

Games, Prizes, Contests to Highlight Annual Employee Picnic October 4

Librascope will renew a fine old custom this year in the form of an annual picnic for all employees and their families, it was announced by Precisioneer President Loy Thompson.

The picnic will be held at Sherman Grove Park Sunday, October 4, and will last from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Only admission requirement is your Librascope ID card.

Because of the limitations on facilities and the size of our own employee group, the Precisioneers regret to announce no guests (except families) or former employees can be admitted.

Special attractions for the kids will include games—with prizes—contests, rides, and so forth.

Bring your swimming suits, as there will be a swimming pool on the grounds which will be available at no extra charge. Also to be provided is a dance floor, juke box and some good records for dancing.

You will have to bring your own food. However, pop and ice cream for the youngsters and beer for the adults will be provided. If you don't want to fix a picnic lunch you can journey over to Sunland park (walking distance away) and buy hot dogs or hamburgers.

Don't forget the date—October 4, Sunday.

Bowlers Get Start

Fall bowling was underway at press time with about 14 teams expected to participate.

September 10 was the scheduled opening date.

The league is being conducted at the Burbank Bowl on San Fernando Road in Burbank. Check the bulletin board for details.

Vacation Delayed, But No Complaints

Margery Grey, assembly, would qualify for having the best of Librascope's vacations this year even had she never left Glendale.

She was delayed two days as it was, delayed, that is, long enough to pick up a \$3,300 check, a gift of the Van Nuys Drive In Theatre.

Marg received the prize after attending the theatre's bank night program regularly for more than a year.

After picking up the check, she spent what was left of her two weeks in Pensacola, Fla., her home town.

"I never won anything like this before and was certainly surprised," Marg said.

She also commented that she attended a barbecue that day and was late getting to the movie—almost didn't go at all, as a matter of fact.

Dick Albright, Librascope employee, who was stricken with multiple sclerosis is shown talking with Michael D. Fanning, chairman of the Multiple Sclerosis campaign, and Dr. John H. Aldes, MS medical advisory board member. Dick was a patient at Cedars of Lebanon hospital but is recovering and back to work. (Incidentally, anyone wishing to donate to the MS Fund may send same to: "MS, Los Angeles 51.")



New Charity Club Committee Works On Details of Collection, Allocation

Plans are rapidly taking shape for Librascope's "Buck of the Month" type club, according to the newly elected committee working on this project.

Committee members, recently elected on an equal representation basis throughout the company, are Tom Bryant, Doris Eberle, Bill Greer, Norman Guiffre, George Henderhan, Steve Jackman, Dana Nixon, Joe Riddle, Floyd Sebaly and Ray Setty.

In two meetings to date, committee members have made considerable progress in planning for ways and means to collect and allocate funds on a basis which will truly express the majority wishes of Librascope employees.

In addition to aiding major charities, the committee has decided to set aside a portion of the money collected for the relief of hardship cases among Librascope employees.

No official name for the organization has been selected as yet, but the committee hopes to come up with a representative name which will symbolize the goals of the group. Plans also will include a sticker for home use.

Committee members will be circulating soon in each group, and will explain details of the program to all employees.

Full Slate Seen For Golf Tourney

A capacity field was predicted for the annual golf tourney as a total of 35 persons had qualified at presstime and more of the 48 vacancies were being filled each day.

Qualification depended on submitting three 18-hole or six 9-hole score cards by September 14. Because a limited number of starting times were available, only 48 of the 60 originally signed up were expected to be admitted to the contest. However, Precisioneer officials were trying to get about three more starting times.

The tourney will be held September 20 at Rancho golf course. A banquet is to follow the tourney at which prizes will be awarded.

New Production Control System Is Explained

The basic aims of the new Librascope production control system which will go into effect with the Mark 5 contract, are to provide a common basic production plan with which all departments can work, to centralize control functions in specific groups and to keep the flow of paperwork to a minimum.

The complete general plan will take into consideration all functions which contribute to the end product. These functions include design and release of blueprints and parts lists, requisition and procurement of raw material and purchased parts, planning of tools and operations for manufacture and assembly, scheduling and release of shop orders, and actual manufacture, assembly, adjustment and shipment of the unit.

