



## Young Businessmen Announce **Increasing Demand for Planters**

Modern Products Company, of Burbank, the Librascope sponsored Junior Achievement company, reports that completed planters are beginning to roll off the production line, and a brisk trade is expected during the holiday season.

This program is being sponsored by local businesses in cooperation with high schools in the valley area, in an effort to better ac-quaint the teen-agers with the economic and business life of the community.

Seventeen students from high schools in this area make up the group with which Librascope is working. Our company furnishes three advisors: Dave DeHaas, engineering, as sales adviser; Norm Stevens, assistant controller, business adviser; and Lloyd Somer-field, machine shop foreman, pro-duction adviser.

#### PRODUCE PLANTER

Our young businessmen and women started the wheels in motion by setting up a board of directors and determining a prod-uct to manufacture. In this case, they decided on production of a planter.

Twenty-five units are scheduled for completion in December, and production for January is expect-ed to reach a total of 50 units.

Through improved production techniques and increased skills, it is contemplated that the production rate will continue to climb

### **Co. Credit Union Notes Progress**

Librascope's highly successful credit union began in 1953, with the first payroll deduction in June of that year. The first state audit was held in August, 1953. At that time the membership was 256, with a balance of \$16,000

a balance of \$16,000. The last audit was taken in August, 1954. Membership had increased to 580, with a balance of \$135,000. This audit showed the books to be in balance, and the secretary, Marion Parker, was commended by the auditors for keeping a neat and systematic set of books of books.

On loans that are fully secured by shares, the rate of interest has been reduced to one half of one

one of the more important fac-tors of the credit union is the insurance on loans. The insurance pays off any loan at time of death or total disability. The first insurance claim was paid to Mrs. Miller Williams. A loan was approved three weeks before Mr. Williams death. The loan was paid off in full by the insurance company. Marion Parker is resigning her position as secretary the first of the year, and Doris Eberle will take over her duties. The board of directors has approved the purchasing of a bookkeeping machine, which will take the place of hiring additional help.

## Peace on Earth Christmas Message

"Peace on earth to men of good will" is perhaps the most fervent prayer and hope which we have asso-ciated with Christmas. Cardinal Francis J. McIntyre, at my son's gradua-tion exercises last June, spoke of the relation and dependence of peace to the strict adherence of the principles of justice and equality.

On reflection, all of us must recog-nize this to be true. If our world governments could hold sincere respect for each other, would approach their mutual problems with a relemtless det-erminution to see that instice would ermination to see that justice would be done, regardless of where the blame might be placed or the penalty

inflicted, we would go a long way toward establishing lasting peace. Internal peace is extremely impor-tant to the growth and success of companies. Good work cannot be done, and good ideas will not be forthcomand good laces will not be forthcom-ing in an atmosphere contaminated by constant bickering, petty jealousies and selfish striving for power at the expense of others. This type of peace should be dynamic and not static. It chould be dynamic and not static. should be accomplished by a sincere desire to reach out for opportunities to demonstrate equal respect and justice to each other.

We are fortunate in having the sym-We are fortunate in baving the sym-bol of Libra as our emblem and stand-ard. We have progressed far by fol-lowing the principles dictated by jus-tice and equality. We know that we can go forward with confidence as long as we guard and improve our internal relations and teamwork. We (Continued on Page 2)

# **Christmas Holiday Policy Makes Everybody Happy**

There are many ways of saying Merry Christmas. People say it in person, with presents, and with cards. Librascope, Inc., wishes to say Merry Christmas to its employees, and has done so in a most pleasant way, by announcing the holiday policy.

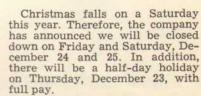
### **MEC Sends First** St. Paul Report

"From the Land of Sky Blue Waters" comes now another 'ham,' a fellow ink-stained wretch this time, bearing the season's greet-ings to all at Librascope, and of-fering news of happenings in our northernmost affiliate. Minnesota Electronics Corporation of St. Paul, Minnesota.

The editor and staff of the Librazette welcome the addition of Rob-ert Day of MEC to the staff. On behalf of the employees of Librascope we extend the warmest holiday wishes to our friends on the upper reaches of the Mississippi.

It will be recalled from previ-ous issues of the Librazette that recently our director of personnel, R. E. Hastings, assumed the duties of general manager of MEC, now a subsidiary of Librascope, home of those amazing little building blocks for digital computers, the magnetic decision elements. However, let's introduce Bob Day.

