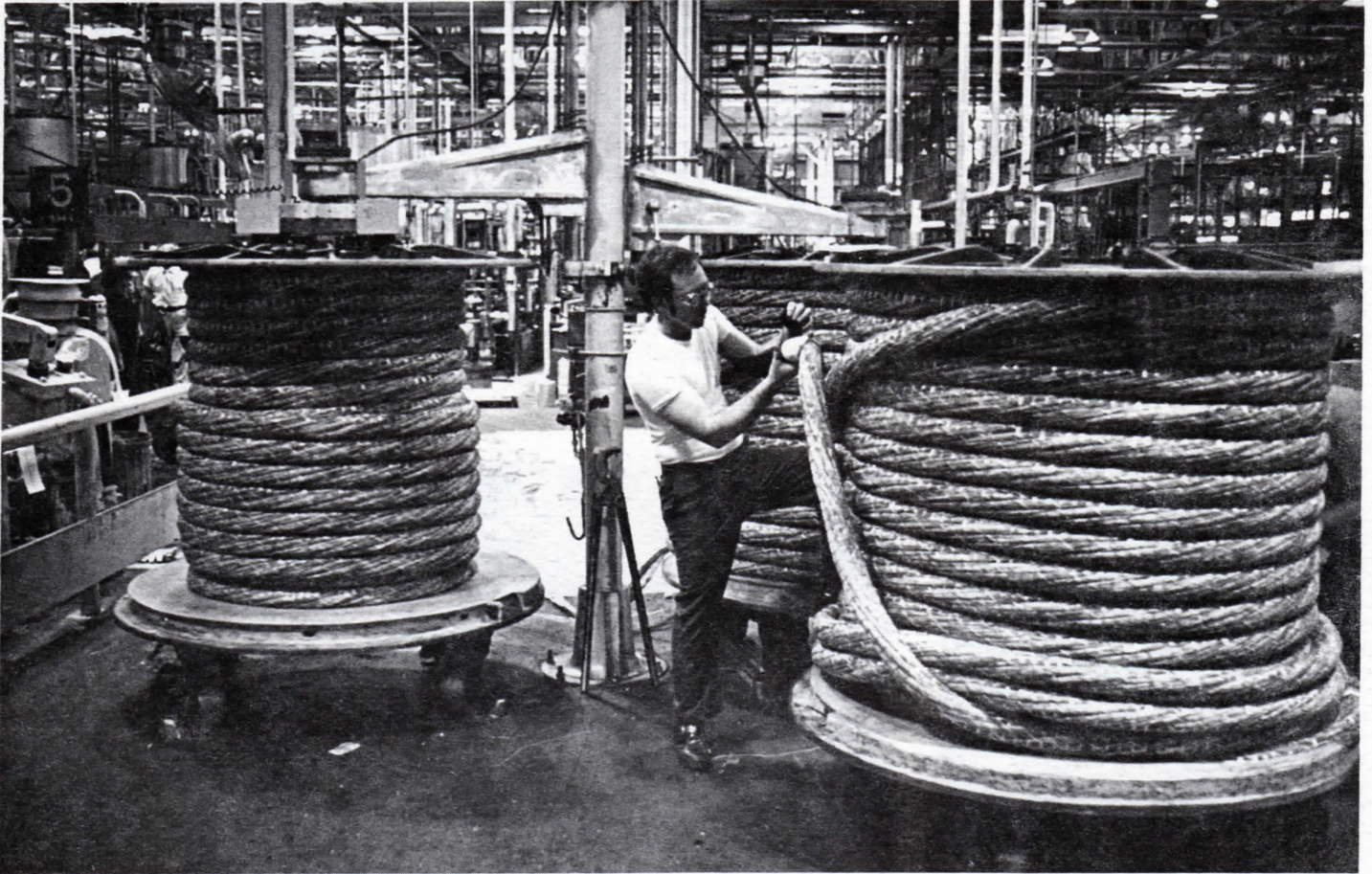


# the Westerner

OMAHA WORKS

June 17, 1977



Oren Campbell, Department 253, puts some finishing touches on the massive cable. He's one of a number of Works employees who worked on the special-order product.

