

MUELLER RECORD

INSIDE ONLY

SEPTEMBER 1944

No. 131

WATCH YOUR STEP

Christmas Presents for Service Men To Be Mailed Early

In the July issue of the Outside Record we printed an article on Christmas presents for the boys overseas.

Additional information comes to us from Postmaster General Frank C. Walker: He says: "Save strong string and box material and start shopping." The mailing period, both army and navy is from September 15 to October 15th.

After October 15th, no gift parcel may be mailed to a soldier without the presentation of a written request from him.

The great demand upon shipping and the need for giving preference to arms, ammunitions, medicine and foods is the prime reason for the early shipping date. Moreover, gift parcels must travel great distances and frequently the transfer of large numbers of service men to new stations necessitates forwarding of packages and this requires additional time.

You must be mindful that these gifts must travel far, with shipping space crowded. If the gifts are to be protected in transit they must be packed in boxes made of metal, wood, solid fiberboard, or strong double-faced corrugated fiberboard, reinforced with strong gummed paper tape or tied with strong twine. If both tape and strong twine are used, so much the better. If the outer wrapper is crushed—and this is likely to happen—the loss of contents may be prevented if fiberboard boxes are wrapped in heavy paper.

This Is Important

Among the more important rules for Christmas mailings to the armed forces overseas are the following:

The parcel must not exceed five pounds, must not be more than 15 inches in length, or 36 inches in length and girth combined.

Should be marked "Christmas parcel" so it may be given special attention to assure its arrival before December 25.

Not more than one parcel may be mailed in any one week to the same member of the armed forces by or on behalf of the same mailer.

When combination packages are made up of such items as miscellaneous toilet articles, hard candies, soaps, etc., the contents should be tightly packed so that they will not become loosened in transit and damage the contents or the cover. Hard candies, nuts, caramals (including those covered with chocolate), cookies, fruit cake, and chocolate bars individually wrapped in waxed paper should be enclosed in inner boxes of wood, metal, or cardboard.

Perishable goods, such as fruits and vegetables that may spoil, are prohibited. In-toxicants, inflammable materials such as matches or lighter fluids, poisons, and anything that may damage other mail also are prohibited. Gifts enclosed in glass should be substantially packed to avoid breakage. Sharp instruments, such as razors and knives, must have their edges and points protected so that they cannot cut through the coverings and injure postal personnel or damage other packages.

SPECIAL EDITORIAL NOTE:

The material used in the above came to us direct from Washington, D. C. It, therefore, may be accepted as authoritative. Follow the instructions given and save trouble and annoyance for yourself, the postal officials and disappointment to the prospective recipient.

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VISIT FROM DAWES

The following interesting article appeared in the Daily Review of June 6, '24. At that time Dawes was one of the prominent politicians of the country and was very much in the public eye.

Twenty Years Ago—1924

Charles G. Dawes, who was nominated as running mate for Calvin Coolidge by the Republicans yesterday, is well known to a considerable number of Decatur citizens. He was here last June to organize the Minute Men of the Constitution with Adolph Mueller as captain. He also spoke in Millikin university.

PREPARE FOR WINTER

Get Your Heating Plant In Order —Fill the Coal Bin

There are two urgent necessities which all should meet if possible. These are to get your home heating apparatus in shape for winter and store as much fuel as you possibly can. There is nothing selfish or hog-gish in doing this. It is just good common sense. The Plumbing and Heating Industry Bureau has issued and broadcast a warning to this effect. Many far sighted persons have already done this. It has been unusual during the summer about to end to see big coal loaded wagons on the streets. The indications all point to an early autumn and winter. Coal is already at a high price and the possibility of higher prices is a natural sequence of sudden increased demand. Whether this is justified or not, the fact remains that all civilian business and industry have as usual in this war, been hampered by the lack of man power to follow the established routine of being equal to normal demands. It is nothing more than the part of self protection to provide against an emergency, and it is a lack of good judgment to wait until the eleventh hour, and then expect normal service. Therefore we again suggest not to put off any needed work on your heating plant or to fail in storing as much coal as your bin will hold.

DEATHS

ALEXANDER BRULE

Alexander Brule, father-in-law of Floyd Walton, 130 W. Pythian Ave., died September 6 in Decatur and Macon County Hospital where he had been a patient for four weeks. He was born in Assumption June 1, 1869, and was married to Lura Boles in that place in 1896.

A retired farmer, Mr. Boles moved to Decatur from Vandalia in 1924. He was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic church.

Besides his wife, Mr. Brule is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Gladys Swarm, Rantoul, Illinois; Mrs. Mae Walton, Niantic; Mrs. Rose Gilman, Decatur; two sons, Norbert of Dalton City and Albert of St. Elmo. He leaves two sisters, Mrs. Josephine Coccagne, Vandalia, and Mrs. Anna Ryan, Newberg, Oregon, 19 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in St. Patrick's church with burial in Cavalry cemetery.

WILLIAM A. HISE

William A. Hise, Mueller Company guard for 18 years, died August 15 in St. Mary's Hospital where he had been a patient for one week.

Mr. Hise resided at 1337 East Eldorado Street and had lived in Decatur 44 years. He was born February 6, 1879 in Nebraska and

was the son of Roy and Sarah Hise. He was married to Florence Stuckey in Decatur in 1900. He was a member of St. Paul's Methodist church. He is survived by his wife and one brother Claude of Los Angeles, Calif.

Funeral services were conducted in the Moran Chapel with burial in North Fork cemetery.

BILLY KEITH MULLINS

Billy Keith Mullins, son of Byron Mullins, Mueller fireman, was drowned August 29 in the Fairlawn cemetery pond under somewhat mysterious circumstances. He had been fishing during the day with three brothers and a friend, but when he failed to return for his evening meal, his family began a search for him, which resulted the next day in the recovery of his body from the water.

Billy was born in Decatur January 1, 1930. He attended Garfield school and would have entered Roosevelt Junior High School this Fall. He attended Trueblood Memorial Sunday school.

He is survived by his parents and six brothers and sisters, Kenneth Wayne, 12; Phyllis Ann, 11; James Norman, 9; Duane Everett, 7; Marlyn Caroline, 4; all at home; and Byron F., Fireman First Class in the Navy on duty in the South Pacific and a half-brother, Sgt. Joseph C. Arthur stationed in Iran.

Funeral services were conducted in the Moran chapel with interment in Graceland cemetery.

MRS. ANNA BELL LAWERY

Mrs. Anna Bell Lawery, mother of Mrs. Ethel Bashore, passed away August 17 in Decatur and Macon County Hospital after a long illness.