(Continued on Page 4)



The plant also will be closed Friday and Saturday, December 31 and January 1. The normal work schedule will be resumed Monday, January 3.

#### LEAVE AT NOON

All employees will work the Thursday before Christmas until their normal lunch hour. Produc-tion employees will be expected to leave the plant immediately after the 11:30 a.m. lunch whistle, after the 11:30 a.m. lunch whistle, and all other employees will leave immediately after the 11:45 a.m. lunch whistle. Employees will clock out at these times. There will be no lunch served on this day, and no lunches will be brought into the plant. All em-ployees are requested not to bring packages into the plant on this day. day.

The second shift will start at 12:30 p.m., and work until 4:30 p.m. on the same basis.

#### NO PARTIES

No Christmas parties will be allowed in the plant. According to management, it is not that any-one wants to be tough. However, the rapid growth of the company in the past few years has in-creased potential hazards to the creased potential hazards to the point where it is felt inadvisable to allow such parties. There will be on drinking permitted during working hours. All supervisors have been instructed to enforce strictly this provision. Any em-ployee whom it is necessary to send home will receive pay only for time worked.

through succeeding months.

All work on the planters, of stained wood with copper liners, is performed by Modern Products personnel, with the exception of forming the metal liner. This job is subcontracted, but the joining and finishing are completed in and finishing are completed in their own shop.

#### SPECIAL MIXTURE

Upon completion of manufac-ture, the units are filled with a special potting mixture and planted with carefully selected decor-ative indoor plants. Handsome as the completed units may be, they are further enhanced by the very attractive price of \$2.59 each, com-plete with plants.

All units scheduled for Decem-ber completion are sold, and no further orders can be accepted for Christmas delivery. So, place your order early if you would like one at any time.

Demand for stock in the corporation continues to be brisk, and futures are extremely bullish. Further information should be avail-able after the monthly board board meeting scheduled for December 7.

#### **New Building Slated** For Santa Ana Plant

Construction of a new building for our MECCA plant in Santa Ana is scheduled to get underway in the latter part of December, and according to current estimates, will be ready for occupancy some time during the first six months of 1955.

The building will be approximately 10,000 square feet of "tiltup" concrete slab construction, lo-cated on property facing Dyer Road just outside the southern city limits of Santa Ana. The lot is 322 by 639 ft., and directly oppo-site the U. S. Rubber Co. plant.



**A Real Christmas Doll** 

**PRETTY** Dorothy Vinson, secretary to Bil Bratton, Librascope vice-president, reminds us all that Santa will be coming soon. However, Santa never looked like this.

The editors and staff of the Librazette wish to join with the company in wishing all of you a most Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

#### Lucky Librascopers Win Big Turkeys

The big annual Thanksgiving turkey raffle was held November 19, with the following lucky 'birds' holding the winning tickets:

Georgia Stucky, Buzz Newman, Albert Haber, Frank Leffler, C. W. Buckley, Jim Jones, Willard Opocensky, P. Ellingson, Lowell B. Eisenhower, L. McDonald, Bill Waddell, Ray Bigby, Bud Linsley, Pat O'Shea, Gene Wilkinson, Bob Terry, Mary E. Butler, and Joe Atgar.

Ann Stiop did a fine job handling the money and tickets. June Zemblidge drew the winning numbers.

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## New Potentiometers Should Prove Large Seller

Leonard Ludvigson of MECCA has developed a new line of precision potentiometers which management feels will make Librascope's entry into the field of potentiometer manufacture of particular signifinance to the entire industry.

As announced in a previous edi-tion of the Librazette, Librascope has entered the field with a standard potentiometer design which assures far greater accuracy than any standard unit currently available.

#### THREE UNITS

The photos shown below indi-cate two of the three different units which were specially developed for use on the APN program, and have been accepted by Gen-Precision Laboratory and the Air Force. Librascope potentiom-eters are designed for high precision operation and long, useful life. As a comparison, standard potentiometer linearity accuracy runs one percent, or in some cases one-half of one percent. Libra-scope standard linearity accuracy will be one tenth of one percent or better.



There are many problems involved in the manufacture of potentiometers to these accuracies. The biggest problem involved is the precise spacing of the resist-ance wire on the forming man-drel. Any deviation in spacing will non-linear condition at cause a the spot where it occurs.

