

the Western

OMAHA WORKS

MARCH 10, 1978



The undersea world of Don Gulliksen

Not really. Where this mask is worn, there is water to be found — but not for skin diving. Turn inside for more about this masked man and others like him.

Pages 4, 5

Also inside:

Two Works employees have a rare opportunity to help save a life.

Page 2

Improvements follow in the wake of the ecology movement.

Page 6

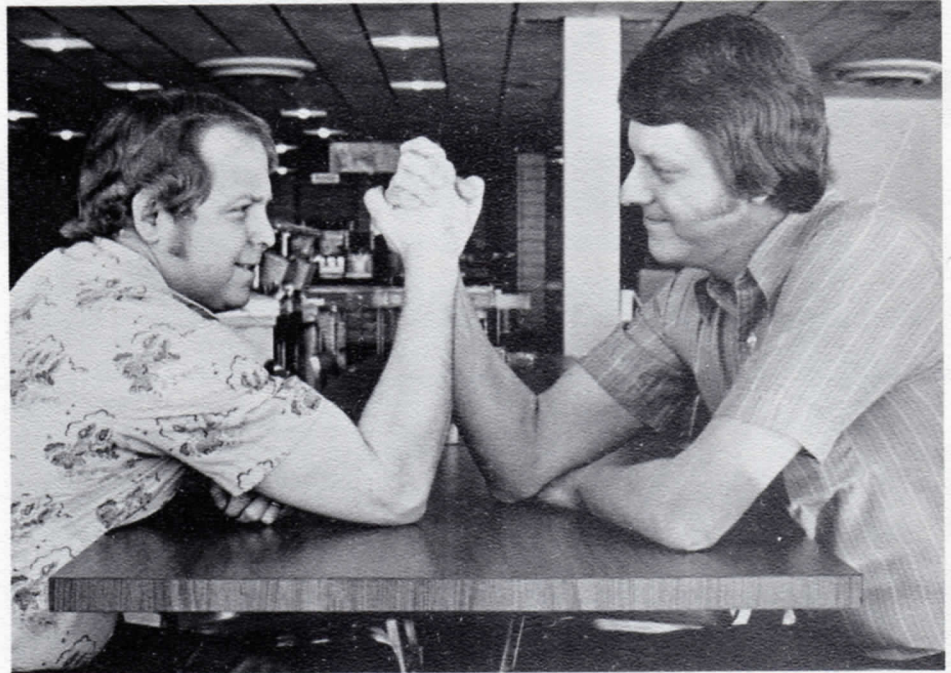
for your information

... AT&T's directors have voted to increase the quarterly dividend on the company's common shares from \$1.05 a share to \$1.15, an increase of 9.5 percent. It is the 12th increase since 1959, and raises the annual dividend rate to \$4.60. The new quarterly rate will be payable on April 1 to share owners of record on Feb. 28. A similar annual increase was approved by AT&T's directors at their February meeting in 1976 and 1977. Nearly 3 million share owners will receive the common dividend, AT&T's 354th consecutive quarterly payment.

AT&T's directors also declared regular quarterly dividends on the company's three publicly held preferred stock issues: a \$1 dividend on the company's \$4 convertible preferred issue; a dividend of 93½ cents on the \$3.74 nonconvertible preferred issue; and a dividend of 91 cents on the \$3.64 nonconvertible preferred issue . . .

... "Come out and see me sometime" may be Mae West's famous line, but it's also a fitting invitation to the Henry Doorly Zoo. Employees can take the zoo up on its invitation and at a savings if a family membership is bought for \$15 before April 4. After that date, memberships will cost \$18. The family membership allows a member and immediate family free admittance to the zoo during 1978. Regular admittance is \$2 for adults and 80 cents for children ages 5 through 11. Membership also entitles a person to a newsletter, free admittance to the zoo's annual Family Night, and free admittance to selected zoos throughout the nation (among them Lincoln Park Zoo and Brookfield Zoo in Chicago, and the Topeka Zoo in Kansas).

But the best part of a membership is visiting the Doorly Zoo and seeing its latest additions, including an aquarium with fresh and salt water species and the newly completed cat complex. To pay for the cat complex and to start work on a new building for giraffes and rare hoofstock, the zoo is depending on Omaha's citizens to buy memberships this year.



