October 1931- Lima: Sponsored a "Buy a Bushel of Wheat" campaign, and put much flour into the hands of welfare agencies to help the poor through the winter. Held its Annual Outing for children, but on account of cold rain transferred the "outing" to a theater, and will hold another outdoors later.

October 1936-Bluffton, raised money for a new hospital building. Around \$3,000 was subscribed, and the Lions put up \$1,052 of it. Working for a sewer system and disposal plant.

October 1948-Fayette, put on its annual Harvest Festival with much success. Club spent \$900 building carnival stands, and conducted its own concessions with the exception of the rides. Gave away a car as a grand prize. When all expenses had been met there was a net of \$2,000. Club is now working for a comprehensive garbage disposal unit. Lion labor has completed a parking station on town property, with accommodations for 100 cars.

October 1950-Waynesfield, reports that it operated a lunch stand at the county fair in conjunction with the P.T.A. The stand grossed \$3,500 for the six days and netted approximately \$750. Not so long ago, the club sponsored a clean-up campaign for the community.

October 1951-Vanlue, purchased a wagon and built a 16x20 portable bandstand on it for the use of the school band. When not in use the bandstand may be folded up, right on the wagon, and stored in any place large enough to accommodate the wagon itself. A majority of the club members worked on the building of this bandstand. It will be donated to the school for community and school activities, and paid for from returns of a donkey ball game sponsored by the club.

October 1962-**Lucky Winner Gives Prize Right Back**– A surprise turn of events at the **Bowling Green**, Ohio Lions ninth annual boat raffle boosted proceeds by \$200. The club netted over \$700 from the sale of the raffle tickets and awarded the prize boat to the gentleman holding the lucky number. The winner in turn sold the boat for \$200 and turned the money over to the Lions club. His reason? He wanted to recognize the club's outstanding contributions to the community life during the past year.





1962



No Eyes On The Clock



Photos-Robert Packo-Toledo

THIRTY YEARS ago, the Toledo, Ohio Society for the Blind opened shop with a ramshackle building, a donated rugweaving loom, and a full-blown desire to create jobs for the blind.

Today, the Society has a bustling, well equipped modern plant of 26,000 square feet. It contracts its services to nineteen area industries, many of them with nationally known names, and boasts that it has jobs waiting for any blind person in Toledo who can and wants to work.

The Society is active in other forms of blind welfare, too. It gives financial aid, offers medical help, holds typing classes for the blind, and provides guidance for parents of pre-school blind children. In the headquarters building are recreational facilities for area blind where twice monthly social events are held.

Much credit for the Society's success should go to the Toledo Lions club, which has provided continuing support because, say its mem-bers, "blind rehabilitation is really the best form of welfare." In 1928, the Lions helped open the program by renovating the Society's building. And in the past five years, the club has given more than \$32,000 in aid funds.

Except for a few sighted employees who act as assembly line inspectors, all of the Society's 65 factory are legally blind. Their biggest job is packing and processing. Through three assembly line stream glass products, chemicals, jewelry items, advertising materials for

Workers in unusual factory stuff envelopes (left) for two printing houses and weave cane furniture (right) for sale to interior decorators, stores, upholsters.

The people in this factory can't see what there doing, but they produce top-notch work.

stuffing in envelopes, and millions of automotive parts. Three workers specialize in what's believed to be the only furniture cane-weaving operation in Toledo. And even the blind who can't leave their homes have a place in the pro-duction line. The Society has 22 of these em-ployees who turn out such goods as telephone book covers, basket liners and wash cloths.

Although the workers can see little or nothing of what they're doing (many keep their guide dogs at their sides), clients are enthusiastic about the job being done.

Says Paul Putman, president of the AP Parts Corp., which has 90 percent of its auto muffler parts packed at the Society:

"The quality of this work is fantastic. In addition to doing a one job for us, these people contribute to their own support by being pro-ductive. Their excellent attendance record shows how much this- work means to them, too."



ABSORBED in this job, packer bends over bins, counts out right number of washers and nuts with sensitive fingers, and puts them in boxes moving by on assembly line.



LEGALLY blind, though partially seeing, fork truck operator has been moving heavy loads for two years without any accident.



**CARTONS PACKED** for shipment all over country are stuffed and closed in one of final production jobs; Plant is one of 600 in U.S. providing vocational rehabilitation for handicapped.



**SOCIETY'S FACTORY** has three modem assembly lines on which are packaged diverse products, ranging from atomizers to auto muffler clamps (above).





October 1969- Moon pioneer Neil Armstrong receives Lionism's Medal of Distinction and plaque from Int. Pres. W. R. Bryan during homecoming ceremonies for astronaut in Wapakoneta, Ohio. Armstrong has been honorary Lion since 1962, his father an active member since 1959. Plaque cites astronaut's achievement in moon landing and "distinguished career dedicated to the peaceful exploration of space and the promotion of greater understanding ... "

October 2007-Maumee, Lions and the Merickel-Farley Trout Club teamed up to take visually impaired youth to a trout pond for an afternoon of fishing.

### October 2015

#### Still Roaring Sixty-year members made Lionism what it is today- and often still pitch in on projects.

John Garvin, 102 Lion since 1954 West Mansfield Lions Club, Ohio

District 13-E Governor Micheal Gibbs has a cherished memory of John Garvin. "One time, I visited his club when he was only 99 years old," Gibbs recalls. "He stood up and made an impassioned plea for names of people who would make good Lions. He told people he would go out and make the contacts, and do all he could to get them to join."

That enthusiasm has marked Garvin's life as a Lion.

"One year, we made a concerted effort to gather used eyeglasses," says Garvin, an MJF "We gathered over 1,000 pairs within a few months."

Garvin also supports his club's annual Turkey Raffle. "This last November,

101-year-old Lion John was all over, helping out where ever he saw a need," Gibbs says. "We even got him to spin the wheel a few times and call.

Editors note-The following clubs in the OH1 geographical area are now defunct: Vanlue #1 (1955) and Maumee (2010)



Compiled By PDG Bill Keller