#### WINDING MACHINE

To accomplish this precise spacing of the resistance wire, Lud-vigson has developed an electron-ically controlled winding machine incorporating a very unique sensing element which permits a high production rate of winding and still maintains the desired precision spacing.

In addition to this development, many other techniques and tools have been developed by Leonard to maintain a high quality of workmanship and retain a pre-cision operation in the completed potentiometer. For example, a technique of resistance welding tap connections to the resistance wire has been accomplished which permits accurate location of the tap connection to a single turn of the resistance element. Heretofore, a pressure type contact has been used, which in most cases result-ed in a tap connection covering at least three turns of the resistance wire.



It is contemplated that eventually the standard line will include approximately five basic models, with variations to permit as much flexibility as possible in their application.

This program has been under development for approximately two years, under the direction of Ludvigson, and the products so far completed indicate that we are in a strong competitive position in the field. Within two years it is our hope that Librascope potentiometers will be used in large quantities throughout the United States.

Manufacture of these potentiometers will be done at the new MECCA Corporation at Santa Ana.

**Basketball Team** 

**Begins Practice** 

Expecting strong competition and a full schedule for the com-

ing season, coaches Jack Nelson

and Paul Wilson have already be-

gun practice sessions for the Lib-

rascope basketball team. The first of these was held November 23 at

the John Burroughs High School

At press time, much of the ac-tivity concerning the upcoming basketball season still was tenta-

tive—including the official naming of the team, the first-string play-ers, and the actual schedule. How-

ever, some tough opponents, in-cluding Menasco, Lockheed, and Adel, are expected to be on the

schedule. More information as to practice and game schedules will be posted on the bulletin boards.

The following Librascopers at

present are hoping to break into the starting lineup: Neil Hinton,

bob La Perle, Tony Noriega, Bill Richmond, Al Aiken, Mike Bras-field, Stan Digerose, Ted Pike, Phil Goodrich, Bob Bruce and Dick Freeman. Both coaches Nel-son and Wilson believe they have

plenty of championship material.

However, a strong team is given added strength through the sup-port of its fans; so let's help make

this a great season for our Libra-scope team by turning up at the games to encourage the players.

in Burbank.

### **Machine Shop**

Here's a switch. When Jack Stick opened his door Halloween evening to what he thought would be the usual goblins and witches, imagine his surprise to see a dog there. The dog was all decorated with ribbons and bows, and car-ried a sack in his mouth. The dog ran straight to the ice box, and was given a nice bone. Of course, the dog was put up to this trick by his proud owners, Mr. and Mrs. Gary.

Ivan Franklin and Lloyd Loos recently enjoyed a banquet at the Biltmore given by the General Electric Co.

Charles Parker and John Constable spent a week-end recently up in Last Chance Canyon look-ing for specimens. They are both members of a lapidary club.

Clayton Gary returned to work after being out several months with a broken leg. He still must use crutches for support; but otherwise is doing fine. \*

Richard Gottlieb's little boy was injured in a fall, and several stitches had to be taken in his head.

Richard Albright's little girl cut her hand severely while carving a face in a Halloween pumpkin. It was expected an operation would be performed to strengthen the tendon.

If a proud smile has been no-ticed on the face of Paul Wilson recently, he has a good reason. Paul just became a grandfather for the first time.

### **Science Fiction** Now in Library

The Precisioneer library has a new Science Fiction section for those who like to follow the space operas. The following books are now available:

now available: "The Altered Ego," "One in Three Hundred," "Assignment in Tomorrow," "Satellite E One," "A Mirror for Observers," "Best from Fantasy and Science Fiction," "Mission of Gravity," "Caves of Steel," and "West of the Sun." Best provide the fallow

By popular request the follow-By popular request the follow-ing two books will soon be avail-able, so get on the list now. "I'll Cry Tomorrow," by Lillian Roth, and "The Tumult and the Shout-ing," by Grantland Rice. As new books are added, you will be posted.

### **New Store for Eileen**



EILEEN BROWN, left, and her new part-time assistant, Vaun Silver, proudly stand in their new Precisioneer Store, located in Building One. Eileen is happy with her new location, where she has much more room to display her stock and conduct the store's business. The old shack now will be used only for storage.

