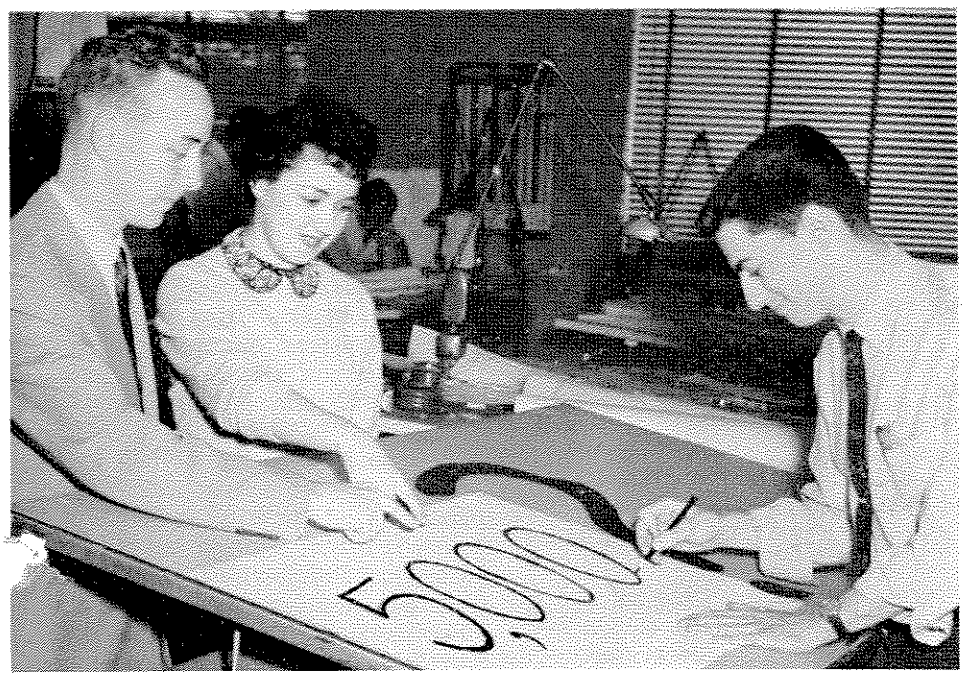
MELPAR-A-GRAPH

MELPAR, INC. • A SUBSIDIARY OF WESTINGHOUSE AIR BRAKE CO.

Volume 4, Number 5 April, 1959

Melpar Employee Roster Swells To 5000



ANOTHER MILESTONE . . . These three new employees were chosen to represent employee number 5000, recently hired by Melpar. Detailer Joseph A. Freehill is shown recording the event as Electrical Engineer Roland A. Follett and Clerk Ruth M. Hall watch. Photo by Sakamoto

5000th EMPLOYEE CEREMONY HELD AT FALLS CHURCH PLANT

Melpar passed another historic milestone in its growth when the Company hired its 5,000th employee recently. The Company has multiplied its employee roster over 166 times since its early pioneering days and has become one of the nation's leading concerns in electronic research, development and production. In 1946, our one plant, located in an Alexandria warehouse, listed 30 people on its payrolls.

Since the exact 5,000th employee was not revealed, three new employees were selected to represent number 5000.

The new employees, Detailer Joseph A. Freehill—former Virginia State Highway Department employee, Electrical Engineer Roland A. Follett—a former employee of Martin Orlando, and Clerk Ruth M. Hall were congratulated by Mrs. Joan L. Lafrank, Director of Personnel, in a brief ceremony at the Falls Church plant.

INSURANCE REFUND

The Company takes pleasure in announcing a sizable premium refund on employee Group Insurance payments for 1958, as a result of an unusually low insurance claim record last year.

Payments to employees will be made on the basis of the amount each eligible employee contributed to the plan during the 1958 policy year. Only those employees who were insured during 1958, are still on the payrolls, and are members of the plan on the date of distribution will receive a refund. It is expected that the checks will be distributed on or about April 17.

This is the second time in the past nine years that the claim record has been low enough to warrant a significant rebate from the insurance plan. In 1950 our claims were also unusually low. At that time, Melpar applied the amount of premium refund toward increased employee insurance benefits without increasing the cost.

This year, instead, we are going to return that portion of the refund attributable to employee payments.

NOTE: These payments are not subject to Federal Income Tax.

