

# Precisioneers Quintet Cops Playoff Crown

(See Page 3 for Details)



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...make-up time

## Joe Mesch Named Librazette Editor

The Librazette has both a new head and a new home.

Sid Briggs, employee relations director, announced March 22 that Joe Mesch would step into the editorship of the Company paper. Mesch, Librazette news editor for the past 10 months, replaces John Laubacher, supervisor, technical writing, in the top spot.

Effective the same date, Mesch was transferred from Engineering to Personnel. The move will permit the new editor to devote more time to the gathering and preparation of copy for the paper and thus to make it a better publication.

In addition, Mesch will be responsible for staff planning and assistance in the development of a coordinated program of Company communications, Briggs said.

## New Contracts Awarded Company

Librascope has been awarded two important development contracts by the U. S. Navy's Bureau of Ordnance in recent weeks. Both involve system development work in the important ASW field. The two contracts were awarded on the basis of proposals prepared and submitted by the Shipboard Equipment Department of the Engineering Division.

Under terms of one contract, Librascope has been designated the prime contractor and is charged with the responsibility for coordinating the activities of the several agencies participating in the program.

The second contract involves development by Librascope of a prototype Underwater Fire Control System based on the latest scientific and engineering concepts in the detection, computing, and weapons field. It will be the first completely integrated underwater fire control system ever developed for the Navy.

## CRANDALL VISITS PLANT

L. S. Crandall, president of Royal Precision Corporation, spent April 3 through April 5 at Librascope familiarizing himself with our facilities and meeting key engineering and management personnel.

## Precisioneers Announce Dates for Social Events

Librascope employees and their families will kick off the 1956 program of the Precisioneers at the third annual Pit Barbecue, according to Bill Greer, Precisioneers president.

The affair, scheduled for June 23 at Newhall's Saxonia Park, will be the first company-wide social event held since the highly successful Christmas dance.

Those present at last year's festivities need no reminder of how delicious the pit-barbecued beef was or of the fun they had playing and dancing out of the smog. Committeemen Jack Nelson, Carl Culver, and John Buckens, all of them associated with last year's affair, promise that the Barbecue will be even bigger and better this year.

Second big event on the Precisioneers' calendar is the summer dance. The dance reverts this year to Glendale's Oakmont Club and will be held July 14.

Admission will be by ticket—probable cost, one dollar per person. Because of fire department regulations, attendance at the dance must be limited to 500 persons. Accordingly, tickets will be allocated to Buildings 1, 2 and 3 and to the Burbank Division on a

pro rata basis. Sale will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Last of the big summer get-togethers will be the Company Picnic. Site for this year's outdoor feast is Sunland Park—the date, August 25.

Jack Nelson, perennial Precisioneers planner, promises entertainment for every member of the family. There will be swimming in one of the Southland's largest pools, group games for young and old, dancing, and plenty of rides for the kiddies. As usual, a variety of liquid refreshments will be available to cool the parched throats of the picnickers.

Additional information on all these events will be supplied in succeeding issues of the Librazette; so watch for it, and we'll meet you there.



MILDRED HUGGINS, accounting, discusses the new IBM installation which Librascope will install within 60 days with the man who will be responsible for its operation, Pete Mobley. The installation will relieve Company employees of much boring detail in the area of routine record keeping and related activities. (Librazette photo by E. Crawford)

## New IBM Equipment to Relieve Employees of Much Boring Detail

Librascope paychecks will assume a new look about July 1 when a new IBM installation goes into operation in Building 3. The new look, Pete Mobley, IBM supervisor, hastens to add, will affect only the appearance (not the amount) of your check.

The installation marks the latest step in a continuing program to streamline Company procedures and operations. Making up the payroll and keeping track of labor distribution will be among the first jobs to be handled by the new group. Later on, much of the routine work connected with material and inventory control will be done mechanically.

The new group will function as

a service facility for all Librascope. Its primary mission will be to reduce large quantities of information to a usable form and to place the reduced data into the hands of those who can use it.

To accomplish its initial objectives, the IBM group will need equipment costing in excess of \$100,000. Librascope will acquire the equipment on a rental basis. Current plans call for installation to be completed by June 15, with operations to commence about July 1.

Pete Mobley has been named IBM supervisor and will report to Millie Huggins, accounting. Pete, a University of Oregon grad, (Continued on Page 2)



**OBSERVANCE OF THE** basic safety regulations for machine operators has paid off in thousands of accident-free working hours for Tom Pinkston, Mills. Records such as Tom's should enable Librascope to improve on last year's second place award in the annual Safety contest sponsored by the Greater Los Angeles chapter of the National Safety Council. The young ladies holding the 1955 second place plaque are Ann Pavelko, on the left and Joan Howlett, both of wiring. (Librazette photo by L. Duggan)

## Librascope Places Second in Annual Safety Award Contest

For the first time in three years, Librascope has failed to place first in its division in the annual Business and Industrial Safety Contest sponsored by the Greater Los Angeles chapter of the National Safety Council.