## **Precisioneer Officers for '54 Get Vote of Thanks From All**

By the time this paper is in the mail, we at Librascope should know who will represent us as Precisioneer officers for the coming year. Meanwhile, a vote of thanks is in order for outgoing president Bob Jewett, and his capable staff.

It was a bit difficult getting a statement out of modest Bob. He was so bashful that all he would say was, "No comment," until it began to sound like the UN in session. As to politics, Bob is the perfect diplomat. He said he liked all of the prospective candidates equally well, and whoever wins will be an excellent choice.

#### **OUTGOING OFFICERS**

Other outgoing officers are Carl Culver, assembly, vice-president; Lyle McDonald, machine shop; Lorraine Thompson, accounting; John Buckens, machine shop; Ce-sar Goldstein, tooling; and Loy Thompson tooling; members of

sar Goldstein, tooling; and Loy Thompson, tooling; members of the executive board. Bob would like to thank Thompson, the 1953 president, for the part he played in giving Bob such a good start in his term in office A special note of thereba office. A special note of thanks from Bob goes to Goldstein, Culver and Buckens for their excellent help in such functions as the annual Bar-B-Q, picnic and ath-letic program. Johnnie Delle Fave also gets Bob's gratitude for work done on the Bar-B-Q and the Christmas party.

#### THANKS TO ALL

Bob also wants to thank Eileen Brown, Precisioneer secretary, for keeping the coffers full to bursting, to say nothing of the amount of buying she has done for the Precisioneers. Also Mary Snyder, for her help in the smooth functioning of the mobile blood bank. Also thanks to those girls whose nimble fingers and sharp eyes were able to type all those letters, memos and notices. They are Loraine Thompson, Marie Pellegrino, Helen Palmore, Doris Appleby, Gladys Graham, Louise Morton and Anne Stiop.

Bob was in such a tizzy at being interviewed at this point that it was necessary to conclude the list by adding that he feels that everyone did so much for him that it would be hard to name them all. - By Charles Snell

### Yule Message

(Continued from Page 1) should be thankful that we have been able to retain and use effectively the spirit of Christmas in our every day work throughout the years. This sea-son should have a special meaning for us at Liberscope us at Librascope.

LEWIS W. IMM President

## **Kids Prepare for Yule Orders**

The Librasports are happy this month, since they have come up with a winning table tennis team. The locals met and defeated the Menasco paddle wielders recent-ly, 22-14.

**Librasports Win Ping-Pong Meet** 

Special alloys and precious metals are used in many places in the potentiometers to reduce undesirable features, such as high contact noise, excessive wear, etc.

#### LARGE SELLER

An additional model of the po-tentiometer is being developed and shows at this stage consider-able promise of becoming a large selling item. This is a miniature potentiometer, having an outside diameter of  $1 \frac{1}{16}$  inches and a length of an inch and a half. When completed, this unit should have wide application in many types of airborn control and navigational systems.

Members of the Librascope team and their awards for the match are as follows:

Chuck Ramba, won 10, received medal and \$5.

Parker Buzzell and George Chi-anello, won 8, received \$3.

Sam Leonardi and Jack Klosterman, won 6, received \$1.

Leonard Abrams, a professional, won 12 games, but was not eligible for medals or awards.

The Librasports also held the regular monthly meeting Tuesday, November 9, at Eagle Rock Rec-reation Center. Winners of med-als during the meeting were Jack Klosterman, table tennis; Harry Sandberg, chess; Gib Bahr, checkers.

The Librasports again wish to remind all employees interested in any of the above games to attend the meetings, held the second Tuesday of every month from 7-10 p.m. at Eagle Rock Recreation, North Figueroa one block north of Colorado Blvd.



THESE YOUNGSTERS, busily working in their shop at Burbank, are putting out their company product, a modern-styled planter. They are members of Modern Products, Inc., and are being sponsored by Librascope. See story on Page 1.

December, 1954

## **Engineering Services Library Big Help in Research Projects**

The Librascope engineering services library is a much different type of facility than one would expect to find at a university or local public library.

There is no fiction, biography, or literature as such. Instead, our subject matter emphasizes mechanical and electronic engineering, mathematics, product information, instrumentation, and pure and applied science.

As for clientele, the library serves all operational activities and employees of the company. It is located conveniently to all activities of the engineering department, in order to serve the engineers in obtaining any information required for research and development in their work assignments.