Mrs. Lawery was born in Champaign November 21, 1866, the daughter of Abe and Magdaline Cherry. She was married to Lee Lawery who died in 1890. She had resided in Decatur for the most of her life and for 18 years was employed at the Decatur Coffin Co. She was a member of the Grace Methodist church.

She had her home at 2150 North Edward street with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Bashore, who survive her.

Funeral services were held in the Moran chapel with burial in Greenwood cemetery.

Safety is a divided responsibility. The company complies with all legal safety requirements, and goes beyond that limit in an earnest desire to prevent accidents. An employee's part is to cooperate to the limit to observe and practice all safety regulations and in addition to point out any known hazard they may observe in daily contact with machines, and the surroundings where they work.

Think safety, study safety and practice safety.

tures of factories and dams as if he were dropping real bombs. Most of the time the gunners just rides along. I was supposed to be here about three months but they have stepped up the training so that I'm now supposed to ship from here about September fifth.

I have a good crew. The pilot is only 20 years old, but appears to be a good fellow and pilot. I have a letter from Dorothy Gepford and she tells me the office force is changing more and more. At the rate our armies are going through France means an early ending of the war. I don't know whether I'll get another delay or not. You can never tell what the army will do next. I do not know where I'll go from here, but hope it is in the Pacific area. Think I'd like to fly against the Japs rather than the Germans."

Bill modestly refrained from mentioning in his letter anything about his promotion to corporal, but this news had already reached us. It indicates that a boy who steps from messenger to aviator is paying attention to his duties.

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VAN VLEET BOYS IN WAR

The many friends and acquaintances of Homer Van Vleet, now with Columbian Iron Works, but formerly of this organization, will be interested in the account of his three sons in service. The article appears under the heading of "Chattanooga Chatter." Lieutenant Merle Cecil Van Vleet is now home on furlough after a fine record of fighting with his plane "My Buddy". Donald is now on his way over and Homer, Jr., is at Deming, New Mexico. Paymaster Coffin is a brother-in-law of Homer Van Vleet, Sr. The many friends in this organization congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Van Vleet on their fine young men sons who are doing their part to put Hitler in his place. You know where that is. Hot fire there.

■ ■ ■

WILLIE ROHMAN WRITES

Opal Jackson is in receipt of a letter from Willie Rohman, who has been in the Fiji Islands for some months. He writes:

"Greetings and salutations. Ruth said that everyone seemed to enjoy the junk I sent home. (An album of photographs of Fijians and scenery). The directions on the shirt have no special meaning that I know of. I enjoyed making up that album of pictures. If I had my own good camera here I could really get some good pictures. Just got the latest Record. Found a very nice write up about me. The only thing wrong was the mis-spelling of my name. It appeared as "Rohner" instead of Rohman. Give Margie T. my best wishes for a speedy recovery. Also to Ethel Fogel. I may be a little late, but hope to be forgiven if I am. My congratulations to the new mother, too. Ruth mentioned that Herman made an oil painting of her. Sure would like to see it. Those pictures of the

grass shirt are honies. I showed them to everyone and told Ruth she was now a pin up girl.

So Troy is in the chicken business. Always knew he was an early bird. Used to tell him to wake me at 4 a.m. to go fishing and he was there at 3. Always early, but never late, except once, that's Troy. I owe him an early morning visit for all the times he got me up so early. Speaking of chickens reminds me that I haven't had any chicken to eat for a long while. It's pretty scarce around here.

I got an armful of April newspapers today and can hardly wait to read them. Tell Dorothy I said thanks a million. I really appreciate it. Have not heard from her for a while but I owe her a letter, so guess it is my fault.

Have not been doing anything exciting lately. Its been too cool to go swimming and a little rain now and then. When it warms up I'll be at it again. Really like to swim since I learned how. Safer, too.

Have spent the evening writing letters. Owe Helen Pope a letter, but its almost time for the lights to go out and I have to work tomorrow night.

Well, be good and tell everyone I said hello. Good night and pleasant dreams."

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LIGHTS O' LONDON

Corporal W. L. Draper Gives Account of His Visit to World's Metropolis

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Draper are in receipt of an interesting letter from their son, Corporal William L. Draper, telling of his visit to noted points of interest in London. It bears date of August 22nd, and follows: Dear Mother, Dad and all,

Last night I returned from the long awaited trip to London. Another fellow and I made the trip by train. When we arrived in Waterloo Station, it was dark and blackout time. In the station we took the underground (subway to us) to Piccadilly Circus and off of that to Rainbow Corner, at which the American Red Cross is located. To get a bed for the night we presented our pass to be stamped with our sleeping quarters on the back. After stumbling around the block and up the street we decided to call it a night and took the free bus to Hans Crescent for soldiers on pass or furlough.

Before going to our beds we had a rare (Over here) bottle of "Coke" and sandwiches. We went to our room, for six soldiers, and slept between nice white sheets. After a breakfast of porridge, potatoes, sausage and bread roll we took a bus back to Rainbow Corner and signed up to take a tour by open top cab to see the sights. List enclosed. On the day we were there they have the change of the guards at Buckingham Palace. Of this I took short scenes with a movie camera I borrow-

ed, using color film I bought in Canada.

Covering the other points of interest at a rapid pace, I hardly had time to film that morning any other spots.

We had lunch at the very ritzy Trocadero Grill Room at a cost of nine shillings (9/-) or \$1.80.

After a stroll to Hay Market we took a cab to revisit Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, and the outside view of House of Parliament. I took movies of all of this.

We walked back to Rainbow Corner passing Downing Street, the War Office and Trafalgar Square.

Back to the Red Cross we had a glass of coke, and I reversed the film in the camera. I took a shot of Piccadilly Circus and all of its activity; it resembles Times Square or Lincoln Square at home.

We walked around the streets until tired and decided to rest in a stage show until train time. It seems a lot of the gags and acts are influenced by us Yank customers.

The underground was crowded on the way to the station, and there was a que to get on the train, thirty minutes before departure. A que is a line.

The station we left from and returned to is a ways from our camp, and we had a few hours to eat and talk over our trip with some of the fellows we met in town on pass. I went to bed plenty tired, very well pleased with the trip and wishing you could be here too.

It took a lot of time to write the trip to London, and it would take all of the paper I had to tell everyone about it, so please pass it around.

At last I heard from Jack, but I have moved in the mean time, so will have to write and tell him of the change.

I sure have a tan now, but my nose peels and is red as can be. I am feeling fine but as busy as can be writing, washing clothes and such. So far since I have been here I have taken only one pass.

Lots of love,

BILL

KILLED IN ACTION

John Dash, Brother of Herman, Loses Life in Southwest Pacific

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Dash, of 438 East Eldorado street, have received word from the Navy department that their son, Pfc. John J. Dash, 18, has been killed in action in the Southwest Pacific.