Master scheduling will determine the estimated time span for each function by negotiation with departments concerned, and will record all estimates in the form of a job plan chart. This chart will

show in graphic form time span for each function in proper relationship. Copies of the chart will be issued to each department affected. The departments then will be responsible for performance of respective functions in accordance with the outlined plan.

Other phases of the system include the use of a new type of assignment sheet for production operations. The machine operator will not be given the entire operation sheet for a part. He will be given—along with the blueprint—an assignment and completion notice which contains instructions for only the specific operation to be worked at the machine.

All calculations of elapsed time and entries on the daily job cards will be made by the timekeeping section, and the only entries which the machine operator will make are pencil entries to record clock time—in and out—on the assignment and completion notice for the operation on which he is working.

Production control dispatchers

will be assigned to specific load centers, and will handle all movement of parts to and from the load centers, as well as report off-schedule conditions for their load centers. These will be in the form of a weekly off-schedule report, to be made to production control supervision for followup action.

A shop calendar has been established assigning consecutive numbers to each working day of the year. These numbers will be used for scheduling and general reference purposes. They will be referred to as manufacturing days, and will be posted daily on boards located in the factory areas.

This description has covered only a few general principles. New written procedures covering details of the new system are being issued to supervision. It is expected a few difficulties may arise during the changeover period, but full cooperation will help get the new system into operation with a minimum of trouble, it is felt.

Orientation Courses Proving Helpful To Newly Hired Librascope Workers

More than 100 newly hired Librascope employees have been given orientation classes since July according to the training section.

The course includes the story of Librascope and its growth, an introduction to our products, a description of the organization, the part each section plays in turning out a finished instrument, a statement of personnel policies, a discussion of plant rules and security regulations, a review of benefits available and a briefing on

the credit union and charity committee. At the end of the lecture all new workers receive an employee handbook and are taken on a tour of the plant.

Individual supervisors continue the indoctrination by introducing the employee to his fellow workers and his job.

Every Precisioneer can take an active part in this program by helping new employees feel at home and welcome.

Credit Union Is Attracting Many; More Urged to Enter Organization

Librascope Credit Union officials have announced that several hundred employees are now members, and urge all workers to avail themselves of the facilities of the organization.

Here's how the union operates. For five dollars an employee may purchase one share in the Credit Union. It is possible to authorize regular weekly deductions of one dollar or more from paychecks. Or, if the member prefers, he may deposit cash at the Credit Union office. The greater the amount invested the larger the dividend.

Loans are made to members at an interest rate of one per cent per month on the unpaid balance. This is less than the interest charged by a bank.

For example, a member borrows \$100 from the Credit Union for 12 months. The total amount he pays is \$106.42. This means he is paying interest at less than seven per cent a year as opposed to the eight per cent charged by banks.

The Credit Union operates under a federal charter and California State laws. Union activities are guided by a board of directors, credit committee and supervisory committee elected by the members.

Precisioneer Nine Places 2nd In League

Precisioneer batsmen, under the able direction of Don Cady, grinders, came through with a happy second at the close of the annual baseball league season.

As one of the top bracket teams the Precisioneers were matched with the Weber Aircraft team in the playoffs but the Webers eliminated our own with a 22 to 12 defeat.

Over the entire season the Precisioneers picked up 12 wins as against 8 losses.

Officers who handle money are bonded.

Savings are usually available at any time from the Credit Union treasurer for those who wish to make withdrawals.

The Credit Union already has assets in excess of \$16,000.

For further details, or a membership application, contact Marian Parker in the Credit Union office in Personnel.

Precisioneers List Good Buys for Fall

Eileen Brown, Precisioneer secretary, has announced the following discount deals coming up. See her in the Precisioneer office, just outside the parking lot gate, during breaks or noon hours if you are interested.

Boys' school jackets, tan gabardine with quilted satin lining and mouton collars. Sizes 4 to 10, \$5.75. Sizes 12 to 18, \$6.75.

Largest size hemmed flour-sack dish-towels, 30c, inc. tax.

Men, need a new suit, slacks or sport coat? Get a card from Eileen. Factory prices.

Ladies' cashmere coats and beautifully tailored suits beginning at \$49.00. These are advanced style and of the finest materials.

And if you have a fur coat hanging in the closet you'd like remodeled into a fashionable stole or jacket, we can recommend Mr. Abedos, HO. 5-5033. He promises a nice discount and quality work.