## Omaha Accomplishes 16-Ton Task

Between April 6 and May 26 of this year, the Omaha Works accomplished a "first." This is how it was done . . .

**April 6, 1977:** Omaha's Cable Plant was asked to fill a firm order for the manufacture of a prototype 22 gauge, 1200 pair, DEPIC Waterproof ASP Exchange Area Cable.\* Until this time, the maximum size manufactured was 900 pair.

**May 5, 1977:** After four weeks of planning and with engineering and tool fabrication assistance from the Atlanta Product Engineering Control Center (PECC), the first 100-pair units were stranded.

**May 11, 1977:** The first 100-pair units were cabled with the resulting core measuring three inches in diameter.

**May 24, 1977:** The cable was filled and sheathed on development type facilities. The finished cable weighed eight pounds per foot with an outside diameter of 3.45 inches, the largest cable ever manufactured at the Omaha Works.

**May 26, 1977:** Six reels holding a total of 4,292 feet of this cable were shipped to New York Telephone Company facilities in Syracuse.

This impressive seven-week project was coordinated by Cable Engineering

Department 273 and PECC Stranding, Sheathing and Test Set Development Groups.

Upon completion of the shipment, Rex Mallory, Department Chief, 273, commented, "We appreciate the fine teamwork and cooperation from all of the Cable Plant employees who worked on this special cable project. Their extra effort permitted us to ship on schedule."

\*This type of waterproof cable is normally installed via direct ground burial in areas with high water tables.



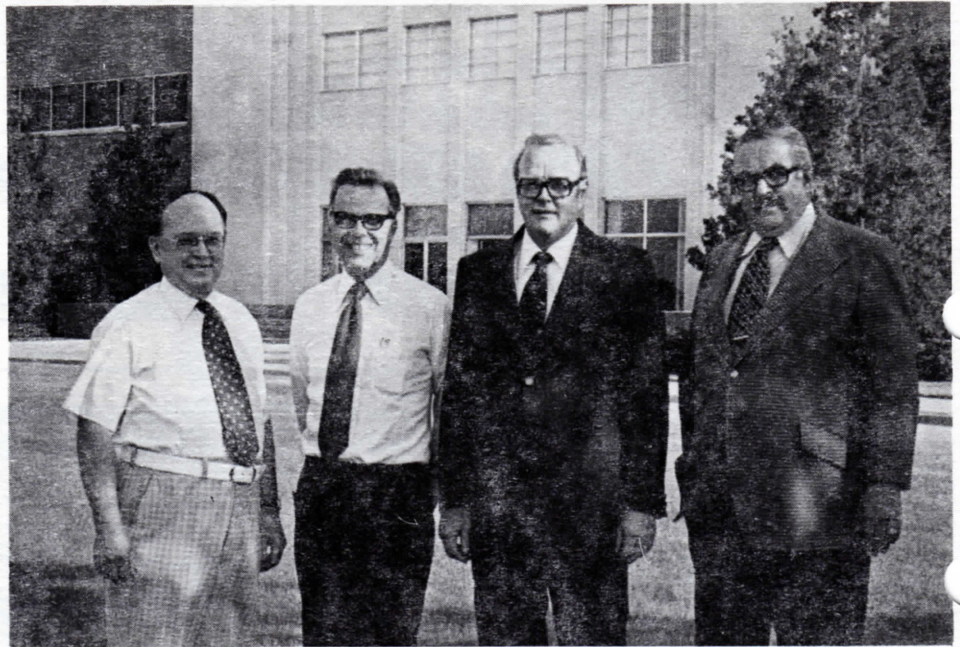
# For Your Information

... during the second week in May, the Omaha Works Safety Organization gave all employees the opportunity to place orders for home smoke detectors. A total of 1,423 orders were placed for the detectors. Employees will be notified as soon as the shipment arrives from the manufacturer . . .

... approximately 2,400 Western Electric employees, including some at the Omaha Works, have been given the chance to let the Company's top management know what employees think about some of the major issues Western Electric and the Bell System are facing in 1977. Questionnaires were mailed by Erdos and Morgan, an independent research agency, to employees whose names had been drawn into the sample. Completed forms go directly to the research firm where the findings will be summarized and a full statistical report given to Western Electric. All replies are confidential and no one in the Company will ever see a completed questionnaire or know how any individual answered the questions. If you're one of the Omaha Works employees who participated in the survey but have not yet returned your completed questionnaire you're encouraged to do so as soon as possible . . .

