



No. 71-8

February 19, 1971

WHO'S NEW

CARL R. LAMB has recently joined the Outdoor Power Equipment Operation as a Sales and Service Training Specialist. Prior to joining OPEO, Carl managed his own outdoor equipment distributorship merchandising Polaris snowmobiles, mini-bikes, snowblowers, garden tractors, chain saws and related products. He has also been a territorial sales manager selling chemical and fertilizer equipment of commercial quality for the Blue Company.

Carl and his wife and son presently reside in Liverpool, New York and will move to this area in the near future.

JEROME A. MANNING has joined OPEO as a quality control engineer. Jerry received his BS degree in Industrial Engineering from Clarkson College in 1965. Following three years in the Army he started with GE on the Manufacturing Management Program in the Capacitor Department, Hudson Falls, N. Y. Just prior to coming to OPEO, he was a quality control engineer with the Aircraft Engine Group at Evendale, Ohio.

Jerry, his wife and two daughters, reside in Scotia.

RUMOR HAS IT THAT the management(?) of the Downstairs Bad Lads' crack softball, garbage and snow removal team is having trouble with several recalcitrant players who up to now have not signed their 1971 contracts. With the rapidly approaching spring training sessions about to begin, approximately all of their players remain unsigned. As an added incentive, DBL management is seriously considering a free shoeshine clause to augment the fabulous salaries offered.

The Upstairs Crew, Caruso's Crunchers, Slipstick Sliders and the First Floor Gang, have reported no such problem and even cautiously suggest that the Bad Lads are deliberately not negotiating in good faith in order to avoid the inevitable shellackings they will suffer in trying to defend their title.

SUGGESTION AWARDS

Tom Zyskowski	-	\$25.00	Doug Brown	-	\$10.00
John Benequisto	-	\$10.00	Anna Oliver	-	\$10.00
John Benequisto	-	\$10.00	Bob Vandenabeele	-	\$10.00



THIRD PAY INCREASE IN 13 MONTHS COMING MARCH 1

Another pay increase -- the third in 13 months -- goes into effect Monday, March 1 for more than 200 hourly and nonexempt salaried employees at our plant.

All hourly day-work rates will be increased by 15 cents per hour, while the weekly rate for nonexempt salaried jobs will climb \$6. Under present plans, the higher pay will first appear in the paychecks distributed on 3/12/71.

Ralph Bengtson, employee relations manager for the Outdoor Power Equipment Operation, explained that, for union-represented employees, this is the second of three general increases included in the current company-union contract signed a year ago. There were both a general increase and a cost-of-living increase in 1970, along with a special adjustment for high-skill day-workers. Nonexempt salaried employees not represented by a union received similar increases.

Three More Raises Ahead -- "Still to come," said Mr. Bengtson, "are provisions for cost-of-living adjustments in October of both this year and next year and another 15-cents-per-hour general increase in May, 1972. This schedule of pay raises should help keep GE employees ahead of any anticipated rise in livings cost, as well as helping maintain our pay rates at a level high enough to attract and retain the kinds of employees we need to operate this plant."

An important extra feature of the coming pay increase will be that the value of several employee benefit plans will also be increased. This happens because they are tied to the size of an employee's earnings. Among plans affected are the Insurance, Pension, Long-Term Disability Insurance, and Income Extension Aid Plans, and the Savings & Security Program.

Professional and other exempt salaried employees will not receive these March 1 increases. These employees are covered by a pay plan under which their salaries are accorded individual treatment based on their performance on the job. The exempt salary structure was recently adjusted.