

### Deringer

Continued from Page 1

After two years downtown, Deringer moved to its present location on a ten-acre site overlooking the Marshall Bypass on Highway 25-70. Construction was begun in the spring of 1974 on the present

22,000-square-foot plant, a one-story brick and concrete building. The work force also grew, from a starting group of eight to a high of 76. Now there are 50 employees, all but four of them full-time.

Because one employee can tend approximately four contact-making machines, this work force is able to turn out hundreds of thousands of contacts a day for a total of nearly 200 clients. Many of the employees work in inspection, shipping, and maintenance operations which insure that all the contacts are of uniform high quality and that each order is processed quickly to reach the correct location.

Part of the concern of Deringer, according to Vice-president Brown, is to produce just the right design of contact for each customer. There are many shapes of contacts, and a great variety of alloys, and each job must be considered separately.

"For example," said Brown, "the materials appropriate for electrical contacts in an auto accessory switch are surprisingly different from those in the horn button. And both of these differ from the preferred choice for a vending machine switch, and for the same reasons, that a vending machine switch differs from one used in appliances, toys, etc."

To learn to operate the contact-making machines, Deringer worked out a training program for local employees with Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute before opening for business in Marshall. The trainees got "in-shop, on-the-job" experience with the same kind of equipment they would be using at Deringer.

Pat Clemens emphasizes that virtually all the Deringer employees are Madison County people — with the exception of him and his daughter. "They're Madison people by birth," he said, "and we are by choice." The employee turnover rate is very low, he said; a survey has shown it to be just over 1 percent a year.

Clemens is proud of the way the company treats its employees, and praises their desire to work. "They're dog-gone good people," he said. "And we try to reward them with good programs, salary, and benefits. We have an attendance award, for example — five days' pay for anyone who doesn't miss a day of

work in three years. That's a little thing, but it's things like that that make a difference to people."

### Fire Truck

Continued from Page 1

ment. While cheaper fire truck bodies could have been used, all concerned felt that Emergency One, with its all-aluminum construction, offers the best unit available for a cost approximately one-third higher than that of a steel body. The aluminum is lighter than the steel used by all other fire truck manufacturers, resists corrosion better, and is of a modular design. This design will make it possible, if necessary, to place the body on a new chassis.

The GMC chassis, of conventional truck design, was purchased for \$15,287 through Ponder Auto of Marshall, the low bidder.

This new fire truck is the only one of its kind in Madison County. It has fire-fighting capabilities far greater than any other truck ever used outside the town limits of any of the three towns.

Marshall firemen are already being trained in the use of the truck, and will be ready to respond to fires with it by the time this article is printed. It is hoped that a day for the public to view the new unit "up-close" will be announced in the near future.

A great deal of time, planning, and paperwork have been donated by many people in order to purchase this truck. There has been much discussion about the need for such a vehicle, but Marshall firemen hope to show the community that it has taken a step in the right direction. They ask for the support and help of all residents, and also thank those who have stood with them through the years.



TROY REID of Marshall, left, gets a helping hand from Paul Reece in loading his 450-pound Fisher Papa Bear woodstove. Troy won the stove as first prize in the Christmas promotion held by

the Marshall Downtown Merchants' Association. The other winner in the contest was Pam Price of Route 3, Weaverville, who received a stereo.

## NC Job Injury Rate Below Nation

"Recorded job-related injuries and illnesses among the 1,928,500 workers in North Carolina's private sector was nearly 20 percent below the national rate in 1978," N.C. Labor Commissioner John C. Brooks reported today.

Brooks said that labor department research and statistics division data puts the 1978 incidence rate at 7.6 injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers employed in the state's private sector, compared to a 9.4 rate reported for the nation as a whole.

"Expressed in human terms, this statistic means that, in private employment, one in every 14 workers in North Carolina, compared to one in 11 workers in the nation, experienced a job-related injury or illness in 1978," he explained.

"We are especially pleased that 1978 makes the seventh straight year that it has been safer and healthier to work in North Carolina than in many

other states," Brooks added. "State and national comparisons are possible only for private sector employment because the U.S. Department of Labor does not compile national data on public employment," Brooks explained.