... during May, the Omaha Works received a letter from IBEW Local 1974 requesting that negotiations begin on a new contract. The current contract between the Company and the Union expires on August 6, 1977. Meanwhile, national bargaining is under way in Washington, D.C. between AT&T and the three national unions representing almost 700,000 Bell System employees . . .

... on July 14, hourly-rated employees will be paid for the week ending July 10. Vacation pay for the Plant shutdown (July 18-29) will also be included in these checks. Wages for the week ending July 17 will be paid on August 1. For hourly employees participating in the Automatic Pay Deposit Plan, the above-mentioned wage/vacation checks will be mailed to arrive at the bank on July 14. Wages for the week ending July 17 will be mailed to arrive at the bank on July 21. Wages for the entire month of July, including vacation, will be paid to all monthly employees on July 15. Those employees who are eligible for additional vacation days and who will be taking those days immediately preceding and/or following Standard Vacation, can make arrangements with Payroll to have this vacation pay included with the Standard Vacation advance. It's still not too late to change over to direct bank deposit for all of the above-mentioned checks. Contact Financial for complete information . . .



**INCOMING OFFICERS:** The Omaha Works Pioneer Council will have a new slate of officers on July 1. Taking office for the 1977-78 term are Ed Gembica, president, left; Bill McNabb, vice president; Ed Wigg, secretary; and Bob Olson, treasurer. Among recent Pioneer activities was participation in the 55th Annual Assembly of the Casper E. Yost Chapter which covers Western Electric and Northwestern Bell Pioneers in Nebraska and South Dakota. Pioneer members are reminded to watch for posted notices of upcoming events.



**AWARD-WINNER:** Steve Miller, Department 251, won first place in the photo contest sponsored by the Casper E. Yost Pioneer Chapter in conjunction with their 55th Annual Assembly. Steve's award-winning color photo was a scenic rural setting complete with duck pond and ducks. The picture has been entered in the Pioneer's National Photo Contest, the winners of which will be announced later this year. Steve received his award at the Pioneer's Annual Induction Banquet, June 10.

## BLOODMOBILE

June 24  
12:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

July 1  
6:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Works  
Auditorium

Sign up today  
and bring  
along a  
fellow  
employee



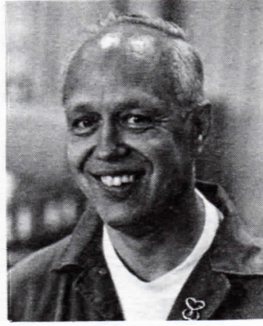
# JULY SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES



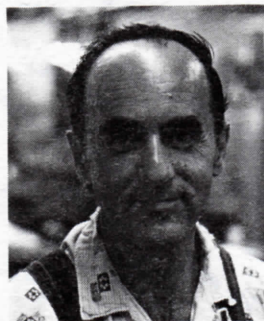
Jerry Cozette  
35 Years 7/14/42



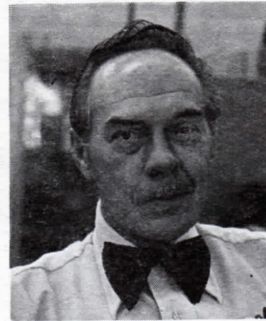
Norm Papke  
30 Years 7/2/47



Dick Gregor  
30 Years 7/18/47



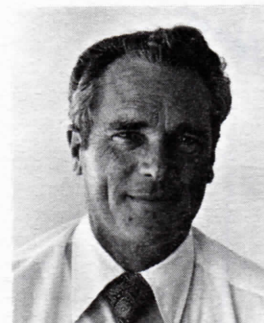
Joe Koch  
30 Years 7/22/47



Scotty Hultberg  
30 Years 7/29/47



John Malone  
25 Years 7/7/52



Dick Lee  
25 Years 7/22/52



Chester Dziewa  
25 Years 7/23/52



Don Maaske  
25 Years 7/28/52

## 20 Years

E. F. Adler  
M. D. Almquist  
J. F. Berger  
B. B. Bumgarner  
C. J. Bystrek  
M. H. Cornell  
L. L. Dankof  
H. A. Drake  
V. B. Epler  
G. L. Faller  
R. B. Fuksa  
F. H. Garey  
A. J. Harris

