



Electrak[®] NEWS

Garden Tractor

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ROUND OF "PAY BOOSTS" FOR OPEO EMPLOYEES BEGINS MONDAY, OCTOBER 26.

The first of two "take home" pay increases over the next few months for all hourly, nonexempt graded salary and drafting OPEO employees will begin October 26 with a 5¢ per hour cost-of-living adjustment, Ralph W. Bengtson, Manager-Employee Relations, reports.

The pay hike will amount to \$2.00 per week for non-exempt salaried employees. The size of the total c-o-l adjustment is officially determined by a formula keyed to the U. S. government's announcement of the national consumer price index for October. This index is not expected to be released until late November.

Rather than delay payment of the increase until this statistic becomes available and then pay it retroactively, GE management has decided to put the increase into paychecks for all work on and after Oct. 26 without waiting for the official index announcement. This decision to pay the increase without waiting for the October index is based on the fact that the consumer price index has already reached the "trigger point" under the standard arrangement for the maximum 1970 increase of eight cents per hour.

Of course, in the very unlikely event that the October index should drop below this point, the size of the pay increase would be adjusted to conform to the agreement with the Union.

Another boost in "take home" pay is just around the corner. On January 1, GE will begin paying the full cost for employee coverage under the GE Insurance Plan. The cost of employee insurance is 0.9% of an employee's total pay, which will mean that after January 1 all GE employees will receive in effect an additional approximate 1% pay raise.

WHERE WE GONNA' PUT IT?

That question is asked dozens of times each week at Building 702 by supervision and production employees alike.

As OPEO has grown it seems as if our floor space has actually been shrinking. At least two changes, however, are currently underway which will give us more space in the shop.

The Engineering operation, which is located in the "back room" behind the Electrical area, will soon move into Building 803. A portion of the shop will then be extended into the current Engineering area. The move is scheduled to take place within the next few weeks.



