

HALINCO H-LIGHTS

October 27, 1961, Volume 1, Number 6.

If you are looking for Wilson Pritchett, don't bother to look in his office in Engineering, because the only time you will find him there is when he is eating lunch with one hand and doing calculations with the other. Lately he has been spending most of his time in the testing department trying out all of the little parts that he has been altering in the machine shop or asking the men to machine for him. If these parts work better, it means that we have a better instrument to sell; if they don't work the way he wants them to, he bends something or files off something and runs another test. He has already revised the Rate Controller so that it will control decreasing as well as increasing temperatures, devised a new dropper for the Boiling Point Analyzer, and he is working on extending the application of the Boiling Point Analyzer to very low boiling point materials and gas oils which previously could not be analyzed in the instrument. He says also that they are working on a model of the BPA that will operate under pressures other than atmospheric.

Besides his work here at the company, Mr. Pritchett is an active member of the I.S.A., has been appointed Chairman of the Education Committee of the Northern California Section, and is spending his spare time working on their program for arranging career interest tours for High School seniors to industrial plants that employ scientists and engineers in the field of instrumentation

Rose Hendrickson reports that committees are busily working on plans for the company Christmas party Saturday night, December 16, so make a date with your spouse or favorite friend! Opal and Kay say that the food is going to be superb, Carol and Tanya are thinking up fascinating decorations, Tom is arranging for your favorite dance music, Howard will be head bar tender, Mr. Hallikainen is contacting the local still, and Ken Hom is arranging work-shifts to change the assembly area into a dance hall. It sounds like the best Christmas party ever, and this year we are all guests of the company!

Again this year, Barbara Goode is planning the Christmas party for Employees' children under 12 years old. There will be Santa Claus, movies, refreshments and games! More information in the next issue!

Our new electronics technician is Pieter Fredzess, originally from Bandung, Java, he went to the Dutch schools there, was taken prisoner by the Japanese in 1942, and on his release in 1946 he was drafted into the Dutch army and served until 1948 as an electrician. After he left the army, he went to Radio Technical school for three years to become an electronics technician. Just before coming to the United States seven months ago, he worked for three years in a steel cable factory in Holland. He now lives with his wife and four children, ages 1, 2, 5 and 10, in San Pablo.

The casually captivating voice that you have been hearing from the switchboard recently belongs to Tanya Rabbitt. Tanya has taken over the switchboard and billing aspects of the front office. She is a San Francisco girl, but is now living in Berkeley while her husband finishes work on his masters in Economics at Cal. She has just a year to go to get her degree in languages with Russian and German as majors, but plans to wait a while before completing it. The Rabbitts spend their vacations camping and fishing, their evenings playing chess, and their spare time cooking fascinating food from new and different recipes which Tanya jots down at every opportunity.

Charlene Jacobson reports that she has been secretly married since June 5th. Her mother had everything planned for September, but Charlene and Roger weren't willing to wait, so they went to Reno and were married. Since Roger planned to continue with his job in the timber camp until November, they thought that it would be easy to keep the whole thing a secret and let mama have a church wedding for them anyhow, but mama found out! So now everybody knows and everybody is happy, most of all, Charlene, because the first week in November her husband will come to Oakland to work for a construction firm. Congratulations, Charlene! (The name is now Charlene Lewis)

If the testing department doesn't get some new hose connections, our roller-skating custodian is going to have to switch to water skis and ride around behind his vacuum cleaner. It seems that our new low temperature refrigerated baths need a water cooling system, and in order to test them the boys made use of sundry pieces of hose they found lying around the plant and wired them to the outlets. Then they set things to run all night and went home. When Jack came in to clean up at 4 a.m., he found the testing and assembly areas flooded with an inch of water. Knowing that it hadn't rained that hard, he traced the source to the free flowing blown connection in testing and turned off the faucet (it's fortunate that our custodian is a college student who can use his head in emergencies), and by 10 a.m. he was still philosophically finishing the mop-up detail. It wasn't exactly the way he had things planned, but it's all in a day's work. The place seems to get flooded once a year on schedule -- last year it was a plugged storm drain.

Eric Liske and his bride are now at home in Richmond after a trip through the gold country, returning via Mount Shasta and Redding.

Eero Vasankari is back from Finland looking fine and feeling fine and glad to be back. He and his bride are living in Berkeley.

World Series is over, and as a result of the pools run by Ed Schimbor and George Seiji more of us are poorer than richer. The biggest pool amounting to \$13.50 was won by Ken Hom, and nobody lost very much, so everybody had fun!