When awards for 1955 were made for 1955 at the seventh annual Safety Award Dinner March 21 in the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel, Librascope representatives had to settle for second place.

Members of the Librascope Safety committee attending the affair were Walt Sertic, committee chairman, Lloyd Somerfield, Nico Borresen, and Max Goshkin.

While Librascope employees should be satisfied with nothing less than a perfect safety record and a first place award every year, statistics for 1955 indicate we weren't too careless.

During the year we suffered but three lost-time accidents, the same number we had in 1954 when we gained a first place award, yet worked a quarter of a million more man hours in 1955. Our accident frequency rate, based on the ratio of disabling injuries to total man hours worked, was lower in 1955 than it was in 1954.

Why, then, didn't we win? you ask. Simply because our chief competition had a perfect safety record insofar as lost time accidents were concerned in 1955.

Walt Sertic, safety committee chairman, pointed out that our classification in the annual competition was changed at the start of the 1955 contest from the Miscellaneous Metal Products category to that of Instrument Manufacturing. The competition in this division is considerably stiffer and nothing short of a perfect safety record can assure us of a first place finish in 1956.

We're off to a flying start this year with no lost time accidents being recorded during the first quarter. Part of the credit for our fine showing both this year and in years past belongs to our two safety committees, the Workman's and the Supervisory Safety committee, both chaired by Sertic.

Serving on the Workman's Safety committee are Gordon Pickell, machine maintenance; Mary Snyder, plant nurse; Pauline Ponnish, wiring; Nico Borresen, quality control; and Max Goshkin, tooling. A. G. Munro, Aetna Life and Casualty Insurance representative, also serves on the committee.

Members of the Supervisory Safety committee are Lloyd Somerfield, general foreman, machine shop; Herb Darby, general fore-

man, assembly; Cliff Dahl, building engineering; Charlie Cole, supervisor, tooling; Art Davis, general foreman, model shop; and Ivan Franklin, operations analysis.

Bulk of the credit for any record we compile, be it safety, production, fund-raising, or what have you, belongs not to any one individual or group but to Librascope employees as a whole.

## Librascope Products Favorably Received At Eastern Show

Librascope commercial products stirred up considerable interest at an Institute of Radio Engineers show held in New York City's Kingsbridge Armory March 19 through March 23, according to Company sales personnel in attendance.

Snow, sleet, and generally disagreeable weather cut heavily into opening day attendance. The remaining days of the show, however, saw thousands of East Coast technical and management people view exhibits of the General Precision Equipment Corporation companies represented.

Librascope products which elicited most favorable comment were the LGP-30 computer, the X-Y Plotter and its accessories, and the magnetic storage drum. Packaging of the latter item was especially well received.

Other items on display included the analog-digital converter, hollow-shaft differential, sine-cosine mechanisms, and the Librascope mechanical integrator.

Representing the Company at the show were Ken Slee, sales manager, and sales engineers Ed Hirt, Ed Couleur, Bill Chase, Fred Flannel, and Bud Curtiss.

The show provided a fine opportunity for Librascope sales people to meet and talk with our manufacturer's representative for the area, Davidson and Hemmendinger.

Next showing of Librascope products will be at the World Oil Exposition, April 25 through 29 in Houston, Texas, where the Flow Computer will be featured.





DAVID HABER, 14-year-old son of Bert and Dorothy Haber, poses happily with his parents following a Glendale Court of Honor. The occasion was the elevation of David to the rank of Eagle Scout, one of Scouting's highest honors. Bert, special devices, is assistant scoutmaster of Explorer Troop 25 of which David is a member.

## Bert Haber's Son Receives Eagle Award at Court of Honor

That look of parental pride his friends may have noted on Bert Haber's face recently is there for a reason. And that reason is the elevation of his 14-year-old son, David, to the rank of Eagle Scout.

David climaxed seven years of scouting activity on the night of February 28, and made his parents happy people indeed, when he received his Eagle Award, symbol of one of Scouting's highest goals, at a Glendale Court of Honor. The youth is already an Explorer Scout and a member of the Order of the Arrow, national honorary camping society.

The value of recreation in industry gained additional support from management during March when business executives and recreational leaders got together at the 1956 Management Dinner Meeting of the Associated Industrial Recreation Council.