Private Dash, who had been serving in the marines since Sept. 7, 1943, took basic training at San Diego, Calif., and was transferred from there to the Hawaiian islands last December. He had been in combat service since March.

John attended Decatur high school and was a member of the Redcoats band there.

Besides his parents he leaves three brothers Russell Dash, Decatur, Herman Dash,

Los Angeles, Calif., and Loren Dash of Hammond, Ind., and a sister, Mrs. Wallace Dudy of Decatur. Memorial services will be held here later.

Herman Dash, is well known to members of the Decatur organization of which he was a member prior to his assignment to Los Angeles. The brother John was well known to many of the younger employees in office and factory.

HUNGRY FOR LETTERS

Burt Jackson is in receipt of a letter from Private Marshall H. Rotz, a former member of the shipping department crew. He writes under date of August 15th.

"Just a line to let you know I am somewhere in Italy. I received the July issue of Mueller Record the day after I got here. This shows that we are sure to get our mail in a hurry and we sure enjoy reading it. I'm hoping to meet some men from good old Decatur. I am seeing lot of things which I read about when I was back in the states, sights that I never thought I'd see a year or so ago. Think that "man of the Day" is a good thing and am looking forward to getting one of them. There is not much new and I'm feeling fine and hope that all of you back there are the same. Please put my address in the Record so that any one who would like to write to me can do so. It sure will be a pleasure. I'll enjoy a letter from any one."

(Following is Marshall's address: Pvt. Marshall H. Rotz, 36,901,176, A.P.O. 15404, % Postmaster, New York, N. Y.)

We suggest that any of you give a few minutes to writing Marshall. Letters from home do a heap of good—they are a little thing to you perhaps, but a big thing to a soldier on the front line.—Ed.)

Mr. J. W. Wells, office manager, despite the fact that he is a busy man, took time out, to write Marshall a fine gossipy, newsy letter. Why can't you take a little of your evening time and send a message to this soldier and former fellow employee. Do your bit, cheer him up!

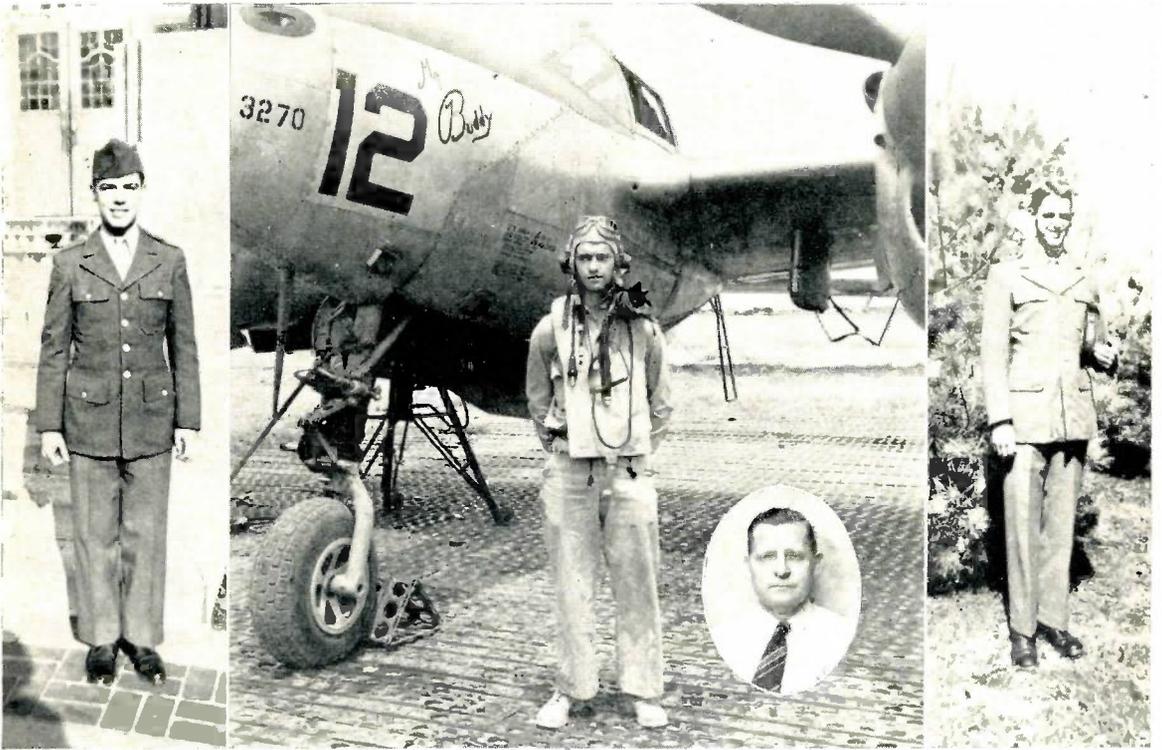
ENLISTS IN NAVY

This happy looking sailor boy is a good example of the class of young patriots being educated and trained for the United States navy. His name is Donald W. McQuality, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl McQuality of 1090 West Green St. Donald enlisted in the navy and began his boot training at Great Lakes



July 3rd. Donald is 18 years of age and a graduate of high school.

- Chattanooga Chatter -



HOMER VAN VLEET AND SONS

LEFT: Donald Van Vleet, now on his way over there for active duty. CENTER: In the 15th Army Air Forces, First Lieutenant Merle Cecil Van Vleet, 21, of 5010 Sunnyside Ave., Chattanooga, Tenn., stands beside the P-38 Lightning which has taken him on fifty-two successful combat missions over Italy, Austria, Germany, France, and the Balkans. His Group has been recently awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for their action in the air battle over Steyr, Austria, April 2nd, 1944. RIGHT: Homer, Jr., still in training camp awaiting orders to move. In the circle is Homer, Sr., the father of these boys, and well known to many of us in this organization, of which he was Production Control Manager.

Pictured is Homer Van Vleet, our Production Control Manager, and his three sons of whom he is justifiably proud. They are, Homer, Merle and Donald.

Mr. Van Vleet was transferred from the Mueller Company, Decatur, to the Chattanooga plant in 1935 and has held his present position since that time. He is noted for his good nature and keen sense of humor.

His sons are all in the service of our country; Homer and Merle being with the Air Forces and the youngest, Donald, in the Infantry.

Merle is home from near Foggia, Italy, after having served one year overseas. He has the unusual distinction of being commissioned First Lieutenant at the age of 21, and as a fighter pilot, has 52 successful combat missions to his credit. He is leader of his squadron and was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for their action in the

air battle over Steyr, Austria, April 2, 1944. His wife is the former Becky Bess Mankin. They were married before he left for overseas duty.

