

## EMPLOYEES DEVELOP NEW DEVICES



Banner Leach and Chester Fraley look over the specifications of their idea for a direct drive of the friction disk on the automatic clipper and inspection machine. They received a cash award of \$25.00 for their idea.

The direct disk drive replaces vee belt drives. The vee belts were constantly wearing out and several hours were required to replace them. This involved mechanics' time and loss of production while the machine was shut down. No belts are used in the new drive.

Leach and Fraley have also developed a reduction gear attachment for the hand clipper.

Another of Leach's machine improvements is the power drive for a grommet machine. Many of our socks are now packaged in cellophane envelopes for self service. After the envelope has been sealed, a grommet is placed in the top of the envelope for hanging the socks on display racks.

The original machine required the operator to drive the grommet through with a foot-operated direct drive. Banner attached a power driven clutch which enables the operator to increase production with less effort.

Cleverness--the ability to refuse a kiss without being deprived of it.



Howard Young, Carl Hatley, Roy Dean, Willis Taylor and L. W. Dean, all of Plant #4, have developed a suction device to take string clippings from the knitting machine. Utilizing compressed air, the suction device is attached to the dial head, pulling the clippings from the knives and blowing them into a suction box.

The suction device eliminates loose ends in the stockings. The knitter does not have to stop the machines to clean clippings from under the knives. It keeps the thread from slipping from under the clamps, thereby greatly reducing cut-outs in the heel and toe.

Records of 9 knitters working with 30 machines equipped with the suction device and 30 machines without the device show waste is reduced approximately 25% by the use of the suction attachment.

Needle consumption and machine breakdown are also reduced by the suction. Seconds, irregulars and other off-grades show reduction in the finishing room.

