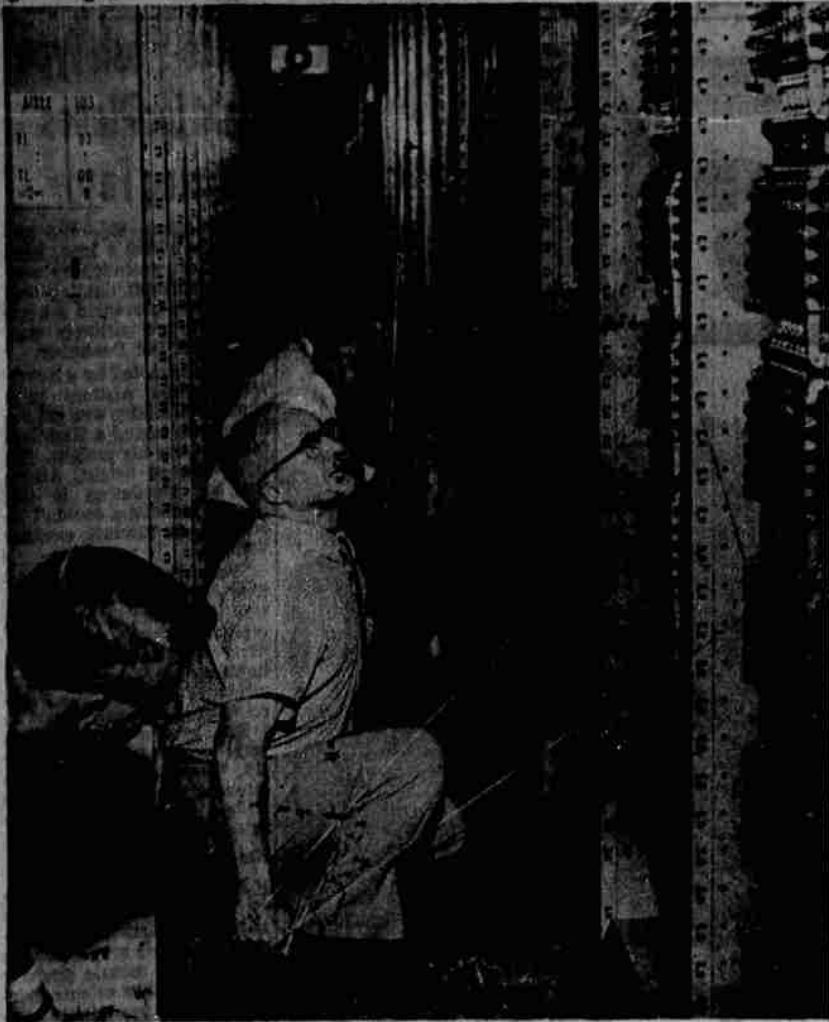




PULL STRINGS—Technicians are shown pulling strings releasing blocking plugs from Ashland's new telephone system which went into effect Saturday night. Getting the all-number system into operation are Ron Province, Keith Fletcher, William McIntyre, Ken Bullett and Ken Nagle. (Whitland Locke photo)

BACK TO IRONING BOARD

Wrinkle-Proof Shirt Doesn't Dry Without Wrinkles, West Finds

By DICK WEST
Washington - UPI - I well remember that bright yesterday when I bought my first wash-and-wear shirt. I bought it as a sort of Mother's Day present for my wife.

The reason I well remember this is because she had some trouble understanding the sentiment that was behind the purchase. I had to explain it to her several times.

"Look," she would say, "I don't like to appear ungrateful, but I can't see what your buying a new shirt has to do with Mother's Day."

"Well," I would reply, "since you don't have to iron it, it will give you more time to tend to the children."

In theory, I think I had a valid case. The instructions said that if I dunked the shirt in the laundry and draped it over a coat hanger overnight, I could put it on the next morning and go out looking like a fashion plate.

Back to ironing. Unfortunately, it didn't work out that way. My shirt looked more like a plate of spaghetti. So it was back to the ironing board for good ol' Mom.

I was reminded of this experience upon reading, here in this week before Mother's Day 1961, an account of some research that the Agriculture

Department is doing in the wash-and-wear field. It was presented to a House appropriations subcommittee by Dr. G. W. Irving Jr. of the Agriculture Research Service. Apparently things haven't changed very much since I bought that shirt.

"One of the properties that has been observed by consumers in wash-and-wear cottons is the somewhat less than optimum wet and dry wrinkle recovery of these fabrics," Irving told the subcommittee. "The problem has not yet been solved largely because we do not know what the fundamentals are of wrinkling."

That, however, will not entirely solve the problem. As noted by Rep. Alfred E. Santangelo (D - N.Y.), another

trouble with wash-and-wear fabrics is that they tend to wear out after being washed a few times.