Homer Junior, is training to be a Bombardier at Deming, New Mexico, while Donald is on his way overseas.

* * *

Who is that certain guy from a nearby town who comes a-callin' on our Lela? We hear from good sources this is a serious affair. When's he going to pop the question, Lela?

* * *

Recent vacationists include Evelyn Wilbanks, Muriel Mee and Kathryn Jones.

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We are glad to see Gladys Jones and Mary Fields up and out after being off quite a while due to illness.

(Continued on page 13)

LOS ANGELES NEWS

Carl Hazen writes from the Hawaiian islands that it is quite warm. He is very anxious to get in touch with any other Mueller men who might be stationed over there.

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Herbert Mead, formerly of our Foundry, tells us they have good entertainment aboard the U. S. S. Hector, in the way of movies and boxing.

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Bill Adams from the Pacific writes that one of the girls in the picture with his wife, Dorothy, has been chosen sweetheart of the torpedo gang. He wouldn't say which one but we would guess Bernice Mahon, trimming press operator in Dept. 70. The torpedo gang has good taste. She is a charming young lady as well as being attractive. We didn't really guess Bill, Dorothy told us.

* * *

Norman Newton, formerly of Dept. 30, visited us while home on leave. Seems like visits from service men grow very scarce. Many of them have gone to the front of battle.

* * *

Erma Carson brings this story about her husband as released by an Army Public Relations office at Bougainville, New Guinea. "Sgt. Chester Carson to his buddies is an unrecognized hero. One night while working at the docks unloading ships, sudden darkness provided the signal for an air raid. Quickly jumping from the small landing craft he was on Sgt. Carson began looking for a foxhole. Suddenly he noticed a light on a small boat nearby. If it wasn't put out it would serve as a beacon to the enemy plane, but if he left the fox hole it might be too late to get back before the bombs began to fall. Nevertheless he dashed back to the boat, pulled the switch and got back to the hole just in time." Erma is justified in being proud of a husband like that.

* * *

Virginia Marshall, second shift, was a happy girl, when she received word that her wounded husband had returned to the states. He is now in the Naval hospital at Corona and gets home occasionally. He received his injuries with the Marines in the battle for Saipan. He is also the brother of Ileen Marshall and Anna Green, both of Dept. 30.

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Lela Ann Thompson's husband was in from the Pacific for a twenty day leave. What a reward after going so long without hearing, huh Lela?

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Mildred Bishop hears regularly from her husband, who was wounded in Normandy.

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Pvt. Berthal Davis, formerly of Dept. 30,

surprised his mother Nellie Holloway (Dept. 30) with the news of his marriage. The young lady was Miss Hazel Wintworth of Charleston, Illinois. The wedding took place in Henderson, Kentucky, August 19, 1944. Congratulations, Bert.

* * *

Glenn and Dortha Blize with Joe and Lorraine Higbee have returned from a vacation in the High Sierras. They dodge questions about fish, but go into detail on the "Shepherd's Ball", or the glitter of Reno. Good thing Dortha was lucky, huh Glenn?

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You should see the new laboratory, it is really slick. If Joe Higbee, Alice English and Iva Willis would just dress the part they would appear ready to perform an operation at any time.

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Quite an epidemic of Herpes Febrilis (Fev-er sores) around the plant recently. Tex Polk was really inviting cross examination when he applied red Tincture of Merthiolate to his.

* * *

Imagine Bob Hesselbach's consternation, when after writing his fiancee that he had increased his insurance, he received a reply stating she was making plans for collecting it. Please not now, Betty—manpower shortage you know.

* * *

It's agreed we never heard anyone sing more beautifully than Thelma "Lou" Anderson at Almeda's wedding. Little did we know that we had such a talented young lady among us. You should have seen "Pop" Baker (her father) beam with pride when we told him.

* * *

We have never seen anyone more excited over a new baby than "Grandpa" Bill Jett upon the arrival of his new granddaughter. For weeks before he could speak of nothing else. When asked what he wanted, boy or girl, he always answered a girl. So that explains his exuberance when the little girl (his first grandchild) arrived August 17, 1944. The main office decided that Grandpa should be honored, so on coming in from lunch he found his desk gayly decorated with pink crepe paper and laden with many interesting looking packages, in the center of which was a lovely pink and white cake with "Grandpa Lapesly" on it. (Note: Lapesly is Grandpa's middle name). For the first time any of us have known him Grandpa was speechless. On regaining his composure he immediately called "Grandma" Jett to tell her about his shower. His packages consisted of the usual rattles, pacifiers, powders, etc.

Incidentally Lt. and Mrs. Wm. Jett, Jr.

are the parents of the young lady, who has been named Helena Alice.

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Many Mueller people attended the beautiful wedding of Orelca Almeda Thomas (main office) and Howard Allen McKee on Sunday, June 30, 1944, in the First Baptist church of Huntington Park, California.

Almeda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy (Tommy) Thomas and the bridegroom the son of Mr. and Mrs. George McKee of Huntington Park.

The bride was gowned in white marquise over taffeta, in a colonial style with a round peasant effect neckline, a long train and finger tip length veil. She wore a double strand of pearls and carried a white Bible covered with white orchids. Among the attendants was Beth Noble (main office) looking very lovely in her bridesmaids dress of yellow net over taffeta, and carrying a powder puff bouquet. Five year old Nancy Ruth Michl, daughter of Bill Michl (Forge Dept.) was adorable in her flower girl's pink net frock and very nonchalant as she walked daintily down the aisle.

Mrs. Neal Anderson (Thelma Baker, shipping dept.) sang, "Through the Years" and "At Dawning".

The bridegroom is the assistant pastor of the First Baptist Church of Huntington Park. Almeda will continue working with us for awhile.

More than seven hundred guests witnessed the wedding rites and attended the reception afterward.

The bride's father is our Foundry foreman and for many years was employed in the Foundry of the Decatur plant.

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Our sincere sympathy to Herman Dash and his entire family over the loss of his youngest brother a Marine who was killed in action.

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Bowling News

The Mueller league wound up it's last night of bowling at the Alhambra Bowling Center with the following lineup: first place Stumblebums, second Three Hits and a Miss, third Team No. 6, fourth Team No. 5, fifth Torpedos, sixth Wolves, seventh Lambs, and eighth The Four B's. It appears that everyone enjoyed the league and new teams are being formed for the winter league to start at the end of September.

The Sweepstakes Doubles were won by Joe Morgan and Glenn Blize with the terrific score of 1221. In second place Doc Oglesby and Del Cowdin collected 1177 and Emmett Reedy and George Tolladay came close with 1157. In the singles, Glenn Blize, again with 684 was first and Emmett Reedy second with 657. Glenn's second game was really something—267. He had all strikes but one spare. Where has he been all season? Seems he is just a money bowler.

