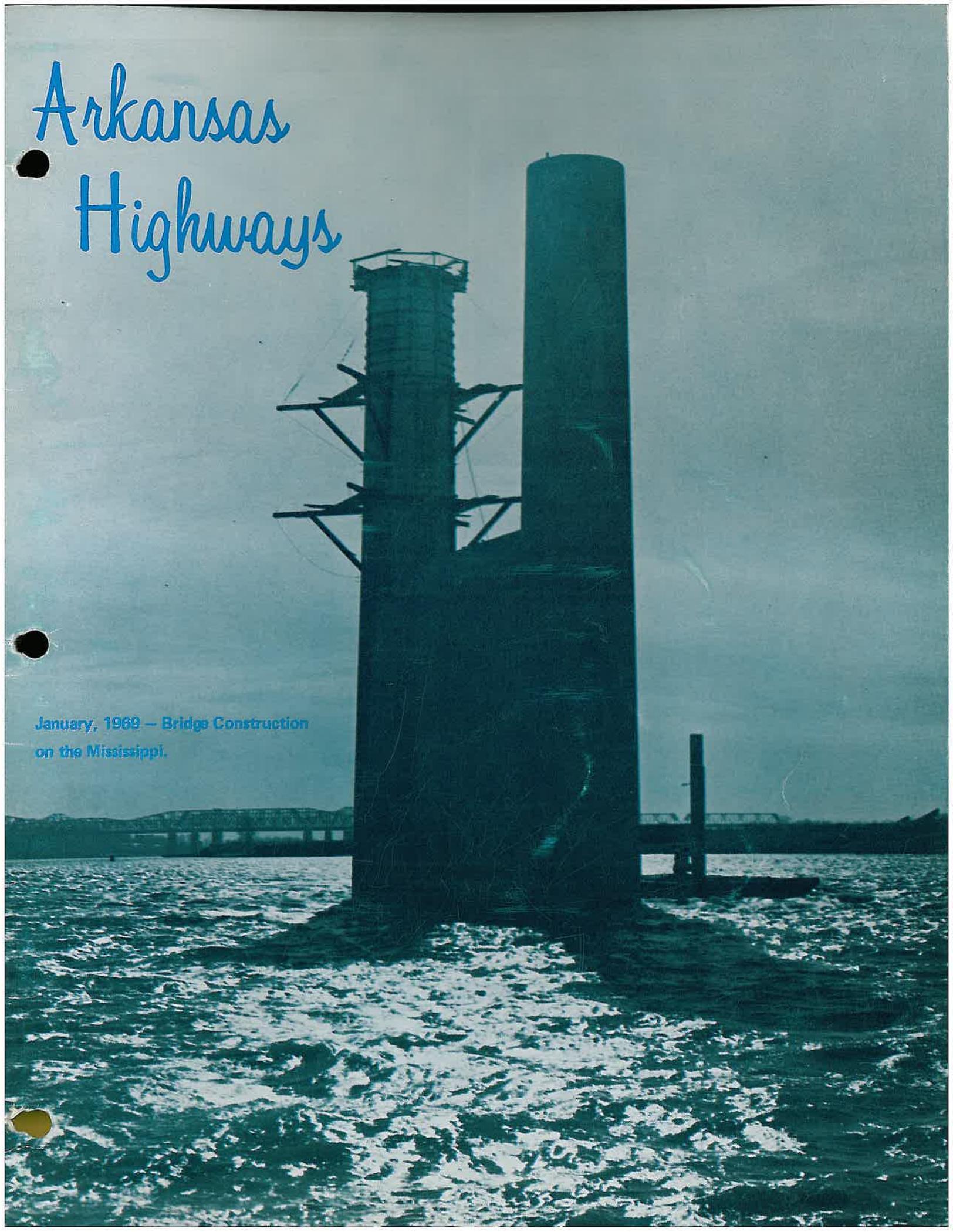


Arkansas Highways

January, 1969 – Bridge Construction
on the Mississippi.



OUTGOING CHAIRMAN HONORED

AT SUBIACO —

Outgoing Highway Commission Chairman Arnil Taylor was honored at an appreciation dinner at Subiaco on December 10, sponsored by the town councils of Scranton and Paris, the Scranton Lions Club and New Subiaco Abbey. Taylor, a native and prominent businessman of nearby Clarksville, completed a 10-year term on the Highway Commission on January 14.

He was presented an appreciation plaque by Abbot Michael Lensing of New Subiaco Abbey. Justin Willems, director of the Arkansas Electric Co-op., of Subiaco was the master of ceremonies. Former Governor Orval Faubus and attorney Jeta Taylor of Ozark were the principal speakers. Approximately 200 people attended.

The other Highway Commission members and Department administrative heads gathered in the Commission conference room at the central headquarters building the afternoon of January 14 to present Chairman Taylor an appreciation plaque. He also received a goodwill certificate prepared as a minute order, the form used by the Commission for taking official action.



Taylor and Commissioner John Harsh display plaque awarded him. They are flanked by (left to right) Asst. Dir. Henry Gray, Commissioner Truman Baker, Director Ward Goodman, Commissioners Maurice Smith and Lawrence Blackwell and Chief Engr. J. T. Pendergrass.



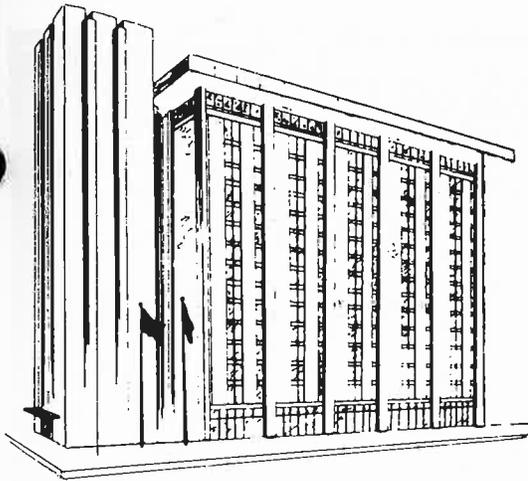
Mrs. Taylor, Mr. Taylor and Dr. Davis

AT CLARKSVILLE —

Taylor was also honored at the annual Clarksville Chamber of Commerce banquet on January 11. Dr. Don Davis, president of the College of the Ozarks and current Chamber president, was the master of ceremonies. Principal speaker of the evening was Edward Smoot, president of City National Bank of Fort Smith. Chairman Taylor was presented an award of merit and a portable television set as an appreciation gift. Approximately 180 persons attended the dinner which was held in Seay Student Center on the college campus.



Mrs. Ferol Jones, the Director's secretary, holds a cake while Taylor blows out its ten candles, signifying the end of a 10-year appointment as a commissioner.

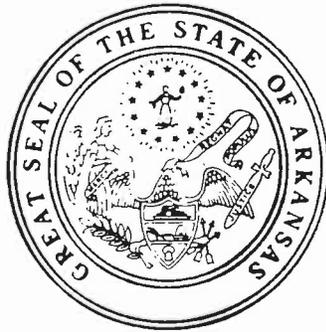


ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Our Fifteenth Year, No. 1

January, 1969

Issued monthly by and for the employes of The Arkansas State Highway Dept., P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203 as a medium of departmental news and other information.



Arkansas State Highway Commission

Truman Baker, *Chairman*
 John W. Harsh, *Vice Chairman*
 Maurice Smith
 Lawrence Blackwell
 J. C. Patterson

Ward Goodman, *Director of Highways*
 John T. Pendergrass, *Chief Engineer*

Mary Day Herndon, *Editor*
 Kay Weitzel, *Layout, artwork and typesetting*
 Johnnie M. Gray, *Photographer*

MULHOLLEN TO BE DISTRICT 1 ENGINEER

Bill D. Mulhollen will assume the duties and responsibilities of Engineer of District 1 with headquarters at Wynne, effective February 1. He will replace Charles M. Matthews who has reached the mandatory retirement age. District 1 is comprised of Cross, Crittenden, St. Francis, Monroe, Lee and Phillips counties.

Mulhollen is no stranger in District 1, having worked as a resident engineer on three interstate projects in the Brinkley area. He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas, a registered professional engineer and was first employed by the Department in 1959 as a senior instrument man in Surveys. At that time he worked at Blytheville for District Engineer E. E. Hurley. In August of 1966 he was promoted to assistant construction engineer and for the past three months has been acting as the assistant to Matthews.

Mulhollen is a native of Moark in Clay County. He and his wife Yvonne have three children, Randy, 11; Pam, 9; and Kelli, 4.

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Baker New AHC Chairman

Member Truman Baker of Searcy has been elected chairman of the Arkansas Highway Commission for the next two years, the last two of a 10-year appointment. He has previously served twice as vice chairman, once during 1963-64 and in 1967-68.

Baker is well qualified to serve as Commission chairman, having a background in highway construction in both Arkansas and Florida earlier in his career. For more than 25 years he has owned and operated Baker Chevrolet at Searcy. He has an extensive record of public service, having been, at various times, a member of the State Welfare Board and the Game and Fish Commission, in addition to the Highway Commission appointment.

He is a past commander of the North Little Rock Post and the Herman Armstrong Post in Searcy of the American Legion, a member of the National Security Commission and a member of the Finance Committee of First Security Bank in Searcy. He is a charter member and past president of the Searcy Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Official Board of the Searcy Methodist Church.

Baker is an avid hunter and sportsman and holds membership in the Razorback Club. He has one daughter, Mrs. Horace Tarkington, two grandsons and one great granddaughter.



Baker (seated), Harsh (left) and Patterson.

HARSH IS VICE-CHAIRMAN

John W. Harsh, Magnolia businessman and former mayor, was elected vice-chairman of the Highway Commission for the next two years during their meeting January 29. He was appointed to membership on the Commission in 1963 for a 10-year term.

During Harsh's administration as mayor, the City of Magnolia developed a municipal airport, constructed a new fire station and two swimming pools, acquired 30 acres of land for city parks, constructed a new municipal building and added a \$1 million extension to the City Hospital.

Harsh is a past president of the Arkansas Municipal League, a charter member of South Arkansas Development Council, a director of the Farmers Bank and Trust Company of Magnolia and a past member of the Board of Directors of Magnolia Rotary Club. He is a veteran of World War II and earned a Distinguished Flying Cross as a combat pilot in the Mediterranean, being discharged as a lieutenant colonel in 1945.

PATTERSON APPOINTED

J. C. Patterson of Lavaca, Sebastian County farmer and grocer, has been appointed by Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller to a 10-year term on the Arkansas Highway Commission to fill the vacancy created by the expiration of a term held by Armil Taylor, Clarksville insurance man.

Patterson, 50, is a member of the Fort Smith and Charleston Chambers of Commerce and a former member of the Lavaca School Board. He is a member of First Baptist Church of Lavaca. Patterson and his wife, the former Norma McCutchen of Mansfield, have two sons, James of Little Rock and John, 20, a student at the University of Arkansas.

HARSH — continued

Harsh and his wife, the former Mary Warnock of Magnolia, have three daughters; Molly, a student at the University of Arkansas; Roxana, 15; and Amy, 12. They attend the Church of Christ, where he serves as a deacon.



Cooley, Karnes Receive 25-Year Awards

Two District 2 employees received 25-year service certificates and lapel pins at the November meeting of the Highway Commission. The awards were presented by Commissioner John Harsh on behalf of the entire group.



GEORGE COOLEY of Watson in Desha County is a motor patrol operator. He began employment with the Department in 1943 as a truck driver.

Cooley is a member of the Watson Methodist Church and active in the civic affairs of his community. His favorite pastimes are hunting and gardening. He and Mrs. Cooley, the former Clara Richardson of Rison, have one daughter and five grandchildren.



GEORGE E. KARNES of Monticello started work with a survey crew for the Highway Department as soon as he graduated from high school at West Fork in Washington County. Motivated by a growing interest in highway construction, he began taking civil engineering courses by correspondence until he was qualified for his present resident engineer's position.

Karnes spends many enjoyable hours in his home workshop and recently completed a remodeling project on his home. He is interested in all types of sports and the activities of his three sons. He and his wife, the former Thelma Stuart of Fayetteville, attend The First Presbyterian Church of Monticello where he serves as a deacon.



Chaney presents appreciation plaque to Baker



. and Cavaness.

BAKER, CAVANESS HONORED

Highway Commission Vice Chairman Truman Baker of Searcy and District 5 Engineer George Cavaness of Batesville were honored by the Batesville Chamber of Commerce at a banquet on January 6. Each was recognized for conscientious fulfillment of their duties during a 50th anniversary observance

of the Chamber's organization. Board member Harney Chaney presented appreciation plaques to Baker and Cavaness. Surprise and irony figured in the presentations because Cavaness was asked by the Chamber members to be responsible for having Baker present so that his award would be a surprise but what Cavaness didn't know was that he was also to receive a plaque. The irony was that Department photographer Johnnie Gray just happened to be in Batesville on other business and stopped for dinner at the restaurant where the banquet was being held.

Construction Progressing on Texarkana Loop Route

CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY on Highway 245 between U.S. 82 and Tennessee Street in Texarkana, also being called the Texarkana Loop Route. Cleo Riggs of Camden is the contractor on this mile-

long job which begins east of the city limits and proceeds northward to U.S. 82. Estimated cost of the project is approximately \$278,000. D. H. Mitchell is the resident engineer for the Department.