#### LARGE COLLECTION

The library collection primarily consists of books, periodicals, reports, trade catalogs, specifications and standards, indexes, directories and reference material. The book collection is growing, and some very worthwhile additions have been purchased. A special reference book collection is available in the library at all times. One of the library staff's major objectives has been to make every book available whenever anyone requires information. A fool-proof

One of the library staff's major objectives has been to make every book available whenever anyone requires information. A fool-proof chargeout system is being devised to satisfy this objective. Once the engineer realizes that the information he needs is available in the library, he will not hesitate to use it. This will result in saving him both time and effort. The collection of reports also is increasing in quantity. Reports are measured from governmental and

The collection of reports also is increasing in quantity. Reports are received from governmental and industrial sources pertaining to subjects of interest. An important document source is the Armed Services Technical Information Agency, (ASTIA) and the company now is eligible to use this service. This agency serves as the centralized government document distributing center, and is located in Dayton, Ohio, and at the Library of Congress.

#### **BIG INCREASE**

As a result of the tremendous increase in printed material since World War II, industry has been cooperating with government to make information more accessible. ASTIA has been one of the answers.

We are rapidly revising and expanding our collection of trade catalogs and commercial literature. This is very important, as the design and electronic engineers must have the latest available information about products and newest materials, as well as up-todate specifications and prices. Daily scanning of magazines, sending correspondence, and interviewing company representatives are some of the methods used to obtain this sort of literature. Presently, we are receiving more than 100 different magazines each menth Size it is impressible

Presently, we are receiving more than 100 different magazines each month. Since it is impossible for the engineers to read every magazine, or even a few, the librarian has the responsibility of reading and directing any items of interest to the engineer concerned with the problem. The magazines are routed in such a way as to assure quick circulation and sufficient time for study.

#### TO GIVE SERVICE

The principal objective of the librarian and his staff is to give service. If the answer to a problem is not found in the library collection, the librarian will seek information from other libraries in the Los Angeles area, or correspond with any possible source in the country.

in the country. In addition to assisting engineers in their current problems, the library staff has the task of organizing a mass of literature inherited from various sources in the plant. We are recording, cataloging, filing, and making available all the literature we have. The complexity of the problems has presented a great challenge to the librarian to furnish Librascope with the best possible library collection and service. With a staff composed of Betty

With a staff composed of Betty Meyer, who handles most of the clerical duties, and Kay Hodges, who is responsible for specifications and standards, the librarian feels certain that the challenge will be met. - By Nathan J. Schmuckler

Technician Librarian

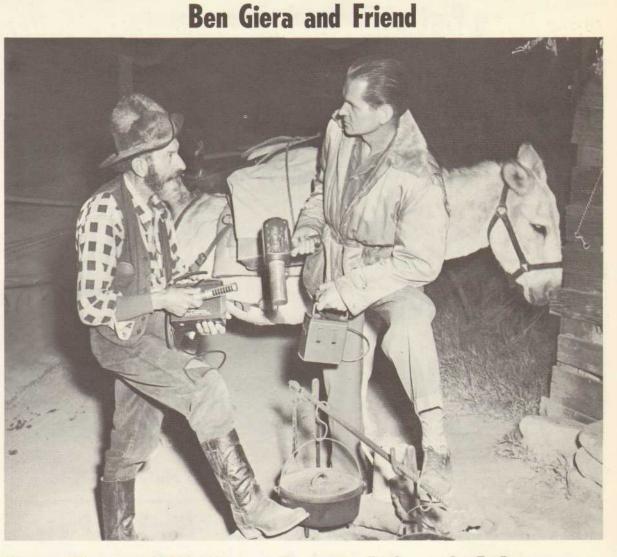
#### Libra-Tones to Sing At Christmas Party

The Libra-Tones, the newly formed Librascope choir, will entertain at the Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 18.

This group, which originally began as a quartette, now has grown to include 18 members. After the Christmas party, they will journey to the Holy Family Mission to entertain the orphans there. Also, as this paper went to press, plans were being finalized for participation on the early morning Librascope radio program.







## Ben Giera, TV Star, Leads Life of Adventure

Ben Giera, Librascope assembler, has been interested in electronic devices for the detection of radioactive minerals for several years. Out of this interest were developed such items as his pocket size geiger counter, designed and constructed entirely by himself.

This counter was so compact it could fit easily into a shirt pocket, and could be recharged on an automobile generator in less than an hour.

