

Freeze-Dry Plant Helps To Reduce Shipping Costs

New York—(UPI)—What with today's emphasis on cost-cutting, said Jeno Paulucci, a step that would drastically trim shipping charges in the haul to market was worth considering.

This was why he showed enthusiasm on a recent high-speed visit here for his latest step toward making his home area around Duluth, Minn., a more efficiently productive source for the foodstuffs which he has found can be grown there by him for his own business, and by others.

Paulucci disclosed today that ground will be broken shortly for a freeze-dry plant,

similar to others now in use by such processors as Campbell and Knorr for the marketing of vegetables.

Paulucci, who has in 15 years seen his operations grow from a \$2,500 start to one with sales in the millions, is head of the Chun King corporation of Duluth, with plants there, Ohio, and Cambridge, Md., packing facilities in Jackson, and drive-in restaurants.

In building up a business specializing in canned and frozen American - Oriental foods, the energetic, 44-year-old Paulucci has pushed the growth of celery and mushrooms and bean sprouts in an

area which for long was known chiefly to the rest of the nation as a source of iron ore. When the ore supplies declined, land lay idle. Paulucci has sparked a campaign to make land productive, despite a relatively short growing season.

One of the problems in competition from the area, he said, are freight rates; northeast Minnesota is well removed from most major metropolitan markets.

"This is one of the advantages of the freeze-dry process," he said. "The same bulk can be shipped with far less weight."

Years and Miles Separate Astronauts and Their Heirs

By ALVIN B. WEBB JR.

Cape Canaveral—(UPI)—Seven years and 240,000 miles separate America's sovereign seven Mercury astronauts and their nine newly crowned heirs apparent.

The years are the difference in where they have been. The miles are the difference in where they are going.

At first glance, the comparison seems drastic. On one hand there is the veteran band of U. S. spacemen who wear the title of "Superb Seven" like a glove. Experience tells in the confidence of their walk, the ability on

their pioneering flights and the fame that hangs on their name.

On the other hand, there are the nine fledglings. They too are calm, for they, like the Mercury astronauts, are veteran airplane test pilots. But their quiet manner seems more of a shyness born of their inexperience in space missions as well as their first exposure to fame's spotlight.

But what they lack in experience, confidence, self-assurance and ability now, the newcomers will more than make up for the one advantage they have — the seven

years, the average difference between their ages and those of the Mercury spacemen.

Have Youth

This is the priceless commodity called "youth."

With it, the nine space trainees will try to buy their passage across the 240,000 miles to the No. 1 target in space, the moon. That some of them will make it this decade seems certain.

From this knowledge of a goal and the scientific assurance that they can make it has come to the rookies a peculiar confidence that the

Mercury astronauts cannot know.

The age difference gave the initial seven the glamour of making the first U.S. manned space flights. But there had to be a price. It probably will be paid in the failure of any of them to reach the moon.

There has always been good-natured rivalry between those first astronauts, but it has been among seven men who were remarkably alike in many respects. The addition of the nine lends a new flavor of striking differences.

There already has been "some banter" between the old seven and the new nine,

officials say. They added that "maybe there will be more banter." The difference here between "youth" and "veteran" is an average of 32.5 years against 39 years. But it is a big difference.

Appear Younger

The first impression is that all but one of the nine newcomers are much younger than that 32.5 average. The exception is the youngest of the lot, Thomas P. Stafford.

His balding pate belies his 32 years. Perhaps Neil A. Armstrong, one of the two civilians on the new team, best typifies the "new generation" of astronauts. He looks more like a college junior than a 32-year-old veteran of the red-hot X15 rocket program.

His personality seems a mixture of traits in two of the Mercury astronauts — the light-hearted wit of Virgil I. (Gus) Grissom and the almost intense ability of Walter M. (Wally) Schirra to be refreshingly and candidly human.

Asked once to pontificate on the national effort in space, Armstrong commented simply: "If we knew what's up there, we wouldn't have to go."

It's a point that couldn't be argued.

Armstrong has a flair for fun but he sharply divides play and work. At the controls of the X15, many of the older pilots occasionally crack jokes. Neil Armstrong is dead serious.

Charles Conrad, on the other hand, is not quite like any of the Mercury astronauts. There is an extra eagerness in this 32-year-old Navy test pilot.

Conrad has a special admiration for Schirra that comes to the fore easily. The two were old friends long before either had much more than dreams of becoming spacemen.

When Schirra made it, Conrad knew what he wanted. "I made up my mind to volunteer for the program if the chance ever came," he says with a broad smile.

Schirra and Conrad have something else in common — a daredevil ancestry. The

fathers of both were old-time aeronauts.

Conrad's close friend is a fellow neophyte astronaut, James A. Lovell, who has an ingrained horror at being left behind, particularly on the most spectacular adventure of all time.

Dead Serious

Jim Lovell seems to smile constantly with his eyes. But he was dead serious six months ago when he vowed he didn't want to be on the sidelines while others were doing what he thought he could do just as well.

Lovell has confidence to complement his splendid physical and mental abilities. It all paid off in his selection to what he proudly calls the "first team."

