

# **melpar-a-graph**

MELPAR DIVISION OF AMERICAN STANDARD, INC.

Volume 14, Number 5

August 1969

## **'69 ORDERS EXCEED TWENTY MILLION**

Melpar orders for 1969 now exceed \$20,000,000. A number of large programs have been signed by Melpar in the past two months raising the cumulative dollars received thru July 1969 to \$20,400,000.

### **More on Opinions-**

The Opinion Research Survey conducted at Melpar in 1968 shows the following results in the area of communications:

Of 645 employees surveyed, 57% indicated that supervision kept them informed of what was going on to an average or better degree. 72% felt free to say what they were thinking to their supervisor and 67% agreed that management did an average or better job of keeping them informed in advance of happenings which would affect them.

The survey participants were in high agreement concerning willingness of supervisors to listen to them. 83% rated Melpar supervision as average or better, in this respect.

On a lower level of agreement, only 63% felt that supervisors made prompt business decisions to an adequate or better degree.

Improving communications within the Company ranked 4th in order among things that needed to be changed for the better. Only 18% of the survey participants rated this as one of the top six things they would like to see improved.

In one section of the survey employees were asked to rate how well the Company was doing in specific communication

*(Continued on page 2)*

Large programs include the modification program for two A7E Trainers, a new electronic collection system, a renewal of a number of NIH programs, and the receipt of a large contract from the Army for Modification Kits for the 807 Transceiver.

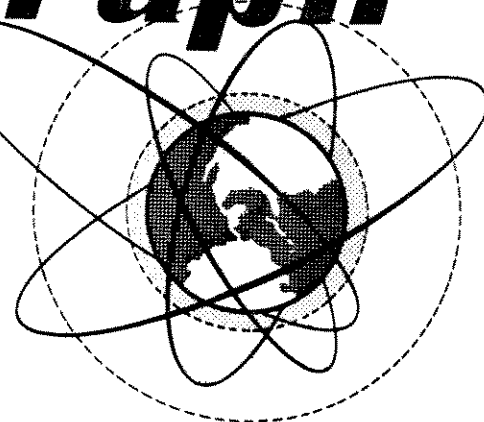
### **Melpar Develops New Blood Pressure Recorder**

Something new in medical science has been developed by the Systems Design Branch of the Environmental and Applied Sciences Center, once again incorporating electronics into the medical field.

Under a task order contract with the U. S. Army Limited War Laboratory of Aberdeen Proving Ground Melpar has developed a breadboard blood pressure cuff and stethoscope for use in helicopters and fixed wing aircraft. The stethoscope is used to measure blood pressure in high ambient noise and vibration environments encountered in air rescue missions or air transport of injured personnel. The Device is similar to that used by doctors and nurses; however, it uses an electronic stethoscope with an anti-coincidence circuit to detect the Korotkoff (stethoscope detected) pulses and at the same time cancel out noise caused by vibration of the cuff against the arm.

Two microphones are attached under the blood pressure cuff so that they are in contact with the patient's arm when the device is in use. They are arranged so that only the pickup microphone is over the artery. The Korotkoff pulses are detected by the pickup microphone while noise due to vibration is detected by both microphones and cancelled in the anti-coincidence circuit.

The device is a modification of one



### **F. A. Morley Appointed Purchasing Manager**

Fred A. Morley has been appointed Manager of the Purchasing Department reporting to John D. McLain, Director of Material.



**F. A. MORLEY**

Prior to joining Melpar, Mr. Morley had extensive purchasing experience in industry and the Air Force.

In his new assignment, Mr. Morley will be responsible for all procurement activities at Melpar.

He received his B.A. in Business Management from Indiana University and his MBA from Ohio State University.

