# The Scintillator

November, 1953



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G. E. STEINER, General Manager

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M. P. FERGUSON President
W. H. HOUGHTON Treasurer
H. A. GOSSNER Secretary

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MANAGING ÉDITOR......Carlton Dwight
Training Supervisor

EDITOR Denny Crandall
PHOTOGRAPHERS Harry Earl
Norman C. Meagley
Monroe P. Dixson

CONTRIBUTORS
Employees of Scintilla Magneto Division

# **Behind the Cover**

Young America had a field day at Scintilla's Open House on October 17th. Boys of all ages closely examined monstrous aircraft engines and conjured up visions of themselves as pilots winging their way through the blue skies. Little girls contented themselves with thoughts of someday becoming airline hostesses.

The young lad on this month's cover typifies the spirit of a Young America that is always looking ahead into the future. He is David Dwight, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Dwight.

Young Davy, like most boys of his age, can probably tell you more about airplanes than the average adult. It has always been that way in America where young people become air-minded at an early age. In this kind of an atmosphere, where it is often difficult to draw the line between plain dreaming and imagination, the continued progress of aviation is assured.

Open House at Scintilla was an excellent opportunity for Young America to get real close to the engines that power the nation's most famous types of aircraft.

# COLUMN OF TYPE

Despite the jam of visitors who crowded the aisles at Scintilla during Open House, only two tiny tots were lost during the day. These were quickly reunited with their parents via the public address system.

If statistics interest you, you'll like these. The cafeteria served Open House visitors 10,000 donuts, 4,350 cookies, 190 gallons of fruit punch and 200 gallons

of coffee.

One little girl, tired of it all, crawled up onto one of the beds in First Aid and promptly went to sleep while her parents viewed the display of safety equipment. She'd had enough.

A silvery haired gentleman summed things up rather nicely, we think. Bending close to examine the ignition system that girdled an aircraft engine, he shook his head slightly and was heard to exclaim, "Isn't it wonderful what comes out of men's minds?"

The Open House hostesses registered some visitors from such faraway points as Vermont, Iowa and North Carolina. There was one foreign national, a Danish youth who is in this country as a representative of the Danish American Foundation.

There was such a press of visitors waiting to get in, the gates were opened half an hour earlier at 9:30. By 11:00 o'clock the hostesses had tagged some 2,000 guests in the first hour and a half of registration. The last visitors did not leave the plant until after 5:30.

It took three months of preparation to get ready for Open House. The first committee meeting, at which initial plans were made, was held the week following vacation. Scores of people were involved in the preparations that followed in the weeks leading up to October 17th.

The plant's parking lots were packed full most of the day. Our own plant protection force was supplemented by some 25 village (iremen who manned posts

along the tour route.

An anonymous somebody sent Scintilla a letter suggesting that a door prize be given on "open house day" to the person having the most "near" relatives working in the plant. It was a good suggestion, but one which we could not act upon since it arrived too late to make the necessary changes called for in the registration forms.





Tiny visitor gets tagged with Open House guest badge at Registration Tent.

# THOUSANDS FLOOD GATES OF SCINTILLA DURING

# **OPEN HOUSE**

A FLOOD TIDE of some 12,000 area residents surged through the gates of Scintilla on October 17th to attend the company's first Open House in five years. Total attendance exceeded a Family Day visitation in 1948 by more than seven thousand.

The response to the company's invitation to come in and get acquainted went way beyond that anticipated by most Scintilla personnel, some of whom had ventured estimates that between 7,000 and 10,000 people would attend. Plant protection, handed the



Hostesses shown here were on duty at South Gate to handle registration of some 12,000 visitors.

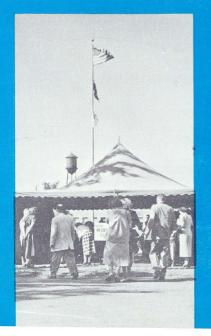
big task of finding space for the thousands of cars that invaded the plant's parking lots, was hard pushed most of the day by the steady stream of vehicles that flowed continuously from all directions toward Scintilla.

Village firemen supplemented Scintilla's plant protection force and helped detour visitors around restricted sections. Outside of a few research and experimental areas, however, guests were free to visit all departments. Hostesses, selected from both manufactur-

ing and office departments, greeted visitors at the gate and tagged them with orange guest badges.

Some of the youngest visitors toured the plant in baby carriages. There were boys and girls everywhere, very much in evidence as they explored the Scintilla scene. For many of them it was the thrill of their young lives to visit the place where Dad or Mom works ... to see their machine, work bench, or desk.

Scintilla employees on both shifts









A Scintilla hostess greets two young guests.

On opposite page, guests are pictured receiving Open House brochures as they file past hostesses into the Reception Room. Center photo shows General Manager George E. Steiner greeting guests at the entrance to the plant.