Representing Librascope at the March 5 affair in the Beverly Hilton Hotel were Bill Bratton, vice-president, operations; Lindy Lindahl, vice-president and controller; Bill Greer, Precisioneer president; and Sid Briggs, employee relations director.

The regular monthly radio program of the AIRC, heard every fourth Sunday at 7:30 p.m. over Station KBLA, was presented by Librascope March 25.

Bill Greer, Precisioneers president; Val Castle, Precisioneers vice-president; and Bob Bruce, cafeteria manager and coach of the Precisioneers basketball team; gave brief descriptions of the numerous Precisioneers activities.

Due to an unfortunate oversight, no announcement was made within the Company concerning this program.

Principal speakers were Walt Disney; Ken Seiling, recreational director at Disney Studio; and Robert F. Smith, assistant director for management problems, University of California Institute of Industrial Relations.

Among the 110 members and guests who attended the dinner were Mayor Jerry Bank and his wife; Dewey Kruckeberg, superintendent of the Burbank Park and Recreation Department; and Dr. Floyd R. Eastwood, dean of men, Los Angeles State College.

Glen Seltzer, employment manager and Librascope's representative on the AIRC, states that among items the council is currently considering is one involving purchase of a picnic site which would be available to firms participating in AIRC activities.

## Huggins, Crouch In March Wedding

Patricia Huggins, 21-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Merle Huggins (Mrs. Huggins being none other than our own Mildred of accounting) was married to Darrell Crouch in a March 23 ceremony at the Sherman Oaks Methodist Church.

The newly weds are both attending the University of Southern California.

## Blood Bank Due For Annual Refill June 1

Librascope employees will roll up their sleeves and donate a pint of blood to their joint account when the Red Cross Bloodmobile pays its annual visit to the Company June 1.

The blood is your gift of life to someone in need. It could be you or the person next to you. This year's quota, which will be deposited to the Librascope Blood Bank account, is 140 pints, Mary Snyder, plant nurse, said in announcing the impending visit.

**Advantages Listed**  
Mary pointed up a few of the many advantages we gain through our participation in the Blood Bank program. Every Librascope employee is eligible to draw on the account regardless of whether he is a donor or not. In addition, members of your immediate family—husband, wife, children, parents, sisters, brothers, or dependents—may draw also.

Blood Bank members have a priority on existing blood supplies. It provides access to rare blood types not easily obtainable elsewhere, and gives you round-the-clock protection.

When the need for blood is known in advance, all that is required is to inform Mrs. Snyder of the probable amount required, the name of the recipient, and the hospital. It is also advisable to inform your doctor and the hospital that you are a member of a blood insurance group.

**In An Emergency**  
In cases of emergency, simply inform the attending physician and the hospital of your participation, then notify Mary or Bill Greer, Precisioneers president, of the amount of blood used, by whom, and where so that Blood Bank records may be adjusted to show the withdrawal.

Mary stressed the fact that while some blood still remains in the Librascope account, group deposits are set up on a yearly basis and must be renewed annually. Any surplus remaining at the end of the year is used to stockpile badly needed blood derivatives for use in epidemics, in a local disaster, or in a national emergency. No blood is wasted.

Let's all give a pint June 1 and put our drive over the top.

## Schultheis Disappearance Still Unsolved

The mysterious disappearance of Herman Schultheis, Librascope engineer, in the Guatemalan jungle last May still remains unsolved, reports Ted Lassagne, Librascope attorney and close friend of Herman.

Schultheis, an amateur archaeologist, was last seen May 20, 1955, when a chartered plane flew him to an airstrip near Tekal in the Petan area of Guatemala. His mission was to reach some recently discovered Mayan ruins about two miles from the landing strip. The plane returned several times to pick up Herman, but he failed to emerge from the jungle and no trace of him has been found since.

The American embassy reports that the Guatemalan police have sent search parties into the area on several occasions, but to date they have failed to uncover any evidence pointing to Schultheis' possible whereabouts or death.

Shortly after Herman's disappearance, his Librascope friends offered a \$500 reward to any one who could supply information which would conclusively solve the mystery. This, too, failed to produce any clue as to Herman's fate.

Every year at this time research parties enter the Guatemalan jungle. Just recently the University of Pennsylvania sent in an expedition to restore the ruins of Tekal. This group has been informed of Herman's disappearance in that area and will be alert for all possible clues.



... Prize winners.

## V. Nahrstedt Is Literally A Gay Blade

"You're only as old as you feel," says Vince Nahrstedt, engineering, and if his recent activities are any criterion, Vince will never grow old.

