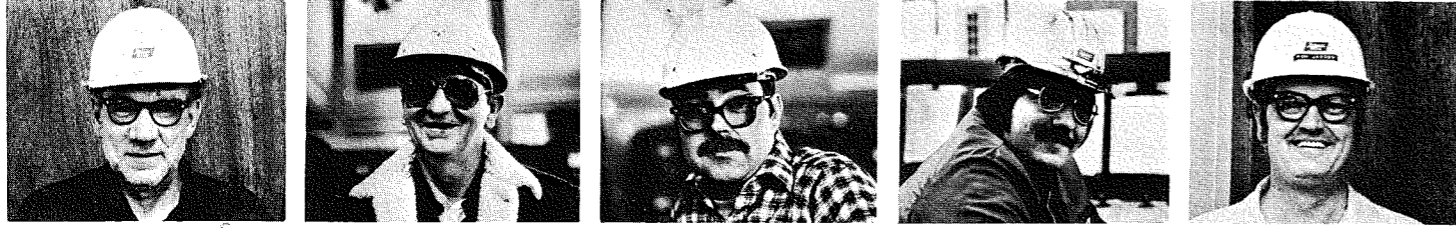


MEET FIVE NSW TURN SUPERINTENDENTS



Blaine Sawyers

Joe Novak

Jim Naughton

Curt Stahl

Ron Jacobs

A Company the size of Northwestern Steel and Wire needs supervision around the clock in order to see that everything runs as smoothly as possible. Everyone knows of the work of most Company officers and the individual Mill Superintendents, but people often forget the General Superintendents and the Turn Superintendents.

The last issue of *The Lightning Bolt* put the spotlight on General Superintendents, who coordinate general Company policy. This article is a special view of the work of night Turn Superintendents.

The five Turn Superintendents featured in this article are more involved with regular night-to-night operations. They are responsible for maintaining the mobile equipment and servicing various departments, making sure they have needed raw materials, moving parts from Plants to Machine Shops, bringing scrap to the furnaces and removing the slag and providing the available labor to departments when necessary.

Like most of the people profiled in this article, Turn Superintendent

Blaine Sawyers enjoys working nights. He joined NSW 30 years ago and started in the East Plant labor pool. In time he moved up to Turn Foreman in the 10-Inch Mill and the Wire Mill before being promoted to his present job six years ago.

Joe Novak is a 22-year NSW veteran. He has repaired railroad cars, been a "Cat" Operator, worked in the Electric Furnace Department and was a Foreman in the 12-Inch Mill and Night Foreman in the 14-Inch Mill before being promoted to Turn Superintendent.

Jim Naughton, a 14-year Company man, has been a Turn Superintendent for the past three years. His first job with the Company was laying railroad track. Since then, he's worked as Chief Clerk, a Provider for the Wire and Rod Division, Clerk in the Payroll De-

partment, a Buyer in the Purchasing Dept., and served as Safety Director before taking on the Turn Superintendent's job.

Curt Stahl began working for NSW seven years ago sweeping parking lots. He's been employed in Industrial Engineering, Plant 3 Shipping, 12-Inch Mill Shipping, Straight Cuts at the 14-Inch Mill, and the 20-Inch Mill Conditioning Yard, before being promoted to Turn Superintendent 18 months ago.

Ron Jacobs, a Turn Superintendent for the last six months, came to NSW two years ago as a Laborer, also working for us as a Truck Driver. Before joining NSW, Ron owned and operated a string of restaurants for 16 years. "That got me into the habit of working all sorts of hours," he said, "so these (night) hours are not really new."

WELCOME, LITTLE ONES

Our congratulations to the following employees who welcomed new additions to their families recently:

Robert E. Dickson of the 14-Inch Mill and his wife, Patricia, had Melissa Ann in February.

Steven K. Hadaway, 10-Inch Mill, and his spouse, Peggy, became the parents of Jennifer Lynn on May 7.

Jerome Bauer, Electrical Department, and his wife, Susan, had a daughter, Carrie, early this year.

Ronald Decker, Plant 4, and his wife, Margie, became parents of a son, Jeremy, in February.

Larry Fay, Nail Room, and his spouse, Kathy, had a son, Joel, on April 22.

Jan E. Cox, 20-Inch Mill, and his wife, Kathy, welcomed a son, Derick, in April also.

Steven Croy, 20-Inch Mill, and his spouse, Julia, had a son, Zackery Adam, in February.

Chris Erikson, Electric Furnace, and his wife, Janis, became the parents of a girl, Trisha, in March.

Dennis Calsyn, 14-Inch Electrical, and his wife, Kris, also had a daughter

they named Trisha on May 7.