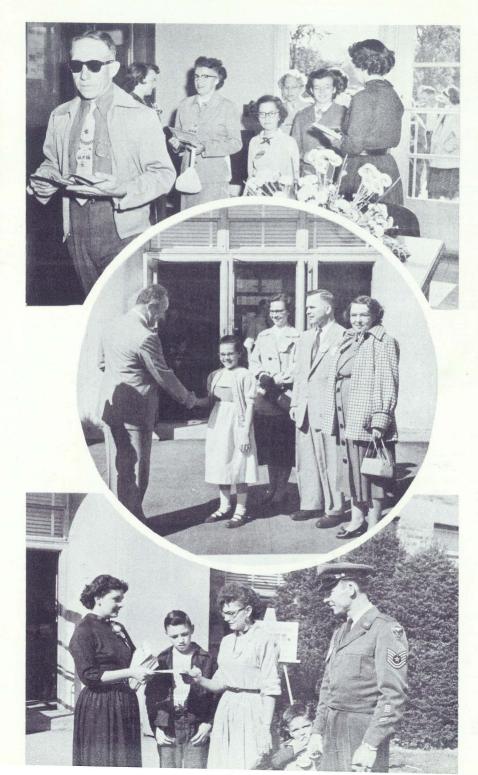
### **OPEN HOUSE**

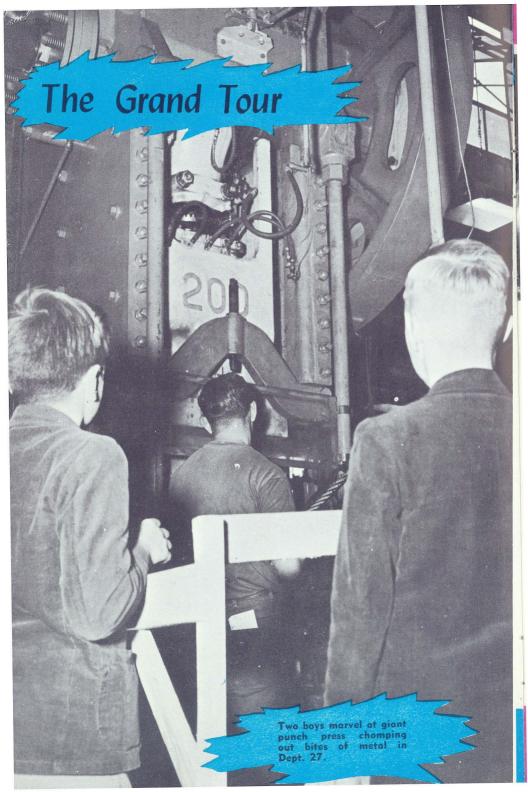
treated visitors to a "behind the scenes" look at the factory in action. Most adult visitors were as intrigued with the intricate machine, assembly and test operations as were the young-sters. One seasoned veteran of manufacturing plants in two states marvelled at the variety of operations required in the production of Scintilla products. An old timer, who retired from Scin-

tilla in 1946, was amazed at the expansion and addition of new equipment that has taken place since then.

Product displays set up to illustrate the end use of many Scintilla components aroused the interest of employees, as well as guests. The displays included a Harnischfeger Diesel Engine, equipped with Scintilla fuel injection pumps and nozzle holders; T-40 Turbo-Prop Engine, equipped with Scintilla jet ignition; Bolens Garden Tractor & Power Mower, equipped with Scintilla K-magnetos; Continental C145-2 Small Aircraft Engine, equipped with Scintilla magnetos; Wright Turbo Compound Engine, equipped with Scintilla low tension ignition system; Lycoming 0290-DC Small Aircraft Engine, equipped with Scintilla magnetos; Mall 2MG24 Chain Saw, equipped with Scintilla K-magneto; Kiekhaefer-Mercurv Mark 20 Outboard Motor, equipped with Scintilla K-magneto; Porter-Cable Portable Generator, equipped with Scintilla K-magneto; Jet Engine Starter, equipped with a Scintilla jet ignition system; and Pratt & Whitney R-2800 Engine, equipped with Scintilla's low tension ignition system.









Several youngsters peer into the end of a turbo jet engine.



Inspection detail being performed by two Scintilla employees draws the interest of a visiting family group. The little girl in this photo found the photographer more interesting than the technical details showing installation of our Ignition Analyzer.







Engine displays and departmental exhibits were of great interest to guests.







Engines, large and small, were among those viewed by our Open House guests.