STRENGTH IN ARMS . . . Witte (left) and Willms each gave "a helping arm" that resulted in a life being saved.

Rare blood helps save a life

Early last month two Works employees helped save the life of a gravely ill person. But the two employees, Ron Willms (Dept. 441) and Bill Witte (Dept. 439), never met the person. In fact, they don't even know whose life they saved, and they never will.

It all began when the Omaha Regional Red Cross Blood Center received a request for B+ blood units, to be used in surgery. A spokesman for the blood center said that B+ blood is relatively rare in the population, about nine out of 100 persons. However, the blood of the patient in need was even rarer, because it contained antibodies called anti-Lewis "a" and anti-Lewis "b".

Though the blood center had a few frozen units of the blood needed, it wasn't enough for surgery. When the Red Cross began checking its list of donors, it found that just 12 persons in Omaha and surrounding communities had the rare blood.

One by one these 12 were called. In the end, just two from the list were eligible to donate blood — Willms and Witte. The others had been eliminated as possible donors because of circumstances such as pregnancy or being on medication.

The Red Cross called both men at work, and both agreed to go immediately to the center to donate their blood.

"I didn't even know I had a rare kind of blood," said Willms afterward. Though he has never donated blood in such an emergency before, Willms is no newcomer to giving blood. He has given 14 pints of blood, mostly during Red Cross visits to the Works.

Witte also was unaware his blood was rare. He's a regular blood donor, having given 29 pints of blood to the Red Cross. In fact, both Willms and Witte had wanted to donate blood during the Red Cross visit last month. It turns out they did — it was just a day earlier than they had expected.

As for never knowing the recipient of their blood, that's because of regulations requiring medical confidentiality, the Red Cross spokesman said. It's only natural to want to meet the person one has helped, but both men agreed "it's a good feeling" knowing someone is alive because of them.

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 **Western Electric**

service anniversaries

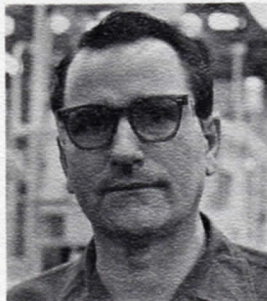
april



Robert Groth
33 years 4/14/43



Wayne McIntosh
30 years 4/3/48



Robert Jordan
25 years 4/2/53



Frank Drebot
25 years 4/16/53



Gertrude Graham
25 years 4/1/53

retirements



James Tolhurst
30 years



Paul Jackson
20 years



Otis Jensen
20 years

(Not pictured)
Dale Tiffey
21 years

20 years

H. G. Breitinger
E. C. Chereck
A. J. Cudly
H. J. Desive
R. H. Heesch
A. L. Husted
C. P. Leeder
R. J. Martens
N. E. McTaggart
R. L. Miles
G. Mokay
W. J. Plymale
R. R. Rahde
F. D. Rastede
B. C. Ridge
D. E. Sorensen
S. A. Svoboda
P. H. Wefelmeyer
B. Witulski Jr.
D. H. Yenney
H. G. Johnson Jr.

15 years

L. A. Ayala
H. Z. Hardy
J. D. Hildebrand
G. K. Oltman
T. B. Pinkerton
V. D. Suchsland

10 years

M. C. Alba
N. Jackson
B. C. Lewis
J. W. Perryman



Darryl Ruhl
25 years 4/14/53

(Not pictured)

Glenn Dormer
25 years 4/22/53

suggestion box

Henry Groleau — An idea on how to band spooled wire better and at a savings of \$2,320.26 a year earned \$350 for Groleau, of Dept. 361.

William Heskin — A micro-switch installed on the Bruderer punch press would disengage the clutch when a misfeed occurs. That suggestion earned \$155 for Heskin, Dept. 741, and will save the Works \$1,030.

Roger Lamb — Modifications to Se-

lect bar holding fixtures would eliminate bar jam-ups and save the company \$872.93. Lamb, Dept. 438, received \$135 for that suggestion.

Donald Kaar — A suggestion in 1976 to use a different kind of clamp in the Omaha Works was adopted by the Phoenix Works. Kaar, Dept. 741, received an additional \$310 as a result.

Count on them to be there



COUNT ON THEM . . . Pictured clockwise in the garage of the Millard Volunteer Fire Department are Don Dilla (kneeling), Al Pickering, Bob Gulliksen, Guy Tramp and Swede Jurgenson.