Five of the nine industry divisions in North Carolina's private sector experienced increases in their rates of occupational injuries and illnesses in 1978 compared with 1977. The 1978 rates ranged from a low of 1.4 per 100 workers in finance, insurance and real estate (1978 average employment 86,100) to a high of 13.3 in construction (1978 average employment 111,800).

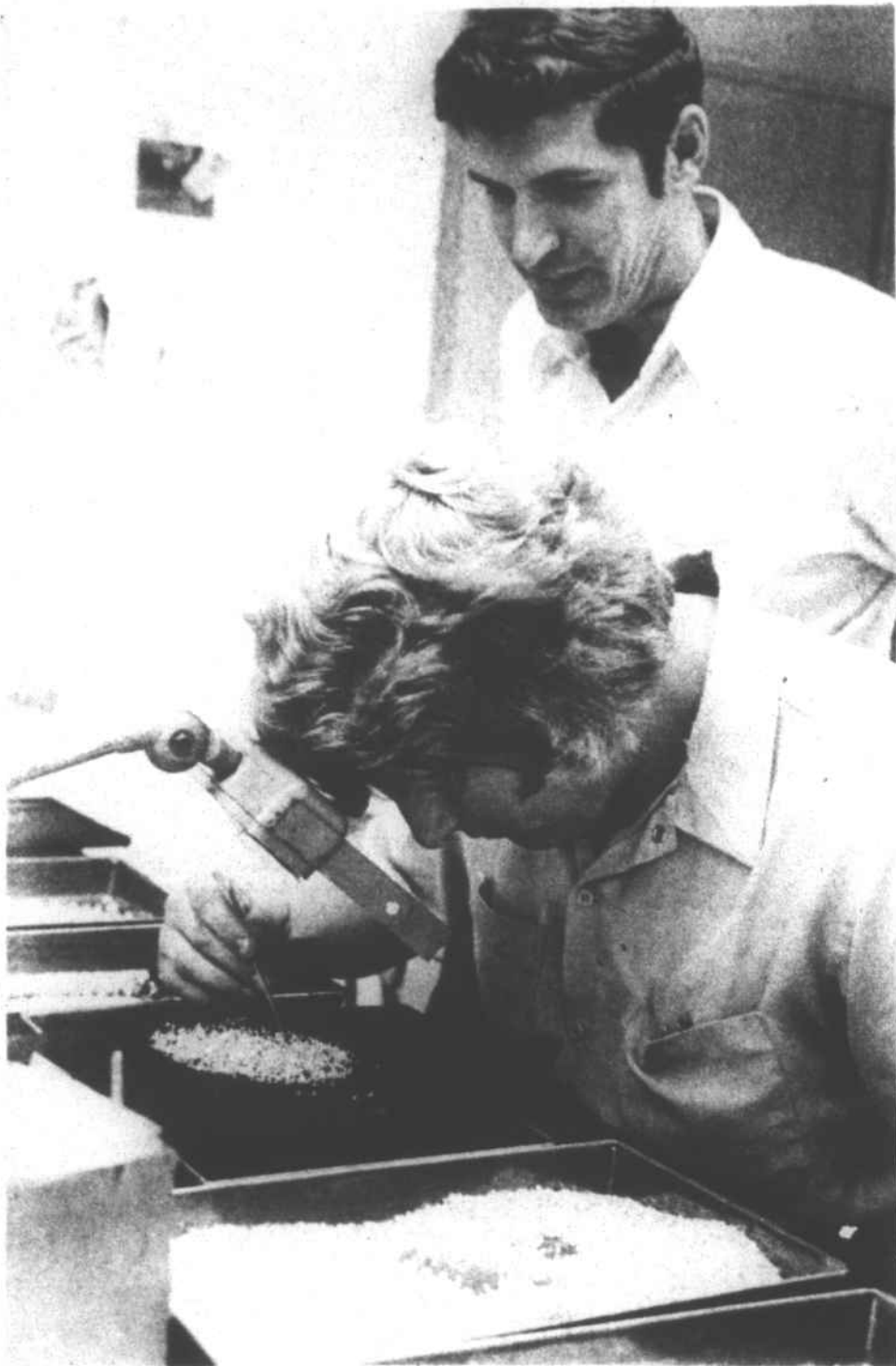
Rates for other private sector industry divisions for 1978, with average annual employment noted in parentheses, were: manufacturing (801,900), 9.4; agriculture, forestry and fishing (65,400), 8.4; transportation and public utilities (107,600), 7.3; mining (4,700), 7.3; wholesale trade (111,700), 6.2; retail trade

(329,700), 5.5; and services (309,600), 4.3.