Special Deals. GE portable mixer. Free 15-day trial, and for 65c (instead of \$2.59) a set of plastic mixing bowls. If not satisfied return mixer for full credit.

Sunbeam Razor. Five year free service—all parts and labor—and \$5.00 trade in on your old razor.

Also new alarm clocks \$4.17 inc. taxes. Kitchen clocks, all colors, \$4.25 inc. tax. Complete line fryers. (These get scarce at Christmas time, so it's a good idea to order now.)

Willard Opocensky—Mad Genius of Librascope

Those who know of Willard Opocensky by reputation may be inclined to think of him as Librascope's own mad genius.

After hearing of the remarkable devices he has dreamed up, either unorthodox or based on long neglected principles, or of the fantastic work he has done on integrators, working with dimensions measured in light wave units, it is a surprise to meet this busy but informal, quiet spoken, and entirely likeable-type guy.

Opocensky has been with Librascope since 1941. During this dozen years he has had a hand in about every major Librascope project from the forerunners of the Mk 42 to job 120. He had a very important part in design of the LC6, an early Librascope anti-aircraft computer, and the LC8 which became first the Mk 4 and later the present Mk 5.

Willard was born September 11, 1906, in Topeka, Kan.

His mechanical bent emerged at the age of four when he demonstrated an unusual interest in a neighbor's clock. At 10 o'clock he noticed, the clock struck 11 times. Young Will waited two hours to hear it strike 13 but was foiled—it struck once only.

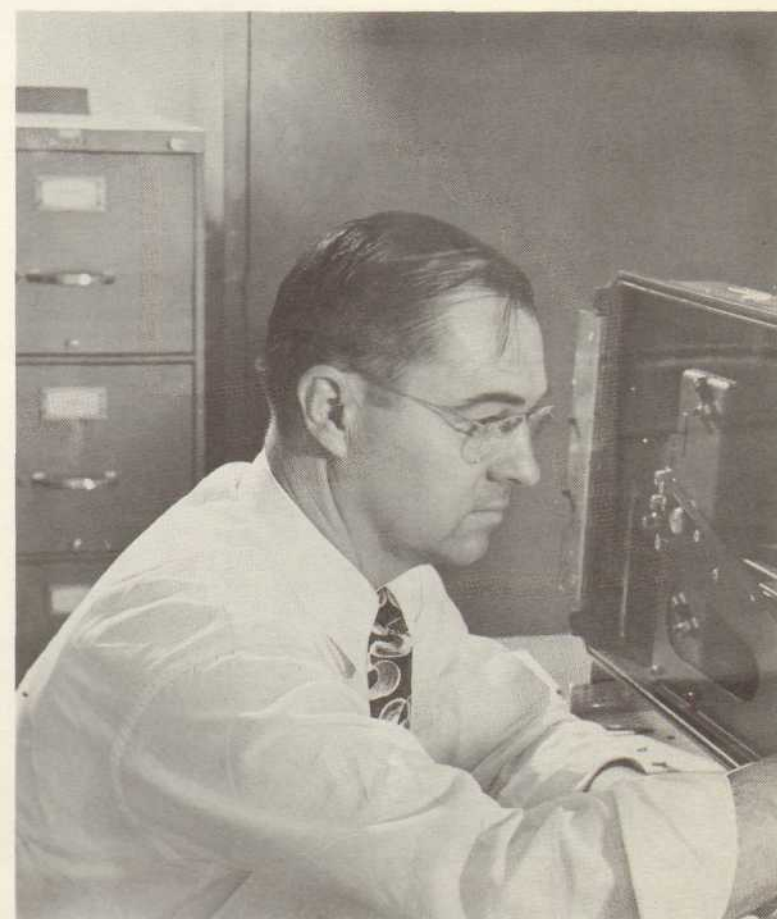
This interest in things mechanical was no surprise as both his father and his father's father were skilled watch makers.

When Opocensky was 12, he began to follow the family craft and in Houston, Texas, apprenticed to a watchmaker named Lenzen, whose son, Fred Lenzen, is now Willard's colleague at Librascope. Including his apprenticeship, Willard stayed at watchmaking for 11 years.

However, in 1934, he became design engineer for the Eastman Oil Well Survey Co. He designed, built and tested instruments for underground surveying for that company until 1941, when he came to Librascope.

