

## Postal service sets new standards

Present regulations on minimum sizes of mail will be expanded to all classes of mail and types of service effective April 15, 1978, says the U.S. Postal Service.

Regulations will be amended to prohibit: all items which are less than .007 inches thick; and all items, other than keys and identification devices, which are 25 inches thick or less and are not rectangular, or are less than 25 inches in height or less than five inches in length.

To encourage the use of standard size mail and to compensate the Postal Service for added costs of handling nonstandard items, first class mail and airmail weighing one ounce or less will be declared nonstandard and

will be subject to a surcharge in addition to the applicable postage and fees.

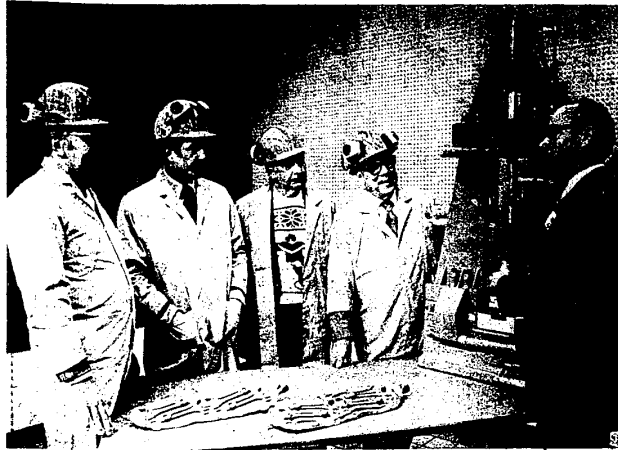
Also covered under the surcharge will be single piece third class mail weighing two ounces or less which has a height-to-length ratio which does not fall between 1-1.3 and 1-2.5 inclusive or exceeds the following limitations: height-6.125 inches; length-11.5 inches; and thickness-25 inches. The surcharge will be determined at a later date.

The changes in the mail classification were necessary to establish a standard size range for mail that is compatible with the operating limits of the mail processing equipment employed by the Postal Service, officials

say. Undersized and nonstandard mail is expensive to process for several reasons, officials explain.

Such mail cannot be distributed on letter sorting machines and causes disruptive delays in the facing-cancelling operation as the odd sized letters and cards become jammed in the machinery, "exploding" letters and cards across the workroom which damages the odd sized pieces and others as well.

The undersized and non-standard mail is therefore processed manually at substantially higher postal processing costs.



### Greeting guests

Farmington resident B.J. Jurek (right), Chevrolet's Detroit Forge plant manager and R. Lee Courtney (second from right), of Farmington Hills, fleet manager, recently conducted a tour for Pennsylvania Bell executives as part of the Society of Engineers' convention. Those touring are being shown a scale model of a steam hammer which in real size stands 25 feet high and weighs 40 tons. It forges connecting rods, steering components and other automotive parts.

## Thompson examines campus of '70s

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leon-like attitude in some of his classes.

"I adapted to the class. If I was in a sociology class, I talked about roles like a sociologist would. The professors were always acting as if their class was the only class you were taking," he remembered, as he fished out a cigar from the pocket of his denim suit.

Today, he finds himself on the other side of the desk, dealing with students who were unsuccessful in blending in with their classmates.

"I see their mothers or their lawyers, too," he said.

"There a lot of mothers who see me. They always tell, 'your mother must be proud of you,' he grins.

Unlike their predecessors, students are apt to consult a lawyer instead of their professor when they receive failing grades.

"Today's students are prone to litigation. Students have sued because they're sensitive to failing grades," he said.

"IT REFLECTS A CONSUMER mentality," he said.

Both Thompson and his wife of 17 years, Nancy, are still students. His

pursuit of a doctorate has been postponed so she can complete work for an associates degree in medical technology and a bachelor's in microbiology.

"And its the associates degree that will get her a job, not the BA," he mused.

In his free time, he prefers to concentrate on family activities. "My priorities are work, first, my family, second and myself, third," he explained.

"I like to combine the second and third priorities. Nice weather will find him cruising along on his motorcycle, often with one of his three children as a passenger.

"My wife doesn't care for it. That's really an understatement. She tried it just once," he laughed.

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