Nahrstedt teamed up with 11-year-old Wanda Cuntert of San Marino to take first place in the annual Blade and Edge Figure Skating Club ice dancing competition at the Pasadena Winter Garden. Both Vince and Wanda are Blade and Edge members—Vince in the senior division and Wanda in the junior.

The pair swept flawlessly through the complicated movements of the tango, the classic sweep of the waltz, and the rhythmic beat of a swing dance to emerge as champions. The dances they performed were three of 20 official ice dances recognized by the U. S. Figure Skating Association.

Vince and Wanda's feat is even more noteworthy in that Wanda only recently added dancing to her rink repertoire, while Vance returned to the ice just two years ago after a 13-year layoff.

Ice skating is invigorating yet relaxing, says Vince. After spending six days jockeying a pencil across a drawing board, he finds a couple of hours spent gliding across the ice to the lilting strains of a waltz or fox trot are a wonderful tonic.

Moreover, ice skating offers release to those who possess an abundance of excess energy. The double and triple jumps, spins, and intricate footwork of free style skating will give any who indulge in it a real workout.

Figure skating provides not only good exercise but also an opportunity for artistic expression and an element of competition. Besides, it's a nice cool sport for those hot summer days.

## Oops! We Goofed; It's JAMECO

In the January Librazette we called Librascope's entry in the Junior Achievement program, MENALCO. Frank Copple, engineering, tells us the youthful company's correct name is, JAMECO, standing for Junior Achievement Metal Enameling Company. Frank is JAMECO's production advisor.

## Snella, Newman Receive New Assignments

In a move calculated to "introduce greater accuracy" into the Company's proposals for both military and commercial products, Harlan Buseth, factory superintendent, recently announced new assignments for Jerry Snella and Buzz Newman.

Jerry now carries the title of production estimator. Buzz Newman, Jerry's assistant, takes over new responsibilities, too. His title: cost analyst.

**More Realistic Estimates**  
"Under the new setup," predicts Harlan Buseth, "the figures in our proposals are certain to become more realistic now that production estimates have become the prime concern of two men. Through a continuing study, which Jerry and Buzz have already begun, it is expected that the Company will be able to bid successfully on jobs; then consistently produce in line with figures in the proposal."

In discussing his new assignment Jerry pointed out how dependent he and Buzz will be on other departments if they are to handle their new assignments efficiently. "Cooperation by our information sources is essential so that we can gather all the data required to work up a meaningful estimate," Jerry stressed.

**Accuracy is Essential**  
When information comes back from various departments, Jerry will appraise its accuracy based on his knowledge of production and based on data records which he and Buzz have already begun to compile. Through personal discussions with department heads and shop foremen raw data will be distilled and refined before Jerry and Buzz put the finishing touches on their estimates.

"Accuracy has become our watchword because we know our estimates will never be more 'honest' than the information supplied by us," Jerry said. "We just hope our campaign for accuracy will become contagious and will infect all the other departments we work with."

## Opinion Poll Results May Be Out in April

Now that all Librascope employees have had a chance to express exactly how they feel about the Company, everyone presumably is wondering when the results will be released.

Latest word from Cal Tech, whose representatives conducted the mid-March Opinion Survey, is that first results should be ready for publication sometime in April.

Sid Briggs, employee relations director, said that while the exact form the published results will take has not been decided as yet, the results definitely would be made available to every Company employee as soon as practical after they are released.

## Investment Club Shows a Profit

Interest in the daily stock market quotations reflects something more than idle curiosity in the doings of the bulls and the bears for members of the Librascope Investment Club.

Already owners of stocks in three corporations, GPE, Thompson Products, and Fruehauf Trailers, the three-month-old organization is proving a source of both knowledge and profit for its members. Club shares, originally purchased for \$10 each, are currently valued at \$11.27, a club spokesman said.

Club membership, now down to 21, will soon be brought up to the constitutional limit of 25. Six prospective members will be invited to the April 25 meeting, and four of these will be accepted for membership.

## IBM Equipment

(Continued from Page 1)

where he majored in accounting, has been working with IBM installations for six and one-half years. Prior to joining Librascope he was associated with Goodyear Tire and Rubber in Los Angeles where he served for two years as IBM supervisor.

Working with Pete in the new installation will be six girls to be selected from a group of Company employees currently attending or scheduled to attend a three-week IBM training course.

Currently receiving training as key punch operators are Mary Robson, Phyllis Kirk, Gene Dean, and Pat Truelove. Edie Wrobel and Marie Andresino are being trained as tab operators. Several others will attend similar training courses at a later date, since the Company is desirous of having everyone connected with the IBM operation possess a working knowledge of the equipment.