One night a call came in to the LaVista Volunteer Fire Department requesting help. The LaVista crew responded, taking injured persons to a hospital. It happened that a member of the crew had been at a masquerade party — dressed as a woman. He managed to change out of the dress he was wearing into his regular clothes, but there was no time to remove false eyelashes or wash off lipstick and gaudy eye makeup.

"Did we ever get the stares," recalled Don Dilla (Dept. 761), a LaVista volunteer. Since then, whenever the LaVista crew makes stops at that hospital, one almost can read what the hospital admitting personnel are thinking: "Watch out for those guys from LaVista," Dilla quipped.

That's the light side of volunteer fire and rescue work. More often there is another side not so humorous, such as the time rescue workers helped with victims of the shootout at Club 89 last November. That night a restaurant patron was killed and a number of others were injured from shotgun blasts.

"Swede" Jurgenson (Dept. 441) assisted at Club 89 as a member of the Millard Volunteer Fire Department. Al Pickering (Dept. 761), formerly of the Springfield Volunteer Fire Department, also came to the scene to help after he heard of the emergency on a scanner. Jurgenson and Pickering both are student paramedics, as is Dilla. In fact, Pickering always carries in his car a giant fishing tackle box of paramedic supplies, which a doctor on the scene used, he said. Jurgenson and Pickering each received citations from the Emergency Medical Services Council of the Midlands for their assistance.

IT ISN'T easy to understand what makes a person become a volunteer fireman or rescue worker when one considers it means tending to bloody, mangled bodies in car wrecks or fighting fires in the wee hours of the morning — all for no pay. Sometimes, it means losing pay, if a call comes while a volunteer is at work and he must take time off to respond.

But "Somebody's gotta care. If it (an emergency) happens to me, I hope someone's there who gives a damn," explained Pickering.

For Dilla, all it takes is a simple "Thanks, fellas," to make all the volunteer work worthwhile. Apparently it's enough for a number of Omaha Works employees who are members of volunteer fire departments in the city's surrounding communities. Jurgenson estimated that at least 60 employees serve as volunteers. Included in that number

are Guy Tramp (Dept. 744), chief of the Gretna Volunteer Fire Department, and Bob Gulliksen (Dept. 441), a member of the M... department.

What they all share in common is a willingness to meet a community need, and to undergo the necessary training to meet that need.

As firemen, that means training under state fire instructors who visit the various volunteer departments, and optional attendance at "fire school" conducted by the state for three days in May. As rescue workers, that means a minimum of 45 hours of training in advanced first aid and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Many rescue workers continue their training to earn EMTA (Emergency Medical Training-Ambulance) certification, consisting of 71 hours in academics and 10 hours minimum hospital experience.

If a volunteer decides to enter the paramedic program, he's in for a minimum 200 hours of lecture and lab experience, 100 hours of hospital experience, and from 100 to 200 hours of field supervisory experience. Under a physician's direction, paramedics can do such things as administer drugs and IVs