W. E. Kelsey  
D. J. Klingeman  
A. C. Kummer  
R. C. Micek  
D. A. Mueller  
T. R. Olson  
C. M. Schultz  
E. P. Sinkule  
D. W. Snell  
L. S. Vie  
D. M. Werth  
M. T. Wolf  
R. H. Zaner

## 15 Years

M. D. Crow  
L. C. Curry Jr.  
E. H. Fallon  
J. L. Janulewicz  
D. D. John  
R. O. Justsen  
S. D. Martin  
M. O. Owens  
K. N. Terry

## 10 Years

J. M. Coop  
C. S. Davis  
B. T. Kinsella  
R. J. McCarty  
S. H. Ortlieb  
I. T. Palma  
B. K. Schutte  
A. R. Sperry  
M. W. Strawn  
R. A. Sukup

## RETIREMENT



A. K. Bailey  
20 Years



Dear Ann Landers,

The other day you printed a letter from someone who was complaining that people just won't get involved any more. Well, I've got a story I'd like to tell you that proves there are still some "good samaritans" left in this world. It all started last November when Vaughn Carlson, a service clerk in the Omaha Works Merchandise Organization, learned that his daughter had Hodgkins Disease, a type of cancer now considered to be quite curable. Then a senior at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Melanie Carlson underwent numerous examinations culminating in the removal of her spleen.

Her doctors felt that Melanie's particular case could best be treated for complete cure at a special cancer clinic in Houston, Texas. That's where she went in December for four weeks of radiology treatment. She returned for three weeks of additional treatments in January and for three weeks of precautionary treatments in March. Although Joanne was able to accompany Melanie and his wife Joanne, this was an understandably trying time. Although Joanne was able to accompany Melanie on her December visit to the clinic, Melanie was faced with solitary visits both in January and in March. They would be especially lonely due to the fact that Melanie was healthy enough to be treated as a five-day-a-week outpatient. She would be completely alone on the weekends.

Vaughn mentioned the fact that Melanie was undergoing cancer treatment at Western Electric's Houston Service Center, during a routine business conversation with Gene Jones, an expediter in Houston and how concerned he was that she would be by herself. But on the first January weekend that Melanie was in Houston, Gene and his wife Marjorie took Melanie into their home . . . and their hearts. Their only acquaintance was through their on-the-job long distance conversations. Now mind you, Vaughn and Gene had never met. It was to be that way for each of the January weekends from work to drive Melanie to the airport. And when she was dismissed from the clinic a week earlier than expected, Gene took a day off into their home for the duration of her stay in March, the Joneses didn't pick her up just for the weekends. They took her and from the hospital. On the days when the radiology treatments left Melanie too sick to drive, Gene would take time off to make the 80 mile round trip to the hospital. During January and March, there were shopping trips, movies, professional basketball games, concerts and sightseeing excursions to such places as the beach at Galveston.

Above all, because the Joneses cared enough to get involved, Melanie was provided with the type of family environment she had left 900 miles away in Omaha. Gene and Marjorie have four children of their own and fallen in love with the spunky Melanie. Both Gene and Marjorie stressed that the



But that's not the end to the story. You see, over the recent Memorial Day weekend, Gene, Margie and three of their children drove to Omaha to visit the Carlsons for a week. That's when the enclosed picture was taken. That's Gene on the left, then Melanie and her parents. Margie Jones was away to visit a sick relative but returned later in the week. Well, Ann, that's my story. Melanie is resuming her studies and will graduate in December. She'll be returning to Houston for yearly checkups although at this point there appears to be no disease left in her body. And she'll still see the doc, continuing a bond that was begun simply because someone cared enough to get involved.