MR. MELOY RETURNS FROM EUROPE

Melpar's President, Thomas Meloy, recently returned from a three-week trip to Europe.

In Paris, Mr. Meloy had a meeting with Emille Trystram and Jean Gandilhon, President and Vice-President, respectively of French Westinghouse, concerning electronics and air frame instrumentation.

He also visited Germany and attended meetings with Lt. General Paul D. Adams, Commanding General, Fifth Corps in Frankfurt, and General Frank Everest, Commanding General of the U. S. Air Force in Europe.

Mr. Meloy's trip was highlighted in Italy by talks with Professor Guiliando Toraldo di Francia and Professor Carera, directors of the Italian National Microwave Institute in Florence. He also had occasion to inspect the Institute's laboratory.

Mr, Meloy's trip was concluded by a visit to Wheelus Air Base in Tripoli, Libya, where he spoke to General H. R. Spicer and others on electronic equipments and training aids.

Report By Van Horn Given At Fort Sill

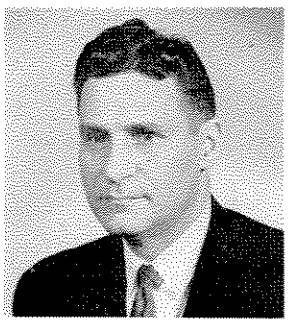
J. M. Van Horn of Melpar Boston presented a report to the Computers for Artillery Conference held recently at the U. S. Army Artillery and Missile School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Mr. Van Horn's report, "Input-Output and Display," was given as a portion of the Conference's Field Data Equipment program.

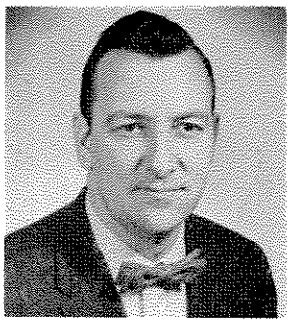
Leading computer scientists and specialists from over 70 of the nation's top military, educational and industrial institutions were invited to attend the conference.

BERT THOMASIAN

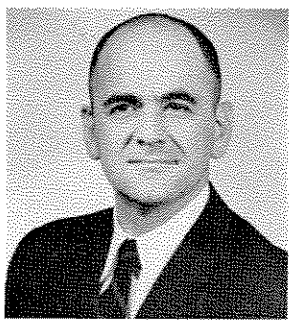
LINCOLN BROWN



W. P. STEPHENS



L. C. WRIGHT



A. C. ANGELOS

New Department Heads Named In Engineering and Production

Melpar's continued expansion has produced the demand for delegation of new levels of authority and responsibility.

In answer to this demand, five men were promoted to department heads of five new departments created within the Production and Engineering Divisions during February.

Simultaneously, the Arlington Division was re-named the Production Division to define its growing function. The Division has actually out-grown its former name, now that it has two plants, one in Arlington County and another at Columbia Pike in Fairfax County.

Three departments and respective department heads were named in the newly designated Production Division and two new departments and their heads were named in the Engineering Division, headed by W. C. Purple and Chief Engineer R. S. Butts, respectively.

In the Production Division, Lincoln Brown was promoted to Manager of the new Arlington Production Department. Bert Thomasian was promoted to Manager of the Columbia Pike Production Department and W. P. Stephens was promoted to Manager of the Production Support Department.

These are the first groups in the Production Division to be designated as departments.

In the Engineering Division, two new departments were created. L. C. Wright was promoted to Department Head of the Simulation and Training Systems Engineering Department and A. C. Angelos was promoted to Department Head of the Project Services Department. This brings the number of departments in the division to three, including the Reconnaissance Systems Engineering Department.

The Production Division presently turns out many diversified products, including electronics reconnaissance systems, beacons, fuses, antennas, flight simulators, and electronics jamming equipment.

The Production Support Department acts as a service organization for the other production departments. It provides detail fabrication, industrial engineering and plant maintenance services.

The Simulation and Training Systems Engineering Department is responsible for development, prototype fabrication and field support of simulation and training devices.

As an engineering support activity, the Project Services Department has three major functions—the fabrication and assembly of equipment built in the Engineering Divison, the preparation of all engineering drawings and the publication of technical reports and handbooks.