The upshot of this inventiveness was that recently Ben found himself the star of a half-hour television film on a local station. It happened like this:

#### A BIG JOKE

Not long ago Ben was contacted by representatives of Dectron Incorporated, manufacturer of radio detection units. They asked him to take the lead role in a film on uranium prospecting. Ben thought it was a big joke, but went along, just for the ride. They loaded him into a plane, along with such paraphenalia as a scintillometer and neucluometer for long range detection.

Ben demonstrated how to mark a find, and later went by jeep to the marked a r e a with Geiger Counter and other detection equipment. Since it was a movie, and no real strike had been actually made, they used an abandoned mine to make the remainder of the picture, and Ben did what he was told to do. He figured he was just being used for background color, and that a well-known leading man would be used. Imagine teresting experiences. All in all, it would have been a big day for anyone.

#### **NEW JERSEY BOY**

Ben was born 38 years ago in a small town in New Jersey, and vividly remembers spending his early years enjoying the fine cooking of his mother, Vincenta, and learning the lore of nature and the arts of fishing from his father, Alex Giera.

After a short stretch of formal schooling, Ben spent his time working in machine shops, boat yards, radio repair shops, and even as an inventor's assistant. He then spent five years in the production machine shop at John's Manville, and the next five as an electrical and mechanical maintenance man for the New Jersey Civil Service.

After conducting his own businesses for several years, he got the traveling urge, and decided to move to Golden California. After arriving here, he loafed around the beaches for a month; then moved to Studio City and opened an advertising specialty business. After a few months of expenditures and no income, this business was discontinued.

#### SAD KNOWLEDGE

### Two Libra-Vets Plan Marriage

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Announcement was made early this month of the forthcoming marriage of Neva Parman, production services secretary, and Marshall Cowan, material manager. The wedding will take place December 23 at the Glendale Presbyterian Church. The Par Joseph S. Stephens

The Rev. Joseph S. Stephens will perform the ceremony before a small group of immediate relatives. The bride and groom are both LibraVets, Mrs. Parman having come to Librascope in 1946 and Cowan in 1945. They plan to establish residence in the Verdugo Woodlands, where Neva will exchange the typewriter for the broom.

All their many friends join in wishing the couple the very best of luck and greatest happiness.

### **Baby Shower**

Friends of Betty Robbie, engineering department secretary, honored her with a baby shower and luncheon November 26. Betty, who is expecting the stork in January, is taking a four month leave of absence.

During coffee break, Betty was given a large cake decorated with a basinette and stork. She also received a corsage of pink carnations, the flower for babies born in January.

**THE NEW** Precisioneer bowling team, made up of some of the top bowlers in the company, is swinging along in its traveling league. They are (standing, left to right) Fred Russell, Carl Culver, Bill Carnahan, and Lloyd Somerfield, (kneeling, left to right) Fred Killips and Don Cady. his surprise, on seeing the rushes, to find that he actually did have the lead role. It seems that the narrator used his name just about every other sentence.

#### PERSONAL APPEARANCE

After the film was made, Ben was paged here at Librascope by Station KTTV for a personal appearance on television, in connection with the running of the film.

The show was scheduled from 8:30 to 9 p.m., but Ben was asked to appear at the station at 7:30 p.m. He soon found out the reason for having to be there an hour early. A makeup technician caught him and presented him with a summer tan, blacker eyebrows, and other technicolor effects. The total result was so intriguing that Ben was tempted to wear it to work the following day, but his modesty rescued him from the impulse and he finally compromised by just wearing it home.

The script for the show was narrated by the announcer, and when it was run Ben was interviewed personally, and had the opportunity to tell some of his inAnother business venture brought him the sad knowledge that all men aren't honest. His partner sold the business from under him and skipped with the profits. He then turned to the mountains to prospect for gold. He says his financial success was small, but he learned that the honest, simple mountain folk were a tonic he needed. He enjoyed his prospecting tremendously.

After a brief return to New Jersey, Ben again came to California, and joined the Librascope organization in 1951, where he has been happily employed ever since.

been happily employed ever since. Ben has been interested in minerals for many years, and is a member of the San Fernando Mineral and Gem Society. Recently, this interest broadened to fissionable materials and the means of locating them.