Mr. Morley, his wife Elinor, and three sons, Jeff 15, John 12, and Robert 6, reside in the Mt. Vernon area.

previously developed by the Air Force which did not use the two microphone anticoincidence feature. The Melpar unit was tested in the laboratory with noise generators and vibrating cot. Melpar nurse Beverly Slane recorded several subjects' blood pressure and compared them with those taken by using the normal pneumatic stethoscope.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Melpar Receives Thanks

J. Pierce Chambers, Melpar's President, recently received the following letter:

**GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**  
Department of Electrical Engineering  
School of Engineering and Applied  
Science

Dear Mr. Chambers:

I would like to thank you on behalf of the Department of Electrical Engineering and the School of Engineering and Applied Science for the equipment you recently gave to us as a gift. This equipment included a vacuum system, a stereo microscope, an ionization gauge, and many smaller items.

What we have acquired so far is a small start toward the microelectronics laboratory we would like to build up, and many additional pieces of equipment will be needed.

In the meantime, we express our appreciation for your gracious gift. We hope that this will be but one expression of the spirit of cooperation between industry and our educational efforts.

Very truly yours,  
Peter H. Sawitz

## MORE ON OPINIONS

(Continued from page 1)

tasks. The results showed:

41% rated supervision average or better in informing employees what competitors are doing.

92% rated supervision average or better in briefing employees on working rules.

89% rated supervision average or better in explaining benefit plans.

63% rated supervision average or better in explaining new business developments.

In an overall summary question on the survey, 25% indicated the Company "keeps us fully informed" while 49% said the Company gives out limited amounts of information. The remaining 26% answered that the Company "doesn't tell us much about what's going on".

These results should serve to remind all supervisors and managers of the importance of keeping people informed. The Melpar-a-graph is only one important tool of communication for the Company.

## Speak Up...

Your editor hereby proposes a new column to enhance our internal communications. We'll call it "Speak Up" and your editor will serve as a go-between for management and employees to process questions or complaints.

Employees can submit their questions to the editor, who, in turn, will pass them on minus the questioner's name to the managerial person most likely to have the answers. The manager will reply in writing and the editor will publish the answer in the Melpar-a-graph *when the subject is of general interest*.

"Speak Up" will serve management as a barometer for work-related problems as well as aiding the employee in obtaining information he needs. Highly personalized situations, such as an employee complaining he was passed up for a promotion, are difficult to handle without divulging identity. In such cases, your editor will ask the employee whether he would care to discuss his problem with a cognizant manager. If the employee agrees, the editor will set up the interview. *Anonymity is still stressed* with only the editor and the interviewing manager knowing the employee's identity. Let's hear from you... if you have something to say, "SPEAK UP."

## Earnings Improvement Progress Reported

Melpar's Earnings Improvement Program has reached \$375,000 of its \$700,000 goal for the year.

The new Earnings Improvement Program displays located throughout our plants show the names of all employees contributing to our Earnings Improvement Program listed by organization. You can add your name to these displays by submitting a suggestion or report-of-savings and help fill those blank spaces under your organization. You may win \$25 to \$200 in bonds by doing so.

Submit your ideas on Form GO-340 which is available at each display or from stationery stores. Copies should be submitted directly to A. M. Ross, Cost Reduction Administrator, with no prior approval required. Send in as many ideas as you have. Each suggestion will be evaluated and you will be advised of the results. All employees are eligible to participate (except supervisors submitting

## NEW BLOOD PRESSURE RECORDER

(Continued from page 1)

The lab now has an additional task under this contract to fabricate and test six prototypes of the unit for evaluating at various locations around the world.

The project was directed by **Phil McCabe**, Branch Supervisor with **Joseph Paljug** and **Benn Comstock** providing the electronic and mechanical design, respectively. Mr. McCabe, Mr. N. Montanarelli, U. S. LWL Project Monitor and Nurse **Beverly Slane** also flight tested the instrument in two separate helicopter missions with good results.