CHEM LAB MEMBERS WILL GIVE REPORT AT ANNUAL MEETING

Five members of the Falls Church Chemistry Laboratory will present reports at the 61st Annual Meeting of the American Ceramic Society to be held in Chicago on May 17-21.

Chemical Engineer E. E. Childs will deliver a report on "The Electrical Resistivity of Polycrystalline Alumina, Silica Glass and Steatite at Temperatures up to 1500° C." Co-authors of this report is the Supervisor of Materials Branch, Dr. J. L. Pentecost and Chemistry Laboratory Manager P. E. Ritt.

Ceramicist Z. A. Post will present a report on "Electrically Conductive Ceramic Oxide Materials." This report is co-authored by Dr. Pentecost and Dr. Ritt.

Dr. Pentecost has been chosen to deliver a report on "Dielectric Measurements on Ceramic Materials to 1500° C." Co-authors of this report are Chemical Engineer M. J. Salkowski, M. R. Seiler, Supervisor of the Measurements Physics Branch, and Dr. Ritt.

A fourth report will be presented by Chemical Engineer L. G. Davies on "Use of a Jet Torch to Simulate Re-entry Environments." The report is co-authored by Seiler, Dr. Pentecost and Dr. Ritt.

Mr. Seiler will deliver a report on "Normal Total Emissivity Measurement Techniques." Dr. Ritt and Dr. Pentecost are co-authors of the report.

Melpar Will Build 'Project Mercury' Microwave Antenna

Melpar once again has been chosen to play an important role in the growing space race. A contract was recently awarded the Company to conceive, design and expedite delivery of microwave antennas for "Project Mercury."

The contract was awarded Melpar by Collins Radio Corporation, sub-contractor to McDonnel Aircraft Corporation, prime contractor for the space capsule.

This project will be an addition to the Company's long list of contributions toward U. S. space exploration.

The antenna project is being directed by Section Head W. O. Puro of the Falls Church Antenna and Radiations Systems Engineering Section. Project Engineer W. G. Scott is in charge of the antenna development.

MELPAR ENGINEER HELPED DEVELOPE INITIAL PROJECTS

A 13-year man and one of the first 16 Melpar employees, Senior Engineer Joseph Farago, Jr., has worked on more than 40 printed circuit projects, probably more than anyone in the Company.

Mr. Farago came to Melpar in August 1946 from the Philharmonic Corporation and was engaged to work on the Company's first contract, a radar project.

His first association with printed circuits came early in 1947, only four years after the British had invented them.

In 1948 he designed the printed circuit configuration for what he believes to be the first printed circuit plug-in units delivered to the Air Force. The units were parts for a miniature telemetering system built by Melpar.

He recalls that commercial plastic laminates were not available at that time and Staff Chemist Edward Ditz mixed adhesives for the first boards by hand.

Mr. Farago's work on Project Finder led him to believe that there was a need for a faster and less expensive way to design and develop circuit boards.

Early in 1958, he contrived the present one-to-one Melpar layout process that has cut time and expense and increased accuracy in the creation of printed circuit module boards.

By the middle of June, Farago and his associates, John Sayers in the Chemistry Laboratory and Douglas League in Drafting, came up with the acceptable one-to-one system of circuit board layout.

By July 1958, several hundred boards had been produced by using the principles of the new system in the Falls Church Chemistry Laboratory.

JOSEPH FARAGO, JR.

ON THE DOTTED LINE . . . Melpar Vice President A. C. Weid and Carlyle R. Boguess, President of the Shirley Warehouse Corporation, are shown affixing final signatures to the lease for the Shirley Highway building that will soon be occupied by the Simulation and Training Systems Engineering Department. An artist's conception of the future plant stands on Mr. Weid's desk. Photo by Norton

Shirley Highway Plant Leased; Expansion Reaches New Peak

The Company's expansion program reached new heights last month when we leased a new 60,000 square-foot plant, moved into a new 24,000 square-foot building and began preparations for a move into the last section of the Manassas plant.

The new lease provides for a 400 x 150 foot building in the Shirley Industrial Area. Located at the intersection of Edsal Road and Shirley Highway, the plant is approximately eight miles south of the Falls Church plant. This distance will be shortened when the Circumferential Highway is completed.

Shirley presently consists of three different buildings but construction is underway to provide two additional and connecting buildings in the spaces between the three. These five buildings will be known as Shirley Highway Plants #1-5 and will provide facilities for about 500 personnel.