Russell Egan, Plant 4, and his spouse, Virginia, welcomed a boy, Aaron, on May 14.

Nicolas Rodriguez, Plant 4, and his wife, Kathy Sue, had a daughter, Nicole Marie, in April.

William J. Allen, Nail Room, and his spouse, Nadine, welcomed a daughter, Theresa, on April 14.

John A. Fry, Cleaning House, and his wife, Debbie, became the parents of Shyla Marie on April 26.

James Dawson, 14-Inch Mill Crane Operator, and his wife, Kathleen, welcomed a boy, Jonathan James, on May 16.

Charles R. Insko, Plant 2 Electrical, and his wife, Diane, became the parents of Brook Insko on May 10.

William Bardo, 46-Inch Mill Mechanical, and his wife, Denetria, had a son, William Jermaine, on May 26.

We may have missed noting a few new parents and their offspring, but we'll publish their names in *The Lightning Bolt* as soon as they're signed up in the Insurance Department.



June, 1980

The Lightning Bolt

NORTHWESTERN STEEL AND WIRE COMPANY · STERLING, ILLINOIS 61081

Business Conditions In The American Steel Market

Northwestern Steel and Wire Company is not the only established steelmaker feeling the pinch of today's tight economy. Inland Steel Company recently shut down most operations at its Indiana Harbor Works' 44-Inch Hot-Strip Mill for an indefinite period. United States Steel Corp. recently closed one of two blast furnaces at its South Works and will begin laying off additional employees. (U.S. Steel also closed several Plants late last year.)

In the midst of all this, there is a relative bright spot—the mini-mills. These mills have lower labor costs than Northwestern and many other steel makers. In addition, because many of the mini-mills are

non-union, the employee benefits are lower than Northwestern's. In many cases, the equipment of the mini-mills is more up-to-date than ours.

And yet, these mini-mills are our competition. One mini-mill, scheduled to be constructed this summer, will be located in Kentucky, giving it easy access to the midwest and the deep south—our primary marketing area. Not only that, this mill, which is being built by Ohio River Steel, will eventually produce flats, angles, I-beams, channels, junior beams and wide-flange beams. These are all products Northwestern makes.

Wolfgang Jansen, the president of Intercontinental Metals Corp.,

At the time this article was written in early June, more than 400 people had been laid off by the Company. The only thing that has prevented even further layoffs is the fact that NSW is currently operating on a short work week.

the parent company of Ohio River Steel, said that the mini-mills will probably penetrate markets for other products as well, including wire, rod and medium to heavy structurals.

Besides the mini-mills, there is another factor affecting the American steel market. Northwestern (Continued on page 3)

A SALUTE TO 50-YEAR VETERAN CLARENCE BAUER

Clarence Bauer celebrated a very special event on June 10—the anniversary date marking one-half century of service to Northwestern Steel and Wire Company.

Clarence joined the Company in 1930 at the start of the Great Depression as the Secretary to the Credit Manager/Office Manager. Though it was hard to find work then, he got his position because of the shorthand and typing skills he mastered at a business college. He went on to show his worth to NSW quickly. After six months as Secretary, he was promoted to Cashier, a job he also held for six months before receiving his second promotion, to Assistant Credit Manager.

After a break in service during World War II—when he was in the Army Air Corps and rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant—Clarence was named Credit Manager, his present position. By the way, the man he replaced as Credit Manager also is a 50-year veteran, W.M. Dillon, President.

"There's been such a tremen-

dous change in the Company since 1945, that it's hard to believe, unless you've been through it," Clarence reminisced recently. "During the War, we used only 200 Dun & Bradstreet reports to check customer credit references. Today, we use 2,200 reports. When I got back from the service, three people were handling claims and adjustments, the Credit Manager's job and the pricing. Today, the Company has five people involved in pricing, two working with claims and adjustments, and four on the job in the Credit Department. That

just shows you how our Company has grown," he said.

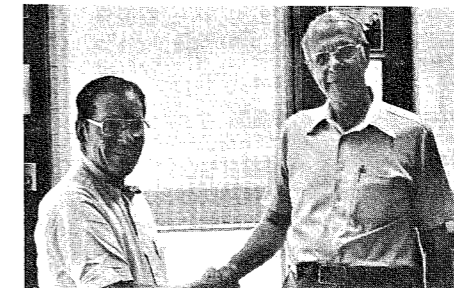
"The big expansions began in 1950," Clarence continued, "with the 12-Inch Mill, 25-Inch Mill, 46-Inch Mill and two 150-ton electric furnaces. They were in operation by 1952 and the workload increased considerably. The 20-Inch Mill expansion program began in 1957. In 1962, the 24-Inch Mill became a reality. Each of these expansions meant more business for Northwestern and the Company grew to keep pace with that new business."