12,000 Visitors Champlin, Sidney; 1 Year Afton; Thelma Dalrymple Tour Scintilla esidents are ex employes at the les. viation Corporat 'Open House vus Anniversary of R arp brid the gates of Scintilla Magneto Divi lle: pok at the crea industry that distril tema erine and amploves some ney fi ousan e plar To Hold pen House Sidney Scintilla Magneto Dinic wonder prodssued necessary the armed forcespes for ouse for the Arst og plans for the of the cour 2,000 Visit overnme n door po tended an invita have the oppor Intervals, ing at first hand the residents SIDNEY, Oct. 18. people visited the Magneto Division Plant More than Saturday former Scintilla Plans guests of the ployes. Doo to Division, home of jet ign hour ahead Aviation Day lucts, has been issued ne hold Open House for the plans for the Open Ho nager of the local divisi Saturday Let Engines t 'Onen House' Sidney - Several of

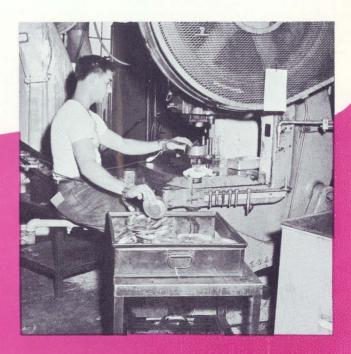


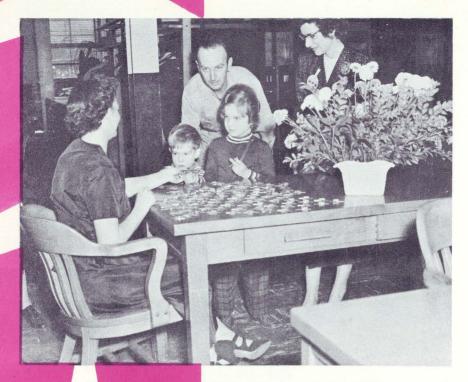
Jet engine starter with Scintilla ignition attracts the attention of this young man, while group below makes examination of coil display in Dept. 38.





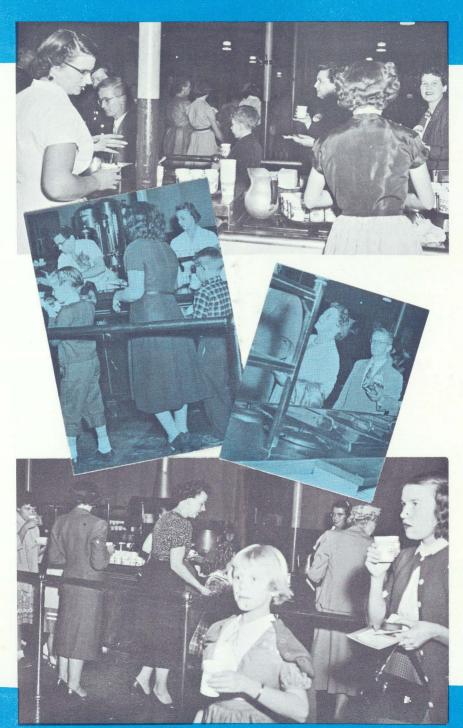
Production line on a small scale gave visitors idea of factory operation as they watched souvenir ash trays being manufactured.





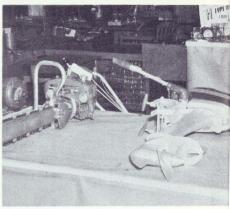
There were souvenirs for children, too...in the form of small metal airplanes and magnets. Then on to the cafeteria for refreshments (see photos on opposite page).



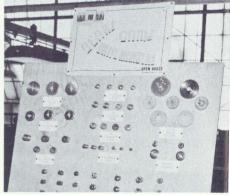


# A Lot of Work and Pride Went Into Open House Displays

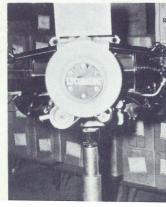










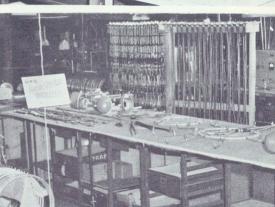








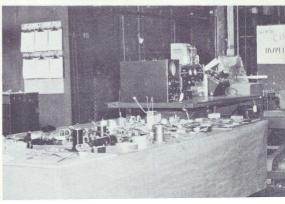












# **Our Young Visitors Write**

Mrs. Margaret Bradshaw is pictured at the right with Paul Schrader, who acted as her guide through Scintilla during Open House.



Scintilla was delighted to receive these letters from several young quests who visited us during our Open House. They were written by members of Mrs. Bradshaw's Fifth Grade Class at Beinbridge Central School.



Bainbridge, N. Y. Oct. 20, 1953

cintilla Co.,

I think it was very nice of you to have a Open House. I liked to watch the punchpress work in department 27. I saw a punch press make ash trays. The hand Guards were very interesting to watch. I saw some of the things the punch press made. I saw a magneto. I saw three airplane motors.

