zig' Nash Assumes Duties As Manager Of New Skating Rink**

Sincere best wishes are extended to Zygamond Nash, longtime Sprague Electric Foreman, who recently was named Manager of the new skating rink on South Church Street.

Zig originally joined the Company in 1936 and was employed until 1946 in various production departments. After leaving Sprague Electric, he and his family lived for awhile in California and Arizona but returned to North Adams in 1949. Following their return, Zig was employed for a short time by Gevaerts in Williamsburg.

In 1950 he rejoined Sprague Electric and has been employed continuously since that time. Zig was named a Supervisor in October 1950 and was promoted to Foreman in 1952. He is a past President of the Sprague Management Club and has been very active in the local Republican party. He also served as an Associate Member of the City's Board of Appeals until resigning earlier in February.

Zig is a native of Fulton, New York but attended local schools and graduated from Drury High School.

**Things To Do Today**

- Say “Good Morning” with a smile in your voice to an acquaintance.
- Praise a fellow employee for a task well done.
- Help an aged person or a young child across the street.
- Learn one new thing to improve your capacity to enjoy music or art or literature or baseball or...
- Try to understand a problem with your heart as well as with your head.
- Look for that which is good in others.
- Display some affection to those who love you.
- Be grateful you are alive.
- Have a happy day. You can if you want to.

**Sports Highlights**

**by Joan Bury**

**BASKETBALL ROUND-UP NORTHERN BERKSHIRE LEAGUE**

Drury still undefeated — Drury High School is the only team in Western Mass. that has yet to taste defeat. They head the strong Northern Berkshire League with a 10-0 record and a 15-0 record overall.

Admas and Taconic are fighting it out for the runner-up spot with both teams 9-1 in the league. Drury, in a class of their own, takes the top spot and is a sure bid to the Western Mass. Tournament. (For the first time the Western Mass. Tournament will be held at the new Taconic Gymnasium in Pittsfield which will give the basketball fans in this area a chance to see some top flight high school basketball.)

**SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE LEAGUE**

Lenox is leading the Southern Berkshire League with Lee and McCann in runner-up spots. Monument and Mt. Everett round out the league.

**LEAGUE STANDINGS NORTHERN BERKSHIRE**

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**LOCAL COLLEGES**

Williams College has a 5-7 record at this time and is playing a good brand of ball lately with hopes of improving their record before the season comes to a close.

North Adams State has a 7-8 record and also hopes to improve their record before the season ends.

At St. Anselm’s — Tommy Gentile is a banner year.

**SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE**

Jim Lonborg completely recovering his 1967 form.

Billy Kidd of Stowe, Vermont winning the F.I.S.

Yazierski having a super season.

Giants defense starting to click.

Arnie Palmer winning the Triple Crown.

Your team winning first place in bowling.

Eliminating the pond at the North Adams Country Club.

A girl hitting 300 at the bowling alley.

Playing par golf — just once.

Boston building a new stadium for the Patriots.

No hill climbing at the Adams Country Club.

Boston Celtics finding another Bill Russell.

**Tell It Like It Is**

New York Knicks on the way to an Eastern League title.

New York Rangers lead the Eastern Hockey League but keep an eye out for Orr and the Boston Bruins.

Atlanta and Los Angeles toss-up for Western League title.

St. Louis Blues in top spot in the Western Hockey League.

Vice President Spiro Agnew will not join the Pro-Golf Tour.

Baseball back on sports pages as Spring training started on February 20.

Football players still relaxing! No double features in football now, but it won't be long, girls!!

Patriots: Who and Where?

**The Pencil Queen — Good Queen Bess**

Good Queen Bess of England earned that title in 1564 when a tremendous storm on the outskirts of London uprooted a giant tree exposing a mine of the purest graphite ever found. For a long time, the English didn't know what to do with the stuff until someone found that it was good for writing.

The trouble was that graphite also blackened the hands and clothes of the writer until some smart Englishman started wrapping cloth or cord around the graphite to protect the fingers. That's how the modern pencil was born and how Queen Elizabeth I came to be known as the Pencil Queen.

A couple of hundred years later, a Frenchman sandwiched the graphite between two wooden slats, but that's another story.

Whereas skating...

Anthony Costello, father of Ann Lee of Machine Coil Winding, has a Christmas tradition which the whole family enjoys. Each year he bakes a bready Christmas bread, adding a foot in length for each new grandchild. This year the bread was 19 feet long. He outsaw the family oven and now has the baking done at a local bake shop.

**Knit Berets**

Knitted berets have attained new popularity this season. Below are instructions for two of the most popular. Both require four ounces of knitting worsted, but one features the new large needles.

**Baret with size 4 and 8 needles:**

With size 4 needles cast on 108 sts; knit 10 rows in garter st. Change to No. 8 needles and continue in garter st. until piece measures 7¼ inches. Knit 3 sts. together across row — 36sts. remain. Knit 1 row.

Knit 3 sts. together across again — 12sts. Gather sts. securely, leaving piece of yarn long enough to pull together and seaw back seam. Make pom-pom.

**Baret with size 35 needles:**

Divide four ounces of yarn into four equal balls. Using four strands of yarn cast on 31 sts. Knit 18 rows in seed st. pattern. Draw all sts. up securely with yarn needle and sew back seam. Top with a pom-pom.