"I bought a suit when I was married and just outgrew it," said Santangelo, who has been putting on a little weight. "But the suits I buy today don't last a year."

Irving said this was because the treatments used "to provide the properties that consumers want in easy care and non-muss fabrics often weaken the strength and durability of the fabric."

He said researchers are trying to overcome that handicap, too.

It is heartening to know that the government is getting down to the fundamentals of wrinkling and I like to think that the day of optimum wrinkle recovery is close at hand.

Then I can go back to buying myself shirts for Mother's Day presents.



UNIMPRESSED—Alan Shepard Mann, son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Mann of Middletown, N.Y., seems bored with his first rocket ship despite his space-age name. He was born May 5, less than an hour after Cmdr. Alan Shepard completed his successful space flight. (UPI Telephone)

Space Flight Success Brings Help To Instrument Companies

By HENRY J. BECHTOLD
UPI Financial Editor

New York - UPI - Things are looking up for the makers of instruments and guidance systems for aircraft and space vehicles following the success of America's first manned space flight last week.

The now anticipated acceleration of space exploration efforts should help such companies as Collins Radio, Bendix Corp. and Standard Kollsman Industries, all of which played a big part in building the navigational instruments business to a booming \$260 million in 1960.

The industry foresees a jump to \$300 million this year and continued gains into the future as the need for complex instrumentation systems increases.

13 per cent Gain
Standard Kollsman President James O. Burke noted that his own firm, one of the pioneers of the astro-navigational business, registered a 13 per cent sales gain during the first quarter. And he added that historically the second half of the year usually is considerably better than the first.

Kollsman, which provided some of the instrumentation for last week's space flight, also developed the "star tracker" astro guidance system for space vehicles and high flying aircraft. These instruments utilize the stars or sun to plot position and direction in flight, automatically and continuously tracking

the celestial body and giving precise latitude - longitude readings simultaneously.

Burke said the speed and range of today's missiles, aircraft and space vehicles has required intense research and development programs on the part of the instrument industry.

The rapid strides being made in air and space vehicles calls for greatly expanded efforts in developing guidance systems and control instruments, he added.

New Systems Bought
New systems, concepts and techniques are being investigated in areas of passive and active tracking, computing, optical communication, control and instrumentation.

With the space race getting hotter every day, and bigger and bigger craft calling for more and more complex instrumentation, research efforts should pay off for those companies involved.

But, according to Burke, the instrument makers also are looking for new fields to conquer, confident that further advances in astro navigation will be paralleled by instrumentation breakthroughs in other fields.

He noted that research programs already under way

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Franklin Could Have Been 51st U.S. State

Nashville, Tenn. - UPI - Chances are they never mentioned the State of Franklin in your history course, but there's talk now of reviving the lost state and making it No. 51.

Few Americans are aware there ever was a state named for that symbol of thrift and hard work, Ben Franklin.

Fewer still know that in Franklin you could pay your taxes in "deer, beaver and raccoon skins; tobacco, rye whiskey, peach or apple brandy, and the like, as well as money."

Franklin was born in December, 1784, in what was then North Carolina's western territory—now the eastern tip of Tennessee.

No sooner had the mountaineers west of the Alleghenies elected a legislature and a governor and named their state, than North Carolina declared them "in open rebellion" against its authority.

For three years Franklin and North Carolina tumbled at each other across the mountains; the dispute near bloodshed. Franklin asked for recognition from Congress, but North Carolina vetoed the idea.

Then, after North Carolina offered pardons to the rebellious mountaineers, Franklin drifted slowly to its death

in March, 1788, when the governor's term ran out.

An attempt to revive it in the 1840's failed. Latest to propose its revival—though light-heartedly—is Republican State Rep. James Quillen of Kingsport, Tenn.

East Tennessee is a long-time pocket of Republicans in a Democratic state, but Quillen says party politics is not behind the idea of recreating Franklin.

"I just want to rekindle some interest in the State of Franklin which many young people have never heard of," explained Quillen. "Besides if we talk about the thing long enough, it just might happen."

After Quillen suggested that

the Tennessee Legislature let the eastern third of Tennessee secede to form the 51st state, he got telegrams from Kentucky and Virginia.

Carl Knight, editor of the Big Stone Gap (Va.) Post, wired that "southwest Virginia would be pleased to be included in the Grand Old State of Franklin."

Kentucky State Sen. H. Nick Johnson of Harlan asked Quillen to "please expand your plans . . . to include southeastern Kentucky."

But the Tennessee Legislature adjourned with no more than a smile for the proposal. And Quillen is quick to admit that in the 20th Century the mountaineer State of Franklin hasn't much of a chance.

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