Officials and others who participated in dedication ceremonies at Biscoe are, left to right: Const. Engr. E. E. Hurlley, incoming Dist. 1 Engr. Bill Mulhollen; former Commission chairman Wayne Hampton of Stuttgart, Rep. George S. Rodgers, Jr. of DeWitt, Commissioner John Harsh, retiring Dist. 1 Engr. C. M. Matthews of Wynne, Director Ward Goodman, outgoing Commission chairman Armil Taylor, Mrs. Hampton, Commissioners Maurice Smith and Truman Baker and Asst. Dir. Henry Gray.



I-40 OPEN – ALL THE WAY FROM LITTLE ROCK TO MEMPHIS

THE REMAINING TWO SECTIONS of I-40 in the eastern half of Arkansas were opened on December 14 and December 20, opening the interstate route all the way from Little Rock to the Mississippi River, 132 miles. A 13.5-mile section from the Cache River eastward toward Brinkley was opened on December 14.

The last section, 16.5 miles from the Highway 38 interchange east of Forrest City to Shearerville was opened December 20.

Now that these two sections are open, it is possible for motorists to drive all the way from Conway through Little Rock, West Memphis, Blytheville and

across the Missouri line on a four-lane divided highway without having to stop for even one traffic signal. Yet to be completed in the West Memphis area is the I-40 bridge across the Mississippi and the approaches which are now under construction.

The Department has a total of 401.42 miles of its 518.77 interstate mileage open to traffic.

Both the Biscoe-Brinkley and Highway 38-Shearerville sections were informally dedicated. The Forrest City Chamber of Commerce participated in the Highway 38-Shearerville dedication and held a dinner at Holiday Inn Restaurant for Highway and Bureau of Public Roads officials afterward.

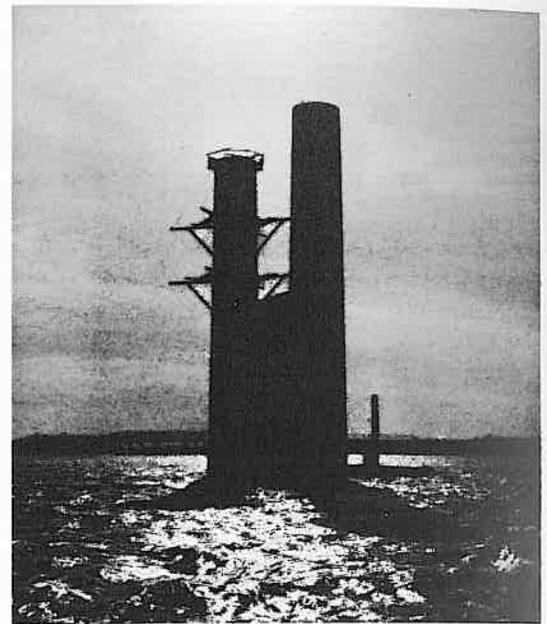
Participants in the Highway 38-Shearerville dedication included, left to right: BPR Div. Engr. Rex Leathers; Rev. Charles Hoglan, pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Forrest City; Chamber of Commerce Pres. Francis Vandiver; Mayor Robert Cope; out-going Commission chairman Armil Taylor; little Miss Weston McCollum; Director Ward Goodman; Commissioners Maurice Smith and Truman Baker; and out-going Dist. 1 Engr. C. M. Matthews.



Commissioner Baker chats with Weston McCollum after the ribbon-cutting. Shown with them are her parents, newspaperman Bonner and Mrs. McCollum of Forrest City.

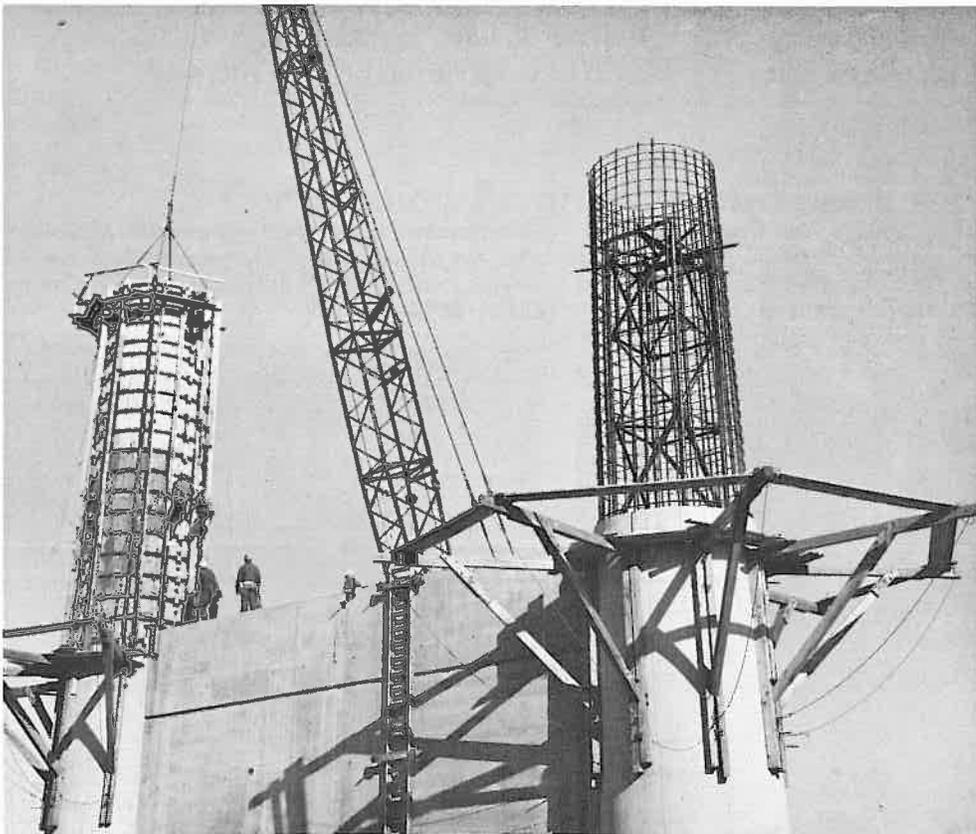


An Engineered Stonehenge

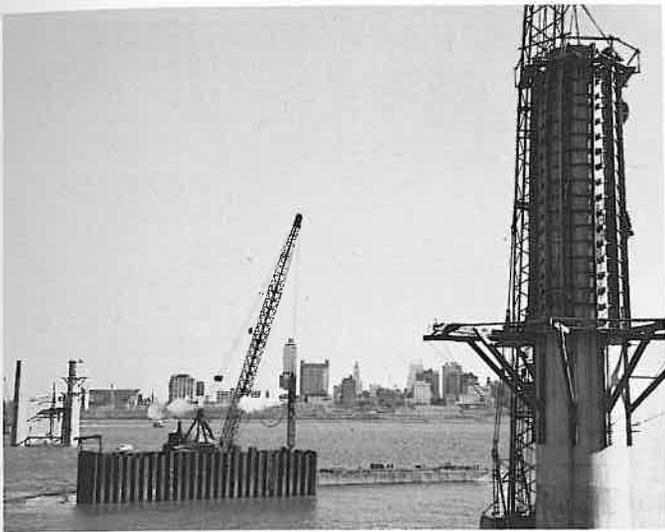


THE EIGHT MEGALITHIC CHANNEL PIERS of the I-40 bridge at West Memphis are slowly but surely rising out of the turbulent Mississippi, despite delays caused by high waters and a collapsed cofferdam in the spring of 1968. By 1972 (provided the estimated completion date can be met) these piers will support a \$50 million dollar structure carrying six lanes of traffic across the river.

The contract for the eight main channel piers was awarded to Massman Construction Co. of Kansas City, Mo. and Al Johnson Construction Co. of Minneapolis, Minn. on October 28, 1966. Work began in May, 1967. Presently, two piers are complete and five more are under construction, with completion of all eight expected by late spring of 1970. Hazelet & Erdal Consulting Engineers are supervising the



After these forms are completed, concrete will be poured into them to form another section of the pier.



Pier construction for I-40 bridge with Memphis skyline in the background. The pier at the right is the one nearest the bank on the Arkansas side.

work for the Tennessee Highway Department, which is handling contracts for the job. The Arkansas Highway Department will share in construction costs according to an agreement already approved by both state highway departments. The contract for the eight piers alone came to almost \$9.5 million.

From the viewpoint of the sidewalk supervisor (an audience this construction team doesn't have to concern itself with), progress on massive building jobs such as this bridge seems imperceptible, but it nevertheless moves ahead. One of the first problems to be solved in bridge construction is: *Where to stand in order to work?*

Massman-Johnson Job Supt. R. D. "Dutch" Bleich makes the answer sound deceptively easy: You build an island and then sink the pier down through it. "Once you have your island, you can get down to business." Actually, it's not quite that easy.

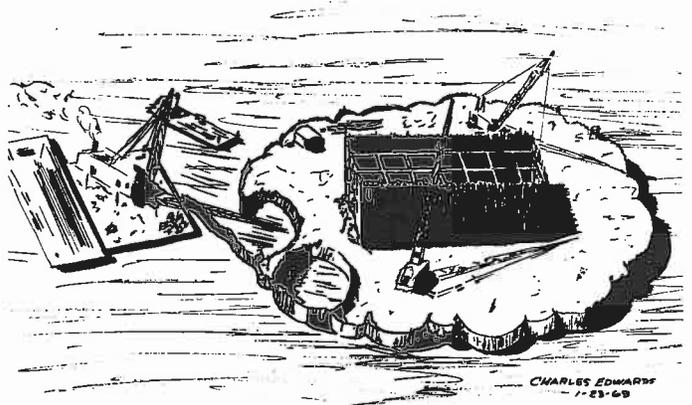
For construction of two of the piers, an artificial island was created; open cofferdams were used on the others. The island, which is larger than a football field, is made by driving pilings into the river bed in a series of arcs to form the outer wall of the island. Then tons of rock are dumped into the enclosure to stabilize the steel walls which keep out the river and hold in the island. Finally the hole is pumped full of sand and silt until it rises solidly above the water.

Once the island is formed, excavation is made for the pier and piling is driven to line the excavation preparatory to sinking an enormous concrete footing (called a caisson) which extends far down below the river bed. The cofferdam "follows" the base down, creating a shaft in which the concrete is poured. After

the shaft is sealed at the bottom, the water is pumped out and concrete is poured, 10 feet at a time, until the pier rises to its specified height.

After the concrete pier has hardened, the steel walls of the island are removed and the man-made island washes away with the current of the river, leaving the pier standing free.

Construction of the remaining piers is being accomplished with "open" cofferdams, that is, the area inside the walls are not filled in while pier construction is going on. Last May, the cofferdam at one location collapsed under pressure of extremely high water and what officials theorize might have been added pressure from waves stirred by a passing towboat. Fortunately, the collapse occurred in the early morning hours when no one was at work on the project.

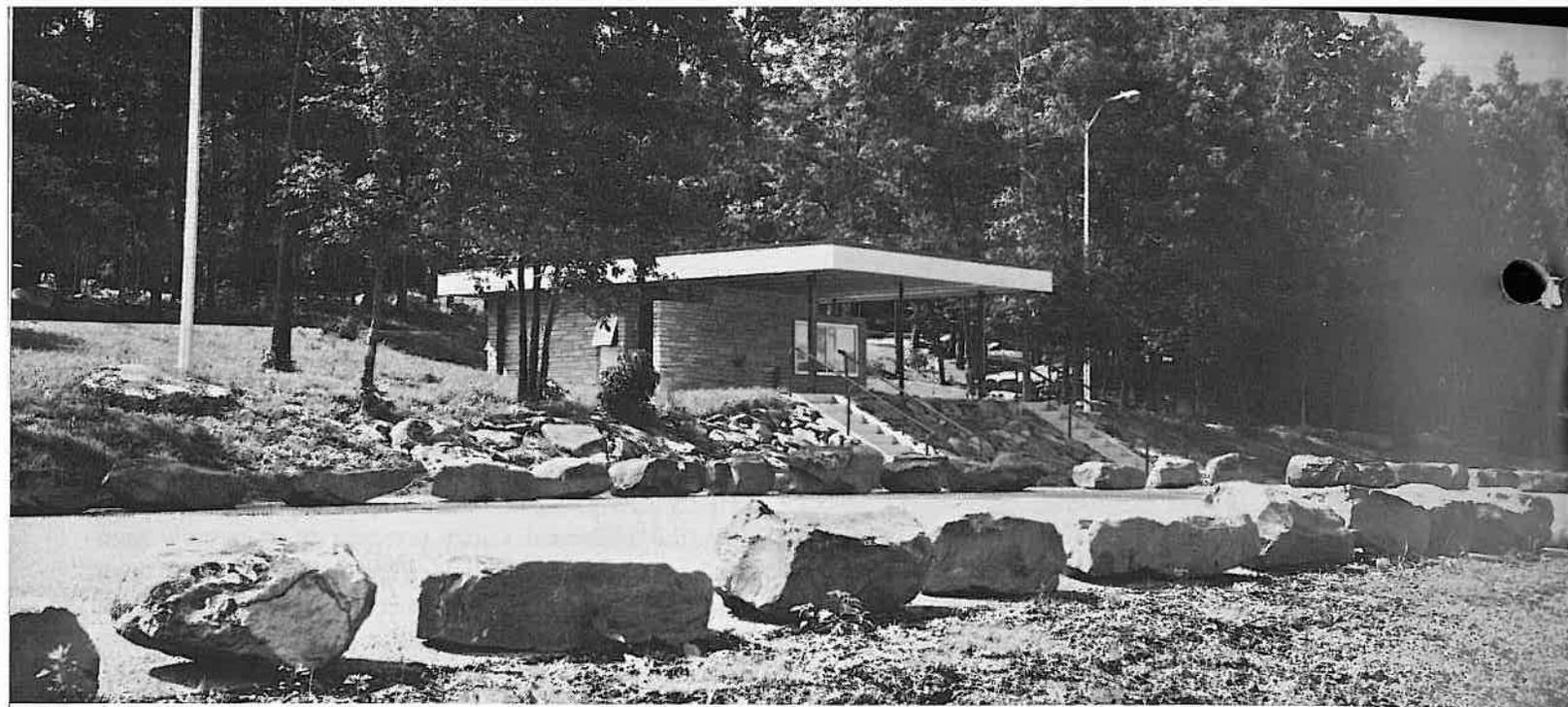


This drawing shows how a "floating island" looks from above and the pier that is being built in the center of it.

