



## GAT Management

## NEWSLETTER

Editor: Tim Matchett

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THE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE INDUSTRY will increase its receipts 16 percent in 1980, according to a separate prediction issued by the U. S. Department of Commerce. The Department says that whatever steps are taken to conserve fuel, the automobile apparently will continue to be the most convenient source of personal transportation. The automotive service industry is expected to take in \$34.3 billion in 1980 compared to \$29.6 billion in 1979. Of this total auto repair shops will account for 62 percent, rental and leasing for 28 percent, and car washes, auto parking and other services for the remaining 10 percent.

INTEREST ON TRAVELERS' CHECKS may be just around the corner. Thanks to competitive pressures building in the booming travelers' check industry, at least one major bank, Citibank, confesses it's thinking seriously of making them interest-bearing, perhaps as soon as this year. Issuers make the bulk of their profits from investing the proceeds of travelers' check sales until the checks are presented for payment. A Citicorp spokesman says it's studying a plan to start paying interest on such checks as soon as they're sold, and right up until the time the customer cashes them.

GOODYEAR LANDED A TOP 10 SPOT among the most constructive television programming sponsors in the United States in 1979. Results came from a poll conducted in the fall of 1979 by the Television Monitoring Program of the National Federation for Decency. Conclusions followed 799.5 hours of prime-time television monitoring by about 450 trained volunteers in nine states.

TVA'S BROWNS FERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT has lost its top billing. After several years as being called the world's largest, Browns Ferry has been surpassed in electrical generating capacity by a new Japanese nuclear station. Tokyo Electric Power Company's six-unit Fukushima plant has a generating capacity of 4.7 million kilowatts, compared to Browns Ferry's three-unit capacity of 3.4 million kilowatts. Goodyear Atomic Corporation supplies enriched uranium for the Fukushima plant.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION rose slightly in December, but it still finished the year nearly 14 percent below 1978. The housing industry has been having severe problems, particularly since the Federal Reserve Board tightened credit in October in order to combat inflation. Mortgage rates have shot up to record levels and some financial institutions have stopped making loans altogether. Despite the steadiness of housing in December, most experts still believe construction will continue to erode in 1980 by another 20 percent.

A DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET of \$12.6 billion has been submitted to Congress for fiscal year 1981. This compares to \$11.7 billion in 1980. The proposal contains substantial funding increases for conservation, solar, fossil and fusion programs. Energy Secretary Charles W. Duncan Jr. commented that, "We have tried to organize a comprehensive energy program that will draw upon the initiatives, resources and strengths of the American public and American industry and labor to bring about this energy transition (to energy diversification) smoothly, with a minimum of regulation or mandatory intrusion if possible."

SUNSPOT ACTIVITY IS AT AN 11-YEAR PEAK and resulting radiation outbursts in coming months could touch off magnetic storms on Earth, interrupt radio communications and cause computers to go haywire, according to U. S. forecasters. Solar flares that are associated with sunspots already have caused varied problems including communications blackouts for transoceanic airliners, communications and control problems for satellites and unpredictable and extreme propagation of commercial, amateur, CB and other radio signals.

BUSINESS CARDS ARE THE BUSINESS of 11-year-old Ben B. Klau of Avon, Conn. But not commercially. He collects them. In the past year he has gathered more than 4,600 different cards. Some are shaped like beer or oil cans, some have comic illustrations. He mailed his own card -- "Ben B. Klau, business card collector" -- to the White House and got two back from the President. His initial goal is 10,000 different cards.

KENNETH W. SOMMERFELD has been appointed manager of the Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant, succeeding Robert A. Winkel who has retired after almost 36 years with Union Carbide. Sommerfeld became Operations Division superintendent at the plant in 1968 and was named deputy plant manager in 1972.

### GAT NAMES AND FACES IN THE NEWS



V. J. DeVito



A. P. Romero



R. O'Farrill Jr.



R. A. Jay



R. & M. Nance

VINCENT J. DEVITO, Safeguards & Security division manager, spoke February 6 to the Shawnee Engineering Association in Portsmouth. DeVito discussed the gaseous diffusion process, environmental control and transportation of materials.

ARTHUR P. ROMERO, safety equipment technician in D-921, has been awarded another Freedom Foundation medal for an essay. This is the third medal Romero has earned for submitting essays to the annual Freedom Foundation contest open to all military personnel. Romero's winning essay was printed in the November 1979 issue of the Wingfoot Clan.

ROMULO O'FARRILL JR. of Mexico City has been elected to the board of directors of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. He replaces Richard A. Jay who is resigning from the board in preparation for his retirement. Jay has been serving as vice chairman. O'Farrill's business interests include publishing, television and a number of other fields. O'Farrill served as a director for several months in 1977. Board Chairman Charles J. Pilliod said that "We are very pleased that Mr. O'Farrill is able to return. His extensive knowledge of business in Latin America and other parts of the world add a broad and valued dimension to our board."

RALPH AND MARGERY NANCE, in a recent letter to the general manager, noted that the enclosed photo "will put you in position... to show what people look like after surviving retirement for ten years." Ralph and Margery now live in Sun City, Ariz. Ralph retired in 1969 after more than 43 years of service to Goodyear. He was GAT's superintendent, Shops Maintenance, at the time.

### SCIENCE DEMONSTRATIONS

Roger D. Jackson (D-551) and Norman F. Reiter (D-521) presented a science demonstration February 21 at South Webster Elementary. A total of 140 students grades 4-6 attended two sessions.

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