LOS ANGELES BOYS IN NAVY



Pete Briock



Johnny Currado

Pete Briock sent this picture for the bulletin board telling us to go ahead and laugh. What's funny Pete, we think you look nice. Pete tells us where he is stationed they have all Haw's bodies on their drinking fountains. He should be able to recognize them at first glance.

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Johnny Currado, after taking part in the naval battles for Attu, Tarawa and the Marshalls is back on land once more. He has been transferred to Hedron Navigation. His work is to compensate compasses on any type of plane.

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Lacy Lee Mayfield, 30, Fireman 2/c, USNR, husband of LaVerne E. Mayfield, 8958 Bryson avenue, South Gate, is leading his class in Diesel engine repair and maintenance, according to the officer in charge of his unit at Landing Craft school, Amphibious Training Base, Coronado. A graduate of Huntington Park high school. Blue-jacket Mayfield has been employed in the machine shop of a defense plant prior to taking training at Farragut, Idaho. He attended Basic Engineering School at Dearborn and the Navy's School of Internal Combustion, San Diego, before being transferred to Coronado base for advanced training.—Newspaper item.

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FRANK A. EDMONSON

We have a letter from Frank A. Edmonson, who tells us: "My family has returned to Decatur for the winter and I am moving to the St. George Hotel in Brooklyn. His address now is: Frank A. Edmonson, St. George Hotel, 51 Clark St., Brooklyn (2), New York.

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PRESS COMES BACK

Press Ruthrauff was welcomed back to the office force on Tuesday following Labor Day. He has been missed from the main office for eight weeks. During that period he submitted to a severe surgical operation in a St. Louis hospital. Press is feeling good but is still weak from the effects of his ordeal.

CREDIT UNION FORMED

It's Co-operative Society for Promotion of Saving—Other Features

The Mueller Company Employees Credit Union was organized and directors were elected at a meeting in the Mueller gym on Thursday, August 31. The following officers were elected:

President—Albert E. Lindamood.
Vice-president—Galen N. Hutchens.
Secretary—Nellie Sheehan.
Treasurer—Harold V. Munsterman.

Credit Committee—Clark L. Curry, L. B. McKenney, Frank Ridgeway, Ernest Watkins and Arthur Bauer.

Supervisory Committee—Ross Emerson, Frank Kuntz and Helen Pope.

Education Committee—Oris Whitacre, Howard Attebury and Otis Fears, Jr.

Most employees, we feel, would like an explanation of credit union operation and its features.

The credit union is a cooperative society, organized under state law, for the purpose of promoting savings among its members and providing a source of credit at a very nominal rate of interest. Each and every employee of the Mueller Company in Decatur is eligible to membership in the credit union. There is an entrance fee of twenty-five cents to be paid when each application card is turned in. Each member pledges to buy at least one share (\$5). Credit union savings may be handled through payroll deduction, or cash may be turned in at the credit union office.

Any member, no matter how much he has in his share account, is eligible to borrow. To obtain a loan the prospective borrower fills out a loan application which is then acted on by the credit committee. The credit union, in most cases, will make loans for taxes, fuel, insurance, refrigerators, home repairing, redecorating or remodeling, clothing, vacations, heating equipment, hospital, medical and dental bills, radios, automobiles, school tuition, mortgages, and other uses. Repayment of all loans must be handled through payroll deductions, however extra payments on the principal will be accepted at the credit union office.

The credit union offers two insurance features for its members at no extra cost—Life Savings Insurance and Loan Insurance.

Life Savings Insurance operates as follows: It insures your savings 100% up to the age of 55; 75% of the amount saved between the ages of 55 to 59 inclusive, 50% from 60 to 64, and 25% of all saved between 65 and 69 inclusive. The maximum amount insured for each member cannot exceed \$1000, and it pays only in case of death. As an example if you accumulate a savings of \$400 in your share account before you reach 55, in case of death, your estate would receive the \$400 on deposit plus \$400 insurance.

Loan insurance protects every loan made by the credit union against death or total disability of the borrower. As an example if a member has a loan from the credit union at the time of his death or total disability, the loan is paid off by the insurance company. This also gives assurance to the co-signer that the only chance he is taking is the possibility of his fellow worker losing his job.

Your credit union now has an office opened in the Mueller Gym Building and will be glad to see you anytime between 11:00 A.M. and 4:15 P.M. Monday through Saturday.

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YOUR TURN TO HELP

When will the war be over

Not until every American in the fighting forces is home among his friends.

Not until broken homes resulting from war have been repaired.

Not until maimed and broken bodies and the souls of men have been healed.

Not until a peace is established which will give people of all the earth a chance to earn a living and to build a life without fear of recurring wars.

The Agencies supported by the United War Fund of Macon County help in all of these phases because they make life more pleasurable and endurable to our fighting men through the USO, War Prisoners' Aid and the United Seamen's Service. They give hope to refugees in European countries, clothe the poor and give medicine to the sick. China looks to us for help. The Philippines are awaiting the arrival of the Yanks. Thirty-nine of these agencies are working together to speed the end of the war.

But, the war is not over when the last shot is fired. Starvation and hunger are rampant. Disease is spreading and your 8 hours' pay will be as effective as a bomb in these war torn areas. Your 8 hours' pay will build citizenship, provide recreation, give care to homeless children and comfort and medical care to the children of Macon County through the Community Chest.

Yours is a real privilege this year, but it is a responsibility, too. Support your United War Fund and Community Chest with 8 hours' pay! It is the standard of giving recommended by your national office of AF of L. It is your way of giving a boost to ending the war.

United War Fund Macon Co.,
W. H. Walmsley, Chairman.

■ ■ ■

Host: "What kind of chaser would you like?"

Sweet Young Thing: "Oh—tall, dark, handsome and wealthy."

■ ■ ■

A young man said to a young lady standing on the sidewalk: "You look like Helen Black." Whereupon the young lady said: "Yes, I know I do, but I look worse in white."

Decatur Boy Wins Purple Heart



FROM SOMEWHERE OVERSEAS



Elmer Harshbarger

"Well, how is the swellest Mom and Pop today. I am sure they are in the best of health and are very happy. For myself I am sorry I haven't been writing like I did when in the hospital but I'm sure you will understand. . . Now Pop and Mom don't worry about me. I'm doing OK and this thing may be over soon but it will still take some time."

The above excerpts were taken from a letter written by Elmer Harshbarger, who was formerly an employe at Plant 3. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Harshbarger, well known by Mueller employes. Elmer is, we believe, the first Mueller employe-soldier, who has received the decoration of the Purple Heart, pictured above. Naturally, its beauty is lost in printing. His parents are very proud of it and it has been greatly admired by all those to whom it has been shown.