—Artwork by Charles Edwards
Right-Of-Way, Engineering

A side view of one of the "floating islands."





Park nestles against hillside near the north bank of Salado Creek.

ROADSIDE PARK TARGET OF SENSELESS VANDALISM

THE COMFORT STATION at the Salado Creek roadside park near Batesville was senselessly vandalized the night of January 5. The destruction marked the second time that vandals have hit the park and left an estimated \$1,500 in property damage. The park is located on U.S. 167 about five miles south of Batesville.

Much of the damage was done by heaving rocks and small boulders through the windows. The saboteurs apparently took advantage of the plentiful supply of stones which are used for riprap on the park grounds.

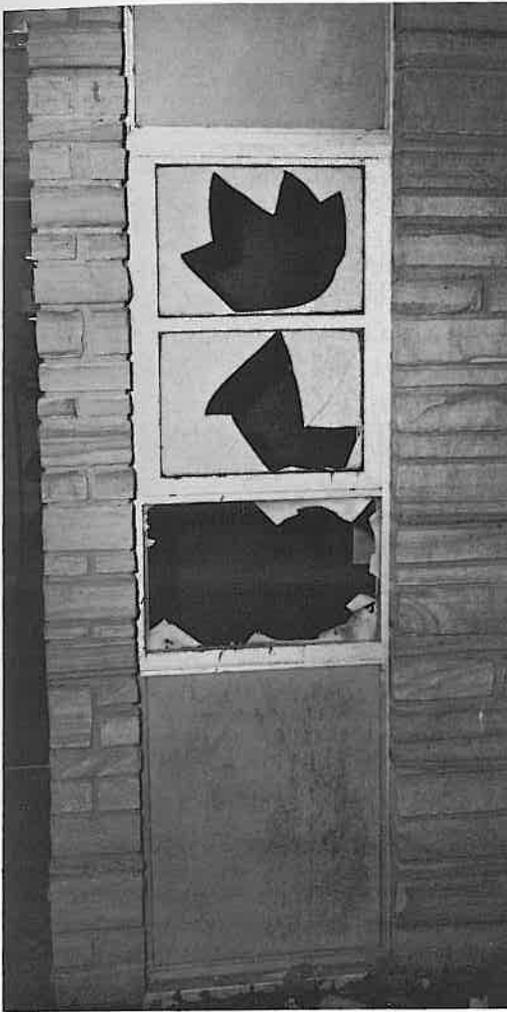
In the men's room one lavatory was torn from the wall, leaving water running from disconnected pipes, five windows broken and a metal door bent double. Four windows were broken and the door bent double in the ladies' room. Water lines were torn away from an outside drinking fountain, a ventilator kicked in and a "Campers Welcome" sign shot full of holes and bent until most of the paint was popped off. A park facility such as this one costs upward of \$50,000 to build.

An investigation is being conducted by the Sheriff's Department of Independence County and the Criminal Investigation Division of the State Police.

The "Campers Welcome" sign outside was shot full of holes and bent until most of the paint popped off.



Water pipes pulled out (copper tubing on the ground connected water fountain to water line) and ventilator kicked in.

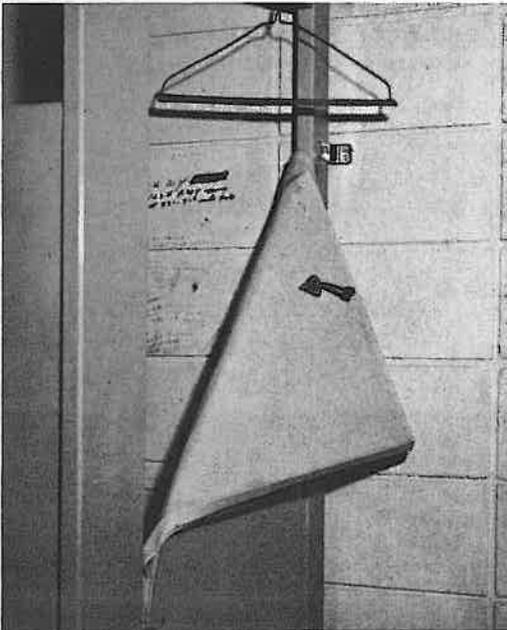


Boulders used to break windows like this . . .

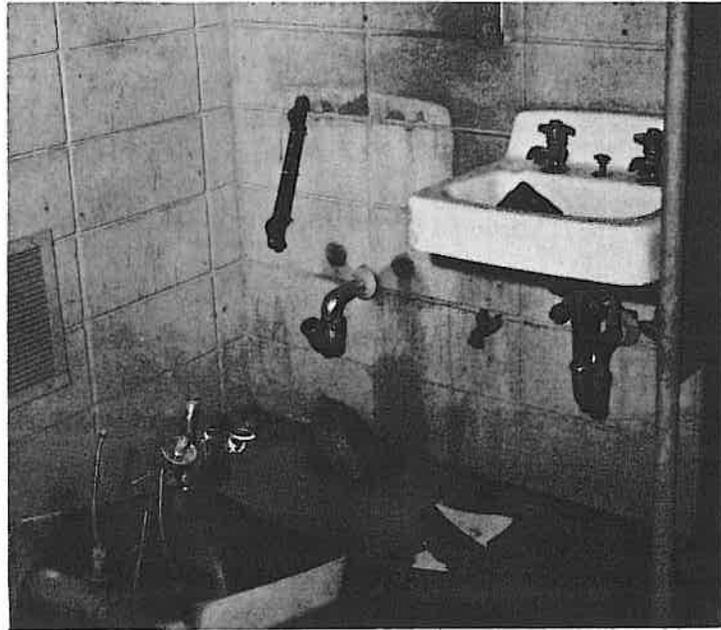


. . . were the size of this one in the ladies rest room.

Metal door bent double in men's room. Defacement on the wall may, or may not, have been done by the wrecking crew.



Fixtures torn from the wall in the men's rest room left uncapped water pipes. Water flooded the rest room.





Chief Engineer Brunt of Jokes After Fall

Chief Engineer J. T. Pendergrass, left, suffered a broken arm when he fell at home December 8. Safety Officer Roland Humble felt that, though it was a shut-the-gate-after-the-horse-has-gotten-out situation, Pendergrass should bone up on safety. In the picture Humble presents him a safety manual, a brochure on occupational and home accident hazards, and a Supervisors Report to be filled out by Mrs. Pendergrass. Mr. Pendergrass received them in his usual amiable spirit.



THE REAL ST. VALENTINE

Thanks to greeting card companies, enterprising ad men, variety stores and super drugstores, the poor American postman will soon be staggering under the load of 75 million love notes to be delivered to sweethearts on St. Valentine's Day — and before he has hardly removed the calluses developed during the Christmas card season.

Where did the tradition of valentines originate anyway? And how did February 14 happen to be designated as the day of observance?

No one seems to know for sure but since it is a day dedicated to romance, the most appealingly romantic legend goes back to the third century when the Roman Emperor Claudius had decreed that all Romans were to worship 12 pagan gods. A young Christian priest named Valentinus refused to renounce his faith and consequently was arrested and thrown in prison.

He spent more than a year in a dungeon with only the barest necessities of life. During that time his jailer, Asterius, frequently brought his young daughter Julia, who had been blind from birth, to be taught by the imprisoned priest. He taught her arithmetic and history. Through his eyes she saw the world as Valentinus told her of Rome's history, of God, and of the world of nature. She trusted his wisdom and found comfort in his courage.

Suddenly Valentinus was summoned to appear before Emperor Claudius, who was so impressed by the young priest's dignity, according to legend, that he attempted to convert him to a believer in the Roman pagan gods, thus saving him from execution. Valentinus not only steadfastly refused to renounce Christianity, but attempted immediately to convert the emperor to Christianity. Claudius, infuriated, ordered the priest to be beaten with clubs, stoned and beheaded.

EMPLOYEE VACATION, SICK LEAVE BROADENED

Effective January 1, 1969, vacation and sick leave accrued to full-time employees was broadened. The new policy will allow employees with the company from one year through 10 years, 12 days vacation per year; 11 years through 15 years, 15 days per year; and 16 years and above, 18 days per year.

With increased vacation time, and the allowance of carrying over five days from one calendar year to the next, maximum consecutive days for which an employee may be away on vacation have been set at 10 days for 1 through 10 years' seniority; 12 days for 11 through 15 years' seniority; and 15 days for 16 years' service and above.

Sick leave accrual was increased for all employees from one-half day per month to one whole day, with a maximum accrual of 90 days.

According to the legend, through Valentinus' faith he was able to restore the sight of his blind pupil. Both she and her father were subsequently converted to Christianity, only to be executed by Claudius in later years.

On the eve of his execution, Valentinus is supposed to have written a farewell message to Julia, urging her to stay close to God, and signed it "From Your Valentine." His sentence was carried out the next day, February 14, 270 A.D.

1968 Litter Costs Highest Ever

Maintenance crews collected 3600 loads of rubbish from the state's highways during calendar year 1968 at a record-breaking cost of . . .

\$135,796.44.

More than 43,500 man-hours were expended in litter pickup from 19,284 miles of highways. The labor cost was \$43,505 and the average cost per load was \$23.59.

Despite frequent publicity about litter costs, motorists continue to leave a trail of refuse behind them as they travel.



STUDY OF HIGHWAY VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM UNDERWAY

Dr. Templeton makes film footage with a portable television camera while Lee Gibbons (left) narrates information to be used later.



Diagnostic studies of two sections of Arkansas highways were completed November 11-13 to get underway a two-year multi-state research project of analyzing highway visual communication systems. The sections selected were the illuminated portions of I-30 through Benton in Saline County and a five-mile section of Highway 10 west of Little Rock in the Lake Maumelle area.

The purpose of the study is to develop recommendations for improving visual highway communication systems which keep the driver oriented in the roadway and traffic environment, thereby improving highway safety. The 20 states involved are cooperating with the

Bureau of Public Roads of the Department of Transportation. Actual research is being carried out by the Texas Transportation Institute. A. M. White, traffic engineer and safety officer for the Mississippi Highway Department, is chairman of the project, and Al Johnson, Arkansas Highway safety engineer, is the vice chairman.

The Arkansas pilot study team included Dr. T. E. Templeton representing T.T.I.; committee members from four states, including Mr. White; Rothe Davis representing the Bureau of Public Roads; and A. H. D. employes Johnson, Bob Faulkner and Lee Gibbons. Dr. Templeton is the optometrist in charge of visual communications at Texas A & M.

An impressive assemblage of electronic devices and equipment, including the galvanic skin reactor,

were utilized. Charles Rains, Mrs. June Brown and Miss Lane Apple acted as test drivers, wired with the galvanic skin reactor to record driver reaction while maneuvering through the test section. Various optical measurements were made to determine the visual quality of the traffic control devices during day and night conditions. The team also used a portable battery-operated television camera to record various parts of the tests on audio-video tape. Later the test runs will be analyzed on closed circuit television. Each driver was interviewed and questioned about his impression of the test site.

Recommendations for improvement will be made and the sections re-evaluated. The diagnostic team approach is a new method for studying improvements in visual communication systems.



WILBURN T. TALLANT

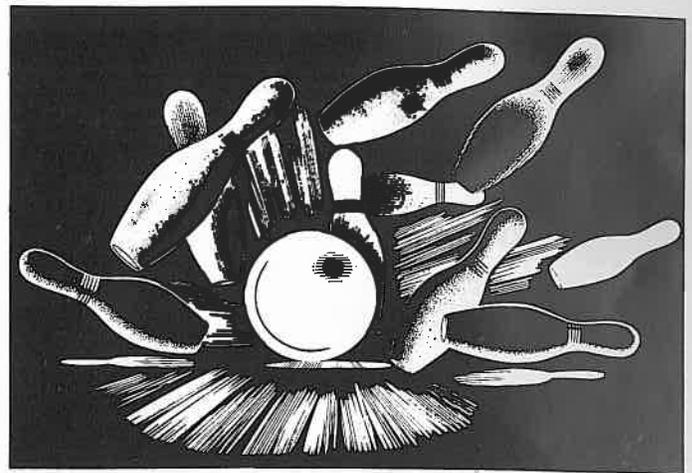
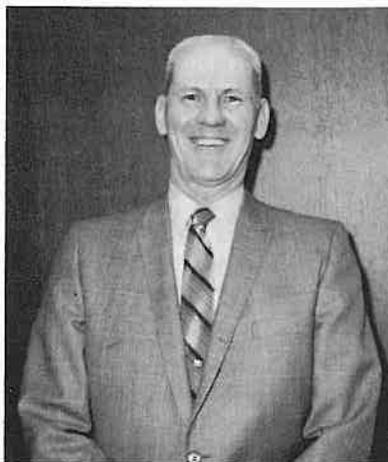
Wilburn Tall "Tallie" Tallant of Murfreesboro, an employe of the maintenance crew in Pike County, died December 9 at the age of 49. He had worked for the Department almost 13 years.