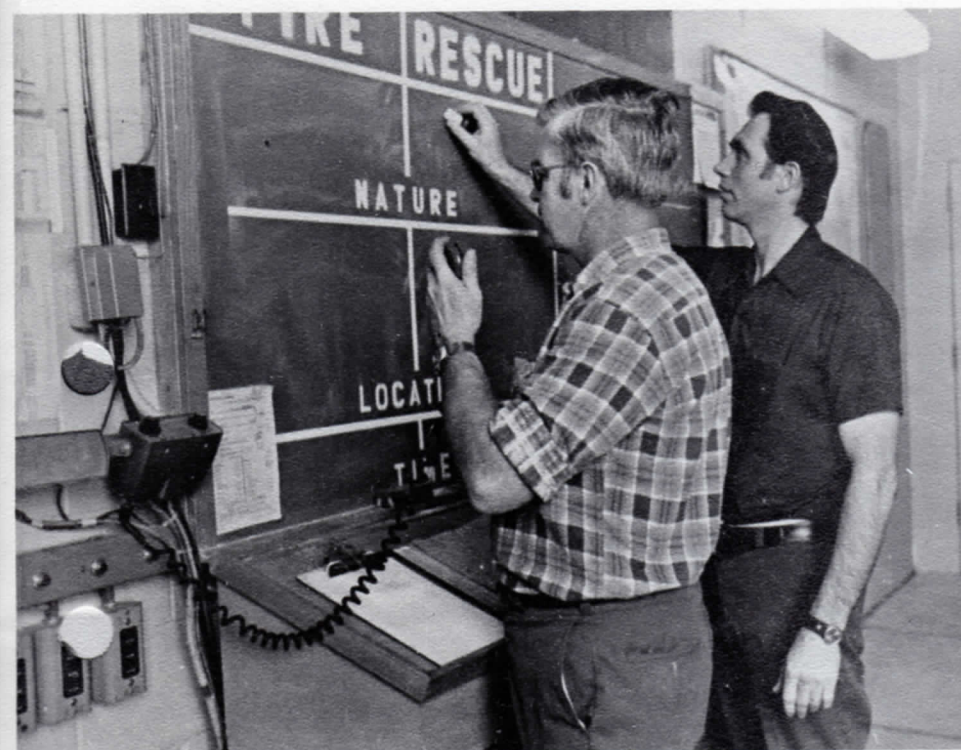


JUST PRETEND . . . Most riders in a rescue squad aren't faking it as Pickering does here while being lifted inside.

(intravenous solutions), apply electric shock to the heart (defibrillation) and perform an intubation (insert a tube down the bronchial passageway into the lungs).

THE TRAINING alone is enough responsibility for the volunteer to tackle,

but it's really just scratching the surface of what the job entails. For one thing, a volunteer essentially is always on call. Departments may schedule volunteers by shifts, but one never knows when the crew will be short a person unable to
(Continued on Page 8,



A CALL COMES IN . . . Gulliksen (left) shows how a volunteer crewman would answer a call for help. Jurgenson, meanwhile, gets ready to record the call. Volunteers are alerted via radio or telephone.



LEAD THE WAY . . . Tramp (right) adjusts a Scott Air Pack on Gulliksen. The device contains oxygen for fighting fire in dense smoke. Paper in the face mask simulates smoky conditions.

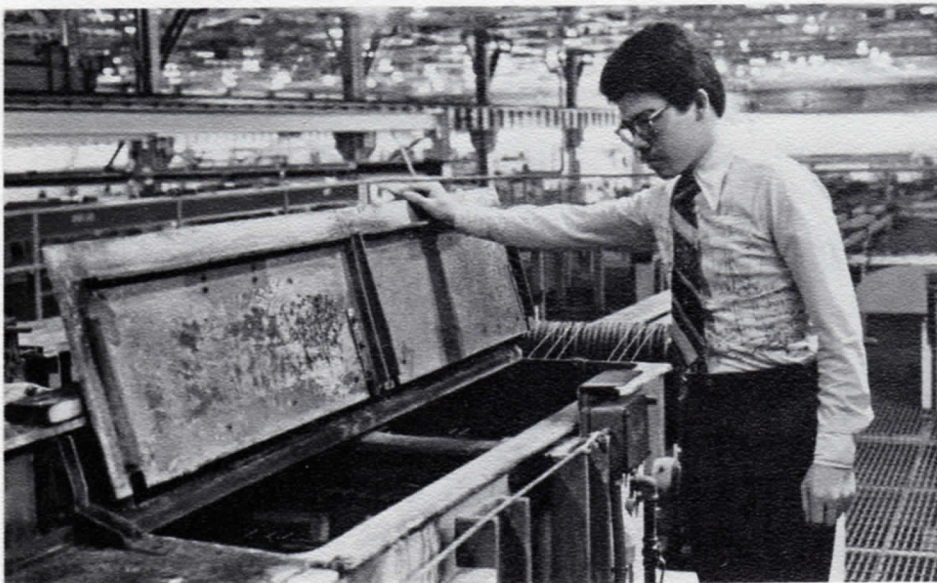
Change for ecology is a change for the better

The ecology movement may have lost its faddishness of the early 1970s, but its impact remains. That impact is felt at the Omaha Works, where federal and state environmental regulations must be followed daily.