Elmer Harshbarger has had a full share of soldier life. He saw action in North Africa and also the danger lurking in the climate. A year ago while there he surrendered to yellow fever. When he got to Italy he froze his feet when in the mountains. On May 3rd he was wounded in the right hip while in action. On August 30 his parents received the following telegram

from J. A. Ulio, adjutant general, Washington, D. C.:

"Am pleased to inform you your son Sergeant Elmer O. Harshbarger returned to duty on 25th of July."

His injuries must have been very severe. It required fourteen stitches to close the hip injury and ten stitches in an arm. He never has, of course, told his parents in what part of Italy or in what engagement he was wounded. All they know is that he was hospitalized in Italy. It is presumed that it was in Italy that his conduct in battle won him the Purple Heart for Military Merit.

The war is not over yet but there has been enough of it to show that Elmer O. Harshbarger has in his make up the stuff that puts Americans in the front line as patriots and brave soldiers. There is another side to him, which is shown in his endearing, reverential, and loving terms in his letters to his parents—nothing but consideration and respect for them—for himself nothing but the spirit of the soldier in a war to win it. He is to be admired.

■ ■ ■
"Will you marry me?"

"NO!"

So they lived happily ever after.

■ ■ ■
Howard: "You should be more careful to pull your shades down at night. Last night I saw you kissing your wife."

Roy: "Ha, ha, ha! The joke is on you. I wasn't home last night!"

■ ■ ■
A mule cannot pull when he is kicking, and he cannot kick when he is pulling.

—Watson.

TWO FINE LOOKING SAILORS



Charles Brownlow and Gaylord Triggs

Charlie and Gaylord were friends long before Navy life caught up with them. Both were employed at plant No. 3. They enlisted the same day and were lucky to go through Boot Camp in the same company. Then they were assigned to the same base in San Diego, California. However, their duties there do not coincide. Charlie is now aboard the Sacramento, and Gaylord is in engineering school. Recently they each had leave of absence. Gaylord was here and visited us one afternoon during the early part of June. Charlie visited us one evening, the early part of July. The picture was taken the day before Charlie started home on leave.

■ ■ ■

MAKE IT EVERYBODY

Goebbels (stopping suddenly as he and Der Fuehrer were motoring through a country village): Mein Fuehrer, we have run over this tavern keeper's pig. I must go in and tell him about it.

Hitler (an hour later, as Goebbels comes staggering out, drunk): What happened?

Goebbels: I walked into the hall and said, "Heil Hitler! The pig is dead!" and the bartender yelled, "Gott sei dank! The drinks are on me."

■ ■ ■

GETTING EVEN

A young lieutenant, fresh from officer candidate school had just finished addressing his new command for the first time. He was about to dismiss the men when the voice of an old sergeant was heard quoting Scripture softly but clearly from the ranks: "And a little child shall lead them."

The following day this announcement appeared on the bulletin board: "Company A will take a 25-mile hike in full equipment. And a little child shall lead them—on a horse."

OFFICE MAIL DELIVERY

A polite bulletin has been posted announcing the staff of employes authorized to receive incoming mail and make distribution of the same to various departments. The staff consists of Dorothy Gepford, Art Davlin, Everett Dickey, Troy Roush, Vernon Huffman.

Employes are requested to remain away from the mailing department and not to go after mail, but to await its regular delivery.

In addition to this you are requested to postpone mailing of personal letters or purchase of postage stamps until after 8 a.m.

* * *

Claude Roe, day watchman at the main entrance, who fell and broke his left arm, eight weeks ago, has returned to work. The arm is still in a swing, and Claude is very particular in guarding it against any jolt or blow.

■ ■ ■

SALESMEN VISIT US

During August we had four visiting salesmen with us for a week. They were Otto Sharlock, of the Pittsburgh territory; Frank O'Dell, of the Chicago office; and R. W. Karr, Los Angeles. Fred Klinek of the Pacific Coast branch made his first visit in several years. He was formerly a member of the Decatur organization.

■ ■ ■

JUNE PAYS US VISIT



June Krumsick, formerly stenographer in the works manager's office, was here recently to visit her parents and friends in the office. June enlisted in the Waves on March 10th and since that time has been doing a bit of running around different training points. Her present location is Brainbridge, Md.

BONDS

BUY

BOMBS

ODIE WALKER

Odie Walker, in charge of the Chattanooga plant is becoming a familiar figure again in Decatur. He was here a few weeks ago and back again on the 29th for a hurried visit. He started this last trip in an airplane, which grounded at Louisville on account of a storm and from Louisville he finished the trip by train.

■ ■ ■

MARGIE IS BACK

Margie Tatum was given a warm welcome back to her office home after a siege of several weeks in the hospital and a rest period at home. Everybody was glad to see Marjorie looking so well and fit.

* * *

Mrs. Harland L. Himstead, after a successful operation for varicose veins, has left the hospital and returned to her home.

■ ■ ■

BIRTHS

Born to: Mr. and Mrs. George Hunt a daughter, Martha Louise, August 14 in Decatur and Macon County Hospital.

■ ■ ■

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO

An interesting photograph has just been placed in the reception room on the third floor. It is about 36 inches long, being one of those photographs taken with a revolving camera. It shows Mueller Co. employees at a picnic in Miller Park, Bloomington, 1910—thirty-four years ago. There are a few faces recognized. In the center, seated, we find Henry, Adolph, Philip, Fred and Robert Mueller. Oscar was the only brother not present.

There were two bands in the front row—Goodman's and the Mueller Band. Aside from a few persons who can be identified it is interesting to study the wearing apparel. The men do not differ greatly from the accepted styles of today. For instance a straw hat, so-called sailor, could be worn today without risk of having an over-ripe egg thrown at the wearer. But the ladies? Hats that stood high on the head, loaded down with flowers and ribbons. Also noticeable are the dresses worn, waist tight fitting and the skirts barely missing the ground. However the people inside of these clothes, either sex, had just as much fun as one can have at a picnic today. This Bloomington affair showed a large crowd in attendance. You'll be interested in seeing this photograph.

■ ■ ■

FIVE HUNDRED FOR FOX HOLE

Metropolis, Ill., Sept. 11.—According to J. Paul Neal's account, the United States isn't the only place where real estate is high. He wrote home that he had been offered \$500 for his foxhole in Normandy, which is well padded and lined with blankets, but that he had refused the price because the hole is waterproof.

REPORTED WOUNDED

A brief newspaper item in the Review of recent issue announced that Fae Bafford had been wounded. We have been unable to get any particulars.