The deceased was a World War II veteran, a Mason, and a member of Temple Baptist Church of Murfreesboro.

Survivors are his widow, Mrs. Faye Lingo Tallant; four daughters, Mrs. Bruce Woodley, Mrs. Douglas Brown, Miss Wilma Tallant and Miss Anita Tallant, all of Murfreesboro; his mother, Mrs. Beatrice Tallant of Murfreesboro; three brothers, Dillard and George, both of Gary, Ind.; and Bernard of Murfreesboro; two sisters, Mrs. Guy Chism, Hope; and Mrs. Gene Martin, Portage, Ind.; and two granddaughters.

Funeral services were conducted by Lati-mer Funeral Home of Nashville, Ark. with burial at Cottage Hill Cemetery in Murfreesboro.

Asst. Pers. Officer Frank Newsham bowled a 279 game at Hilltop Lanes in Jacksonville on January 17. A better-than-average bowler, he has one perfect game in an ABC sanctioned alley and two perfect games at non-regulation alleys to his credit. He also holds numerous trophies which attest to his precision as a keglers.



AHD Keglers Finish First Half of Season

The Bureau of Public Roads team led the Highway Bowling League the first half of the season, winning 38 games and losing 22 for an average of 957. Secondary Roads was a close second, winning 36 games, losing 24, for an average of 960. Other teams in the league in order of their standing are:

	Won	Lost	Average
Teachers	35	25	966
Roadway Design	34	26	960
AMF	31	29	968
M & T	30	30	954
F.H.A.	28	32	948
Traffic Engineering	24	36	940
Coon Hunters	23	37	939
P & R Mapping	19	41	946

High 3-Game Series:

1. Secondary Roads
2. Teachers
3. AMF

High Team Game:

1. Secondary Roads
2. Teachers
3. P & R Mapping & Roadway

High Individual 3-Game Series:

1. Jerry Smith
2. John Sage
3. Paul Christ

High Individual Game:

1. Jerry Smith
2. Darrell Lainhart
3. Brooks Nichols



*Here,
There
and Everywhere*

PORTLAND, ORE. — If you have a yen to be on television, just weave down the street in your automobile in this city. Then a premiere appearance may be arranged by a friendly cop, so that you may see yourself on “drunkovision.” The local police has installed equipment which makes TV tapes of persons arrested on suspicion of drunken driving while the suspect attempts to clutch a pencil, touch his nose and walk a straight line. An overhead microphone picks up every syllable — including the slurs and cusswords — as the suspect repeats the stock phrase: “Theophilus Thistle thrust three thousand thistles through the thick of his thumb.” If the unsuspecting suspect then wants to plead innocent, that’s his business. But just try to say that sentence at your average speed of speaking (before cocktails) and you’ll immediately see what the poor inebriates are up against. It’s an attempt to cut down on the time Portland policemen must spend in court (sometimes as many as half a work shift) testifying in traffic cases.

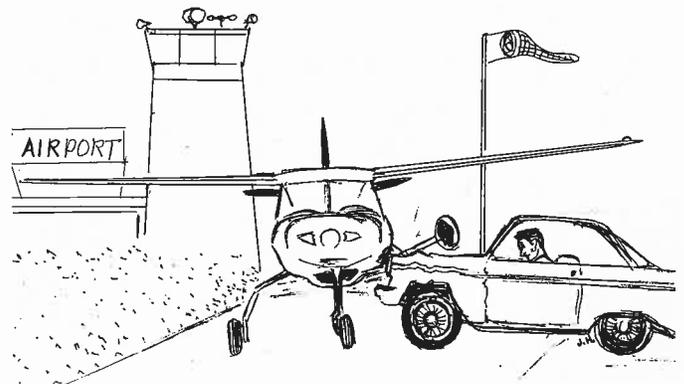
CALIFORNIA — The California Highway Department, which has been fighting a losing battle in trying to keep chain link fences, used as median barriers, repaired faster than motorists crash through them, have given up and decided to replace the fencing with metal beams or concrete. Last year repair bills for fencing in Los Angeles and Orange counties (municipal Los Angeles) alone, reached an astronomical \$650,000!! Twelve 3-man fence repair crews were kept busy full time in those two counties and they still couldn’t patch up the fencing as fast as motorists hit it, “straining” through to cause inevitable head-on collisions which were often fatal. Replacement of fencing with metal beams or concrete has brought about a sharp drop in fatal freeway accidents with head-on accidents.

SEATTLE — During construction of an interstate project the Washington Highway Department stumbled upon a major archeological find, including crude scraping tools, fire hearths and miniature knife blades called microliths, which is between 6,700 and 8,000 years old according to radiocarbon tests. The microliths are the oldest of their type to be found in Washington. The Highway Department has an Archeological Survey team which works closely with the state’s universities in salvaging materials of historical value from construction sites.

WASHINGTON — “FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELT, PLEASE!” That’s the whole vocabulary of a talking seat belt developed by the U. S. Naval Ordnance Laboratory but though it doesn’t say much, it says it often. Designer William T. Fine believes that the device’s relentness chant will force otherwise-uncooperative motorists to buckle up in order to get the seat belt to shut up. He has a patent pending on the mechanism, which is an inexpensive and easily-installed voice box connected electrically to the seat belts. It comes on when the ignition is turned on and repeats its request until all belts in the car are fastened.

PENNSYLVANIA — The Keystone Shortway is not so short. It is a 313-mile long east-west interstate route (I-80) across the state. A 93-mile section of the eastern end is presently having emergency telephones installed each half mile.

NEVADA — Automobile accidents are happening in the most unlikely places these days! Someone drove down the tie-down area at the Reno Municipal Airport during the early morning hours of December 4 and crashed into the Nevada Highway Department’s twin-engined Cessna 310, leaving it badly damaged and perhaps a total loss. The out-of-control car hit two other planes, causing an estimated \$65,000 in damages to the three planes. Uncannily, the driver escaped injury.





The Firehouse Five Plus One — Mrs. Adams, Tullis, Pharris, Chas. Webb, Calvin Webb and Barham.



Secretary Sharon Bailey, prime mover in the luncheon arrangements, reads a Christmas poem.



"Ah-h-h..." Boss John Tallant tries out his Christmas gift for size.

When a Party is a Party!

When District 3 has a party, they don't mean perhaps! Colloquially, they go all out and really "put the big pot in the little one." And a shop, garage actually, isn't the choicest place for a Christmas party, but they made do with what they had. So on Friday, December 20 all movable equipment was cleared out of the shop at the Hope headquarters and by the time tables were built and decorated, benches moved in, a platform built for the band, the Christmas tree decorated and a loudspeaker system set up, the old shop looked quite dressed up. A band comprised of employes and relations of employes at the headquarters, who call themselves the Firehouse Five Plus One, got the party spirit to moving about mid-morning. Members of the group were Mrs. Vernetia Adams, whose husband Thomas is a mechanic at the headquarters; Randy Tullis, son of Mechanic W. C. Tullis; Equip. Supvr. Floyd Pharris; Asst. Maint. Supt. Charles Webb; Calvin Webb, a painter; and Joe Barham, a welder.

A buffet dinner of turkey and all the trimmings, relishes and a sumptuous array of desserts was served to approximately 250 employes and their spouses. All the food was catered except the desserts, which were brought by employes.

After lunch John Tallant, who was spending his first Christmas as district engineer at Hope, acted as emcee of the program that followed. He spoke extemporaneously, saying that he had worked half the night before preparing a speech, only to find that he had lost it. Maint. Supt. Ted Maryman greeted the employes, secretary Sharon Bailey read a Christmas poem and gifts were presented to Tallant, Maryman, Asst. Maint. Supt. Charles Webb and Office Mgr. Sam Huckabee.

Mr. Tallant was presented what Sharon Bailey described as a "nothing gift", because there was nothing much to it. The gift was encased in a small box about



Guess who came to dinner! These . . .



One group enjoying the repast.



And a second group.

the size of a ring box and was so well secured with scotch tape that it seemed momentarily that one of the mechanics would have to assist him with a cutting torch. It turned out to be the lost speech which had been filched from his pocket. There was some suspicion that Mrs. Tallant and their daughter Kay might have aided and abetted the theft. However, John's name isn't Tallant for nothing, for his talent includes quite a flair with wit and word, so he had already delivered quite an entertaining talk without benefit of prepared notes.

And reticent Olive Jackson will probably never live down Mr. Tallant's inferences that a bank where "Miss Olive" worked briefly before coming to the Highway Department had to close down for lack of funds soon after she resigned from their employment. But it was all in fun as a part of the recognition given Miss Jackson who retired December 31 after 35 years as District accountant. She received a fruit bowl in her chosen pattern of china as a farewell gift.

The Highway film was shown as the last part of the program. Immediately afterward the carpenters moved in with wrecking bars, taking down tables and clearing the area of party paraphernalia. The carriage quickly turned into a pumpkin and for the employes, it was right back to work.



District 3 Area Foremen and Job Supts.: Front row, Otis Walden, Job Supt.; Haley Miller, A. F., Nevada Co.; Eldrige Lee, Job Supt.; Ruel Staggs, A. F., Sevier Co.; Clovis Tittle, Dist. Shop Foreman; and John W. Barham, Sign Foreman. Back row: Edgar Andrews, Job Supt.; Jim Ederington, Acting A. F., Miller Co.; W. C. Beck, A. F., Hempstead Co.; Billy Stewart, A. F., Pike Co.; Lige Scott, A. F., Little River Co.; Kermit Glasgow, A. F., Howard Co.; Jodie Waddle, A. F., Lafayette Co.; Doc Greeson, A. F., Miller Co.; and Robert Skinner, Bridge Supt.



... and these ...



... and these, and many more.



1969 got off to a grand start for me — all my teams won their bowl games! How about those Razorbacks, who went to the Sugar Bowl outweighed, and piloted by a slightly-built sophomore quarterback! Bet that sports commentator whom I heard say, “*You just don’t play sophomore quarterbacks in bowl games*” is still masticating that statement. And so we have a great start for the 1969 season. I’m going to start making plans early to attend the Cotton Bowl next New Year’s Day.

One of the nicest events of the 1968 Christmas season to me was getting in on District 3’s Christmas party December 20. It’s a great spirit of togetherness those folks have, and when they have a party, they really have one! I went down to show the movie as a part of the planned program but they made me feel like a V.I.P.

Reporter Sibyl Maddox of Materials and Tests flew to Waterbury, Conn. December 13 to make the acquaintance of a new granddaughter, Ashley Michele, born December 10. She is the daughter of

Sandra (Maddox) and Bill Skyrme. Sibyl was a little apprehensive about flying before making the trip but one jet flight convinced her that it’s the first-class way to travel. Must have been a dull trip though — the plane wasn’t hijacked even once.

Auditor Ed Orsini soaked up some Florida sun at St. Petersburg during Christmas and Nelson Morgan, also of Internal Audit, spent the holidays in Tulsa with his brother and family.

Marilyn Robinson, summer employe in the Director’s office for the last three, came out to the office for a visit on December 31 while holidaying from Bethany (Okla.) Nazarene College. She’s cute and sprightly as ever.

Surely no one must have enjoyed Christmas, 1968 more than John Helgen in Final Estimates, the reason being that his parents came all the way from Mesa, Ariz. to spend the holidays with John and his family.

The mystery Santa Claus who placed gifts for each of the Audit personnel under their tree last year during the dark of night, did it again this year and it’s driving them crazy trying to find out who done it. Of course, their curiosity is about to kill them, but besides that, not knowing who to thank for the gifts is frustrating. Santa, that is sorta mean — after all, two years in a row!

Ann Sutton, Asst. Chair Engr. B. K. Cooper’s secretary, spent her Christmas holidays in New Orleans.

Saw Becky Bleidt, former Traffic Services secretary, in the building one afternoon during the Christmas season. She says she likes San Francisco but gets homesick for Little Rock.

Maint. Supt. Gene Cagle’s birthday was December 5 and about a dozen of us helped him eat cake to celebrate. The cake was one of those with calories that don’t count, naturally.

Asst. Dir. Henry Gray had it ’round and ’round with the flu during the holidays, but after about eight days, he got the best of it and was able to return to work.

Joyce Spencer, the Chief Engineer’s secretary, and a very active member of the American Business Women’s Association, has been elected corresponding secretary of Razorback Chapter.

Seems that every time I go into Nancy Sipe’s office she’s shifted things around. I’m convinced that the only way to get her furniture settled is to nail it to the floor.

Sarah Henry, retired from the Micro-filming Section, paid a brief visit to the Magazine office on January 7. She looked lovely and well.

Leontee Connelly, who is retired from the Office Engineer’s office, and her husband Charlie have both been hospitalized recently. A card from her friends at the Department would be most welcome.



NEW AUDITOR

Robert H. Mayhugh, 5911 Lancaster Road in Little Rock, has been employed as a member of the Internal Audit staff. He is a native of Scott and a graduate of Draughon School of Business in Oklahoma City, Okla. He is married and his wife Carol is a nurse at Arkansas Baptist Medical Center. They have one small son.

