

tionally been a man's job. Of course they told me that when the men returned after the war they would get the jobs back. The men came back, however, and I kept my job!"

In 1955 Mary moved again with her husband, but this time to Washington, D.C., and she kept her job by transferring to the Washington Office of Esso Research and Engineering (ER&E). Here she found one of the most interesting assignments of her career . . . in a job she thought she'd never want—secretary! "We worked as ER&E's liaison with the patent office. The chemists in New Jersey would develop all kinds of new products and we'd file them with the U. S. Patent Office. This was the first time I'd heard of things like 'Polymers.' It was really quite interesting."

Returning to Richmond in 1956, Mary made a career change into Personnel, first as Senior Plans Administration Clerk, and then as Personnel Office Supervisor. She remained in the Virginia-West Virginia Division until its closing in 1966, when she assumed her present position in the Richmond District.

Her work in Personnel was always Mary's forte. "When I went into Personnel I was well experienced," she said with a grin, "afterall, I had experienced a leave of absence, a termination, a rehire, an industrial accident (a broken foot from tripping over street car tracks while on the job), and I had used the Thrift Program to full advantage." Now Mary Staples has also experienced retirement. In the end she used her Personnel experience to process her own retirement papers . . . along with those of ten other Richmond area employees!

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Pete Poulsen: Editor

The

RECORD

How The • Got Its Name

Webster's unabridged dictionary, third edition, defines a "bullet" as a large solid dot placed in printed matter to draw attention.

However, if you work at Exxon, you'll find that bullet commonly referred to as a "Korky dot."

The birth and subsequent widespread use of what has become known as the "Korky dot" stemmed from **A. F. (Korky) Kaulakis'** concern about the quality of technical reporting being turned out by the research and engineering groups.

As Kaulakis explains, "It was my belief that many capable people were not getting adequate credit and appreciation largely because the basic quality of work that was behind their presentations was lost because of lousy packaging. The problem, to my mind, came down to a lack of clarity that stemmed

- partly from poor organization of the story that had to be told and

- partly from unattractive graphic appearance."

In 1956 Kaulakis became manager of Employee Relations at Exxon Research and Engineering. His project was to organize a centralized recruiting manual. "It was during this period," Kaulakis recalls, "that we came up with new formats including the extensive use of bullets to highlight key ideas."

In 1958, Korky was named director of Process Research Division and developed a new writing style manual, wherein the use of the dot was prescribed and proclaimed. The dot eventually worked its way into all technical reports and presentations and was affectionately dubbed the "Korky dot."



• A. F. "Korky" Kaulakis made an indelible mark on Exxon. His "Korky dot" is a permanent part of office lingo and most technical reports.