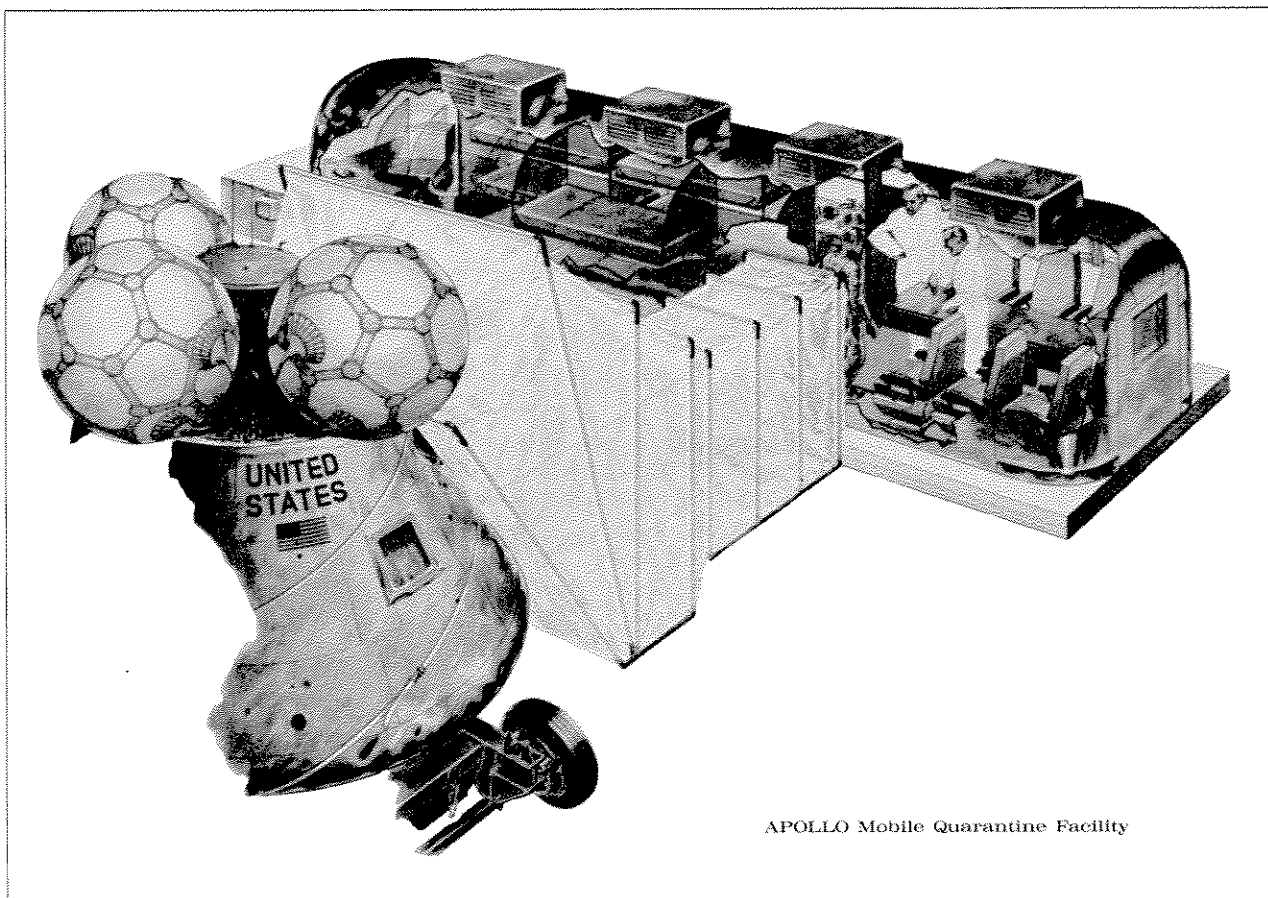
Beverly Slane, our flying nurse is shown taking Benn Comstock's blood pressure using the device while he is checking out a Lower Body Negative Pressure system. The latter is one of four prototypes built by the System Design Branch for NASA Manned Space Flight Center. The LBNP is to be used in the NASA orbital workshop to measure the cardiovascular deconditioning of astronauts due to weightlessness.

suggestions regarding the administration of their departments which are accepted as Reports of Savings).

All employees submitting suggestions which are accepted and implemented and result in dollar savings of \$500 or more will be awarded U.S. Savings Bonds ranging from \$25 to \$200. In addition, your accepted ideas will become a permanent part of your personnel file and you will be eligible for the Value Improvement of the Year Award.