Robert is a four-year veteran of the Air Force.

Barbara Oldham in Secondary Roads just took off and drove to Harrisburg, Penna. with a girlfriend in January. She flew back, at least from Washington, D.C. to Little Rock. From Harrisburg to Washington she. "limosined", because of uncooperative weather conditions. Barbara says that after that auto ride, her opinion of limosines is a little tarnished, too.

Henry Hart gave his sixteenth pint of blood on December 12. Sixteen pints doesn't sound like so much, but when you think of it as two GALLONS, that sounds like quite a lot, doesn't it?

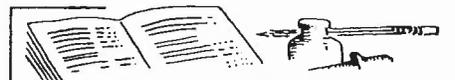
Have you noticed that Johnnie Gray is wearing a dress shirt more often than usual these days? And when he has his arm up before his eyes, he isn't shading them from the sun; he's just making sure you notice his cuff links. They are novel. He made them from the metal end of two spent shotgun shells. He says they are the two shots he took at a turkey which he didn't get during the season.

I made my first trip "back home" to Union Parish, La. in two years during Christmas week and saw ever so many friends and relatives that I hadn't seen in years, and some I had never seen. While there I enjoyed my first serving of quail in a long, long time one morning for brunch. Presidents don't eat any better than that! Someone has said, "You can't go back home," meaning that people and places change while one is away, so that upon returning he finds they aren't as remembered. That's true, but it's a pleasure anyhow for sentimental me.

Recent Accounting retiree Joe Schamer was by the office today, January 17, for a moment and said he'd been so busy since retiring the end of December that he hadn't had time to rest. He and Mrs. S. spent a week in Memphis with their daughter in her lovely new home and Joe's mother, at 83, flew down from Cincinnati and visited with them there, then came home with Mr. and Mrs. Schamer and stayed a week before returning home.



"Wow! What time did you have to get up?"



ACCOUNTING DIVISION

MILDRED HARNESS

On November 25, Mell Jones was given a surprise birthday party. Everyone brought a dish for her birthday dinner. Mell received quite a few gifts and cards. We still don't know her age, yet, but here's hoping she'll have just as many more happy birthdays.

December was birthday month for us. Number one on the list is David Marsh — age??? — December 12. David's cute little mother came up and brought a beautiful sheet cake. Red-faced David greeted her with a big "you shouldn't have done it" and shared the cake with us all. Such a good-hearted boy. Many, Many more, David.

Barbara Pierce was next on the birthday list. She was given a surprise party by some of her friends on December 17, although her birthday was on the 15th. We wanted to make sure it was a surprise. She received many gifts and cards. Hope you make another hundred, dear.

Former employe Diann Pitts and husband Toni, were proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Amy Renee, December 21, at Baptist Medical Center. Bring her to see us soon, Diann.

We wish Ronnie Lemons much success with his new job at Herbert Jones Motors. Jack Keilch presented Ronnie a going-away shirt on his last day, December 20. We sure will miss you, Ronnie.

Our annual Christmas party was also the 20th of December. There was, of course, plenty good food to eat all day long. Along with the food was the exchange of gifts among the employes. Many received unusual and funny gag gifts, especially Jack Keilch. Right, Jack?

Joe Schamer retired December 31 from our lovely division. We will miss him and hope he will drop around and see us once in a while. He says he is going to live it up. Here's hoping he will.

Rose Clingan's brother, A. J. Stinnett, Jr. of Chidester, was badly burned at work at the Camden Manufacturing Company on December 14. A lot of prayers for rapid recovery have been going his way.

Doris Whitson and family spent Christmas with relatives in Tyler, Texas.

Margaret Allen's son John III and family from Houston, Texas, spent Christmas with Margaret and John. John's mother, Mrs. John Allen, Sr. from Hughes, also

joined them for the holidays. Margaret and John gave them all the flu. How about that for a Christmas present? It doesn't pay to go home for dinner.

Pat Koonce and children spent Christmas in Evansville, Ind. with Pat's mother. That's a long drive. We're glad they made it back O.K.

Jim and Irene Hawkins were pleased to have their son Jim and family home for the holidays. Jim is being transferred from Ft. Carson, Colo. to the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Their other son Carroll, who is in the Air Force, has an overseas assignment and will leave for Germany on January 23.

I received a Christmas card and a very sweet note from my little buddy Jay Ehrhorn. She had just gotten the telephone bill which included a call to me from Chicago. Her husband asked her how much conversation it takes to cost \$\$\$\$. Jay said she guesses she'd better write a few lines now and then instead of calling. I sure miss her.

After reading Glenda McIntyre's report in the December issue of Arkansas Highways, I am all for sending her a CARE package. The poor kid will starve on just peanut butter. How about taking a collection for a television, too? Maybe she'll get by O.K. for a while, anyway.



COMPUTER SERVICES

FAÿ SULLIVAN

Our congratulations to Jim Stringer who received his 10-year pin and certificate in November.

Our programming staff has lost the services of three pretty girls. Patricia Green has been employed by Systematus, Inc., Gail Hamm has gone with Arkansas Regional Medical Program, and Nedra Barton left for employment with Ottenheimer. Although we miss them, we wish them the best of luck in their new positions.

Our two employes on maternity leave, Barbara Smith and Carolyn Reddin, had their babies in December. Barbara had a boy and Carolyn a girl. We are happy to report that all are doing well.

We drew names in December for Christmas presents, and had pot luck lunch on December 20. The presents were nice! The food was delicious! and a good time was enjoyed by all!

Rita Hendrix, a former key punch operator, was married December 27. Pat Huddleston and Art Johnson attended the wedding which was held in Mabelvale Methodist Church. Our best wishes go with Rita.

Brenda Jane Haley came to work in the Key Punch Section on November 18. Floyd Pharris, Jr. transferred to our Department from the Accounting Division on December 1, and is working in the Programming Section. Glad to have you with us, Brenda and Floyd.



Brenda Haley, seated, right. With her are four other recent employes in the Key Punch Section. They are Bobbie Jackson, seated, and standing, left to right: Mary Green, Mary Barthel and Pat Harness.



JOHN C. HELGEN

Boss Raymond Jones' daughter Janice and her former roommate at A.S.U., Mrs. Janice Davis of Yellville, paid a visit to our office Friday, November 8, just as we were taking time out for cake and coffee in honor of Judy Lawrence's birthday. Judy is an engineering aide in our office. We all wished her the best of everything and hope she has many, many more. Both Janices are teachers, Miss Jones at the State Hospital where a pilot teaching program has been instituted in the maximum security section which deals with psychotics committed by courts of law. Janice Davis teaches English at Yellville High School. She is the daughter of Ulis Cline, a Maintenance employe in District 9.

Larry Pumphrey is back after a week's vacation spent deer hunting. He said he saw some and fired several times, and it was his own fault that he didn't get one.

Doris High, a typist in our Section, and her husband Robert visited her brother and his family in Duncanville, Tex., a suburb of Dallas, the weekend of November 16. All indications are that a good time was had by all.

Debra Sullivan says the \$50 she won in the football pot from the S.M.U. game on November 16 will surely help out buying gifts, etc. for her forthcoming wedding.

What's all the commotion? What is it that makes people run into walls? What is it that even gets the eye of our supervisor's superior? What is it that makes both men and women who have worked alongside this certain something for more than two years take a second look? And what is it that makes even the girls from across the hall peek in our door with awe? Nothing else but Judy Lawrence came in to work the morning of November 19 with a new hairdo! To say the least, the huge curls on top of her head changed her looks but didn't change her bubbling and energetic personality.

Welcome back to Victor Moody who has been off with a broken hip sustained in an accident while on the way home from work October 18. Vic doesn't recommend this type of vacation for anyone and says he's glad to be back, even on crutches.

Former employe Ronnie Clayton was in for a visit Monday, December 2. He was activated with the 189th Supply Squadron which has been in Japan the past four months. He had lots to tell but was glad to be back home. We are glad he's thinking about coming back to work soon.

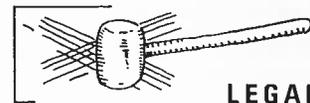
Everyone enjoyed Christmas and Santa remembered all of us in various ways.

The flu "bug" going around has caught up with some of us and we'll all be glad when everyone is well and back with us.

This reporter enjoyed having his folks with him during the holidays. They are living in retirement at Mesa, Ariz. My dad was with the Game and Fish Department in the Black Hills of South Dakota before retiring five years ago.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

A reckless driver drives as if he owned the road. A careful driver drives as if he owned his car.



LEGAL DIVISION

JOYCE PORTER

Congratulations to Virginia Tackett on her appointment as executive secretary to the Group Insurance Committee as of January 1, 1969. She succeeds Joe Schamer who is retiring.

Jackie Gills and her youngest son, Steve came by to see us. She was a secretary in the Title Section a few years back. The Gillses are expecting another addition to their family and by the time you read this, I am sure the new arrival will already be here. Sure was good to see Jackie again.

James Dowell's mother, Mrs. J. N. Dowell, Sr., suffered a heart attack a few weeks ago but is now recuperating at home and doing fine.

Thanksgiving trips — Helen Hackett to Oklahoma City and Hazel Carraro to Pine Bluff, each to visit friends and relatives.

Doris Harper is a brand new grandmother — first time; the lad's name is Larry Keith Jennings, and he was born November 9 at Laughlin Air Force Base in Del Rio, Tex. The proud parents are Sgt. and Mrs. Jimmy D. Jennings.



Larry Keith was christened by Rev. Rufus Womble at the Christ Episcopal Church in Little Rock on December 22. Larry Keith's father was also christened on December 22 as a child and his mother's birthday was December 22, her 22nd.

Condolences are extended to Doris and her family on the death of an uncle, Edmond C. Haynie of Memphis, Tenn. He was the owner of Haynie Print Shop in Memphis.

Billy Pease spent Christmas in Poplar Bluff, Mo. with his mother and other relatives.



Front row: Joyce Porter, Hazel Carraro, W. D. Kelly, Helen Hackett, Tom Keys and Billy Pease. Second row: Hubert Graves, Doris Harper, Ethyl Harrison and Virginia Tackett. Back row: Herman Schmidt, Phil Gowen and Ken Brock.

Our Section had a very nice Christmas Party where we consumed all kinds of good food and exchanged gifts. The office presented Tom Keys an attache case as a gift. Several of our staff were not present because many take annual leave around Christmas.



Christmas delicacies galore.

Annette Youtz's husband Phillip has returned from a tour of several months in Japan with the Air Force. He is with the 154th Rac Recon Squadron which is now stationed at Little Rock Air Force Base. We are very glad to have Phillip and all the boys back home safe and sound.

Herbert Graves is a new attorney in our Section. He is originally from Shreveport, La. and attended college at Arkansas Tech. and law school at the University. He lived in Little Rock for several years and more recently was in private practice at Hazen. He is married and his wife's name is Eileen.

James N. Dowell and wife Helen have just returned from a Christmas vacation in New York. Perhaps he will have many

stories to tell us about New York which I can report on in the next issue.

Herman Schmidt, I believe, is the only deer hunter from Legal, and since he didn't bring us any deer steaks, I assume he didn't get one. Better luck next time!

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS: Billy Pease on December 27 and Ethyl Harrison coming up on February 20.

Christmas at my house is always a mad rush to see who can get the presents opened the fastest and scatter the most paper around the room, but this year Kerry and Melaina were most interested in the gift of a black puppy who has been named Rusty.

There has been a new addition to our family, too. I am the brand new aunt of little Jerry Wayne Porter, Jr., born November 25 in Conway Memorial Hospital.



Baby Wayne weighed 8 lbs. 9 ozs.! His parents live in Little Rock. The proud grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Loy Porter of Jerusalem, Ark. and Mr. and Mrs. Claudus Bryant of Belleville, Ark. Mr. Bryant is an A.H.D. employe of the Signs and Stripes Section of Traffic Services Division.

Maint. Engr. Jim Lowder attended the AASHO Convention in Minneapolis, Minn. and brought home a souvenir, the flu bug, which turned into pneumonia. He was home for a week but has returned in tip-top shape.

There were several who spent Christmas away from home with relatives, friends and, of course, old Tom Turkey. Now comes the time for dieting and more dieting. But it sure did taste good, didn't it?

Some of the guys from the Radio Shop went deer hunting (four-legged kind) and some were lucky enough to bring home a full set of horns.

Ben Hogan of Roadside Development has resigned to take employment with the Bob Hardy Construction Company of Pine Bluff. But Ben will remain in Little Rock, so maybe he will come back and see us. A party was given in the Maintenance office in his honor and many friends attended enjoying cake and punch and bidding him farewell. The gift given him by his fellow workers was a beautiful attache case. Many of us will miss his usually-smiling face and we all send along our best wishes.

Stepping up to fill the vacancy left by Ben will be Bryan Davis. Congratulations, Bryan, we know you have a great challenge before you trying to fill Ben's shoes, especially since they are a size 12!

Jimmy Farnam of the Maintenance office was honored with a cake on her birthday and it was quietly celebrated as so many were on vacation about then. Jimmy says "Thanks" and we wish her many happy returns.

Madge Livingston and her husband Carl had a house guest during the holiday season. Besides Richard who was home from school, they brought a little 9-year-old girl from the Children's Colony at Conway so that she might enjoy an even merrier Christmas. It was a very rewarding feeling, we're sure. Carl was in bed with the flu for a week but is now back spinning those discs for station KMYO.