Yours sincerely, Billy Youngs



Bainbridge, N. Y. Oct. 21, 1953

The Scintilla Co., Saturday, Oct. 17th, I visited the Open House. The part I liked best was the place where the airplane motors were and another is where they make machinery. My mother and father used to work in the Scintilla. I thought the whole Scintilla was very interesting in fact. My mother used to work in the drawing part. I'm in the fifth grade at Bainbridge Central High School.

Sincerely yours, Nancy Loudon



Bainbridge, N. Y. Oct. 20, 1953

Scintilla Co.,

I had a very nice time last Saturday when I visited your co. I most of all enjoyed the maroon colored motor made by Scintilla and Lycoming. I also want to thank you very much for souvenirs.

Sincerely yours, Kent Fargo



Bainbridge, N. Y. Oct. 20, 1953

The Scintilla Co.,

went to your Open House Saturday, October 17th. I enjoyed it very much. I especially liked the airplane motor with the propellor. I found the trip very interesting and educational. I never thought that it was that big and had so many machines. .Thank you very much for a nice time.

Sincerely, Vicki Johnson



Bainbridge, N. Y. Oct. 20, 1953

The Scintilla Co.,

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you because I want you to know how much I like the Scintilla. The best things I liked was where my father (Mr. Schroth) works. The interesting thing that he did was where he would spray a hose on this hot metal and then he would put some more metal in it. I hope you will have Open House again.

Yours truly, Nancy Schroth



Bainbridge, N. Y. Oct. 21, 1953

The Scintilla Co.,

I enjoyed my visit to your plant and found it very interesting. The parts which I liked best were first the airplane motors and how they were put together and the parts that went into them. I also liked the machines that have first a big drill and then a smaller one and so on and so forth. I was fascinated when I watched the women check the products so fast. I had a wonderful time. Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours, David B. Laird, Jr.



Bainbridge, N. Y. October 21, 1953

The Scintilla Co.,

I'm writing because I want to tell you what a nice time I had at Open House. The outside grounds are very nice and clean and they are very pretty.

I guess I wouldn't like to work in the plant, but I would like to work in an office. Maybe it's because my mother works in an office. I am very sure that anyone could get lost because the building is so big. I would like to know how many days it took to complete the whole building. The little toys you gave away are very cute. Thank you again for the nice time.

D. S. D.

Sincerely, Dedra Day

> Bainbridge, N. Y. Oct. 20, 1953

The Scintilla Co.,

I think it was very nice of you to have such a nice display of parts that go into u diesel and jet engines. It must have taken a lot of work and money to put up tables, signs, ropes, etc. I saw a profile lathe and the punch press that punched out the ashtrays. And the one that labels them. It must be a lot of work to keep it as clean as it is. But I know that you have very good workers down there. I met a number of my father's friends down there too. Thank you for the airplains and magnets and everything I saw I hope you will have another Open House soon.

Your coming worker,



Bainbridge, N. Y. Oct. 22, 1953

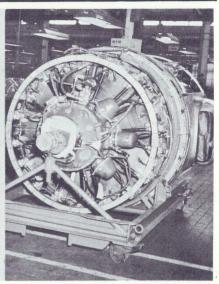
The Scintilla Co.,

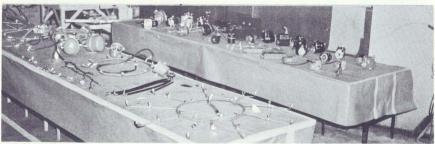
My father and I went through your plant with about fourteen Cub Scouts and two parents. I think you have a very good set-up. What I liked most was my father's department and next to his office was a room in which there was a machine. You turn it on and little tin tubs go round and out of sort of a bowl and dropped in to a box. I enjoyed the rest of your splendid hospitality.

Sincerely, Stephen Wilson

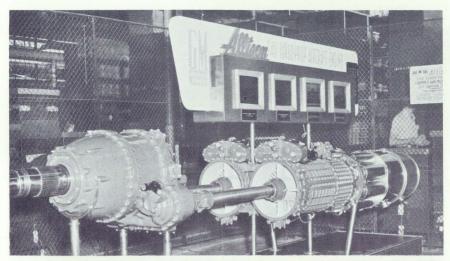
# displays, and more displays...













## EASTONETTES

# By Ken Easton

If you could paint a picture of twelve thousand smiling faces... advancing toward a focal point from near and distant places. If you could dip your brush into the fount of friendship's glow... and with it blend the warmth of the folks you've come to know. If you could then apply the two as background to the scene... with just a bit of manner blithe to make the faces beam... and then if you could frame it in a spirit of goodwill... for all to view and marvel at 'mid all these worldly ills—you'd have a masterpiece, my friend, and your canvas would display... Scintilla's Open House, more apt than words could e'er convey.

### GUEST



Open House



SCINTILLA MAGNETO DIVISION BENDIX AVIATION CORPORATION
P. O. BOX 188
SIDNEY, NEW YORK, U. S. A.

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