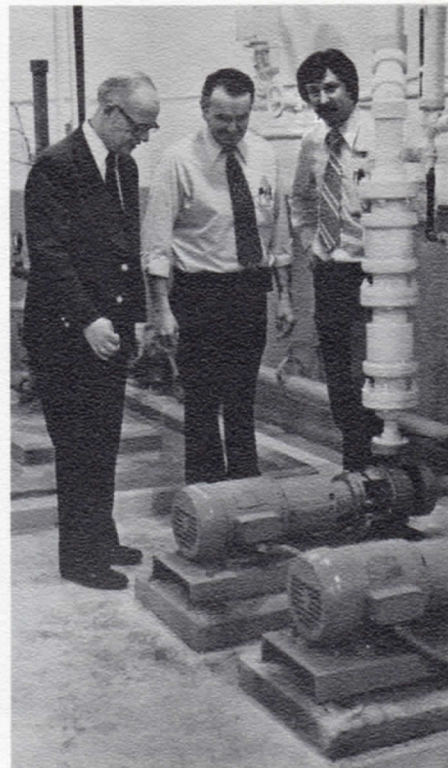
During the past year, improvement and modernization efforts have been under way in two areas of the Works, at the waste treatment plant and the central tin plater. The modifications were necessary in accordance with Nebraska Department of Environmental Control

(DEC) provisions. The department issues permits and enforces state and federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards.

When the central tin plater was moved to the Works last year from the Buffalo plant, it was obvious changes must be made. To comply with Nebraska's environmental laws, which forbid discarding such solutions directly into streams such as Hell Creek (it flows under 120th Street), the Omaha Works made two major changes to the plater.



LESS WATER NEEDED . . . Quintana checks on the cascade counter-current rinsing system on the central tin plater.



REPLACEMENT . . . Peterson (left), Fred Cottone and Mike Parizek (all Dept. 733) inspect one of the new pumps installed in the waste treatment plant.

AS WIRE passes through the plater, it goes through the tin plating rinse. By installing an evaporative recovery system, explained Alex Quintana (Dept. 275), the used rinse is evaporated to separate the tin plating solution from the water. The plating solution and water are recycled, and the plating process is repeated. Thus, none of the rinse is channeled into the city sewer system, and money is saved by reusing the costly tin plating solution, Quintana said.

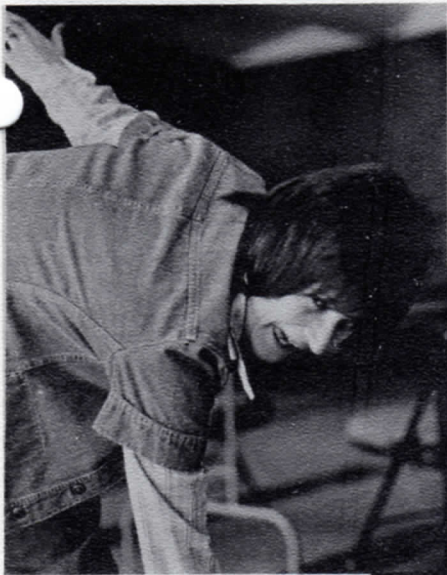
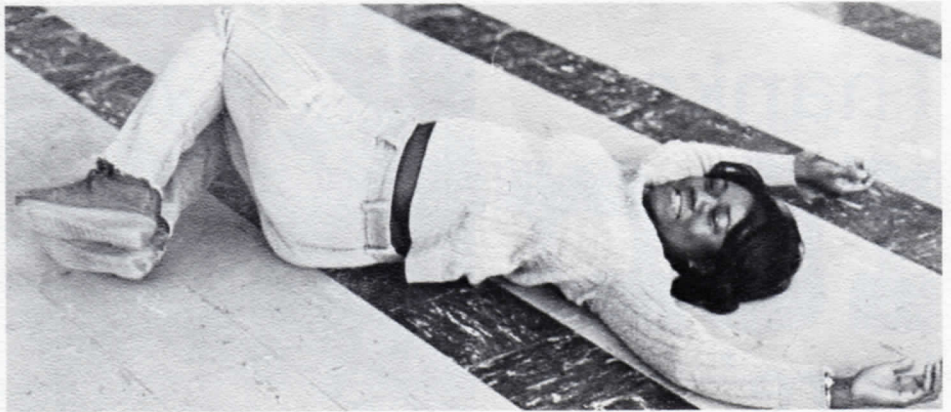
The other change to the central tin plater involved introducing a new rinsing method. By using a "cascade counter-current rinsing system," Quintana said, less water is needed in both the plating and cleaning rinse phases. In the cleaning rinse phase, the change reduced tenfold the amount of water needed for rinsing. The discharge from the cleaning rinse system had been 45,000 gallons per day, Quintana said, and now it's about 4,000 to 5,000 gallons per day.