Gerald Sisk recently received a wire from the government informing him that his son Pfc. Tommy Sisk was wounded in action and is now recuperating in a hospital. The wire assured them that it was not a serious injury.

Well, now that the hectic preparations of the holiday season have ceased, the decorations have come down and the New Year's Eve partying has all become a thing of the past, leaving us with such wonderful memories of times enjoyed with friends and relatives, we are all looking to a better, more prosperous and Happy New Year.



MATERIALS & TESTS

SIBYL MADDOX

Congratulations are in order for Troy Laha, area engineer, and Robert Bracknell, M & T inspector at El Dorado. They recently received 5-year service pins and certificates.

Congratulations of a different nature are also in order for Robert and his wife. A little daughter who has been named Trecina Kay was born to them November 28 - Thanksgiving Day. *How about that!*

Maurice Tillery has a new "boss" at his house, a darling little Boston bull puppy whose official name is Sir Cedric but I think he is being called Snoopy. Tillery has been down in the dumps because he had to have his other dog, with the unusual name of Lamboli, put to sleep. We hope Snoopy will cheer up the Tillery family. At any rate, he is probably keeping them busy taking care of the usual puppy problems.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Williams are the proud parents of a handsome son and

namesake who was born November 23. The Williamses also have a daughter.

We are very sorry to learn that Grady Putman's father is hospitalized at Mena, suffering from a stroke.

We enjoyed our annual Christmas buffet. Seems like only yesterday since last Christmas. *Come see us, O.K.?*



PLANNING AND RESEARCH

P & R STAFF

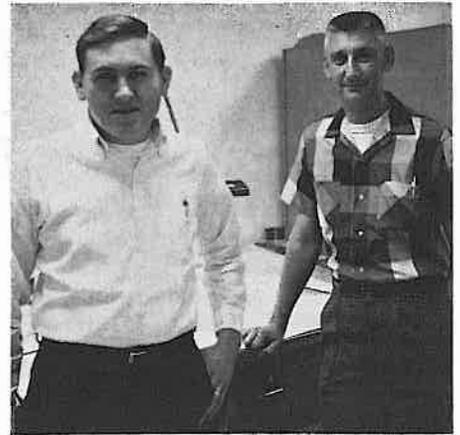
Jim Carvell, Sr., became a grandfather again to another little boy on November 3. Jim brought his new grandson's picture around about three weeks later for everyone's approval. *Jim, he looks like a little angel.*

Lane Apple, June Brown and Charlie Rains took a driving course along Lake Maumelle and on toward Benton. It seems that Lane had all kinds of reaction, while Charlie had none at all, except when someone pinched him.

Sara Read was operated on November 11 and is doing fine. We are all glad everything is all right again.

Martha Cushing quit this month for employment as a Post Office clerk. Best of luck on your new job, Martha, and come out to visit us when you can.

(Continued next column)



William Harrod, left, and Richard Arndt

We are happy to welcome our new engineering aide William Joe Harrod who transferred to our Division from Surveys. He is working in the Traffic Engineering Section. We are also glad to have with us Richard Arndt who went to work as a Cartographer I in the Mapping and Drafting Section. Richard has recently retired from the Army after having served 20 years. Richard was a staff sergeant when he retired, *and only 37 years old.*

Edith Garland, a former employe in our front office, came out for a few minutes to show off her new son Kevin, who is just a little doll. Mark, who is getting to be quite a young man now, came along to help his mother and baby brother. It was sure a pleasure to see them again and hope they come out often.



We have four new employes in the Basic Lab, operating testing machines. Harold Middlebrooks, left, is from Little Rock and a newlywed as of January 10. Lynn Wilmoth, second from left, is from Perryville and attended Arkansas Tech at

Russellville. He is married and has four boys ages 5, 3, 2 and nine months. Ralph Shelnut is single and lives in Benton. He attended Henderson State College at Arkadelphia and is a Navy Reservist. Marvin Harrington, right, is from Greenbrier.



L. R. Jester presents award to Lee Gibbons

Lee Gibbons received a 15-year service certificate on November 25. He was also honored with three cakes for this occasion. *Congratulations, Lee!*

We had two birthdays this month - Ed Johnson's on November 7 and Neb Bingham's on November 12. Both were treated to cakes and cookies, which some of the girls in their section baked.

Lane Apple, who has been with us just a short time, will be leaving December 4. She will enter the realm of wedded bliss on December 6 in Hampton, Ark. We all wish Lane much success and happiness and hope she will come back to see us from time to time.

We also welcome a third new employe, W. C. Goff, who is working in our Data Collection Section as a Traffic Counter I. Since Mr. Goff works out in the field, we haven't had a chance to get his picture yet.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Ken Bynum in the death of his father and to the Bartleson family in the death of Bart, whom we all loved very much.

Ed Johnson, head of the Field Data Collection Section, was transferred to the Right-of-Way Division this month. We hope he likes his new position and comes over to see us often. *We'll miss you, Ed.*

Janice Meeks and her fiance Paul enjoyed a recent outing to Petit Jean Mountain, including a test of their sure-footedness while walking a footlog across the creek to the waterfall. Janice, did he really call you clumsy?

Libby and Doyne Brockinton celebrated their wedding anniversary by going out to dinner, always a real treat for a working girl.

All the P & R Staff hope everyone had a nice Christmas holiday.



Jim Gilbert

James (Jim) Lynn Gilbert is a new employe in our Economics Section. We're glad to have you with us, Jim.

Adelia Lewis started on a trip to New Orleans with some of her friends one weekend, but they encountered so much trouble on the way, they turned around and came back home.

Our Section had their usual Christmas party at Tia-Wanna December 6. It sounded like everyone had a wonderful time dining and dancing.

What a Christmas present for Dick and Barbara Arndt, a baby girl, weighing 7 lbs. 10 ozs. She was a little early for Christmas, but both parents liked the idea. Dick says she is just what they wanted and he passed out cigars for the men and candy for the ladies. Congratulations, Dick, to you and the family.

Dodson Leonard was absent for a few days early in the month suffering from a stomach disorder. While looking over Dodson's medical record, his doctor noticed that Dodson had been treated in a hospital about four years ago for a stomach ulcer. When he told the doctor that he had gotten married since then, the doctor asked, "Do you think that could have caused the disorder to return?". (Marjarine, skip that last line.)



Dana and Douglas Head

Isn't this about the cutest! Seated above are Jim Head's children, Dana, 5 years old, and Douglas, 1 year old. They sure are cute, Jim.

Peggy McFarlin came back to work with us December 16. We knew she couldn't stay away too long. Glad to have you back, Peggy.

Billie Whiteside came out for a little while December 19 to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. It was nice seeing you again, Billie, and come back soon.

We were sorry to lose C. E. Bratcher who retired January 1. He worked in the field in the Current Planning Section.

We received a letter from Paul Edwards, an employe in the Mapping Section until he was drafted into the Army. He states he only has two more months to go until he returns home. Paul plans on returning to work here as soon as he gets out.



"Help yourself!"

The P & R Division had their annual Christmas luncheon December 23. Ham and all the trimmings were served. Research



Engineer Wilbert Chapman received his 10-year service certificate. Congratulations, Wilbert.

Everyone in P & R misses Ruby Crouse who transferred from our Division to the Accounting Division January 1. Come and visit us when you can, Ruby.

Bob Faulkner and his wife Alta went to Texas so he could take an oral examination preparatory to graduation January 18 with master's degree in Civil Engineering. We are all happy for you, Bob, so keep up the good work.

Two other new employes are Jimmy Clark and Carl Polston who will be working as fieldmen.

Mayo White's son Larry, who was injured while in Vietnam, is doing fine. Everyone is pleased to hear this good news.

Cecil Rider's infant grandson underwent heart surgery January 3 at Baptist Medical Center and is much improved. The parents are Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Rider of Conway. Everyone has been much concerned over this little baby who is only slightly over a month old. We're so glad to hear that he is doing better.

Another new employe is Harold Eugene Harrison who is working as a fieldman in the Current Planning Section. He previously worked as a dispatcher for the Little Rock Police Dept. for 20 years. Harold is married and has one child.



RIGHT OF WAY

THE STAFF

ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION



Ann Rackley

Welcome to our new employe Ann Rackley, who began employment December 16 as a file clerk. She is 20 and married. Mena is her home town, but she has lived in Russellville for the past two years where she attended Arkansas Tech. Her husband Larry is employed at Armstrong Tire Company.

Linda Young left us in November to be married. The lucky guy is Todd Witherington. We wish them much happiness.

Kay and Doyle Jones went to New Orleans New Year's Day to the Sugar Bowl. Kay said the game was great but the weather was too cold to really enjoy it.

Our Division had a very successful Christmas party December 23. The refreshments were delicious and the gifts hilarious.

Richard Andry's son Ricky was home from State College of Arkansas at Conway for the holidays.

Retha Griffin enjoyed having her son Terry home for the holidays. He is a senior at Henderson State College in Arkadelphia.

APPRAISAL SECTION

Christmas time this year has really been a busy time for the Appraisal Section. Appraiser Kenneth McMurrrough and Dee Turnage of Hope were married December 6 in the Chapel of First United Methodist Church in Hope. The Rev. Everett Vinson officiated. The bride was given in marriage by Tommy Montgomery, and Mrs. Tommy Montgomery served

her mother as matron of honor. Joe McMurrrough was the best man for his father.



Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McMurrrough

After a wedding trip to New Orleans, Mr. and Mrs. McMurrrough are at home at 322 North Elm in Hope.



Herbert Hooten, left, Chief of Appraisal, presented Ken a combination can opener-ice crusher from his co-workers in the Section.

Herbert Hooten's son Mike was married to the former Laura Ann Scott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Daniel Scott the evening of December 28. The wedding was solemnized at seven o'clock at the Central Baptist Church Chapel in Magnolia, Ark. After a honeymoon Mike and Laura are at home in Magnolia where Mike is attending Southern State College. Our Section gave them a teflon-coated waffle iron as a wedding gift. We wish our newly-weds a lifetime of happiness.

Ina Dunn has resigned from the Appraisal Section to await the stork. On December 26 Z. L. Mashburn presented

her a vaporizer and humidifier from her co-workers and refreshments were served afterward. We wish Ina a lot of happiness in the role she will undertake as a new mother.

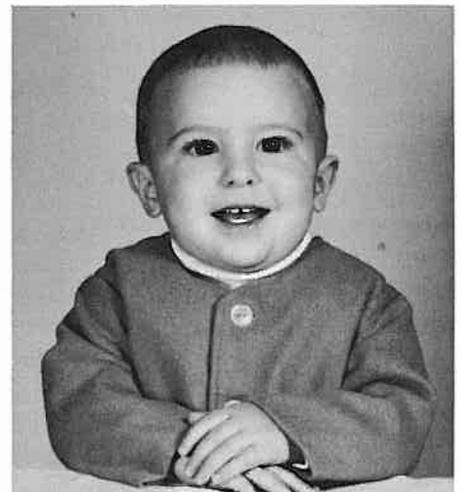


Ina receives gift from Z. L. Mashburn.

On December 23 we had a small Christmas party in our Section, with gifts being exchanged among us. Charles Scott presented Chief Herbert Hooten with a gift from the Section. Refreshments were served after everyone had opened their gifts. We were really proud of our tree this year; it was the prettiest we have ever had. Sue Boyett, Jean Barrett, and Ina Dunn were the decorators.



Herbert Hooten, left, receives his Christmas gift from Charles Scott.



Looking for all the world like a graduate of a kindergarten charm school is James Addison Bemis. He is the 18-month-old grandson of Charles and Allena Scott.

ENGINEERING SECTION

We have some sad news; Shirley Childress, who has been with the Engineering Section for seven years resigned December 13 to become a full-time housewife. It was a hard decision for Shirley to make; she had grown attached to this place. The Division gave her a farewell party and Asst. Chief of Right of Way Don Martin presented her an all-weather coat from all of us. Our own Section gave her an automatic toothbrush, which she had been hoping to get for Christmas. Cake, cokes and coffee were served and everyone came to wish Shirley good-bye and good luck. Shirley's husband Andrew managed to get to the party, although he had been deer hunting all week. We in the Engineering Section are really going to miss Shirley! *(We regret the loss of a good reporter, too. Happy housework! Ed.)*



An expression of affection from fellow employees is presented to Shirley by Don Martin while Bud Witter, Kay Jones, Ellen Gross, Donna Barbee (seated), Carolyn West, Ina Dunn and Carol Halbert look on.

To get into the holiday spirit we took on a Christmas project, an 8-year-old named Jerry. The State Welfare Department gave us his name, together with a list of the toys Jerry wanted most. Everyone entered into the project with much enthusiasm so that Jerry received everything he had asked Santa for, plus much more, as you can see. We had hoped to see Jerry open his gifts, but it wasn't possible since he is living with foster parents. Making a little boy happy during this joyous season put more meaning into Christmas for all of us.



Jerry's presents.

Neil and Nola Gibbs took a short trip to his mother's in Michigan in order for her to make the acquaintance of her grandson Richard, who is now 16 months old.

Luckily most of us have so far escaped the Hong Kong flu bug. Bob Evans and Carl Keehn, however, were not so fortunate. Bob is back to work, but Carl is still home recuperating.

We all had a Merry Christmas and we wish everyone a Happy New Year!