Just sign me,  
An Optimist In Omaha

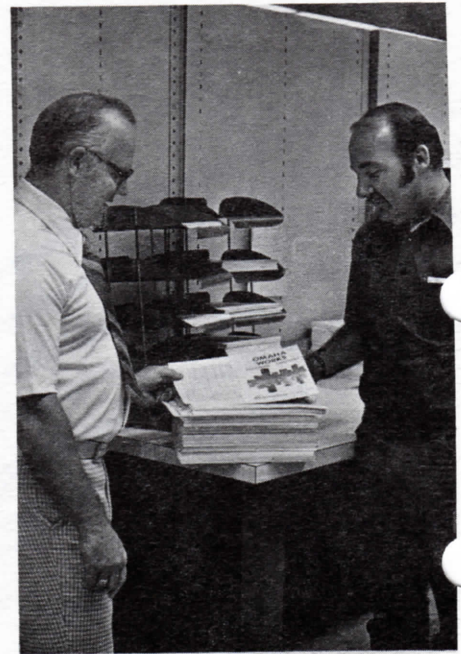


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city had simply





**TOP TEAMS:** When the Weoma Club's Wednesday Afternoon Women's Bowling League completed its 1976-77 season, the "Misfits" fit right in as the first place team, winning the title and the High Team Series of 1593. The "Amateurs" claimed the High Team Game of 580. High Individual Series went to Alta Layten with 614 while Shirley Murphy had the High Individual Game of 250. Members of the "Misfits" are, seated from left, Dixie Salsbury, Joyce Osler, Elsie Peterson and Darlene Glesman. Standing from left are Alta Layten, "Amateur" members Jessie Knutson, Irene Lileikis, Jean Pierce and Angie Winger, and Shirley Murphy.



**NUMBER, PLEASE:** The Omaha Works Reproduction Organization has scored another first. They're currently in the process of doing the first in-Plant printing of the Works telephone directory. A lot of time and effort has gone into this job, one of many large-scale printing projects the organization has been doing. Late last year, Reproduction took on the major job of regularly printing the paper you're now reading. Other big projects include a 64-page booklet printed for distribution during Engineers Week last February and the 20-page Affirmative Action booklet which was recently distributed to all employees. Pictured above reviewing the phone book covers are Reproduction Section Chief Tom Olson, left, and cover designer Jim Curran, Department 744.



On behalf of his employees, Department Chief Art Euler accepts a recognition plaque from General Manager Frank Lefebvre. Also pictured is Manager Ray Laux.

## Here's A Winning Combination

What happens when two departments, each with an outstanding safety record, combine into one?

It adds up to an even better safety record and a 4,000,000 man-hour safety award for Department 262.

To give you some background on the award, Department 262 was recognized in April 1976 for working 2,000,000 man-hours without a disabling injury. Depart-

ment 263 had received a 1,000,000 man-hour award in 1968 and had completed 1976 with 1,861,379 man-hours worked without a disabling injury.

When Department 263 was merged with Department 262 at the beginning of this year, their fine individual records got even better via the combination of safety statistics.

**the  
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VOLUME 21 NUMBER 6

**Frank J. Lefebvre**  
General Manager

**Nancy Lynch**  
Editor

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 **Western Electric**





**FIRST TOURISTS:** When the Omaha Works employee/spouse tour program began on May 25, Works employee Ron Carnegie, Department 746, and his wife Sandi were the first participants. They're pictured above right with tour guide Norb Goeser, Department 221, in the wire spring relay molding area. A number of employees and their spouses are taking advantage of the new program which offers tours every Wednesday outside the employee's normal work hours.

## Avis, National Get Contracts

If your upcoming business or vacation travel plans call for a car rental, here's some important news.

On behalf of Bell System companies, Western Electric has negotiated and executed transient automobile rental contracts with National and Avis for a three-year period beginning June 1, 1977.

