

Vol. 11, No. 2

E.I. DuPont De Nemours & Company, Inc., Brevard, N. C.

FEBRUARY, 1978



John Kievit, Phylis Shepherd, Bill Bristol with hazard ratings.

COMMITTEE PROVIDES CONTROLS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Ever since we started separating rocks and plants into materials useful to man, we've needed to offer words of caution about hazardous properties of many of these materials.

The plantwide responsibility for developing precautions for many materials used in production operation rests with the Hazardous Materials committee.

The committee has recently been elevated to a position on the Central Safety and Health Committee. John Kievit, Process Supervisor of the Control Lab and Product Group, is chairman of the Hazardous Materials Committee.

John explained that the recent changes recognize the importance of protecting employees against possible health hazards in the workplace in addition to the traditional concerns over safety and fire hazards.

The main committee responsibilities cover four areas with subgroups working on 1) Rating and Approval with Phylis Shepherd, Group Chairman, 2) Disposal with Chuck Holcomb, Group Chairman,

IN THIS ISSUE

MEDICAL NOTES
CONTAMINATION CONTROL2
OAKLAND RAIDER ROOKIE3
PROMOTIONS
CREDIT UNION ELECTS4

3) Education with Bill Bristol, Group Chairman, and 4) Transportation, with Bat Masterson as chairman.

These subgroups work directly with area representatives assigned to the committee. They're from Casting – Jerry Surrette, Coating – Guy Smith, Plant Engineering – Sid Bordonaro, R & D – Chuck Holcomb/ John Bayless, Control Lab – Jim Kisner, and Power and Grounds – Leon Howard. In addition, Ed Hallowell, Employee Relations Industrial Hygiene Chemist, Roger Minnick – Purchasing, and Dr. Stout, Plant Physician are involved.

Phylis Shepherd describes the Rating and Approval subgroup function as the "First Line of Defense" for employee protection from hazardous materials. The defense mechanism is a simplified color and number rating code for identifying hazard potential from fire (red), skin contact (green) or breathing (yellow). A number code used with each color designates "0" - no hazard, "1" - minor hazard, "2" - moderate hazard or "3" severe hazard. The letter "L" is added to color and number codes for expected long term effects of a hazard. Phylis' group assigns ratings which are used by each operating area to provide procedures and equipment to protect employees against the hazards.

(Continued on page 2)

DR. STOUT LOOKS AT OUR HEALTH



Leonard Owen gets throat exam

Despite increased respiratory infections and gastrointestinal upsets prevalent during the winter months, the majority of our employees are in good health, according to Dr. James Stout, plant physician.

"Most employees are young and healthy. They really are not at an age range yet that serious illnesses are likely to show," he said.

His opinion is based on his examinations of employees. The medical center averages about 18 each week. Physicals are scheduled every two years for employees under 40, and annually for those over 40.

"October through December are peak months for treating employees for respiratory illnesses. The other most prevalent ailment among employees is muscle ache and strain coming usually from activities at home, not at work," said Dr. Stout.

"Basic rules of healthy living have changed very little over the years," he reflected. "These include adequate rest, relaxation, work and social activities, along with good diet, good hygenic practices and dental care."

He emphasized the importance of good diet. "We really are what we eat," he said. "Starches and sugars are the biggest failing in our diets."

Dr. Stout, who came here August 1, said he likes it here very much. "I am impressed with the people and with management objectives.

"I think the medical unit is well-equipped. And we're working into some good programs," he concluded.