

Operation 'Score' Spurs A Cost-Cutting Campaign

By PHILIP E. WATSON
Los Angeles County Assessor
Monday we kicked off a brand new program in the Assessor's Department.
The program is named SCORE. And the idea behind SCORE is to involve each member of our department in an organized effort to think of new and better ways of getting our work done.
What we're aiming at is to build an atmosphere in which all of us, at all levels within the department, are constantly seeking ways to increase efficiency and effect economies, and by so doing, make it possible for us to undertake new projects within our existing budget.
Such "cost improvement" programs have been enormously successful in private industry. So far as we know, ours is the first Assessor's Department in the country to begin one.
PRIVATE INDUSTRY has a great advantage over us; how things are now being



SHOP CLASS . . . William Maley, woodshop instructor at South High, watches as Lonnie McDonald cuts drawer joints for a project which he displayed during an Industrial Art Fair at the school. Work of students in industrial arts and homemaking classes were displayed during the fair, which was open to the public.



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J. P. Leggett,
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done with an eye toward seeing if they can't be done better. It's easy to fall into the trap of thinking that just because things have been done a certain way for so many years, there is no other way to do them. We'd still be lighting our homes with candles and hitching old Dobbin to the shay if this thinking had prevailed.
Sometimes, too, one hesitates to make a suggestion for fear that it will be received as criticism, rather than helpfulness. SCORE should encourage anyone with a suggestion to bring it up, since we're actively seeking these ideas.
We've appointed Matt Kardon, of our Standards Division, to coordinate the program, and named one person as the SCORE representative in each of our Divisions and regional offices. It will be up to them to keep the rest of us stimulated to more creative thinking.
THE SIMPLEST idea can pay off. A few months ago,

one of the ladies on our clerical staff, whose job includes stamping papers in and out, decided there had to be a better way of handling the 70-odd rubber stamps for the right one every time she needed it. She designed a simple rack to hold the stamps — their identification face-out in alphabetical order — and effected a projected saving of almost a thousand dollars a year. For her suggestion, she won a County cash award of \$96 — 10 per cent of the saving.
It will take quite a few such ideas if we're to reach our goal of saving half a million dollars next year. But every thousand counts.
Airman 3.C. Steve J. Foral, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Foral of 26220 Senator Ave., Harbor City, has been graduated with honors at Sheppard AFB, Tex., from the training course for U. S. Air Force aircraft mechanics. Airman Foral, a graduate of Narbonne High School, attended Harbor College.

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