## The Librazette

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## Bowling Awards Presented To Top Teams, Individuals

Pocket hits that didn't carry...splits we didn't deserve...spares a blind man could have picked up — but we couldn't — all are history insofar as the 1955-56 Librascope Thursday night bowling league are concerned.

Action at Burbank Bowl ended for the local keglers as of March 29 when the last ball was rolled in the "sweeper." After 27 weeks of hot and cold action, the 4 Hits and a Miss, captained by Ed Warren, engineering, wound up the team champs. The Beavers and the We-Wuz-Robbed fivesomes wound up in a virtual tie for second with the Beavers edging Dick Freeman's aggregation by a half game.



...they're the tops

Individual honors were garnered by Ray Bigby of the Beavers who rolled the season's high game among the men — a very creditable 265. High individual game for the girls was bowled by Doris Appleby of Pop's Five, who waited until the next to the last night of the regular season to chalk up a sizzling 242.

Trophies for high individual season's series were carted off by Cleo Moore of the Pack Rats,



...scintillating series

whose 604 was tops for the girls, and by Ed Warren, who blasted the pins for a 660 series the last night of the season to nose out League Prexy Fred Killips of the Guzzlers.

(Continued on Page 4)

## Golf Program To Pit Teams In Match Play

Librascope golf goes competitive in a big way this year as a result of the golf program instituted by Chairman Ed Sullivan, operations analysis, and members of his Golf Committee.

Local golfers, 88 strong, will split up into teams and enter into season-long match play competition for the first time in the eight-year history of Librascope golf.

The program, as set up by the Committee, provides for eight seven-man and four eight-man teams, each captained by one of Librascope's 12 low handicap golfers.

Teams will play a round-robin schedule, each team meeting every other team once in the April-through-September schedule.

Matches between teams will extend over a period of approximately two weeks. All matches between opposing team members must be completed within this period to count toward period prizes.

Members of the teams will be paired in match play according to their handicaps: the No. 1 men, the No. 2 men, the No. 3 men, and so on down the list of seven, or eight, golfers will be pitted against each other.

Handicaps will be adjusted as the season progresses, with men moving up or down the ladder as their handicaps raise or lower. Handicaps for the annual golf tournament, scheduled to be held July 22 at Fox Hills, will be determined on the basis of the three lowest nine-hole rounds scored in match competition.

Competition between members of opposing teams will be decided on the basis of nine holes of match play. Each match will count two points; one point for low net and one point for most holes won. All points are credited to the team of the winning player. In case of a tie, each team will be credited with one-half point.

Cooperation of all players, both with their captains and with members of the opposing teams, will be necessary if the league is to work as planned, Sullivan pointed out. While it will be the responsibility of team captains to see that the Monday and Wednesday reserved

(Continued on Page 4)

# Libra Sports News



GENE HINTON demonstrates the type of play that led the Precisioneers five to the Shaughnessey championship as he drives in for a reverse lay up against Menasco. Sparked by Gene and his brother Neil, the fast-breaking Librascope quintet won 13 of 16 games in the Burbank Industrial league and playoffs.

(Librazette photo by Duggan)

## Hinton Boys Spark Team to Victory Over PAC, Menasco in Shaughnessey

By JOE MESCH  
Librazette Editor

Librascope's fast-breaking cagers, the Precisioneers, climaxed their most successful season to date with a come-from-behind win in the finals of the Burbank Industrial league playoffs March 20 at Burroughs high.

Thwarted in their bid for the league championship by the high-flying Weber Aircraft five, the Precisioneers roared back in the Shaughnessey playoffs to capture the tourney trophy with a thrilling 50-46 victory over Menasco.

Both teams were tense and nervous during the championship clash, and controversial calls by the referees kept both players and fans in an uproar. The Precisioneers moved into an early lead and maintained it throughout the first half. Bill Richmond, Precisioneers center, picked up his fourth foul near the end of the first half, and things looked a bit bleak for the local team.

### Frank Fouls Out

When Menasco suddenly caught fire in the third quarter, the situation looked even worse. Midway through the fourth quarter, however, Menasco suffered a fatal blow when their high-scoring little forward, Frankie DeCarolis, picked up his fifth foul and had to leave the game.

Menasco still held a 46-43 lead with two and one-half minutes to go. At this point, the Precisioneers called time out. When play was resumed, Neil and Gene Hinton sparked a rally that saw the Precisioneers score seven points while holding the white-clad Menasco five scoreless.

### Upset of Year

The Precisioneers raced past Pacific Airmotive Corporation 59-37 to gain the finals; while Menasco supplied the seasonal shocker by upsetting Weber 49-41 in the other first round playoff.