Many believe there is only one type of Geiger Counter. Ben has diagrams for at least 15 sets that any handy man can build cheaply at home. He is happy to loan the diagrams to anyone interested in building his own counter. Eighteen of Betty's friends honored her at a buffet luncheon at the Kings Arms Restaurant.

#### STILL PROSPECTS

He still manages trips up North to Maricopa and the Mother Lode country, where the specimens he finds pay for most of his expenses. The remarkable part is that he chips these specimens from quartz outcroppings along the stream beds where the gold rushers, the Spaniards and the Chinese have combed all the placer sites, but have not mined any pick and shovel fields.

Ben, who is a bachelor, is pretty sure that gold is where you find it. But he really doesn't spend too much effort looking for a strike. It is better to work at a regular job and let minerals supply enough adventure to keep mind and body active, and interest keen.

- By Bob Wade

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December, 1954

### **Part of Electronic Department**



**LIBRASCOPE'S LARGE** and busy electronics department was not always so. It was not so long ago that this important work has handled by one engineer and one helper, with not too much cooperation from the rest of the plant. Shown in the inset are (left to right) Charlie Krill, Layne Wolman and Wayne Blackburn. See story at right.

#### More on St. Paul Aid Club Committee **Big Yule Party** (Continued from Page 1) Has Tough Decisions Is Coming Soon

Holiday greetings from the Decisioneers, newly formed employee organization of MEC. We read with interest each month of the activities of the Precisioneers, and look forward to receiving our copy of Librazette.

On November 8 the following Decisioneer representatives were selected: Dorothy McGarry, office; Clarence Krech, engineering; Walter Jobe, production.

The first meeting of all em-ployees was held November 19. While very new, the Decisioneers already sponsor a bowling league organized by Harold Luth, office. the four teams are the Diode Demons, the Little Ohms, the Magnetic Monsters and the Reactance Charlies.

Also organized is a group of 12 charter members of a radio ama-teur's Club, headed by Don Christensen, engineering. The aim of the club is making a contribution to civil defense. Their first project is assisting in the building of "Handi-Pak" radio transmitters and receivers.

The Decisioneers hope soon to absorb a photography club, now being organized by Gordon Johnson, machine shop, and there are several employees eager to get things underway.

#### Robert A Day

Ed. Note: Thanks Bob, and we'll be looking forward to receiving monthly contributions from you.

This December marks the close of another year of activity by the Librascope Aid Club, which pro-vided much needed help for char-itable organizations and some of our own needy workers,

A talk with Roy Dimon, presi-dent, has revealed that it is not all roses to administer the affairs such an organization. He says that most of the decisions reached by the committee are opposed by few people who do not believe they are just.

This sort of thing always comes as a surprise to him, as it will to most of us. For, as you know, the Aid Club is a voluntary organization, and when one joins it he fills out a card which states his preferences as to the charity he wishes to help. There is also a small block to fill out if you wish to leave it up to the committee.

Roy stated that if each person had designated at least one charity it would be a very easy thing to break down into percentages in favor of the various organizations. Roy further stated that more than 60 per cent of the cards were marked, "Let committee decide."

This is not an easy job, as any who have served on the committee will tell you. Suppose you had \$100 each week to give to four charities — say the Community Chest, Red Cross, Salvation Army and March of Dimes, and two needy families. All of these agencies were pleading for help each week. How would you divide that \$100? Now add the factor that you to the one this \$100, and the problem becomes even greater.

Don't forget that December 18 is the day of the big Librascope Christmas party for the children, complete with Santa Claus and his presents for the little ones.

Yep; it's just a few short days until children and grown-ups, too, will be royally entertained by Santa and all his helpers, clowns and movies.

Some excellent entertainment is in store for all of you who attend when Bob Garrett leads a troupe of singers in carols. This choral group, made up of Librascope workers, has been practicing for some time. Many outstanding voices are included. They will sing such well-known and loved carols as "Silent Night," "Noel," and others.

These carolers deserve a word of praise, as well as the Precisioneers, for planning this contribution to the Christmas spirit. The carolers also will present this program to the orphans at Holy Rosary Mission, in its entirity, including Santa and presents, too. Mrs. Lewis Imm selected the mission this year.

## **Librascope Electronics Group Began With Only Two Men**

Early in 1946, Librascope received a contract to design and build the Attack Director Mk 4. Part of the instrument was to be an electrical data transmission system.