Make this year another successful one. Send your ideas now! If you should have any questions regarding the completion of Form GO-340, ask your supervisor or organizational representative for assistance. You will find their names listed on the Earnings Improvement Program Displays.

# OUR PART APOLLO 11



APOLLO Mobile Quarantine Facility

## APOLLO CREW IN QUARANTINE COMFORT

Shortly after splashdown, the Apollo 11 crew was lifted aboard the prime recovery ship into this mobile quarantine facility, specially designed by Melpar of Falls Church to protect the earth from possible moon germs while the astronauts were on their way to Houston.

The trailer-like facility, pictured in artist's sketch above, was home for the astronauts and their historic lunar samples while they were shipped, flown and trucked to the Lunar Receiving

Lab. It is equipped with lounge, galley and sleeping facilities that can handle six persons for up to 10 days. When the command module was brought aboard, it was connected to the portable facility by a plastic isolation tunnel that allowed transfer of the lunar samples and tapes to the quarantine unit. Melpar, a division of American Standard Co., designed and engineered the unit as part of NASA's back contamination mission for Project Apollo.

**MEET YOUR OPERATORS . . .** almost everyone will agree that our telephone operators are cheerful, efficient and most cooperative—but few people realize how busy they are. Every effort is being made to keep the locator board up to date, but the best operator in the world can't find you on that switchboard if you haven't notified her of your new extension.



Pictured here, hard at work are, left to right, Kitty Onyun, Louise Oddenino, Gina Cooper, Trudie Prall and Lucille McVay.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations are in order for these employees who recently attained the following degrees:

**A. K. Waizecker** Master of Science in Business Administration from George Washington University.

**W. V. Goodell** Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from George Washington University.

**H. D. Moyer** Associate's Degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from Capitol Institute of Technology.

**W. H. Wright** Associate's Degree in Applied Science from Capitol Institute of Technology.

## Personnel Notes...

Did you know that Melpar employees filed 1003 group insurance claims and additions to claims in the first six months of 1969?

\*\*\*\*\*

To remind you: Any on-the-job accident, no matter how insignificant it may seem at the time, must be reported to the Plant Nurse immediately so that a record can be made.

\*\*\*\*\*

## OBITUARY

**Eleanor M. Lavelle**  
1925 - 1969

Administrative Assistant Eleanor M. Lavelle passed away on July 7th following a brief illness and major surgery.

Eleanor joined Melpar in June 1955 as a Payroll Clerk. She advanced to Senior Payroll Clerk, Payroll Assistant and her last position was Administrative Assistant. She was responsible for payroll controls of Melpar's bond and pension programs.

She won the Zero Defects award from Finance and Accounting in 1967.

Eleanor was a most loyal, conscientious and dependable employee who will be missed and long remembered by all who knew her.

A native of Scranton, Pa., she is survived by her husband.

## know your group insurance

**Q.** Is there a time limit for submitting claims?

**A.** A claim must be submitted to the insurance company within 90 days after it has arisen unless it can be shown by the employee that it was impossible to submit the claim within the 90-day time limit. See Page 39 of your insurance booklet.

**Q.** What is the rule on coverage of a newborn infant?

**A.** Coverage applies from birth as a separate claim provided the employee carries dependent coverage. Otherwise, no expenses pertaining to the newborn are covered.

1900	1969
1000 Beef Over	11 99
1001 Leather	4/6
1002 Bag of Oats	0.35
1003 1/2 lb. Meat	74
1004 7 Pe. Soup	26
1005 2 1/2 lb. Lard	23
1006 10K Soup	18
19 150g 9 Pies	15
1007 1 Wagon	10
1008 3 Pk Fire Crackers	12
1009 1 lb. Nuts	15
1010 1 lb. Raisins	10
1011 1 lb. Candy	10
1012 100 Pies	50
1013 3 Oranges	08
	15 05
1901	1969
1001 Aunt Howard	2 00
1002 1/2 Bus Corn	28
1003 5 lbs Sugar	30
1004 7 1/4 lb. Sheds Mail	78
1005 1 Goflet	05
1006 1 Shl Cotton	05
1007 1 Dg Bse Mitchu	10
1008 1/2 lb. Fla	25
1009 2 lbs Lard	20
1010 5 yds Cotton	30
1011 1 lb. Oie Cloth	37
1012 2 90 Diawo	90
1013 2 90th Bunshe	20
1014 2 1/2 yds Guingham	17
1015 3 Pencils	09