With the volume of cleaning rinse discharge reduced, it can be sent to the waste treatment plant. There the alkali cleaning solution is neutralized and discharged into Hell Creek.

Not only did changes to the central tin plater allow compliance with environmental regulations, but they also resulted in cost reduction. Projected cost savings for the entire plater operation are estimated to be \$500,000, Quintana said.

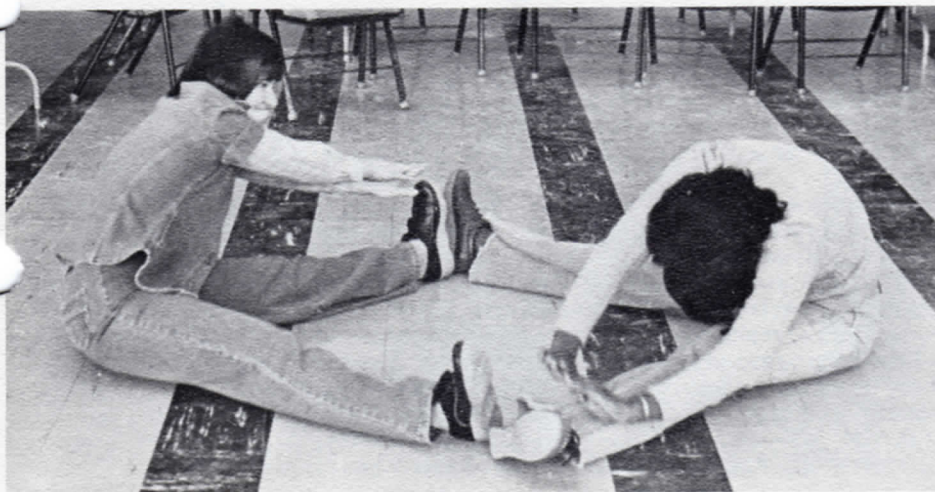
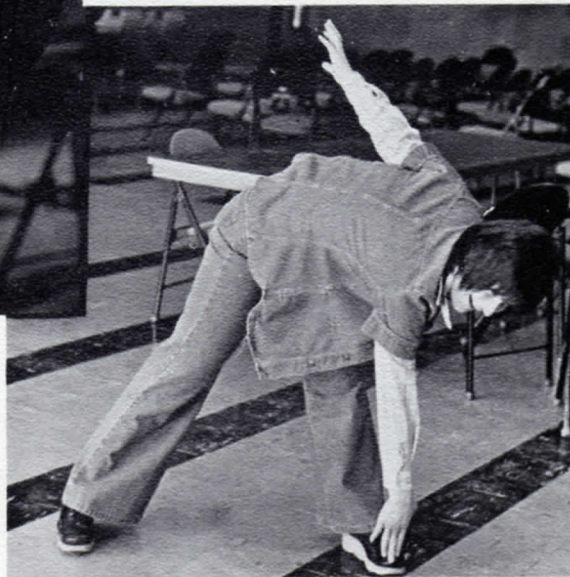
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STRETCH AND PULL . . . Cora Dennis (right) demonstrates the "hip roll" exercise, while Kathy Seibel (below) reaches for her toes. The more exercise you do, the easier it becomes, right?



All together now:

One, two (oof), three



TWO-GETHER . . . Waist bends and touching toes combine for effective exercise.

Now you can have your lunch and eat it, too. That is, provided you're willing to exercise for your supper.

For several months, a group of women employed at the Works have taken time out for toning up during their lunch periods. They gather in the auditorium when it isn't in use and begin at least 10 minutes of vigorous exercise.

First they do "jumping jacks" to limber up, followed by "hip rolls" to whittle down hips and waist and "scissors" exercises to trim thighs and stomach. They do sideways waist bends, knee bends, side kicks and sit-ups. As if that's not enough to take all the breath out of a person, they run laps around the auditorium — four, at least, or as many as possible. After the exercises, they sit down to lunch and relaxed conversation.