This system required servos, and electronic amplifiers had to be designed and built. No one in the plant had any previous experience in electronic design, so Wilbur Silvertooth was appointed a "volunteer" to do the job. A wire-man-technician was assigned to assist, and the electronics department was born.

#### A REAL HERO

A total of 12 Mk 4 computers were provided with servo sys-tems. Several other computers needed electronic design. So, in June of 1947 Leonard Ludvigson joined the group, followed six months later by Jim McNulty. Jim left shortly to become a dentist, and eventually married Ann Blythe, the actress, thereby be-coming somewhat of a legendary hero around Librascope.

June, 1948, brought Charlie Krill, the present head of the elec-tronics department. Bob Whit-comb started in September, 1948; Tom Bryant in October, 1948; and Raymond Rockwell in January, 1949. Early in 1949 the depart-ment was reorganized, Charlie Krill becoming the head of the department At that time electrondepartment. At that time, electron-ics consisted of about 200 square feet of floor space, and owned one oscilloscope, complete with wall plug. Additional equipment was plentiful also.

#### MORE INSTRUMENTS

In 1949, Lane Wolman and Wayne Blackburn joined the Wayne Blackburn joined the group, which was at this time working on instruments such as the Mk 3 Position Keeper, the Mk 62 Cyclic Depth Computer, the Mk 60 Ballistic Computer, Infra-red Periscope, and others.

In December, 1949, Librascope moved to its present location on Flower St., where the electronics department expanded to 1500 square feet. An oth er expansion took place in October, 1952; this time to about 2700 square feet. At this time, the department was split into sections. Lane Wolman was made the head of the computer section, and took over the work on analog computers as well as the new digital computer work. Wayne Blackburn headed up the servo system work. Hal Hamilton, who joined the company in December, 1950, took over the mag-netics section. And Leonard Lud-vigson headed the commercial development section.

#### **BIG EXPANSION**

The department continued to expand, until in August of 1954 it included some 6000 square feet of

To Sing at Christmas Party

floor space and had about 60 hard workers. In August of 1954 the engineering division, including electronics, moved to the new building. Here we have over 14,000 square feet. A standards labora-tory was added which provides facilities for calibrating and checking instruments used throughout the plant.

Since 1946 electronics has grown mightily. Our position in the company also has changed. From early times when mechanical de-signers and engineers used to forget to supply space within a computer for the necessary electronics on the theory that it didn't matter anyway, to the present time when complete cooperation at all levels of design and development is as-sumed, represents a growth in size and importance which reflects the rapid growth of the company. - By Leonard Golove

Leona Jones returned to her position as section secretary in Engi-neering Services following a three month leave of absence. Leona had returned to Montana to help care for her mother, who was ill.

#### The Librazette

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### **Shutter Clique Holds Meeting**

Members of the Librascope camera club, the Shutter Clique, met Wednesday, October 27, at the Matueski home in Glendale. The evening was devoted mostly to showing color movies. Highlights were shots of the bullfights in Tijuana, and the mummers' string bands from back East.

Technicalities involved in making trick movies were discussed, and assignments of club members were shown, with constructive criticism given on each.

It was decided the next meeting would be held at the home of Cory Davis, 1642 Redesdale Ave., in Los Angeles

We have grown to the point where the Aid Club now has ap-proximately 800 members. During the past year the club has contributed \$8042 to outside organizations and \$1085 to our own people. The regular bulletins have been posted to keep you informed as to the breakdown of the donations.

#### **Eileen Brown Feted** By Co. Camera Club

A get together was held by the Shutter Clique Club members and wives on the evening of November 10 at the Thistle Club in Los An-geles, honoring Precisioneer sec-retary Eileen Brown, and her husband, Ed.

Charcoal-broiled steak, done to the individual taste, was enjoyed greatly by all present.

As a climax to the event, Eileen showed the color slides she took while on her trip to Mexico this past summer.

ABOVE ARE shown members of the newly formed LibraTones, who will sing at the Christmas Party. They are (left to right, front) Chuck Baumgard, Pat Richards, June Zemblidge, Alice Gotsinas, Dorothy Vinson, Bob Garrett, Gina Velasquez, Barbara Chafin, Louise Lillibridge, Marge Anton, Jim Kay, (back row, left to right) Mel Nelson, Roger Neil, Al Linsley, Frank Klavon, Galen Mannan, Lowell Eisenhower and Dave De Haas.