He was sworn into the Marines late in August, 1943, and left on September 4 for San Diego. He was 19 years old at the time and was born and reared in Blue Mound, graduating from the high school there. His wife was the former Betty Cross. During the time he was identified with our organization he was a member of Ray Salsberry's department. Friends of Fae are hopeful that his wound is not dangerous and hoping he will get a furlough to come home to recuperate.



■ ■ ■

DALE F. BOLEN

Among the recent Mueller employees enlisted to aid in putting Hitler out of the war is Dale F. Bolen, aged 25 years, married, and father of one son now three years old. Dale checked out September 12th. He joined our organization in October, 1940, and was assigned to the foundry, transferred later to the munition division and then returned to the foundry. He answered the first call to arms in December, 1943, but was rejected on account of a defect in his left eye. He was recalled on August 17th and was passed for general duty and left September 13th for assignment to training quarters. His preference is the navy and it is quite likely that this is what he will get as the movement now is toward that branch of the service. However, like a good citizen he said he would take what was given him. Mrs. Bolen and son will remain in Decatur.



■ ■ ■

WITNESSED BIG STORM

Manager Frank Taylor is home after a week at Atlantic City where he was attending a convention. He was at the seaside resort during the visit of the hurricane which did enormous damage to the boardwalk and amusement piers. Such storms are nothing new on the Atlantic coast, but this last one was among the worst that ever struck it.

■ ■ ■

Lawyer: "What's to be different about this will?"

Mr. Henpeck: "I'm leaving everything to my wife providing she marries again within a year—I want someone to be sorry I died."

WEDDINGS

**Wingo-Baldis**

Miss Eleanor Wingo, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Wingo, National City, California and Corporal Donald H. Baldis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Baldis, were married at 4 p. m., Sunday, July 30th at the Riverside Baptist Church by Rev. John Duddleston, of Latham.

They were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Boyd of Oreana, Mrs. Boyd being a cousin of the bridegroom.

Miss Wingo is a 1943 graduate of Sweet Water High School, National City and has since been with the Southern California Telephone Co.

Donald graduated from Decatur High School, 1939, and was in the printing office of the Mueller Co. for 2½ years, before going to California where he was employed at the Consolidated Aircraft Co., at San Diego at the time of his induction into the air forces, February 19, 1943.

The couple are making their home near Savannah, Georgia, where Corporal Baldis is stationed at Chatham Field.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Baldis recently returned from Georgia where Donald was a patient at the Station Hospital at Hunter Field, due to an emergency appendectomy a few weeks prior to his convalescent furlough.

Hawbaker-Littrell

Grace Hawbaker of the Core Department and Charles W. Littrell were married July 11, 1944 in Blythesville, Arkansas. They are making their home at 1362 No. Summit.

Griner-Greenfield

Mary Frances Griner, daughter of Mrs. O. E. Griner of the Credit and Claims Department and Robert E. Greenfield, Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. R. E. Greenfield, were married Sunday afternoon, September 17 in Westminster church, with Rev. Owen W. Pratt performing the ceremony.

Attendants were Miss Joda McGaughey,

maid of honor and Frank Snell, best man. Ushers will be Phi Beta Pi fraternity brothers of the bridegroom.

Mr. Greenfield is in the Navy V-12 program and is a junior in the University of Illinois Medical School in Chicago. Miss Griner was graduated from Millikin in 1943 and is assistant director of public relations in that school.

■ ■ ■

(Continued from page 6)

What is this about a romance in our Engineering Department? You better watch out, Mary, because Wiladeen has her eyes on him too.

* * *

New additions are Helen Shropshire, Production Control Department, and John D. McFadden, of the Engineering Department.

* * *

Margaret Hutcherson, Plant 2, is recovering nicely from her appendectomy.

* * *

Teola Locke, Plant 2, is back on the job after being off with a broken elbow.

* * *

We are always glad to have our boys in the Military Service drop by to see us when they are home on a furlough. Most recent ones include: Robert Harris, U. S. Army, Dan R. Sutton, U. S. Army; Alboan Glass, U. S. Army; Charles E. Jackson, U. S. Navy; Lyle J. Allgood, U. S. Army and Joe Stansifer, U. S. Navy.

* * *

Ralph Schmitt, who worked with our Company in 1939 and 1940, is back with us as a Time Study Man. Glad to have you back, Ralph.

* * *

She wears her hair in a short feather bob with bangs, is a wonderful sport, good bowler, smart in figures, wears good looking clothes, has a sweet disposition. Besides all this, she plays the piano. Introducing our girl of the month; Gladys Jones.

■ ■ ■

Then there was the traveler who asked a native in a remote region if he didn't have real trouble getting the necessities of life in that inaccessible spot.

"Yes, we do," said the mountaineer, "and half the time when we get it, it ain't fit to drink."

■ ■ ■

Caller: "Is your mother engaged?"

Little Boy: "I think she's married."

■ ■ ■

Q. "Do you know why the little bee buzzes?"

A. "You'd buzz, too, if somebody stole your honey and nectar."

... SARNIA ...

Births

June 2 a son to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cassin. Ray works in Department 17.

Marriages

Winnifred Charrington, Department 14, and Jack Carruthers, July 11 by Rev. Blackwell of St. John's Anglican Church. A honeymoon trip to Detroit followed. They will reside on Campbell street.

June 24, Marie Conway, daughter of Jack Conway, Sales Department, was married to Flt. Lieut. Legg RAF, in Winnipeg. The groom is posted on the East Coast. With war ended they will reside in England.

Gertrude Routley, formerly of Department 6, was married to Alan Dowsell at the White Street Mission on July 1.

Rumor has it that Marjorie Salisbury, Dept. 14, and Earl Atchinson of the Bond Room will be altar bound early in September.

We have it on good authority now that a reason has been found for the time-clock stoppages—a certain Redhead in Dept. 14 who must have plenty of "IT".

Betty Callanan should get a leather medal for calling the fire department to put out the sun's rays at the Northern Navigation Dock—disrupting the Sunday service at Victoria Park and also getting the band so excited they all ended on a different note.

We have our four Beachers, Eric Parsons, Marg Kelley, Betty Delderfield, and Marjorie Wagner, back to civilization once again and catching up on some of that badly needed sleep.

Almeda has arrived back from her vacation to Muskoka and as luck would have it it rained every day but Tuesday while she was there.

Rain was the cause of the cancellation of the office picnic, which was to have been held one Wednesday and be followed by the group attending the dance at Crinnians. Oh well, better luck next time! The ironical part of it all was that was the only day it had rained all week.

It has been rumored there's a new romance—Department 14 and Department 6—at least that's the opinion of the "Bystanders" at Crinnians one recent Friday night.