The local quintet played its best ball of the season in the PAC game with Neil Hinton scoring 22 points while his brother Gene was racking up 21. Bill Richmond was particularly effective on the boards, dominating both ends of the court throughout the game.

A check of scoring statistics shows Gene Hinton far out in front with 320 points in 16 games for a 20 point average. Bill Richmond wound up with 163 points and a 10.2 average. Neil Hinton with 146 points and a 9 point per game average was third man on the team.

### Banquet Planned

The trophy emblematic of the Shaughnessey title has been on display for the past two weeks in the cafeteria, where Bob Bruce, cafeteria manager and Precisioneers coach, is currently accepting congratulations for his fine work with the team. Tentative plans have been made for a team banquet at which time individual trophies would be awarded to members of the team.

## Anglers Reel in Full Catches on 1st Trip

Librascope anglers returned from their first outing of the season March 11 a tired but happy gang after a successful day's fishing on the Linda Lee.

All members of the party avoided the proverbial luck of the fisherman as they hauled in a variety of fish among which were red snappers, sole, salmon groupers, poinsettias, barber poles, and chili peppers. (Editor's Note: We're not certain if this is a fish story or a recipe for bouillabaisse.)

Hitting the jackpot with a 7 lb. 4 oz. red snapper was Carl Miller, engineering. Second prize was claimed by Clayton Gary, mills foreman. Tom McKay, integrator assembly leadman, was the third prize winner. The battle for the prizes was close and competition was keen up to the final minutes with five entries having a chance at the prizes.

The next outing is planned for Sunday, May 6. The Linda Lee will leave Port Hueneme at 5:00 a.m. Reservations are \$8 per person and may be obtained from the following:

Building 1 — John Buckens, lathes; Clayton Gary, mills; Jerry Sikora, model shop; Buzz Newman; Paul Wilson, nights; George Poppa, nights.

Building 2 — Chuck Flickinger, integrator assembly; George Henderhan, dust-free room.

Building 3 — Carl Miller.

Other trips are scheduled for July 1, September 23, and November 11. For those of you who may have a yen to get out for a day's fun and frolic but lack equipment, Eileen Brown at the Precisioneers store can outfit you very economically.

While the 1955-56 season is now history, team members are already looking ahead to next season. And it's an open secret that a certain tall young man in engineering could figure prominently in next year's plans.



**CHAMPIONS OF ALL** they survey, the champion Four Hits and a Miss moved into first place early in the season and were never headed. Boasting one of the best balanced teams in the league, the league titlists combined week-after-week consistency with an occasional big game to finish on top. From the left they are Bob Campbell, stockroom, Al Weeks, toolroom, Joan Howlett, wiring, Captain Ed Warren, engineering, and Dick Walsh, purchasing.

(Librazette photo by L. Duggan)



## '55 Report Shows GPE Sales Up; Profits Down

The recently released annual report of General Precision Equipment Corporation, of which Librascope is a subsidiary, reveals that corporate net profits for 1955 were less than half those for 1954.

## Rookies, Vets Vie for Ball Team Berths

Precisioneers - sponsored sports activity moves outdoors this month as the spotlight shifts from basketball to softball. With a couple of weeks of practice already behind it, Paul Wilson's night shift nine already is rapidly mounting into shape.

The day shift nine, managed this year by Al Aiken, opens a 10-day practice period April 9 at Olive Recreation Center. Both teams expect to field exceptionally strong aggregations this year with seasoned veterans competing with untried but promising youngsters for spots on the starting nines.

### Welcome Vets

Among the returning regulars from last year's team that Manager Aiken will welcome are Walt Newcomer, Wren Ensminger, Sam Houchin, and Tony Noriega. Aiken expects a turnout of more than 40 players. From this group he will select a roster of 18 players for the league season.

The team will play several practice games with other teams seeking spots in the several leagues sponsored by the Burbank Parks and Recreation department. Manager Aiken expects his team to wind up in the double A Minor league, second strongest in Burbank, and rather fast company for an industrial team.

### Two Weak Spots

This year's Precisioneers should have more depth, more speed, and better hitting than last year's, Al believes. If he can plug up an expected weakness at second base and come up with an experienced catcher, Manager Aiken feels his team can walk away with its league title.

Aiken feels that some of the younger employees who have joined Librascope since last season will make the old-timers hustle to hold their positions this year. Thus, both the manager and last year's regulars will be watching the rookies perform with more than passing interest.