However, this is only one side of the Opocensky story.

During and after his watchmaking days, Willard also studied music and became an accomplished pianist. (Those who have been at Librascope several years will remember his artistry, still of con-



cert stage quality, as displayed at company parties.)

In 1920 he won a scholarship entitling him to free tuition at the Houston Conservatory of Music. For several years he seriously considered becoming a professional pianist, but eventually his mechanical inclinations won out.

An example of the strength of Opocensky's mechanical bent was demonstrated when he reported for work the first time at Librascope—on a Sunday!

His first assignments were the Librascope Dead Reckoning Computer and Project "A" Gun Fire Control.

After this warm up, he became an important part of the team which produced the LC6, an instrument which did much to spread the fame of Librascope during the early part of the war.

Then came the LC8 and Opocensky commuted to New London, Conn., with Lewie Imm and Skipp Case doing liaison between the Navy and Librascope. Later, while working on the design of this computer he worked out the details of the cone squaring mechanism which is still being used in the present day LC8—the Mk 5.

His next job was on ETA and

ROE, forerunners of the MK 42. It was on these jobs that he developed the rotary potentiometers being used on the 42, and which were patented for Librascope under his name in 1946.

ETA, incidentally, was designed, engineered, manufactured and delivered to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology just three months after receipt of the go ahead.

Another example of the industry—and frustration—prevalent in those days occurred during the development of the LC8.

Opocensky and Lewie Imm took the prototype to San Diego with Herbert Griffin, then president of Librascope. Opocensky and Imm worked three days and three nights without sleep getting the instrument in shape and installed.

Exhausted they returned to their hotel at 10 p.m. of the final day, only to find Griffin had returned to Los Angeles and given up their hotel room.

San Diego during the war had no excess of accommodations, so the two were forced to drive all the way back to Los Angeles, where after a short nap they were back at work at Librascope.

Hunting Tooth Limit Stop Vital Librascope Development

Story on page 2

—which measures under two inches in length—has gears of 48 and 49 teeth respectively, which gives a turn ratio of about 48 revolutions between the arm stops operating at either end of the train.

In current manufacturing procedure, a master set of gears is set up on an accurate, dial-operated tool, the stop arm positions depending on blue-print specifications.

Then, after an inspection okay, the master set is used to set up the production jig so all that is neces-

sary is the proper assembly of its simple gears and arms for drill under a small drill press, and the fitting of dowels which extend completely through the stop arms and gear. Assembly of the armed gears into the final stop mechanism then becomes a simple procedure.

The development of the hunting-tooth gear was a simple but ingenious solution to a vital problem, and proves again that Librascope is a name to be respected in the ever growing field of computing equipment.

Double Birthday Celebrated



This jolly group gathered in Receiving Section July 25 to celebrate the birthdays of Clem Abbott and Lyle McDonald. Shown above, left to right, are: Cesar Goldstein, Fred Killips, McDonald, Russ Bolin, Josephine Russ, Bill Griman, Abbott, John Buckens, Louise Morton, Harold Nylen, Jack Nelson and Mac Mayclin. Clem is stockroom clerk, leadman, and Lyle is assistant foreman in the Machine Shop.



Many happy Librascope vacation memories are represented by the pictures above, a sampling of the photos taken between August 1 and 14. They are identified below, left to right and top to bottom:

Tommy Brown, son of Jess Brown, tool room, displays a string of fish he caught. Mrs. Jess Brown in the background. (Editor's Note: I'm glad somebody caught some.)

Doris Appleby (right), assembly, and Jennie Sedita, left, boring, pose with Margaret Shipler, center, a former Librascope employee, during their trip through Oregon.

Urban Kemme, Mk 30 leadman, and wife take to the air during their vacation.

Maurice and Charlene Kimmel . . . now what kind of a vacation was this? He works in the dust free room during his leisure hours.

Nell Cox, accounting, absorbs sun and scenery.

Ed Thorpe, engineering lathes, and wife enjoy the cool mountain country around Lake Tahoe.

The state capitol at Sacramento was visited by Hildegard Forester and Donna Barnett, engineering files, in a side trip from San Francisco.

"Far Away Places" Is Theme of Vacationers

It seems as though just moving around, seeing new places topped the list of Librascope vacation activities.

From Balboa to New Jersey, Mexico to Canada, Librascope was represented.