UTILITIES SECTION

On Friday afternoon, November 8, our gang really pulled a sneaky on Marvin "Buddy" Cazer by surprising him with a small party in recognition of five years of service. Buddy is the type of guy who very seldom ever expresses any emotion, but I do believe our surprise got to him.



Our boss, B. A. Van Patten presented Buddy his 5-year certificate and Carolyn Halbert is shown attaching his pin.



J. W. Blanks

The latest addition to our gang is J. W. "Bill" Blanks. He comes to us with many years of experience, having worked for the Public Service Commission for 12 years. Bill started work on November 18. He and his wife Frances have one son, John, 8. They reside at 1800 South Buchanan.

December is a month for fun and festivities and everyone was in a jolly mood, anticipating the arrival of "good ole St. Nick".

Our excitement started with decorating the office. To begin with we put all our brilliant heads together and came up with a very original idea for the door. We had the usual cedar tree and re-used a miniature set of utility poles on the wall, which we used last year.

December 3 was B. A. Van Patten's XL1st birthday and what a day it turned out to be! Our humorist-artist Carl Petz made a poster honoring the occasion. Everyone seemed to agree that the picture Carl drew of Van was a true likeness. Van must have thought so, too, because Carl is still employed. Van was a very good sport about all the teasing (!!???) he had to endure throughout the day. All of us hard-working employees thoroughly enjoyed the devil's food cake Mrs. Van Patten brought out in the afternoon.

Several members of our Section took vacations and traveled to various places for the holidays.

B. A. Van Patten and family spent most of their vacation visiting Mrs. Van Patten's aunt in Weatherford, Tex.; Carolyn Halbert spent her holidays in Pratts-ville visiting her parents; Frank Wiggins and family went to Arkadelphia; Jim and Wynona Bartlett visited his father in Appleton; Shelia Wetherington went home to Arkadelphia; Sue Witherington went to Hamburg; Doug Thacker, James Burge, Bill Blanks all spent Christmas at home in Little Rock, and Carl Petz stayed at home in Benton.

As of this writing Buddy Cazer has not returned from his vacation and George Ivey, who spent most of the holiday season hospitalized with the flu, is still out. We hope that he will be back with us soon.

From all visible accounts, Santa must have been very good to our gang because we noticed that Van has been wearing a new tie, Doug has a new shirt, Frank has a new coat, Bill has a new pair of shoes, Carolyn has a new haircut, Carl received a new pair of legs, Sheila has a new apartment, Jim has a new bottle of cough syrup, Sue has a cold, and James told us he got some new unmentionables.

The young bride needed some advice, so she told her neighbor: "My husband's gone to shoot dice and I'm worried. I don't know how to cook them."



ROADWAY DESIGN
VIRGINIA NEIGHBORS

Our annual Christmas Party was held at Tia-wanna the night of December 17. The evening was very enjoyable, the food delicious and the attendance good. Then on December 23, we had Christmas cookies, coffee, nuts and punch at the office.

The Travis Orton squad had a Christmas dinner at Brownings the 19th of December.



Fred's first!

Fred Pulliam's first grandchild, Lisa Joan Menezes, was born October 1, 1968. That's proud Mom, Roxie holding her.

One of the nicest things about the holidays is the visits from our friends who have retired. Among those were John Hicks, who just recently retired and Eddie Williams, who used to work in Bridge Design. It was surely nice to see them both and we hope they'll stop by again real soon.

Mrs. M. Narrell, Bob's mother, fell and broke her collarbone and wrist. She is still undergoing treatment at St. Vincent's at this writing, but we wish her a speedy recovery and hope she'll soon be up and about.

The Pat Thompsons spent the Christmas holidays in Oklahoma visiting their relatives.

Chester and Ruth Siesicki also vacationed the week of Christmas to go to New York and Connecticut to wish all a Merry Christmas.

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish all our friends and ex-coworkers who have retired or resigned the very best wishes for a happy holiday. *Come see us sometime!*



**RECORDS
& REPRODUCTION**

DOROTHY LEHMAN

Since this reporter transferred from Personnel to the Microfilm portion of this Section, there have been many gratifying experiences. And there's been much news, but like New Year's resolutions, we just didn't seem to get around to setting it down.

Dipping back into 1968, a few items of interest included a surprise birthday luncheon for Lucille Huffstutlar and me in November, and the celebration of Henry Vopel's birthday on November 3 as noted in "Around the Department" of the December issue. And then, there was our Christmas party. We had an assortment of delicious food and lots of fun, with gifts being exchanged. Visitors present at the party were Mr. and Mrs. Gip Robertson, Sr., Mrs. Robertson, Jr., and Mrs. Vopel.

Patsy Roling's son Roy paid a visit to our Section during the holidays. They spent a fairly quiet Christmas like most of us.

Jerry Heffington moved into a new apartment during the holidays. Incidentally, Jerry has artistic talent that many of us didn't realize. Some of his sketches have appeared in the magazine and not long ago he brought out some lovely oil paintings for us to see.

Several of our folks or their relatives have been on the not-so-good list, including Al Dunn's older daughter Phyllis who had a tonsillectomy; Wanda Hendrickson who had a short bout with the flu; Mr. Vopel's mother-in-law, Mrs. Edith Andrews, who has been in Baptist Medical Center; Lucille Huffstutlar's sister-in-law, Mary Huffstutlar, who was seriously ill for a time in St. Vincent's Infirmary; and Rachael Simmons' husband June who is in Baptist Medical Center at this writing with an undiagnosed illness, a part of which was rabbit fever.

Lucille's granddaughter Frances was a January visitor to the Department and was quite impressed with our lovely building.

Fred Simmons was at home for the holidays with his parents. He will graduate from the University at the close of the fall semester, then enter the National Guard and work at a hospital for six months. He plans to enter medical school at the University of Arkansas Medical

Center in Little Rock when he finishes the National Guard tour of duty.

Jimmy Clements bought himself a nice Christmas present, a cartridge tape stereo. He will be leaving us the last of January to enroll at Henderson College in Arkadelphia. We will miss him but we are happy he has decided to continue his education.



Ted DeVice

Everyone's glad to see Ted DeVice back in Reproduction after service with the National Guard. He married recently and brought his bride back to Little Rock. She is now working at National Investors Insurance Company downtown.

Peg and I flew to Texas for a wonderful holiday visit with my mother, son Charles and my sister. Ron held down the fort here for us as he was working through holidays. He returned to Arkansas State University at Jonesboro. It was surely good to be with our family in Waco. Charles is now studying for his master's degree in psychology at Baylor University.

We are happy to introduce a new Microfilm employe, Penny Kathleen Mason who graduated from McClellan High School last year. She is married and her husband is a barber at Lakewood House.



Penny Kathleen Mason



Debbie Escarre is the oldest of Pete and Betty's three cute girls. She is a second grader at Perrin Elementary School in Benton.



This winsome little lady is Donna Michele, four years old on December 6, and the daughter of Guy and Diane Howard.



HELENA BRIDGE

GEORGE CLOUD

It's New Year's Day and if today is any indication of what the year will be like, it should be a good one. It's cold, clear and quiet around here.

We welcome Jerry Acoach back into the fold. He has been off a few months but is back to help during leave time of the regulars. He made it clear that he *wouldn't* be available today, as he had tickets to the Sugar Bowl. Can't say that we blame him.

Edgar Bounds is back at work today after a few days off with broken ribs. Don't envy him one bit.

Archie (*boss*) Jones took annual leave during December and visited relatives in Russellville. The Harry Dnivants flew to California for a Christmas vacation, then Harry went right on into sick leave with the flu. The Henry Sewalls went to New Orleans, so now maybe they will believe what I told them about my September trip there.

The Mississippi deer season is open now and my wife called this morning to say that our 13-year old, Stephen, had killed a seven pointer. Ed Rounds said that his 13-year old, Ed, Jr., killed one yesterday. If Ed and I don't come up with one, we will eat crow for awhile.

We recently had a family-night dinner. Coon had been planned for the main dish, but the ladies (*as we should have known they would*) brought turkey and chicken, so everything turned out alright.

Must take this opportunity to compliment the magazine staff on the very attractive covers (as well as the contents) recently. They seem to outdo themselves on each successive issue. Our copies came Christmas eve and while we were already *Ohhing and Ahhing* at the feats of Apollo Eight and her crew, we added a few *Ohhs and Ahhs* at the sight of the magazine.

This may seem a little late by the time you read it but we wish the very best for each of you in '69.

Editorial Note

In case you find any mistakes in this magazine, please remember they were put there for a purpose. We try to offer something for everyone in this magazine. Some people are always looking for mistakes.



DISTRICT



LESLIE LONG

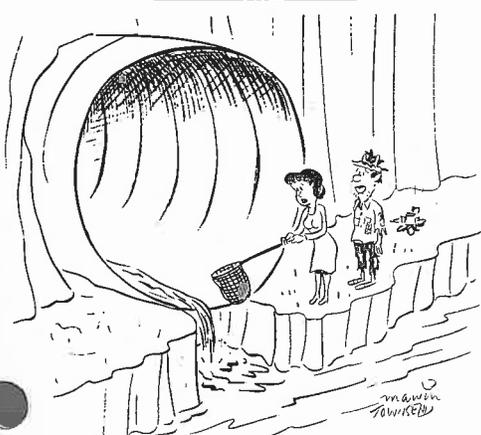
New Year's Resolution — To make every effort to get back on the news media. Some of our news is old news by now, but deserves mention. My vacation trip to Denver was too much. I haven't been the same since. We were guests at the Brown Palace Hotel. It is truly the only one of its kind. There were so many interesting places to go and things to see, just couldn't take it all in in such a short while. We toured the Denver mint . . . spent an afternoon at Elitch Gardens . . . (Forest Tucker was making personal appearance at the old theater) . . . shopped at the fabulous Daniel Fisher's and took the drive up Platt Canyon, which is breathtaking. We spent one day visiting in Colorado Springs and took the cable car up to Pikes Peak. (It snowed while we were there — the latter part of August.)

Two District 2 employees retired in September. Elbert J. Anderson had been with the Department for some 18 years. He started out as a laborer in the Jefferson County crew and progressed to crew leader, the job he was performing at time of retirement. Robert Rinehart had been with the Department for 22 years. He also started as a laborer and had filled various positions including patrol operator, truck driver and roller operator. The employees at Jefferson County headquarters honored Anderson and Rinehart and presented them wrist watches. We hope their retirement will bring much happiness and the fulfillment of many hopes and plans.

Desha County news, both new and old. Thanks very much for your items. Larry Hutchison and wife are proud parents of a son born September 29 at Dermott hospital. Larry is a mower operator and had the good luck of finding a \$5.00 bill while mowing one Saturday.

James W. Thorn and wife took a week's vacation and visited their daughter in Hickman, Ky. They report a very interesting and enjoyable trip. James is an asphalt raker with the Desha County crew.

Even tho' deer season is over and mostly forgotten Desha County Area Foreman John Hughes turned in an item of interest; he has killed a deer every season for the past five years but came near to spoiling his record this year. On the last day of the season he killed a nine-pointer. And Johnny Yelvington, a truck driver with the Desha County Crew killed



"How many karat diamond was it?"

a six-pointer, and since it was his first, he had the horns mounted.

I took a chartered bus trip to the Sugar Bowl game. Boy, wasn't that a wonderful game? Didn't have time to do much sight-seeing except at the Greyhound Bus Station, all equipped with cocktail lounge, cafeteria and other modern conveniences.

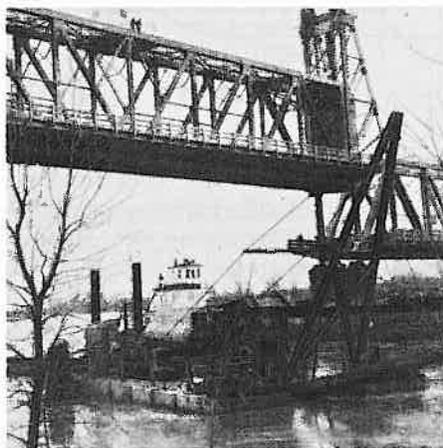


Mr. Harris presented Selma Chavis, Sarg's assistant, with a 15-year pin and service award.



At the same time he presented Earl Appling, our station attendant, his 5-year pin and award.

Other pins and awards earned that I have record of include a 25-year one presented to Res. Engr. George Karnes by the Highway Commission at Little Rock. Recipients of 15-year pins and awards are Res. Engr. L. K. Howell of DeWitt and Pine Bluff; John Hughes, area foreman of Desha County; Lee Cox, mechanic at the District shop; Jim F. Carter, truck driver with the Monticello asphalt crew, and Curtis C. Rawls, tractor operator with the Cleveland County crew. James F. Burks, distributor driver with the Sealing Crew received his 20-year pin. Willie F. Key, District shop laborer, received a 10-year pin and Doyle E. Martin, truck driver in Chicot County received a 5-year award. Congratulations for all these fine services and awards.



The first commercial shipment on the Arkansas River since the waterway was officially opened to navigation chugged under the U.S. 79 bridge at Pine Bluff on January 2, 1969.



DISTRICT



SHARON BAILEY

Knowing so many of our fellows used their vacations for deer hunting, I can't imagine why I haven't received any pictures of the deer that were bagged. Could it be that you all were hunting the two-legged kind and just couldn't get permission to take pictures? You may enjoy hearing of some recent events that happened while deer hunting.

