



FOCUS:

## Interesting Times

In a speech made several months before his retirement, former Chairman Irving Shapiro stated that an ancient Chinese curse was "May you live in interesting times."

"These are interesting times," Mr. Shapiro added.

Since then, the times have become more "interesting".

DuPont's present Chairman, Edward Jefferson, has stated it this way:

"These are times of exceptional challenge. Yet, every generation has faced an impressive list of challenges." Mr. Jefferson went on to state his belief that the traditional American strengths of courage and self-reliance can make us more than equal to today's challenges.

He also asked why our nation, superbly equipped in all respects to compete in the world industrial scene, isn't doing better in the market, and called attention to the fact that realities have changed.

Considering his question, I look back to our world of 20 to 25 years ago. There was less competition. Japanese television sets and motorcycles were in less demand, Japanese cars almost unknown. Even the popular Volkswagen Beetle scarcely made a dent in the overall auto market.

"Made in America" was enough to sell our goods; infla-

tion was at a low level. We were ahead of the pack.

Now, we face stiff competition from across both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The new realities of today demand that we "Go For It" if we are to get our share of the world market.

These realities may seem harsh.

A few weeks ago, I visited the landing site of the Pilgrims, the Mayflower II and Plymouth Village. I was struck by the severity of their lives.

These Pilgrims were real people, in hard and perilous times, not like the image we had of them in our school days. They had very little in the way of worldly goods at the beginning. But they were committed to hard work, and dedicated to building a better way of life.

They certainly spent little time in feasting!

Working together with courage and determination, they established a tradition that built a great nation.

If we, having so much more to work with, can learn to put our differences aside and work together to meet the needs we have in common, we can build, as the pilgrims did, a new and better society out of the perils and harsh realities of these "interesting times" in which we find ourselves.

*John Golden*

## United Way Leaders Praise Givers, Solicitors

by Dot Osborne, UW Secretary

Brevard plant employees have completed a successful United Way campaign, contributing seven percent more than the \$53,800 goal.

Actual pledges totaled \$57,539.75 with 76.7 percent of employees participating.

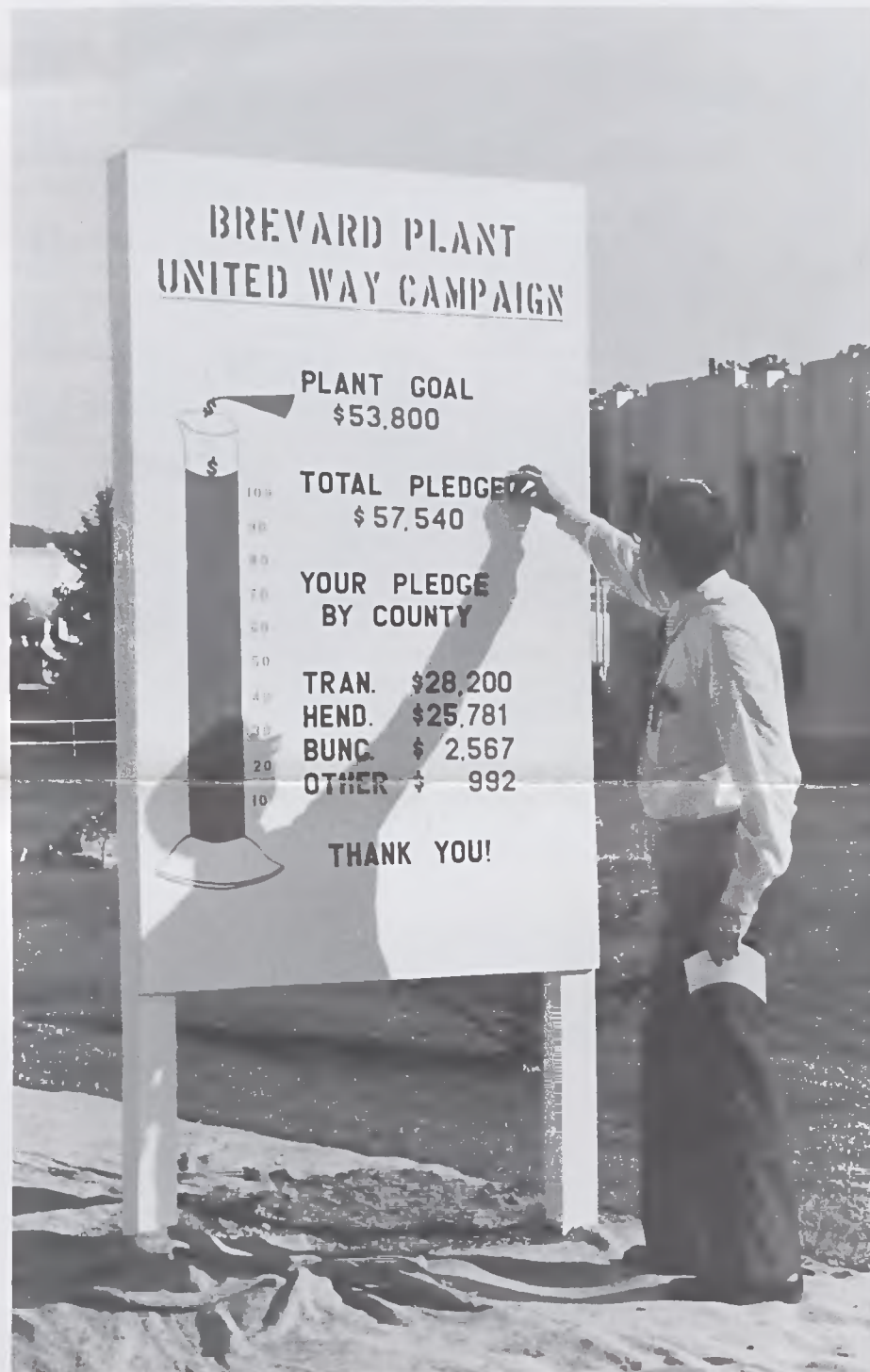
Of that amount, \$28,200 was pledged to Transylvania County and \$25,781 to Henderson County. The remaining \$3,558 was pledged to Buncombe and Jackson Counties in North Carolina and Greenville and Pickens Counties in South Carolina.

"This performance shows how we feel about our plant and our communities—that is, we care," Gerald Levi, co-chairman, said.

The pledges, which were outstanding in the face of a poor economy, will provide the United Way Agencies with funds to continue their work during 1983.

Jim Hendrix, co-chairman with Levi, had praise for the 84 solicitors who canvassed the 1362 employees, and for all those who saw the need and gave. "That is what made it successful," he said.

## Over The Top!



"People seemed willing to do more this year," said Gerald Levi, as he posted final results of the United Way Campaign. "I think it's just fantastic, getting this kind of response in difficult times like these."

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