### Team to Beat

With the exception of the key-stone spot, the infield shapes up as one of the strongest in years. The outfield will have speed and power to burn, while the pitching of Sam Houchin, Don Cady and Aiken should be more than adequate. If he doesn't come up with an adequate backstop, however, Manager Aiken indicated he might have to take over the catching duties. He's hoping that some strong-armed youngster who can hang onto his fast-balling hurlers' deliveries will come along before the season begins. Is there a catcher in the house?

As in years past, the Precisioneers are sponsoring both the night- and day-shift nines in league play. This year, all players participating in league play will be covered by insurance, Aiken said. This coverage is included in the league entry fee.

## Librascope Egg Candles Shell Out

Librascope technicians have been running shakedown tests with the new electronic egg candling equipment in one of the bays in building 3. In the course of their tests they have candled and then broken for visual inspection a good many dozen fresh eggs.

Since eggs on the half shell are something of a drug on the market, their disposal presented something of a problem.

It did, that is, until the fellows conducting the tests, Wally Chase, Joe Ator and Don Harris, wondered if perhaps the children at the Los Angeles Orphans' Home Society (remember them) couldn't find a spot for a bunch of unspotted eggs.

GPE President Hermann G. Place, in reporting on 1955 Corporation operations, said that consolidated sales were higher in 1955 than in 1954. The 1955 net sales of the Corporation and its consolidated subsidiary companies were \$133,337,819 compared with \$123,332,634 in 1954.

### Net Down; Backlog Up

Net profit for 1955 was \$2,530,758 compared with \$5,488,090 in 1954. Backlog of orders on hand amounted to \$127,192,000 at Dec. 31, 1955, compared with \$98,233,000 as of Dec. 31, 1954.

While the 1955 sales were higher they included the sales of Link Aviation and The Griscom-Russell Company for the full year, while the 1954 report did not include any sales of Griscom-Russell and included the sales of Link Aviation only from April 30, 1954. On a comparative basis there was some decline in the aggregate sales volume of the companies which were in the GPE family during both 1954 and 1955.

Sales of some of the companies in the GPE chain were substantially higher in 1955. Sales of other companies, however, were considerably lower, notable examples being the companies engaged in the manufacture and sale of motion picture theatre equipment.

### Strikes Hurt

A decline in the motion picture theatre equipment market, coupled with strikes in two of the plants and material shortages, Mr. Place said, was responsible for the very substantial slump in sales and net profit.

Other factors adversely affecting profits in 1955 were, first, substantial billings were made under price-redeterminable contracts which restricted profits; second, extraordinary expenses were incurred in the unusual amount of expansion and rearrangement of production facilities; and third, the bringing of a large number of new products into initial production created the temporarily higher costs and expenses normally incident to that process.

The acquisition of Shand and Jurs Company, and the organization of Royal Precision Corporation, both of which occurred early in 1956, are indicative of the continued healthy growth of the GPE family. The Corporation expects that 1956 sales and profit figures will reflect this picture.

## Voters Register Before Deadline

Librascope voters were given a last minute opportunity to register for the important June 5 Presidential Primary without leaving the plant thanks to the cooperative efforts of Company officials, the Glendale Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Registrar of Voters.

The deputy registrar of voters who signed up tardy Librascope registrants just before the April 12 deadline was brought here through the efforts of a local member of the Glendale JCC, Frank Copple, engineering.

They contacted Galen Mannan, engineering, who in turn got in touch with Miss Margaret Ingram, Home superintendent. Miss Ingram said she would be delighted to have fresh eggs, whether in the shell or out. As a result, we have supplied the Home with approximately 30 dozen fresh eggs and solved a rather messy disposal problem at the same time.

Miss Ingram also informed Galen that work on the new kitchen wing at the Home is coming along very well and that they should be ready to install the kitchen equipment purchased with funds donated by Librascope employees during last year's Christmas card charity drive some time in June.

## Golf League

(Continued from Page 3)

times at Griffith Park are filled, simple arithmetic will show that all team matches cannot be played at these times. Where possible, then, league members are asked to make their own arrangements to play opponents.

The 1956 program, while new to the majority of Librascope golfers, appears to solve the problem of qualifying a large number of golfers for the annual tournament in the fairest manner possible while keeping interest in golf at a season-long high through the medium of team competition.

Sullivan wishes to make it clear that failure to compete in league play does not deprive a golfer of the opportunity of competing in the annual Company tournament. Such players are, however, required to submit the required number of authenticated score cards for handicap purposes.

## Bldg. 2 Lobby Is Remodeled

Applicants seeking employment at Librascope will soon gain a better first impression of our physical plant as a result of remodeling operations currently being carried out in the lobby of building 2.