When the season opened George Ed Reed, a mower operator in Little River County, already knew where his big buck was, because he had been seeing him in the same spot all year long. Sunday evening before the season opened he worked hard cleaning his gun and loading it. Second thoughts about a loaded gun in the house with children prompted him to unload it. Monday morning he left home bright and early and drove to the spot where he last saw the deer. He parked his truck and walked about a quarter-mile through tall grass, and sure enough, there he was! George slowly raised the gun, took careful aim, pulled the trigger — dead silence. You guessed it — he had forgotten to reload the gun. By the time he got it loaded, the deer, of course, was gone. That must have been the disappointment of the year for him. If it's any comfort to you, there's always next year, George.

And, then, Curtis Crow, a patrol operator in Little River County, shot five times at a big buck that came right in front of

him but that deer just kept running. Does anyone teach marksmanship? If so, Curtis may be interested in a few lessons.

Yet another story I heard was that one of our employes (I don't know who) was hunting with a group of men, one of whom got two deer with one shot from a 30.06 rifle! That's either good luck or good shooting, or both.



James Tittle, right, son of Shop Foreman Clovis Tittle, and an unidentified friend came home from a hunt with this bobcat. He even looks vicious dead.



The little doll above is Karen Duffie, 6-months-old granddaughter of Clovis Tittle. We announced her birth earlier but didn't get a picture until her last visit with Grandpa.

On Friday, December 20 we had a District-wide Christmas luncheon with approximately 250 attending. Our guests from the Little Rock office were Leon Sneed, Mack McCauley and Mary Day Herndon, who was nice enough to take pictures and show us the Highway film. There were quite a few wives present but I just didn't get around to meeting all of them. However, I hope they enjoyed visiting our headquarters. We were happy to have them here and hope that we can have another get-together soon. Gifts were

given out, with Ted Maryman getting a sporty dress jacket; Charles Webb, a jacket; and Sam Huckabee, our office manager, a nice shirt. Boss John Tallant received a rocking chair, not that he is old enough to need one. It was just that we thought it would look nice by his fireplace.



Steven Skinner

Steven Skinner, son of Job Supt. Robert and Margaret Skinner, is an honor student at Hope Junior High, where he is a 7th grade honor student. He is a member of Shover Springs 4-H Club and raises swine for his project. He also likes music and plays rhythm guitar with a combo called The Sanctions 4. We always enjoy having Steven come by to see us, which isn't often enough.

Congratulations are in order for Robert Skinner, who has just completed 15 years with the Department.

Our Christmas luncheon was also in honor of Bookkeeper Olive Jackson, who retired December 31 after 35 years with the Department. Her last working day was the 17th of December and this place just isn't the same without her sitting at her desk. We do hope that she is enjoying retirement and with her the very best in the years to come.

FOR SALE

**1965 BUICK SKYLARK
CONVERTIBLE**

Black with red interior. V-8, automatic transmission, power steering, bucket seats. Make Offer!

Kay Weitzel, Magazine Section
LOcust 9-2230



DISTRICT



BURNHAM and CAMPBELL

Happy New Year to all! This may be a late greeting — but it is December, 1968 at this time, and uppermost in our thoughts.

Arlene Davis, District storekeeper, received a 10-year service award in December. Two 5-year awards were also presented, one to Engr. Aide IIB Glyn Hearnberger at El Dorado, and one to Jesse T. Files, truck driver in Dallas County. *Congratulations!*

Inspector Buddy Beard at Camden has a 1969 red and white Pontiac Grand Prix — *a beaut!*

Deer hunters who reported success in the woods include Dist. Engr. Coy Campbell, Engr. Aide II John Livingston, Accountant II Larry Hollis, Truck Driver J. Z. Pipes from Bradley County, and Patrol Operator V. L. Rhodes from Bradley County. We are quite happy for all of them.

November 19, 1968 brought bad news and deep concern to all of us. Dist. Engr. Coy Campbell and Maint. Supt. G. E. Nunnally were in an automobile accident near McNeil in Columbia County. Both spent some time in the hospital and a period of convalescence at home. We are very happy at this writing to have them both back in the office — though not very active — but improving each day and well on the road back to good health.

During their absence Assistant Construction Engineers J. C. Perkins and Don Cahoon of the central headquarters at Little Rock came to help us. We appreciated the help and enjoyed their company.

Everyone was quite busy and things were really stirring around here a couple of weeks before Christmas; fancy candles, attractive Christmas arrangements and, of course, the traditional kissing ball and Christmas tree. Our new offices have never looked so lovely. There was even a small tree in the Parts Room decorated with colorful parts and wires!

Our party was held Friday evening, December 20, and included all office employees, area foremen, resident engineers and their spouses. A Christmas dinner with all the trimmings was prepared and enjoyed, with accompanying Christmas music and gifts exchanged. It was so nice to meet the wives and husbands of ones we come in contact with daily, and to

learn the capabilities and ingenuity of the girls in the office. Everything was lovely!



Christmas parties are no new innovation at District 7. Included in this photo made at the Yule party of 1954 are Linda Nichols, fuel clerk, (left); Sula Burnham, bookkeeper, (center); and Mildred Silcox, secretary to the District Engineer and payroll clerk. Linda now resides in Little Rock where her husband Brooks is the Engineer of Roadway Design. Sula and Mildred are still in the Camden office. Mildred, however, has had both a name and title change in the meantime. She is now Mrs. John Russ, the equipment clerk.



Sp. 5 Travis L. Kitchens, left, and Sp. 5 Terry M. Kitchens are the sons of E. C. Kitchens, a truck driver in Bradley County. Travis returned home November 27 after a year in Vietnam where he was a heavy equipment inspector. Terry went to Korea in May for a 13-month tour of duty.



DISTRICT



SHIRLEY MORTON

During the Grand Chapter meeting of Order of Eastern Star at Little Rock in December, Job Supt. Jeff Davis and his wife Bea were among 11 members honored at a special banquet at Hotel Marion. Jeff, a Past Grand Patron was a guest speaker at the banquet attended by all members of O.E.S. Bea is a Past Grand Chaplain of O.E.S. of Arkansas.



Jeff Davis



Bea Davis

Congratulations to Charley Clarence Edwards, Fayetteville Residency employe, who received his 15-year service award in December.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Pharis who are the proud parents of a fine 7-pound, 8-ounce boy, Gregory Jackson, who was born on November 22. The Pharis family lives in Carroll County.

During the past deer seasons, many of our employes tried their luck. Those reporting were: Charles Howard, Carroll County, who bagged a 6-point buck and James Roy Fultz, Newton County, an 8-point buck.



Calvin Rushing with a fine buck he killed while hunting in Colorado.

Dwight Cantrell, Bill Hawkins and Raymond Holland, retired employes of District 9, came by the office to visit with us recently. We are always happy when our retired friends stop by for a chat and we welcome a visit from any of them at any time.

Clell Deakins has a new Ford pickup which he describes as "butterscotch" and white!



DISTRICT



ISABELLE PSALMONDS

Most of the news we have is old news but we want to talk about it anyway.

Of course, many of the men went deer hunting. We don't know whether any of them got one or not but Wayne Tritch, 14-year-old son of Job Supt. James Tritch, got an eight-point buck while rabbit hunting! That story even made the local paper! Wayne appeared to take the whole thing in stride as nothing particularly unusual to get excited about, but Papa Jim was pretty proud.



Wayne Tritch

Engrng. Aide I Fred Berry of Jonesboro retired November 29. He lives in Marked Tree and had been with the Department since September, 1961. We wish for him many happy years of retirement.

George "Dud" Brady, patrol operator in Lawrence County, went to Little Rock to see the Razorbacks play S.M.U. Lucky people! Oh well, we got to see them beat Georgia on New Year's Day — via T.V. that is, and enjoyed the game.

Since Dist. Engr. Sam Smith came to District 10 in July, 1965 I have been his secretary, and in all that time I have never seen him at a loss for words — that is, not until the morning of November 20, 1968, when Asst. Chief Engr. Bill Moore and Maint. Engr. J. E. Lowder made a special trip to Paragould to present him a 15-year service award and pin. Mrs. Smith, the office personnel, resident engineers, job superintendents and area foremen were all present and we had a special cake and coffee for the occasion. When Sam walked in and saw all this, he was speechless — but not for long. Bill Moore said a lot of nice things about him and we all agreed. Congratulations, Sam!



Bill Moore presents Dist. Engr. Sam Smith his 15-year certificate.



Sam and Mrs. Smith prepare to cut the cake while Darrell Holder, John Sanders, Bill Moore and Jim Lowder watch.

Congratulations also to Arthur Cole, heavy truck driver at Paragould, who received his 15-year pin and award in December.

Mrs. Charles Hill presented her husband, laborer at Osceola, an early Christmas gift — a son, Christopher Allen, born December 15. Congratulations!

A lot of people have been, and still are, sick with colds and flu. Hope everyone will soon be well and able to be back on the job.

We extend sincere sympathy to Asst. Dist. Maint. Supt. Darrell Holder and his family at the loss of his father on November 12.

The holidays are over and we are about to get accustomed to writing "1969", so maybe things are about to settle down to normal. A happy New Year to all. I thought the Queen of the Rose Parade made a good resolution when she said that she resolved to try to spread happiness wherever she went. May we all be happy and share our happiness with others.

The December magazine was beautiful.



THIS'LL
KILL YA

Too True for Mirth —

It was her first job, and she was terrified, especially when she learned she was expected to transcribe engineering reports from a dictaphone.

"Just type what you hear," her supervisor said impatiently. "You'll soon catch on to the technical terms."

So with this meager help, she began. Later, the engineer reading the report started chuckling. Everything was awry. A "coax cable" had become a "quack cable," while "forced air" had been simplified to "four Stair."

Finally he roared his approval, for the final statement read, "The cost estimate of this project for the government has been calculated with a 'sly drool'."

The late Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire told the story about one of his predecessors, Senator George H. Moses, who came storming into the White House during the administration of Calvin Coolidge to complain that a man under consideration for a Republican senatorial nomination was "an out-and-out s.o.b."

"That could be," Coolidge conceded. "But there's a lot of them in the country and I think they are entitled to representation in the Senate."

Running into her former suitor at a party, a girl decided to snub him.

"So sorry," she murmured when the hostess introduced him, "but I didn't get your name."

"I know you didn't," said the unabashed ex-suitor, "but you certainly tried hard enough."

Highway Dames

Marla Holmes, Publicity Chairman

The Highway Dames entertained their husbands with a dinner party at the Olde West Dinner Theatre the evening of December 13. The play was "Champagne Complex" starring Nat Polan.

The January 23 meeting will be at Bamboo Gardens. Laura Gence from the Nancy Taylor Charm School will be the guest speaker.

Additional contributors to the Highway Dames Assistance Fund not listed in the November-December issue of the magazine were:

Mr. & Mrs. Carl T. Keehn
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy M. Elledge
Walker C. Haigh
Mrs. James Reid Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Patillo
Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Hooker
Mr. & Mrs. Roy L. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jetton

Mrs. Marie Blankenship
Mr. & Mrs. Roland P. Humble
Mr. & Mrs. L. P. Carlson
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Sneed
Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Perkins
Mr. & Mrs. J. J. Schamer
Mr. & Mrs. A. G. Rives
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Andrews
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas B. Keys
Mr. & Mrs. Don A. Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Venable
Mr. & Mrs. A. W. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Pendergrass
Mr. & Mrs. J. F. Conway
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Sisk
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Mattox
Mr. & Mrs. H. L. Wadley
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Shelby
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Teasdale
Mr. & Mrs. Ward Goodman
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Gray
John R. Hume V
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Jester
Mr. & Mrs. Henry H. Vopel
Mr. & Mrs. Troy Laha
Mr. & Mrs. W. I. Rainwater

The Department of Internal Revenue received a typed income tax return from a bachelor who listed one dependent son. The examiner returned the blank with a penciled notation: "This must be a stenographic error."

The blank came back promptly with the notation: "You're telling me!"

At a golf club, a member was boasting about his strength when a puny fellow member bet him \$25 that he could wheel a load in a wheelbarrow from the clubhouse to the street which the athlete couldn't wheel back. "You're on," said the boaster. A wheelbarrow was brought up to the clubhouse. "All right," said the little guy, "Get in."

An excited Army recruit asked his company commander for an immediate furlough — his wife was going to have a baby. Permission was granted, and when the furlough papers were drawn up and the soldier was leaving, the officer asked exactly when the baby was due. "About nine months after I get home, sir," replied the recruit casually.

"Your eyes," said the young C.E. to the girl he had just met at the dance, "are beautiful. I see dew in them."

"Relax," she said, "that ain't do — that's don't."

Cop (to man just struck by a hit-and-run driver): "Did you get his number?"

Pedestrian: "No, but I'd recognize his laugh any place."

A lady rushed up to a policeman and excitedly charged: "That man is following me. He must be drunk."

The officer took one look at her and said, "He must be."



ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

P. O. Box 2261 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

*Where
is it?*



◀ Last month's Where Is It was the Cliff Drive overpass of I-540 at Fort Smith. It was correctly identified by Veral Pinkerton in Bridge Design; Rupert Werner, project engineer for Howard, Needles, Tammen & Bergendoff, on the Ozark bridge construction project; Cornelious Peters, C. B. Smith and Helen Butler, all of the Dist. 4 stockroom; and Lewis Belcher, Civ. Engr. II, Kimmy McDowell, Engr. Aide I and Jackie Grubb, Const. Insp. I with Dist. 4 Construction.