

AMCO NEWS
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AMCO NEWS is edited and produced quarterly in the offices of Adams-Millis Corporation at 225 North Elm Street, High Point, North Carolina. Contributions, comments and suggestions are always welcomed by your production staff. Martha Clontz, Editor; Jean Harrison, Assoc. Editor.



Anne Younger

30 Years' Service Completed

Anne Younger, who has completed 30 years' service with Adams-Millis, was unintentionally omitted in the service awards story in the last issue of AMCO NEWS.

A Knitter at Plant 1 in High Point, Anne lives in Kernersville. Gardening is her hobby and she said her son-in-law soon will plow her gardening space for her and she will get busy with her planting. Each year, Anne said, she raises potatoes, onions, beans, corn, tomatoes and bellpeppers, and "gives away most of what my family doesn't use."

As for advice on having a successful garden Anne said keeping the ground soft is what she relies on mostly. In addition to the original plowing, she said she has the ground plowed again between the rows during the growing season.



A Chat With The Chairman

J. H. Millis
Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

At Adams-Millis today, as at other companies across the United States, unprecedented efforts are being made to improve and maintain the quality of goods produced in all types of industries.

Industry in this country finds itself on the threshold of a new era when companies, if they are to survive, must produce more "first quality" goods, and fewer "seconds" or "off-grade" products.

Why must Adams-Millis and these other companies do this? A casual observer might say that we produce thousands of perfect socks and hose every day. But also every day, many socks and hose must go into the "off-grade" or "irregular" bins. A myriad of causes—from imperfect sizing to wrong types of yarns—could be listed for off-grades; the list is too long for this space.

These goods bring only a fraction of the price of first quality goods. However, the cost of producing irregulars is exactly the same as that for first quality products. The same wage scale is paid employees whether the goods come out perfect or less so. The goods are produced on the same machines and maintenance of them costs the same. The yarns that go into what turn out as irregulars cost just the same as that in the first quality goods.

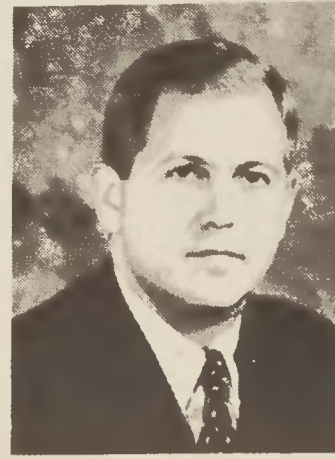
We soon see very clearly that producing "irregulars" earns the company very little, and everyone loses when a first quality product is not produced.

"Qualitysense" is a word that has been coined in the wake of recent intense efforts by companies to maintain consistent quality production. There has been no hard and fast definition for "qualitysense" that I have read. To me, however, it simply means that producing quality goods makes good sense for our company.

The reason it makes sense for a company is that it will make "dollars and cents" for a company. In our free enterprise system this is what assures a successful company for employer and employees. As we explore more possibilities for achieving consistent quality production, I urge every employee to think about quality control and our individual responsibility in achieving it.

"Zero Defects" should be the goal of every one of us at Adams-Millis!

J. H. Millis
Chairman of the Board



The President's Corner

William B. Mewborne, Jr.
President and Chief Operating Officer

As more and more companies are taking closer looks at methods of controlling the quality of their production, many innovations are being discussed. Persons specializing in this field are being recruited by industry in efforts to cut down on defects and to ensure that the company maintains a level of quality in its products that its customers demand.

One interesting plan used by some companies is working toward, and then declaring, a "ZD Day." In this instance, "ZD" stands for "Zero Defects;" and, of course, would mean production that day was completed with 100% perfect products.

This, of course, is the goal for which we would all strive. Realistically speaking, however, "zero defects" in a day's hosiery plant's production probably could never be achieved. Because of the complexities of the machines that knit our products and the intricate methods of production, some flaws inevitably will occur. We are different, say, from a television company where when the product is completed, the machine can be tested at once and see if, indeed, the product was made with "zero defects."