The methods used by the Credit and Collection Department also have changed to keep up with the more rapid pace of business, Clarence said. "During the Great Depression, you didn't use the phone for collections, you always wrote letters and went on collection trips, even if you only collected a few dollars per month that way. Today, of course, everything is done over the phone. We even use collection agencies to get the (Continued on page 3)

Bob Martin In Washington

Bob Martin, our Company's Chief Engineer in charge of energy and pollution control, joined a group from the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce on a visit to Washington, D.C., early last month.

The Chamber lobbied for repeal of the Incremental Pricing Provisions of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978. Bob helped the effort by sharing Northwestern's story with Congressmen representing the State of Illinois and legislative assistants.



Our Company's 50-year veterans—W.M. Dillon and Clarence Bauer—offer each other anniversary congratulations.

The President's Corner

Although Election Day, November 4, 1980, seems a long way off, now is the time for each of us—as sensible citizens—to think about the key issues and problems our country and the leaders we vote into office will have to deal with, regardless of party.

So, between now and November 4 read as much as you can and think about such problems as:

- Inflation, and how the government could cut wasteful and unnecessary spending that causes inflation. (When the government spends more than it takes in, it "borrows" by printing more money.)

- The cost of excessive government regulation that takes money and time away from industry's need to concentrate on profitable production in order to stay in business—and to provide jobs.

- Relief from continually rising income taxes on individuals and companies, as everyone gets pushed up into higher tax brackets by inflated (cheapened) dollars, printed by the government to cover unneeded spending. In this type of situation, everyone needs more dollars to buy what used to cost less and then has to pay more taxes on the increased number of dollars earned.

- Balancing the federal budget by cutting "the fat" and waste out of government spending, but without hurting defense so that even second-rate dictators can't push us around.

- Getting leadership so that we can be strong and do what we can as a nation and not suffer what we must because we have become weakened. It has been said that in international dealings, all ways are dangerous so it's best to take the road that

requires courage and not timidity—without being reckless or acting and talking without thinking.

- Attacking our energy problem—and dependence on foreign oil sources that are continually threatened—by stimulating discovery and production of oil in this country, instead of discouraging production through still more taxes on both producers and users of oil and oil products, taxes that create more inflation by getting you less for your dollar.

These are just some of the issues all of us should think about as we listen to the candidates for the Presidency and Congress. Keep informed. Listen. Read. Ask questions of candidates or their representatives. Get to know how they stand on these issues before you cast your vote. Your future and the country's future are at stake.

DILLON HOME DEEDED TO PART DISTRICT

Peter Dillon (left) and Company President W.M. Dillon present the deed of the late P.W. Dillon's home to William E. Eberly, President of the Sterling Park District (second right), and Frank Duis, Director of Parks and Recreation for the district.



The home of the late Paul W. Dillon, Northwestern's past Chairman of the Board, now officially belongs to the Sterling Park District. In accordance with the wishes of Mr. Dillon, W. M. Dillon and other members of the Dillon family turned over the deed of the home to the park district last month.

The park district plans to turn the home into a museum—the Paul W. Dillon Home Museum—which will open to the public sometime this fall. Contributions to help pay for the restoration work are now being accepted and should be sent to Sterling Park District-Dillon Home Fund, P.O. Box 692, Sterling, Ill. 61081.

Consideration is also being given to renovating the barn at the Dillon Home into a historical museum for

the Sterling-Rock Falls Historical Society.

Mrs. Linda Bruns, who worked for Mr. Dillon for about 1½ years before his death, has been chosen as the curator of the museum. She is familiar with the home and currently is cataloging artifacts and is setting up files and records of all items.

New Assignments

Our congratulations and best wishes for future success go to the following employees who have been given new assignments recently:

Mike Maddox was named General Foreman of Plant 6 on May 27.

Wally Hartman was appointed Director of Purchasing on June 9.

Best Retirement Wishes

Our very best wishes for long and happy retirement years go out to the following employees who ended their careers of service to Northwestern Steel and Wire Company on June 1, 1980.

Lawrence B. Smith, Drawing Room, 40 years.

Russell G. Kent, General Foreman-Mechanical Dept., 33 years.

Arnold L. Pederson, 24-Inch Mill, 32 years.

Earl J. Carmen, Plant 2 Pipe Shop, 30 years.

Quillon B. Walker, Nail Galvanizing, 30 years.

Happy Anniversary, Marge



Congratulations to Marge Brandt, who marked her 25th anniversary of service with Northwestern Steel and Wire Company on May 6. Marge's coworkers in the Auditing Department brought in the cake to help her celebrate this special event.