One might think that all that exercise would be tiring, but actually, "It makes a person feel a lot better," said exerciser Kathy Seibel (Dept. 727).

"We can come up here crabby and go back to work feeling great," said another lunchtime exerciser.

While some employees are ready with excuses not to exercise during lunch breaks ("The floor's too hard" or "I'll work up too great an appetite"), the women in the group insist that exercising together is more fun and that they are more apt to exercise on a regular basis. Besides, noted Bonnie Shilling (Dept. 722), exercise seems to help curb one's appetite: "When we come in we're hungry, but then we exercise and we're not hungry anymore."

A few in the group have noticed that toning up has resulted in their clothes fitting better now, while others have lost pounds. And to think it's as simple as 1, 2 (oof), 3.

'Thanks, fellas, for being there'

(Continued from Page 5)

make the call, Dilla said.

Calls can come in as often as twice a day as they do at the Millard department, Jurgenson said. He said he answered "about 135 rescue calls and many more fire calls" last year. It adds up to plenty of cold meals, broken plans and hours of interrupted sleep. Don't forget, he added, that after each call the crew must spend time cleaning up equipment so all is ready for the next call.

"His family is what makes a good fireman," Tramp said. "They have to back him all the way" and make the personal sacrifices with the volunteer. A family will fear for the safety of a volunteer, but "they're proud of us," he added.

As for volunteers fearing for themselves, Tramp said, "You bet we do, and that fear is never overcome." Fire fighting is "the most hazardous duty, and you think about the danger all the time."

Neither do rescue workers and paramedics ever become immune to the shock of a tragic car accident scene. On the scene "you don't think about what you have to do — you just do it," Dilla said. "It's afterward that you get the dry heaves and shakes. But if you're so callous that it doesn't bother you, you don't belong" in the department.

AT TIMES the frustrations of fire and rescue work are enough to stir second thoughts about volunteering. "Sometimes, it can be the most thankless job in the world," Dilla said. No matter how quickly a unit responds to a call (the LaVista department can respond in four minutes maximum, Dilla said), someone may say "What took you so long?" An inebriated person's home can be on fire, and yet he'll accuse volunteer firemen of breaking into his home and demand that they leave. Then, too, there is the matter of dealing with pranksters who give false alarms, or finding one's way through a new housing development where there are no street signs.

Fortunately, there is humor to be found in any job, as Jurgenson pointed out. Once, the Millard department was called to rescue a man who had been locked in his car's trunk — not very funny to the victim, but nevertheless an



BE PREPARED . . . Dilla (left) and Pickering compare the contents of their paramedic kits.

amusing situation. The Millard crew answered another call from neighbors who were concerned about unattended children in a house. When the unit arrived, the children had locked themselves in the house and wouldn't let us in," Jurgenson said. Undoubtedly, they had been instructed by their parents never to open the door to a stranger.

The camaraderie in a volunteer fire department also helps make the job a little

easier, Gulliksen said. He found that out when he "used to hang around the fire station in Chicago" before coming to Omaha, he said. It got him interested in volunteer work with the Millard department, where he has served for four years.

Still, Dilla insists, nothing seems to make a volunteer's work so worth the effort as when someone comes to him and says, "My kid's alive because you were there."

A change for the better

(Continued from Page 6)

THE MODERNIZATION of the waste treatment plant was done to meet such requirements that the plant be operated efficiently by a qualified staff, and that regular maintenance and testing be conducted.

John Peterson of Dept. 733 said the following improvements were made in the waste treatment plant:

—All outside storage and treatment tanks were inspected. Chemical linings were repaired or replaced as necessary.

—The pumping system from the surge tank in the plating room to the waste treatment plant was replaced with nine new pumps.

—The acid supply system used in the waste treatment plant was revised and modernized.

—The mixers in several surge tanks were modernized.

—Two motor control centers were inspected and cleaned.

—The complete interior of the plant was repainted.

—The drain around the plant was graded and rock laid to direct surface water into the proper storm drains.

—Maintenance was done on the plant's heating system to cut costs.

Still to be completed, Peterson said, is the replacement of all doors and windows, which have become corroded and loose. Grating and handrails also will be installed in the vicinity of the outside surge and treatment tanks.

The modernization of the plant, begun in March of last year, has cost an estimated \$260,000, Peterson said.