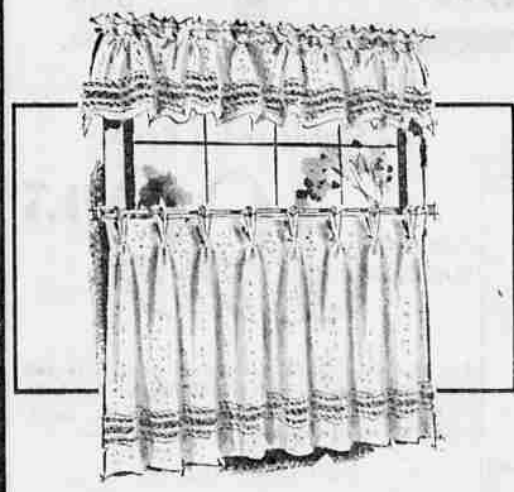
They all brought something into the program, many things they have in common — the sophisticated daredevilry portrayed by Astronaut Elliot M. See Jr. in his trying engine test flights . . . the brash but delightful humor of Frank Borman, who admitted on the day of his formal introduction as an astronaut that he has just walked into the wing of an airplane and gashed his scalp . . . the "action speaks louder than words" attitude of Astronaut James A. McDivitt . . . the particular pride of Tom Stafford when he officially became an astronaut on his 32nd birthday . . . the drive of Astronaut Edward H. White II to escape the "administrative team on the ground" and be on the first flight to the moon . . . and the sparkling test pilot background of Astronaut John W. Young Jr., who recently set a new world speed climb record in a Navy F4H1 jet airplane.

They are raw recruits in the space pilot game. But in the hard, long months ahead, the pall of inexperience will wear off to be replaced by a healthy look of confidence and ability — and self-assurance.

Then they will walk in the footsteps of the Mercury astronauts who too might have gone the 240,000 mile route across space but for the matter of seven short but meaningful years in age.

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By SYLVIA PORTER
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STATISTICS ARE AN ANTI-SLUMP WEAPON

"The average statistician is married to 1.75 wives who try their level best to drag him out of the house 2 1/4 nights a week with only 50 per cent success."

"He has a sloping forehead with a 2 per cent grade (denoting great mental strength), 1/2 of a bank account, and 3.06 children who drive him 1/2 crazy; 1.65 of the children are male."

"Only .07 per cent of all statisticians are 1/2 awake at the breakfast table where they consume 1.68 cups of coffee—the remaining .32 dribbling down their shirt fronts. On Saturday nights, he engages 1/2 of a baby sitter for his 3.06 kiddies, unless he happens to have 3/4 of a mother-in-law with him who will sit for 1/2 price."

This sardonic quote from "The Average Statistician" (641.07 words about pain in the neck) was included in the presidential address delivered by Dr. Philip M. Hauser of the University of Chicago at the 122nd annual meeting of the American Statistical Association recently.

It is not only amusingly sarcastic. It also is highly pertinent right now, for never have the top policy-makers in U. S. public and private life relied so heavily on statistics for clues to what is happening in our economy, where our economy is heading and how we should act to improve the outlook for production, profits, jobs, paychecks.

Rarely also have the statistics that influential economists study with intense care presented so mixed a picture, and this alone suggests the pace of the 1961-62 advance has slowed to the point where our economy is not doing much better than "sitting" on a very high plateau.

And not for years has there been such open criticism of the validity of many of the statistics upon which public policies and business-labor decisions of greatest importance are based.

Even though I am acutely aware of how new most of our economic statistics are, I still find it hard to believe that nearly all the economic barometers we use have been developed only in the last 25 to 30 years. A reason the depression of the early 1930s was so catastrophic was that we didn't know what was happening to us as it happened. Our leaders at that time knew unemployment was widespread, but they didn't have reliable statistics to tell them how many millions were out of jobs. They knew prices were in a tailspin, incomes were plunging, profits were disappearing, bankruptcies were skyrocketing—but they didn't have the statistics to tell them to what extent all this was occurring. There was no compilation on gross national product to tell them that our economy's size was shrinking by the day. GNP compilations weren't started until 1941, quarterly estimates weren't begun until 1947.

Now we do have a large mass of statistics to tell us what is happening to us and what is likely to happen and statistics on the jobless rate, paychecks, consumer prices are debated in millions of average homes as well as in the executive suites of management, labor, government.

Even so, the gaps in our statistical machinery are still enormous. At the same ASA meeting, Dr. Arthur F. Burns, president of the National Bureau of Economic Research, ticked off some of the statistical deficiencies which dramatize how primitive are the tools for economic forecasting even in this most advanced economy on the globe.

For instance, we have practically no statistics on job vacancies. We use statistics on hourly earnings which do not include fringe benefits—a large and increasing part of labor compensation. Our profit figures are distressingly tardy. We do not have comparable monthly or quarterly individual prices and unit costs of production in our major individual industries. We haven't even begun to create a system of internationally comparable price statistics, imperative in a world in which international trade plays so major a role. Our estimates of gross national product are decidedly suspect. But, limited though our knowledge is and faulty though our tools are, we are doing the best with what we have and dedicated statisticians are laboring mightily to improve our machinery.

Perhaps those who scoff might be more humble if they realized that our statistics alone have become a major weapon against depressions—for they warn us in advance that trouble is coming and, by warning us, alert us to take action to control it.

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