Then there were others, like Maurice Kimmel, dust free room, who just stayed home and took it easy. (See picture of Maurice above.)

And of course many revisited their home towns, saw family and old friends.

Among those who traveled, Lindy Lindahl, our Controller, probably gets the prize for most miles covered. In touring both the eastern and western United States and parts of Canada, he put 7,500 miles on his speedometer.

Betty Meyer, publications secretary, did pretty well on the mileage side, too. She journeyed to far off New Jersey, where she and her husband visited his family. For Betty, who hails from Hawaii, it was her first visit to the east coast.

Wally Tyler's travels included a stop at Shasta Dam and a tour through the structure. Awed by the sight he missed seeing Jim Lewis sitting on the rocks at the foot of the structure. Which may be just as well since all Lewis could do between sips of warm beer was mumble something about "Ain't no blank fish in this blank lake."

If Lindy Lindahl was the most traveled of vacationers, we understand another front office man, Bill Bratton, qualified for putting on the least mileage among the tripsters. He contented himself

with a sojourn to Balboa, where he found there was more to spear fishing than gets the eye.

Doris Appleby, assembly, and Jennie Smith, Boring, visited a former Librascope employee, Margaret Shipler, when they stopped in Oregon.

Hildegard Forester and Donna Barnett, both in engineering files, claim to have spent their vacation in San Francisco. But they brought back pictures of The Sands in Las Vegas, and of Sacramento, which is on the way to Nevada from SF.

Lowell "Ike" Eisenhower, publications, returned from a Mexican tour with numerous impressive colored photos. Most impressive were his shots of the university in Mexico City, which boasts a beautiful, ultra modern campus and the largest collegiate stadium in North America.

Traveling the other direction, Don Webster took in the high spots of Western Canada, including Banff and Lake Louise, after covering most of the Pacific coastline.

The light car enthusiasts will like to know about Rick Girouard's extended tour through New England in his MG.

And of course there is the story of Larry and the Bear.

Larry is Larry Moore, engineering services supervisor, who with his family went on a camping trip in the High Sierra.

One exceedingly peaceful night—no neighbor's dogs, no street lights, no smog, no sirens wailing—Larry was awakened by strange

noises from the food table. A quick look out the tent flap disclosed a bear in the vittles.

Hoping to startle and scare away the bear, Larry shyed a rock in his direction. The bear was indeed startled as the rock bounced off furry mid-riff. But scared away—no. Bruin took one, then two, steps in Larry's direction. But by this time Larry was "safe" and comfortable (?) behind the protection of a zippered canvas tent flap.

The bear, an experienced camper himself, undoubtedly chuckles right down to that self-same furry midriff as he tells the boys at the office about the fastest moving, whitest faced human being he ever saw.

The chamber of commerce will hate Dan Derrington, drafting, for his comments on his camping trip to the Pacific Northwest during vacation.

"It was good to see rivers with water in them and lush forests, after dry Southern California all year," Dan commented.

Dan and his wife, Gerry, enjoyed such scenic spots as the California Redwoods, Mt. Shasta, Crater Lake, Mt. Hood, Mt. Ranier, Puget Sound and Vancouver.

During the return trip down US 101 the Derringtons were impressed with the "Rain Forest" in Olympic National Park. Most people miss this beautiful sight, Dan explained, because of an enforced jaunt over an 18-mile strip of gravel road.



CREDIT UNION

We at Librascope are a friendly group and we like to help one another. This is as it should be but it is well to remember that acting as co-signer on a friend's note places a definite business obligation on us.

The co-signer has full responsibility for paying the note if the original borrower somehow fails to complete the payments. This makes co-signing a note more of a business transaction and co-signers should understand their obligation.

The Librazette

Copyright 1953 by Librascope, Inc., 1607 Flower Street, Glendale.

EDITORS

Jim Lewis, Stan Bibbero

STAFF

Millie Calitri—Engineering
Bill Walker—Prod. Control
Elsie Stefaurak—Inspection
Wally Tyler—Assembly
Dick Hastings—Personnel
Carl Culver—Assembly
Arlene Hesse—Inspection
Juanita Delle Fave—Drafting
Doris Appleby—Assembly
Chuck Freeman—Accounting
Keith Kinnaird—Publications
Mac McKeague—Personnel
Photography by Lee Duggan