

the Westerner

OMAHA WORKS JUNE 20, 1975

Loop Transmission Apparatus

Omaha's Newest Product Line Expanding

The Omaha Works is rapidly expanding its involvement in the production of Loop Transmission Apparatus products.

What began last fall with the 710 connector has grown to include the 88 connector, the B-wire connector, the 2-type closure and the FDI cabinet.

Though utilized in different ways, all LTA products are built with a common purpose — to complete that vital cable connection between the central office and the telephone customer.

The 88 connector is used to connect central office feeder cables to indi-

dual home or business distribution lines without the need to splice individual wires. By year-end, the Omaha Works will have manufactured over 1¼ million of this type connector.

The B-wire connector is designed to splice two conductors. Approximately 100 million of these connectors will be manufactured in Omaha in 1975.

In order to accommodate production facilities for the B-wire connector, the cable forming operations at the north end of the Crossbar Shop have been moved out onto the main floor of that building. B-wire connector production

facilities will take the space vacated by the cable forming operations.

Forecast figures call for the production of 100 million B-wire connectors in 1975. (continued on page 2)



Al Sanchez, Department 435, assembles an 88 connector.

June 30-July 13 On Your Mark, Get Set . . .

Summer vacation. How do you plan on spending it?

Some employees will seize upon the opportunity to explore different parts of the country in what many energy experts claim will be most Americans' last big fling with an expensive, gas-consuming summer vacation.

Many Works employees will limit their explorations, tackling home repairs and yard work. Others will simply take advantage of the time to work towards accomplishing the task of rebuilding or resettling after the recent tornado.

Whatever your vacation plans call for, nothing is more important than a strong preoccupation with safety.

No matter what you plan on doing, do it safely.

And have a great time!



HAPPINESS IS . . . knowing you've got friends when you really need them. Tom Toth, Department 142, learned that lesson the hard way. Tom suffered a considerable loss when the May 6 tornado devastated a sizeable section of the city, claiming Tom's home and its belongings among its destructive toll. Wanting to help out, many employees in Tom's department took up a collection and also purchased a number of household items. Included among Tom's tornado "shower" gifts were an electric skillet, an iron, a blender, a number of towels and dishclothes, numerous kitchen utensils and lots of good wishes. Said a pleased Tom, "I'm really greatly surprised, having been in this department only a short time, that all these wonderful people would do so much for me." Tom is pictured at right with some of the employees who responded so generously to his needs. They are Gary Reynolds, left, Ruth Mindrup, Micki Kahre and Ruby Hilt.

LTA Products

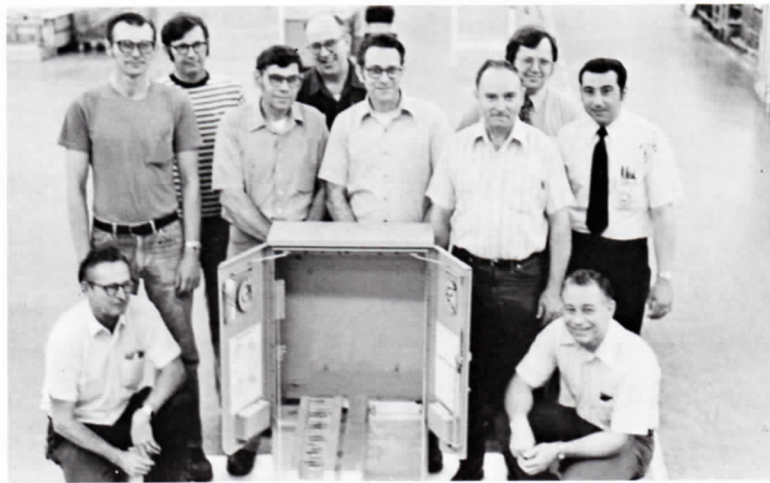
(continued from page 1)

tion of approximately 1200 2-type closures in 1975. The closure is a pressure tight, molded plastic closure designed to enclose splices in aerial, underground and buried cable systems.

Another new addition to Omaha's LTA product line is the FDI (Feeder Distribution Interface) cabinet. Assembled in the Crossbar Shop, the cabinet is an outside plant interface using 88 connectors installed to accommodate 600, 1200, 1800 and 2700 cable pairs. The production of 220 cabinets is forecast for 1975.

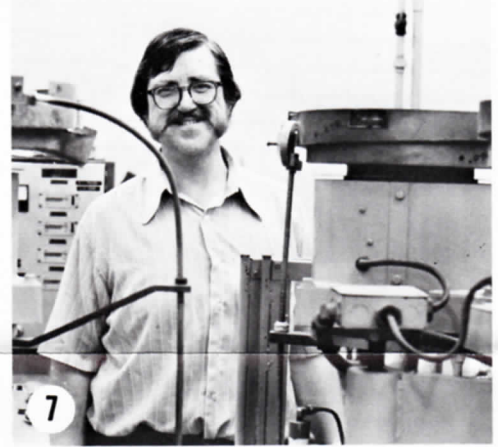
In addition to the acquisition of these new product lines, the Omaha Works is also expanding production facilities for the terminal strip. In another year, it's anticipated that Omaha will be the sole source for this LTA product.

The terminal strip is a device used for interconnecting different parts of the telephone system within central offices and PBXs.



Below — When compared to a terminal strip, the 88 connector looks really small and the B-wire connector even smaller. John Symonsbergen, Department 135, views all three LTA products. Right — Steve Zerbs, Department 473, holds another LTA product, the 2-type closure. Above — the first Omaha-produced FDI cabinet is flanked by those who helped make it possible. Pictured from left, they're Don Walker, kneeling; Gary Rezek and Ron Erickson, all in Department 135; Andy Anderson, 143; Gordon Kohlscheen, 141; Ivan Fetherkile, 143; Elgin Jenny, 143; Leo Thietje, 413; Frank Markesi, 864; and Leo Sis, Department 143, kneeling.