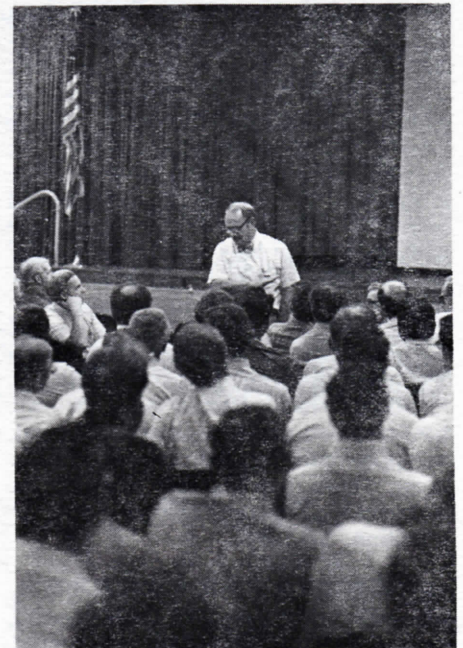
These contracts provide for a flat fixed daily rate for each car class (compact, intermediate, full size, etc.) with unlimited mileage. These flat rates do not include the cost of gasoline and are not discountable.

On several types of car classes, Avis is a dollar-a-day less than National. However, National does offer several benefits (no drop charge and no liability for collision damage) which allows them to remain competitive.

The Hertz Corporation contract expired on May 31, 1977.



**BULLETIN! BULLETIN! BULLETIN!** As you will recall, the last issue of the *Westerner* carried a special news bulletin regarding arrangements for the 20th Annual Weoma Club Picnic. At that time, a reliable source informed us that the picnic would return to Peony Park. With the receipt of the above photo, we can now confirm that rumor. Pictured are members of the picnic committee (and a few Peony Park friends) touring park facilities in preparation for the September 25 event. We also understand that this year's event will include free rides, music, Bingo, prizes, discount miniature golf and low-price beer and pop. More to come . . .



**SUPERVISORS MEET:** Wyllys Rheingrover, Western Electric General Personnel Director and former Omaha Works Comptroller, was the keynote speaker at the June 13 Supervisors Conference which was held in the Works Auditorium. Mr. Rheingrover discussed a number of personnel-related topics with the supervisors. Also addressing the group were Works General Manager Frank Lefebvre and Director Charlie Higginson.





Ray Swartz, left, and Don Voss will further their education courtesy of Western Electric.

## Masters Degrees Are Their Goals

Omaha Works Planning Engineers Ray Swartz, Department 274, and Don Voss, Department 273, have been selected as participants in Western Electric's 1977 Engineering and Science Fellowship Program.

Based upon acceptance at their respective schools, Ray will pursue a Master of Science degree in Engineering Science and Mechanics at Iowa State University while Don will be studying at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln for a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering.

Program candidates are selected on the basis of their individual skills and the location's need for those skills. Don will be involved in the study of mini-computer and micro-processor applications. Ray's studies will involve the crosslinking of plastic compounds by irradiation.



Dona tries on her new Wise Owl glasses for Manager Dick Iaffaldano, left, and Department Chief Max Strong.

## Common Sense Saves Sight

Dona Hillman is the Omaha Works' 32nd member of the Wise Owl Club of America.

It wasn't luck that won Dona the title. It was common sense.

Last March, Dona was operating a drilling machine in Department 439 when one of the machine parts broke. A piece of metal flew out, striking the left lens of her glasses.

Upon investigation of Dona's accident, the Safety Organization stated that "we are certain her eyesight was saved by the use of protective eye equipment."

During special ceremonies in Manager Dick Iaffaldano's office on June 2, Dona was cited for her intelligent use of safety glasses, without which she could have lost an eye. Dona received a membership certificate in the Wise Owl Club of America, a membership pin and a new pair of safety glasses with special Wise Owl frames.

The Wise Owl Club of America is sponsored by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness and covers both industrial and school eye safety. Membership in the club is awarded only to those whose eyesight is saved by wearing eye protection at the time of a potentially blinding accident.

Accident prevention specialists say that over 90% of all eye injuries and loss-of-sight cases could be prevented through conscientious use of safety eye-wear.

Now is the time to ask yourself if you're doing your part to protect your eyes from on-the-job accidents. Sure, it's easy to put those safety glasses on when

someone is watching, then take them off when "the coast is clear." But you're only hurting yourself — perhaps permanently.

Nothing can replace an eye. Think about it.



The small piece of metal Dona is holding could have had tragic consequences as you can see from the point of impact on the glasses.