Simulation and Training Systems Engineering Department will occupy the new plant. They will move between mid-April and May. Plant #5, which has a large overhead door, will be able to accommodate six simulator trailers at a time.

Since the last edition of the Melpar-a-graph, Robert Courtney's Technical Staff of the Reconnaissance Systems Engineering Department has moved into the recently completed two story, 80 x 150 foot, Leesburg Pike #5. Construction is progressing satisfactorily on Leesburg #6, according to Director of General Services R. B. Marsh.

The Company has also leased the last 1800 square-feet of space in the old REA Power Plant in Manassas.

Parts of this building were originally leased to provide high ceiling space for testing a helicopter flight simulator. At the present, two areas of this building are being used by the Chemistry Laboratory. The new space will also be occupied by this group

With the addition of the new 60,000 square-foot Shirley building, Melpar's plant facilities in Northern Virginia now total approximately 800,000 square feet.

GOING UP!

Falls Church promotions include C. H. Schmitt who advanced to Machine Shop Supervisor and W. R. Acord who rose to Senior Buyer. F. J. Drummond was promoted to Employment Manager and H. D. Steward advanced to Senior Technician.

K. D. McDonald and W. C. Gass rose to Senior Engineers. T. R. Stafford, G. F. Lemon, L. S. Carter and J. H. Altic were promoted to Machine Shop Foremen.

J. S. Young advanced to Maintenance Supervisor and F. W. DeDier was promoted to Budget Control Supervisor. D. E. Wagner rose to Junior Engineering Assistant.

J. H. Myers was promoted to Assistant to Shipping and Receiving Foreman and J. C. Koval advanced to Assistant Maintenance Supervisor.

At Bailey's Crossroads, H. W. Mauldin was promoted to Project Engineer and S. J. Kliemann advanced to Section Planning Supervisor. Also, K. M. Bowers and H. W. Price rose to Mechanical Technician 1st Class and D. E. Murray was promoted to Design Engineer.

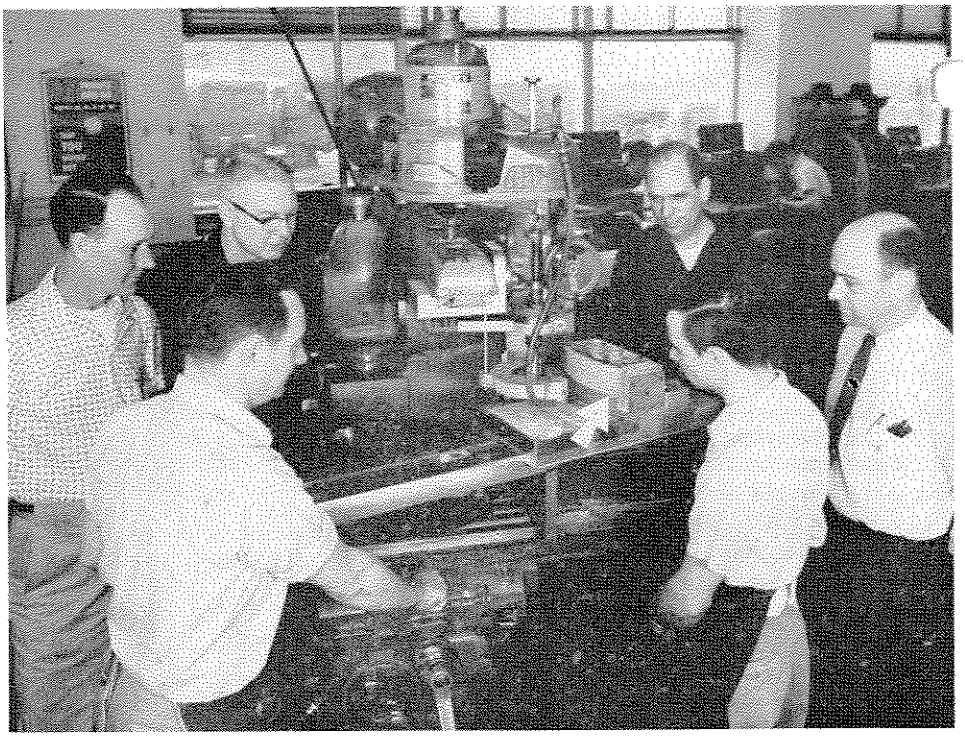
Promotions at Alexandria include David Lee who rose to Project Engineer in Charge. J. C. Haltiwanger and H. M. Burns, Jr., were promoted to Project Engineer. R. M. Madaris advanced to Planning Coordinator and J. J. Greenhalgh to Senior Engineer.