What Adams-Millis can do, however, is raise our consciousness level to the necessity for constant quality control. As I studied the well-thought-out plans some companies put into effect for Zero Defects days, I was struck by the simple idea that quality control depends ultimately on each individual being aware of the necessity of doing his or her job—no matter what it is—precisely correct. This follows from the purchase of the right yarns, on through each department, to the packaging and shipping.

Perhaps at Adams-Millis, we can add an "IQ" to our quality control efforts, meaning each employee will "Insure Quality" at his or her job.

When we look closely at what "Insuring Quality" can mean to our company, perhaps declaring a "ZD Day" might be interesting and challenging for us. Key employees could report on how the volume of quality control checks that day compared with another period. Even though we don't produce a television set that can be tested immediately at the end of the production line, we probably would be pleasantly surprised at what a concentrated effort to "Insure Quality" could accomplish.

William B. Mewborne, Jr.
President

Plants Form New Committees

The 1981 and 1982 Safety Committee at Plant 8 in Franklinton recently met jointly when plans were discussed for safety inspections during the new year.

Serving on the new committee are Marion Dickerson, Chairman; and Linda Bullock, Ruby Wilson and Judith Tingen.

Serving last year were: Portia Jenkins, Advisor; Mary Fuller, Chairman; and Alan Hall, Peggy Imes and Brenda Williams.

The Safety Committee for 1982 at Plant 2 in Mt. Airy includes Eugene Johnson, Chairman; Lydia Shelton, Secretary; and Judy Tolbert, Brenda Zagurski, Frank Riggs, Rachel Puckett, Kenneth Hatcher, and Harry King, members.

The Plant Emergency Organization includes Fred Rupard, Craig Dickens, Doug Puckett, Ronnie Easter, James Thompson, Rachel Puckett,

Henry Jones, Dennis Carter, Conard Bell, Don Goad, Van Adams, Perry Jordan, Elaine Phillips, Lydia Shelton, Herman Inman, Raymond Riggs, Tom Bowman, Dale Hawks, and Frank Riggs.

The Safety Committee members make a list of findings on each inspection tour and follow up with recommendations.

Tommy Beck Checks Control

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of perfect goods produced in our plants. But it will take an awareness on the part of every employee as to what reducing the percentage of imperfect socks can mean to our company."

Tommy first came to Adams-Millis in 1962 as a Knitter. Later he was assistant foreman in that department and in 1966 he entered the United States Armed Forces. He Served as a Combat Engineer in Vietnam and return-

They also assist with accident investigations and constantly look for safety hazards or housekeeping problems between tours.

The PEO meets quarterly with the chief of the Mt. Airy fire department who gives instructions and training in fire prevention and use of fire equipment.

ed to Adams-Millis in 1968 and was named to his present position in 1978.

Tommy's hobbies include coaching Little League sports, camping and fishing, and he is currently vice president of the Hasty Booster's Club. His wife, Brenda, formerly worked in the Seaming Department at Plant 7 in High Point. They live on Route 6, Thomasville, and have one son, Mark, who is eleven.

GED Classes Started In HP

Sixteen employees from Plants 1 and 7 in High Point have begun a program of study through which they can achieve a General Education Diploma, which is the equivalent of a regular high school diploma.

The program is being conducted in cooperation with Guilford Technical Institute and is part of an in-plant effort in this field which was started by GTI at the first of this year.

The classes are being held from 3:45 to 5:45 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in the Plant 1 conference room. Jules Crowell, Biology Instructor at High Point Central High School, is conducting the classes which include such subjects as Mathematics, English, Science and Social Studies.

A questionnaire circulated by Adams-Millis showed some 30 employees interested in the program. Approximately six months usually is required to complete the course of study, after which an examination is given at GTI.

The only charge is five dollars to take the final examination and students who do not pass the first time, may take the examination as many times as is required, during the next five years, for successfully completing it. Only the original five dollar fee is required, no matter how many times the examination is taken.

Gary Kennedy, Personnel Manager for Plants 1 and 7, told the first class that each of these employees is to be commended for entering this program and wished them all success.