

Foreign Group Visits Plant

The plant was visited by a group from Wilmington including 12 from the People's Republic of China on the afternoon of December 13. Their trip here is the result of contact made two years ago at a trade fair.

There is possibility of sales of American consumer goods in Red China, but this visit seems to have been more a shopping trip for technology. The visitors were particularly interested in polyester technology and chromium dioxide manufacture.

Conversations with plant management were conducted mostly through interpreters. A few of the party spoke English, several seemed to understand it. Although nothing is known of any potential business relationship as a result of the visit, there were some interesting sidelights to conversations at Guion House during lunch.

"Hushpuppies" for lunch occasioned several comments from the visitors, and our people learned some new things. The trip down I-26 brought the information that although China has an intricate system of railroads, there are few major roads. There are few automobiles in China, most are government owned. Many people are employed on communal farms, some having an area of approximately four square miles on which 30 to 40 thousand people live and raise food which is distributed by the government. Some of the workers are allowed to farm a small area for their own use, but it was not determined how that privilege was earned.

Our worlds are different, indeed, and this chance to meet people from the other side of the world with contrasting ideology was an unusual experience for those concerned.

Service Mileposts

DECEMBER 1978

20 Years

Waldron B. Rogers
James W. Wert

15 Years

Douglas M. Corn
James R. Hodge
William D. Stansell

5 Years

Joe L. Barnwell
Jerry W. Case
Keith D. Harbin
Paul Sevenhuysen
Volney L. Tinsley
Carroll R. Wilson

Seen And Heard

For Billy Rex and Barbara Breedlove, a daughter, Audra Shae, born Nov. 27. Ralph Breedlove is now a grandfather. ♦♦ Three other new grand-dads: Bill Baughn, Graham Grant and Elliot Jaquith. ♦♦ Several people won \$20 grocery certificates as door prizes at the DERA dance Dec. 16. ♦♦ Junior Norman and Linda have a daughter, Carey Leanne, born Dec. 13. ♦♦ Joe and Libby Light were in their new house in time for Christmas. ♦♦ Born to Mike and Claudia Bradley, a son, Isaac John, Dec. 15.

Gasoline prices are going over 80 cents a gallon, but most of the cars coming into the parking lot each morning have only the driver inside. ♦♦ Retiree Bert Osteen writes from California that he and Nancy miss the mountains and hope to return to them in the spring. ♦♦ The Fotofax telephone number is 5862. ♦♦ Santa ran a tight schedule. Gifts for the children's Christmas party the morning of Dec. 16 arrived on the afternoon of Dec. 15.

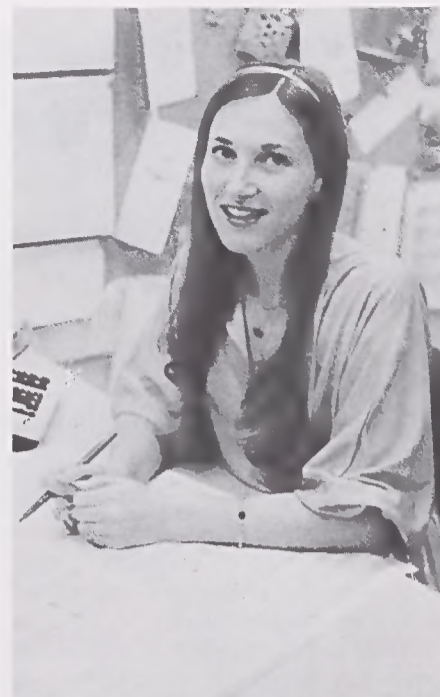
Base Products

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Timing is tight. The rolls must come from the windup of casting, through the warehouse, onto the truck and downtown. Vicki's job as shipping clerk involves processing all the paper work pertaining to the rolls — first verifying the inventory, then preparing the shipping papers which have to be processed before the material can leave the plant.

IDP provides shipping lists on their 12-8 or day shift, along with a preprinted label for the shipments Vicki scheduled the day before, carefully selecting rolls from the inventory to meet the customers' requirements. Accuracy is critical. The customer must get exactly what he wants, and there's no time to sit and ponder.

All week, all month, all year — the material has to keep moving, accurately inventoried, selected, bills of lading taking it to the right place at the right time — an average of eight trucks a day come and go. Fotofax approached Jim



Vicki

Arnold this way: "We hear that the Base business is a real success story . . ." He didn't hesitate a moment. "You bet it is!" he said.

Bad Weather, High Spirits For Holiday Season



The joy and excitement of the holiday season are reflected in the happy faces of the children who attended the two DERA Christmas parties for movies, gifts and a visit with Santa. More than 200 DERA members and guests attended the dinner and dance that evening, making the day, despite the rainy weather, a 'Super Saturday the Sixteenth.'