## Christmas Contest Winners

The Marshall Lions Club has announced the winners of its annual Christmas contest. They are Edith Cody of Marshall (Remington shotgun), James Griffin of Marshall (chain saw), Colon Bishop of Marshall (oil heater), Wes Staude of Hot Springs (landscape painting), Faye Reid of Marshall (Skil saw), Paula Wallin of Marshall (lantern), and Sheila West of Route 6, Marshall (case knife).

"We wish to thank all those who cooperated in the giving of Christmas baskets to the blind," said David Caldwell, president of the Marshall Lions Club.



MALLIE HENSLEY OF MARSHALL checks silver contacts while plant manager Pat Clemens looks on. Deringer contacts like

these are used in automobile, appliances, electric switches and many other places.

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SITE	DEPARTMENT	COURSE #	CREDIT HOURS	TITLE	TIME	DAY	INSTRUCTOR	REGISTRATION DATES & LOCATIONS
MARS HILL: Mars Hill College	ART	200	4	Elementary School Art	4-7 pm	Tue.	Wing	Mars Hill College, Peterson Conference Center of Blackwell Hall, Tuesday, January 15, 6-8 pm
	BIO	330	4	Public Health	6-9 pm	Tue.	Norins	
	BA	222	4	Introduction to Accounting	6-9 pm	Tue.	Bingham	
	BA	340	4	Retailing	6:30-9:30 pm	Thu.	Heath	
	BA	335	4	Business Correspondence	6-9 pm	Mon.	Chapman, R	
	ED	405	8	Observation/Directed Teaching in the Early Childhood Program, Grades K-3	TBA		Chapman, V	
	ED	406	8	Observation/Directed Teaching in Middle School Program, Grades 4-9	TBA		Chapman, V	
	ED	330	2	Materials for Reading Instruction	4-6 pm	Wed.	Therrell	
	ED	432	4	Diagnosis of Reading Difficulty	4-7 pm	Thu.	Eller, B	
	ED	461	4	Internship	TBA		Chapman, V	
	ED	500	8	Observation/Directed Teaching Secondary Schools	TBA		Chapman, V	
	FS	205	4	French Culture	7-10 pm	Tue.	Obergfell	
	HIS	112	4	Western Civilization II	6-9 pm	Wed.	Crawford	
	MTH	110	2	Communication Skills in Probability/Statistics, Machines	6-8 pm	Mon.	Russell	
	SW	219	4	Research Methods	6-9 pm	Mon.	Stern, L	
	SW	221	4	Social Work Methods I	9 am-12 noon	Sat.	Hansel	
	SW	329	4	Programs, Policies, Issues	6-9 pm	Tue.	Thompson	
PSY	350	4	Psychology of the Exceptional Child	4-7 pm	Wed.	Goodrum		
ED	452	4	Assessment & Prescriptive for Exceptional Children	4-7 pm	Tue.	Goodrum		
MARSHALL: Madison High School	ED	205	4	Curriculum for Young Children	6-9 pm	Tue.	Norris	Mars Hill College, Peterson Conference Center of Blackwell Hall, Tuesday, January 15, 6-8 pm
	PS	311	4	Judicial Process	6-9 pm	Thu.	Stern, L	
	PSY	199	4	General Psychology	4-7 pm	Mon.	Lynch	
	Rel	221	4	The Bible and Contemporary Society	7-10 pm	Mon.	Lynch	
	FS	213	4	Russian Culture	7-10 pm	Thu.	Koch	
	RUS	112	4	Beginning Russian	TBA		Koch	

Students are welcome to audit any class, on a space available basis, (no credit awarded) for \$5 per semester hour plus a \$5 registration fee. Additional information on any of the courses is available from Dr. John M. Hough, Dean for Continuing Education, or Raymond C. Rapp, Program Coordinator for Continuing Education, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, N. C. 28754, telephone 704/689-1166 or 704/689-1167.

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