Suggestors Collect Big Money

In recent months, suggestion awards paid off big for seven Works employees. The awards, totaling nearly \$4,000, are a sure sign that it pays to suggest. Congratulations to the following award recipients.

1. Larry Tietz, Department 251 . . . \$1150 for his proposal that the size of the die at the wire draw be increased in diameter in order to increase the output capacity. Larry accepted his check from Wayne Hunt, director of Engineering and Manufacture.
2. Ray Knievel, Department 425 . . . \$860 for suggesting that a certain number of mounting plates be removed from a specific type of frame resulting in material savings. Ray's check was presented by J. C. Stewart, manager, 400.
3. Mac McCarter, Department 135 . . . \$555 for his idea that the terminal loading guide be modified to accommodate another type of terminal strip on the terminal loading machine thus reducing the necessity to hand load. Mac received his money from Graham Seiter, assistant manager, 130. Observing the presentation are Mac's section chief, Smitty Smith and department chief, Mary Ann Connor.
4. Dave Jones, Department 252 . . . \$485 for his idea that an operating revision be made on the jacketing line to reduce the amount of plastic used.
5. Al Anthone, Department 246 . . . \$360 for suggesting that a design be modified on an obsolete steel strand core tube so that the old tube could be used in the new core tube holder. Dave Dunn, section chief, 246, participated in the presentation.
6. Richard Hanner, Department 253 . . . \$300 for his proposal that a special tool be provided for the process checkers in stranding to check wire insulation thus resulting in a labor savings. Dick Lee, assistant manager, 250, made the presentation.
7. Irish Donahoo, Department 143 . . . \$280 for suggesting that a modification be made on the fuse assembly machine to reduce wear on a portion of the machinery.





NEW LEADERSHIP: On July 1, a new slate of officers will take over the leadership of the A. B. Goetze Council of the Telephone Pioneers of America. Gay Darwin, Department 864, will assume the office of President for 1975-76. Assisting Gay in her duties will be Vice President Jim Schwetz, Department 312, seated, and Secretary-Treasurer Ed Gembica, Department 6351. Included among the Pioneers' upcoming activities: a new member coffee for 20-year employees who are eligible for Pioneer membership as of July 1. Pioneer members will want to set aside August 31 for a Labor Day weekend picnic and October 18 for a Lincoln Bingo Party.



EMPLOYEES HELP CELEBRATE: Although now within the Omaha city limits, the community of Millard, just south of the Plant, each year exhibits its independent spirit with a five-day Millard Days celebration. This year's event, June 4-8, included a parade in which Miss Weoma, Sharon Redlinger, participated. Sharon is pictured with parade chairman Charlie Vessell, Department 246, in the above left photo. Pictured in the other photo is Millard Days Queen Shari Reimers. Shari is the daughter of Gary Reimers, Department 313.



Jerry Colton

Colton Cited

Earlier this year, there was an explosion in the Works Chemical Laboratory caused by an accumulation of acetylene gas under a bench at which chemist Ross Gibilisco was working.

Ross was injured in the explosion, sustaining a severe laceration of his right leg.

Jerry Colton, a Works electrician, was working on wall fixtures in the room when the explosion occurred. He immediately came to Ross' aid, determined the extent of visible injuries then summoned additional help.

Ross was subsequently transported on an emergency cot to Medical.

According to a memorandum issued by the Works Safety Organization, Chemical Laboratory personnel "were unanimous in their opinion that Jerry Colton's quick thinking and instant reaction were instrumental in the prevention of further injury to Ross and in preventing aggravation of his leg injury."



HONOR STUDENT: Works employees Janice, Department 9961, and Clifford Rentschler, Department 133, have good reason to believe their son Mike is headed in the right direction. Mike just completed his junior high school studies at the Nebraska School for the Deaf where he will be continuing his studies in pursuit of a high school diploma. An honor student, Mike was recognized on the 1975 Rotary Club Honor Roll. Additional awards include Certificates of Recognition for intramural football and track and junior high basketball. Mike also received an Outstanding Youth Award and a Youth Fitness Award.

Can You Prove What's Yours?

When standard vacation rolls around and you take off for Tulsa, will your t.v. take off for Tampa, Tallahassee or Timbuktu?

In other words, if your personal belongings are stolen, are they gone forever because you can't prove they're yours? Thanks to the Weoma Club, the Omaha Police Department and the Omaha Jaycees, you have a fighting chance to reclaim what you rightfully own. We're talking about Operation Identification. With the assistance of the above-mentioned organizations, you can identify your valuables and in most instances prohibit burglaries from even taking place at all.

Identification scribes, provided by the Omaha Jaycees, are available to Works employees for 72-hour loan and can be secured through the Weoma Club. Information on the program is available in brochures provided by the Police Department to individuals who participate.

Employees who participate in the program will also receive a special Operation Identification sticker to put on their front door informing would-be burglars of the potential danger in stealing anything from that residence. Statistics do indicate that burglars avoid residences where belongings have been marked.

Say you do have the misfortune of being robbed. If you used the Operation Identification system and officials recover the stolen goods, you'll get them back.

So borrow a scribe from the Weoma Club office. And instead of watching t.v. tonight, turn it off, turn it around and give it an Operation Identification number. Then when you come home from Tulsa, tennis or a Tupperware party, your t.v. will most likely be right where you left it.



Western Electric

Printed in the U.S.A.