The Columbia Pike Plant promotions include F. H. Jaynes to Consulting Project Engineer and O. J. Kennel to Assembly Superintendent. Also, D. Cookenour was promoted to Junior Planner and R. Green moved up to Lead Stock Clerk.

Promotions at Arlington include J. S. Scovel to Quality Assurance Supervisor and S. B. Cirolini to Senior Engineer. M. C. Marlow was promoted to Lead Duplicating Machine Operator, L. D. Mitchell rose to Light Assembly Task Leader and C. F. Payton advanced to Senior Planner. H. W. Cooper and S. De Groat, Jr., adavanced to Lead Paint Spray Operator 1st Class.

At Watertown, R. D. Battaglia was promoted to Design Engineer, F. L. Verderber rose to Wire Group Leader and C. L. Fobes advanced to Technician Group Leader.

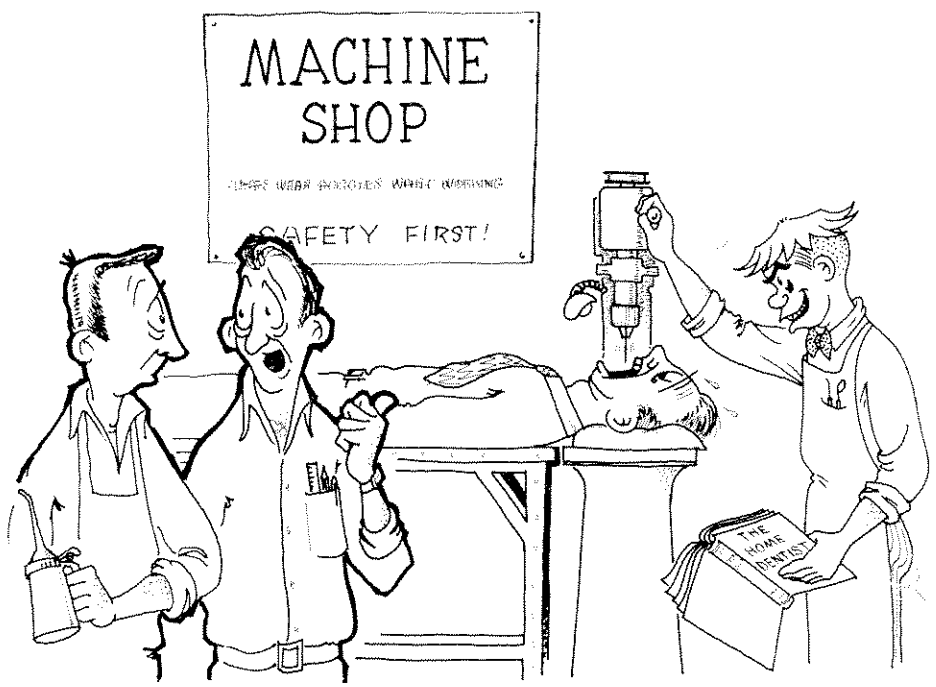
Leesburg Pike promotions include D. C. Whysong to Junior Engineer.



IT'S ALL IN A DAY'S WORK . . . Chalk up another "mission accomplished" for the Falls Church Machine Shop. Faced with the problem of grinding solid ceramic blocks (arrow) to an extreme convex shape for the Air Force Titan missile antenna "windows," the shop converted a conventional milling machine into a grinder to complete the job for AVCO Manufacturing Corporation in the required time at a cost far below commercial bids. Under the supervision of C. H. Schmitt, these men designed and built the above pivot-arm fixture to accomplish the job. They are: back row (left to right), Experimental Machinists, J. H. Queen and K. B. Duval, and Machine Shop Foreman G. F. Lemon. Front row, Experimental Machinist C. E. Parker, Machinist Assistant W. W. McMeans and J. W. Swing, Assistant to the Machine Shop Supervisor. Photo by Norton

Murgatroyd Misfit

by dick prescott



"THERE'S NOTHING LIKE USING THE RIGHT TOOL!"