### THOSE WERE THE GOOD OLD DAYS

. . . C & P Telephone repairman Al Myers brought an interesting booklet to your editor recently. It was his grandfather's grocery account with the Janney & Son Grocery Store of Occoquan with records of purchases from 1900 to 1905. We have reprinted here, a page showing typical prices. It was interesting to note that firecrackers at 4c a pack were bought at Christmas as well as July 4th. The following list compares today's prices with those in 1900.

Item	1900	1969
Shoulder Meat (chuck)	10c lb.	89c lb.
1 lb. nuts	15c lb.	79c lb.
1 lb. raisins	10c lb.	39c lb.
1/2 lb. tea	25c	1.25 (bags)
3 pencils	03c	3 for 25c
6 bags tobacco	25c	19c each

However, it is also well to look at the average wage for 1900—22c per hour; the average weekly wage, \$12.74, and the average work week, 59 hours. Were they really the good old days?

Published by  
**MELPAR**  
A Division of  
**American Standard, Inc.**

7700 Arlington Blvd . . Falls Church, Va.  
Editor . . . . . Jane K. Smith, Ext. 2706  
Photographers . . . . . R. K. Sakamoto  
H. O. Glittenberg

## THIRTY-FIVE HONORED AT PIN LUNCHEON

20 YEARS



L. Nielsen

15 YEARS



J. J. Adams



P. B. Markham



C. J. Meacham



A. D. Robbins



M. Yawornicky

10 YEARS



S. A. Bradeen



M. L. Burd



H. L. Bynum



M. L. Caudle



H. T. Crawford



D. R. Dailey



M. A. Damewood



E. Fisher



R. M. Goisse



H. M. Greenwood



G. M. Greskovic



F. L. Hickisch



L. D. Hochhalter



K. W. James



B. R. Koch



R. B. Oliver



H. L. Phillips



K. A. Riddle



J. G. Ross, Jr.



C. W. Seese



L. E. Spivey



V. E. Switzer



L. R. Terry



W. E. Thompson



E. A. Wilkinson

*Going Up!*

Recent promotions have been won by the following employees who are listed here with their new job classifications:

**W. B. Moore**  
Senior Design Engineer

**J. V. Criste**  
Senior Test Technician

**T. R. Vernelson**  
Principal Engineer

**C. H. Nelson**  
Principal Engineer

**R. R. Beck**  
Principal Design Engineer

**R. Lecuyer**  
Junior Methods Engineer

**R. L. Michael**  
Sr. Publications Production Specialist

**R. J. Richter**  
Senior Engineering Technician

**J. H. Burt**  
Manager, Contract Administration,  
Telecommunications

**J. M. Sylvester**  
Junior Electrical Engineer

**R. R. Greene**  
Project Engineer

Congratulations to each one of you.

**THE PATENT PICTURE**

A patent for "Solid Particulate Metering System" was issued to Melpar in July by the U. S. Patent Office.

This invention relates to an apparatus and method for handling and metering solid particulates such as grain, cement, sand, powdered explosives, in a safer, quicker and more accurate manner than has heretofore been possible.

The solid particulate metering system has no moving parts and does not require human exposure to the metered particulate. The inventor was Senior Mechanical Engineer *William B. Noe*.

The fact that 1959 was a peak hiring year for Melpar is brought into sharp focus by recognizing the employees who will receive their service pins at the July-August pin luncheon. 29 employees will celebrate 10 years of service, 5

employees will receive fifteen year pins, and 1 employee marks his 20th anniversary. (D. N. Gershberg, P. J. Lare, E. B. Pefferman and P. E. Rhodes who receive 10 year pins were not available for pictures.)

August 1969  
MELPAR-a-graph

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SOUVENIR OF MELPAR  
A Division of American Standard