Cliff Dahl, building engineer, has had his men hard at work installing partitions, cabinets, louvers, and yes, even a planter. Although the work has not been completed at press time, the change wrought by a few pieces of wood and stone, artistically placed, was astounding.

In addition to enhancing lobby appearance, the remodeling will provide more effective security



**SECOND PLACE** finishers in the Thursday night league were the Beavers. Back row, left to right, they are Captain Jack Jensen, lathes, Ray Bigby, mills, and Tony Noriega, accounting. Diane Lewis, manufacturing, left, and Kay Small, mechanical, rounded out the team. (Librazette photo by L. Duggan)

## Bowling

(Continued from Page 3)

Trophies for the most improved man and woman bowlers went to Jim Dooley of the Pack Rats and to Donna Von Schrittz of the Super Doops.



... most improved

In the sweepstakes events which climaxed the season, the We-Wuz-Robbed five took first in the team event involving the top seven finishers in the league. The Ceci's quintet won the team title in the second division battle.

Winner in the singles event for the men was Ray Bigby, with Ed Warren second and Dick Freeman third. Jennie Sedita was the women's singles victor.

The doubles title was copped by Ray Bigby and Charlie Breuer, while Ray and his teammate, Jack Jensen, finished second.

Now the cry is "On to the Summer league."

### Other Action

In other Precisioneers-sponsored bowling activity, the team competing in the 800 scratch league at Jackson Recreation in Glendale came with a rush in the latter half of the season to move from the cellar into a tie for fourth place when it was all over.

Over at Mar Lin Do, a Precisioneers five competing in the Tuesday night 825 scratch league moved from sixth place midway in the season to a spot in the top three at the end.

## Precisioneers Store Has Camping Specials

Spring has sprung and outdoor living is once more the order of the day. In keeping with the season, Eileen Brown, Precisioneers store manager, has a wide variety of items for the camper and the patio dweller.

If you hanker for some of the comforts of home while roughing it in the High Sierras or at the beach, Eileen has a complete line of Coleman camping equipment—stoves, lanterns, folding tables, refrigerators.

For the barbecue enthusiast, she has both Big Boy and Kampkap brand barbecues available. If you're interested in acquiring a portable room cooler for those hot Valley days or a power lawn mower to lighten those week-end gardening duties, Eileen can supply them at a very reasonable figure.

Eileen also wishes to announce that the store is now a franchised Zenith outlet. If your TV set has that worn out look or you happen to be a radio listener and need a new set, shop at the Precisioneers store.

Eileen says see her, too, before buying that refrigerator, washer, dryer, or stove.

In addition to her store activities, Eileen, and the Precisioneers, had time to remember seven Librascope employees who were hospitalized during the past month.

## Stork Club

Librazette extends congratulations to the following Company employees who have become first time or repeat members of the "proud parents" clan since our last issue:

- Joe Pardo, engineering services, girl.
- Howard Myers, procedures, twins—boy and girl.
- Howard Hofland, engineering, girl.
- Rene Vadenais, optical adjustment, girl.
- Bill Bell, contracts, boy.
- Bill Carnahan, production control, boy.
- Ray Buchanan, engineering, boy.
- John Shoemaker, lathes, girl.
- Helen Piroli, personnel, boy.

## Welcome

Librascope welcomes the following new employees:

### ENGINEERING ADMIN. ...

Mark T. Allison  
Raymond L. Andrews  
Virginia Blakely  
Robert P. Bryson  
William P. Gelbert  
Wilna J. Onthank  
Alvin W. Smith  
Frank F. Stich

### ENGINEERING - AIRBORNE ...

Kenneth Howard

### ENGINEERING - COMMERCIAL

William F. Wade

### ENGINEERING - SPECIAL DEVICES ...

Harold H. Schiowitz

### ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS ...

Allan Otchis

### ACCOUNTING CONTRACTS ...

Constance Negri

### PUBLICATIONS ...

Robert W. Clark

Gerda F. Kriete

J. Melvin Jones

### ACCOUNTING ...

Peter E. Mobley

(IBM Tab. Supv.)



**THE POTENT COMBINE** shown here wound up in the third spot in league play, just half a game out of second. The smiling members are left to right, Vern St. John, lathes, Jennie Sedita, boring machines, Ross Hazeltine, optical, Jessie Anton, methods, and Captain Dick Freeman, boring machines. (Librazette photo by L. Duggan)

Darlene Harvey, engineering services, terminated March 9. Prior to her departure she was feted at a Pickwick luncheon by her co-workers.

Wanda August, office services, became Mrs. Keith Thompson in a Las Vegas ceremony March 17. She was honored at a linen shower given by Beverly McCullick and Lorna James March 28.