A Salute To Clarence Bauer

(Continued from page 1)

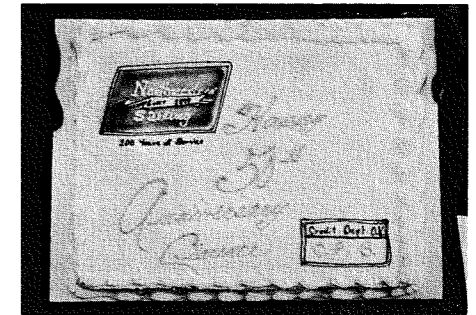
money owed us from our few delinquent accounts," Clarence noted.

Today's methods also have led to policy changes for the Credit Department. "In the current economy," Clarence said, "our work in this department has become more critical than ever. We must be extremely cautious and credit must be checked more

closely than in past 'boom' years."

A man with deep roots in the Sterling-Rock Falls area where he still lives, Clarence was born on a farm southeast of Rock Falls. His wife, Audrey, is a teacher's aide. Both enjoy one special hobby—travel—and have been to every state in the union.

Each of the Bauers' five children has worked at Northwestern at one time or another, including two still



Clarence's co-workers surprised him with a 50th anniversary cake which they had specially decorated for the happy occasion.

First 'Record-Breaking' Pens Given



Employees in both the 24-Inch Mill and the Electro-Weld Department broke Company production records recently and instead of receiving candy or cigars—which the Company used to give employees as tokens of appreciation—each and every one of them were the first to receive QuickSilver Flair pens imprinted with the words "Northwestern Record Breaker."

In the left photo, Jerry Cox, Superintendent of the 24-Inch Mill (left), presents pens to Keith Helms and Cletus Delhotal, who represented the people working in their mill.

At the right, Jim Rumley and Jim Olson, both Operators of the No. 5 Electro-Weld Machine, accept pens from Gordon Rolofson, General Foreman of the Electro-Weld Department, also symbolizing the great job done by the workers in their department.



Business Conditions In Steel Industry

(Continued from page 1)

and most other domestic steel makers have been claiming for several years that foreign steel makers have been dumping steel—selling it at a price below its production cost—in the United States. The International Trade Commission (ITC) has finally acknowledged that fact after a formal complaint by United States Steel. Even more ominous, the ITC said that the suspension of the trigger price program (the government discontinued trigger prices after U.S. Steel filed its dumping suit) may allow alleged margins of underselling to continue. Just what the ITC and our own government will eventually decide to do still remains to be seen.

A third factor affecting the American steel market is the intense price competition among steel makers. This is caused by

lessened inventory held at steel service centers throughout the country. Gate City Steel Corp., for example, has cut its inventory drastically—down 20% to 25% from six months ago. J.W. Rimmer, Gate City's president, expects that "things may get worse before they get better," explaining that price-cutting has become "fierce."

J.P. Newman, president of Mid-State Steel Inc. announced that he doesn't see any signs of an improvement and, in fact, expects a deterioration, with the third quarter of this year the low point. His firm also cut inventory about 25% and expects to cut back another 10% to 15% above that.

So what does this all boil down to? Generally, most steel mills are now working at 60% of capacity. In the near future, they will probably be as low as 50%. There may be a "light at the end of the tunnel," but we aren't there yet.

employed by NSW, Ray, a Salesman who works out of Birmingham, Alabama, and Jerry, who works in the Electrical Department. Clarence and Audrey also have four grandchildren.

Why did Clarence join NSW in the first place? "Even in the Depression, I could see that this was a good, progressive, growth Company with sound, solid management. It was a great opportunity. And Northwestern still is easily the best place to work in Sterling. I enjoy what I do and I still like coming here every day—even after 50 years on the job."

Besides Clarence, there are several other noteworthy anniversaries in the Accounting Section this summer. Leonard Prew, John Conway and Donna Orlovski all celebrate 30-year anniversaries with NSW in 1980. We wish to add this special note of congratulations to each of them.

Jeff Stauter Wins Contest

Jeffrey Stauter, the son of Galvanizing Foreman John Stauter and the grandson of Insurance Supervisor Clarence Morath, came home as No. 1 recently as the regional winner of an essay contest at Challand Junior High School.

Jeff, a 12-year old student at Challand, won top honors with his essay: "NSW, The First 100 Years." Besides a first place blue ribbon, Jeff also received an invitation to meet Governor James R. Thompson and have tea at the Governor's Mansion in Springfield, a date he and his father and mother, Carol, drove to Springfield last month to keep. To put it mildly, John and Carol are very proud of Jeff's accomplishment—and the young man is pretty happy about it, too. NSW extends congratulations to Jeff and his happy parents.