Hugh Morton of the Sales Department has taken up residence in London and will take over the late Milt Schroder's territory. Best of luck to you, Hugh.

Mr. Parker has arrived back from his two week's vacation at Petawawa. This must

have been quite an excursion judging by the laughter created when reading the "memoirs" of the camp written by Luxton. Maybe Smitty knows something about it?

During the last month we have had several visitors in to see us. Anne Marcy, formerly of the Upkeep stock department, who is now working in Toronto was down for dinner at the Cafeteria. Several of the boys from the RCAF were also in to see their friends. Ted Campbell, Ernest Milner, Bob Bannister and Bruce Barret, and Harold Henry. Bruce is now stationed at Tofino, B. C. and Harold, who has just recently received his wings and commission, is being posted to Maitland, N. S.

We wonder what "Digger" finds so attractive and intriguing in Corunna. Maybe we should get our private "Spy System" to work in that vicinity to learn what's happening.

We are printing below excerpts from two "overseas letters" which will be of interest to you. If at any time you receive a letter, which would be of interest to all and one which you would not mind having published in the Record, please give it to your foreman. All letters will be returned as soon as a copy of the part to be published has been made. Many of our Mueller Boys are in strange lands and have had many experiences of which we at home would like to have a share.

Letters From Boys Over There

It's some time since I've written you. There are many excuses I could give. One is the censor, who does not approve all I'd like to tell you. Life has been very busy in recent days. My silence is due to the fortunes of war.

Italy has changed in more ways than one for us during the last few weeks. The cold bitter rain-swept days of last winter have gone. The sun now beats down from those blue cloudless skies that Mussolini had painted on all his tourist folders. For awhile it looked like we were going to spend a very pleasant summer here but the army had other ideas and started moving again, spoiling our visions.

We are glad to be on the move. It means the war will be over that much sooner. We frequently wonder where we will be next week or next month.

Today marks our return to childhood days. We officially changed into our shorts and bare knees. The ilies have been having a field day. The local populace stand and stare in stark amazement. I think that some Englishmen in short pants, from their expression feel almost indecent. I confess

(Continued on page 16)



Safety News



LIBERTY BELLES



NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL



We have not heard of any of our women employees getting their hair tangled up in machines. In this particular we have been fortunate. Since the increased employment of women as a result of the war this class of accidents has become quite common. Like the majority of accidents they could have been prevented or at least reduced, had a little caution been used.

In view of the fact that many women still wear their hair long, getting caught in revolving wheels is confined almost entirely to the women workers. The "Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor" has been so impressed with the facts enumerated that they have issued a special bulletin on the subject. This bulletin tells us, "These accidents can be prevented by wearing safety caps when the job calls for protection and see that the hair is fully under the cap." Here are two instances of what happened in war factories.

"An operator of a spinning machine bent over. Her hair was caught. She was totally disabled for 16 weeks, and for 45 additional weeks was partially disabled. The injury cost \$570."

In an ordnance factory a woman operating a barrel turning machine had her hair caught. Her hair was pulled around the barrel. A large clump of hair and scalp was literally pulled from her head. She

spent weeks in a hospital recovering from the injury and the shock.

Who Should Wear Caps

Machine operators: Every woman working on or near a machine should wear a complete hair covering.

Welders: Electric and acetylene welders should wear fire proof hair covering.

Workers exposed to dust or fumes: Need protective covering to prevent carrying toxic material on the hair.

Workers exposed to oil and grease: Need covering to protect hair and to aid in preventing skin infections.

For thorough protection a cap must completely cover the hair. Head size should be so generous that the hat will be thrown off if it strikes a part of the machine. Height and stiffness are essential. Height warns the girl that her head is dangerously near the machinery. Stiffness guarantees that the cap will not catch in the machinery. Don't wear a turban or a bandanna. It may expose hair or machines may catch loose ends of the cloth.

Personal cleanliness ranks high in preventing skin infections.

A girl in a war production plant suffered face dermatitis (inflammation of the derma, or true skin) from dust and grease deposited on her pillow from her hair.

Holding a welding torch while brushing back locks of hair from the forehead is dangerous. A girl spot welder learned this when sparks ignited her hair.

Use your safety wits first—then use the machine.

Good order is an essential for both safety and efficiency.

Prevention of accidents is one of your most important duties.

Horse play has no place in a factory.

Don't hesitate to suggest anything which you believe will contribute to greater safety.

Finger rings were never made to wear in factory work. They have been the cause of many serious accidents. Leave them at home.

Thin soled shoes are an easy mark for rusty nails. Keep your shoes well soled. Feet punctured by rusty nails become painful and serious injuries.

In case of fire—report it first—then get busy with an extinguisher.

(Continued from page 14)

to feeling an embarrassment myself when I note expressions on faces of natives.

In the past years I have travelled many strange places that are far off the beaten track and in my most vivid imagination I never dreamed that I would, when I left Canada, visit such places."

"As you know from newspaper announcements, we, the Eighth Army, recently packed our bags and in the silent night stole out from under Jerry's nose to another location. It was across the mountains to a warmer climate and more attractive part of the country. For a few days we hid in "stop-over" camps on mountain sides and then went up to the battle line to prepare for the battle which the whole world is now watching.

It seems funny to think of this as we listen to radio news and some of it is amusing being a day or two late as far as we are concerned but after all that is natural. We don't want Jerry to know about our movements. He has to find it out the hard way.

It was a relief and a pleasant change from our fixed position. The gun fire that a fixed position experiences is a bit trying at times. Night after night, usually commencing about bedtime, Jerry opened up and his shells come screaming over and despite the time-worn consolation that you don't hear the one that hits you, one does, nevertheless, lie awake for hours, listening to them and thinking all sorts of things.

The people where we are now are just as hungry, in rags, and as ignorant as in our former location. The towns are as filthy, completely unsanitary, a bit older if any thing, and smell to high heaven as they seem to do everywhere in Italy. I haven't visited any of the larger cities but I understand Naples is just a large town, possibly with the exception of the churches, which are extravagantly equipped, although none I have seen compare with the English or American cathedrals.

We are back under mosquito nets. We take our doses of terrible things called anti-malaria pills. Food is served under fly-proof covers because of dysentery, of which this country is full. All water is chlorinated before we use it.

You have read about the opening artillery barrage but you can't begin to picture what it is, from a newspaper description. It is truly awe-inspiring. We, of course, knew the zero hour. For days the whole countryside had been quiet. By night, silent blacked-out convoys crept along the roads into position.

I remember the night very vividly. Everything seemed absolutely still. Then suddenly for miles around in every direction, at the appointed zero hour, thousands of guns of all sizes opened up. The heavens were continuous green and yellow reflections of vibrating, shuddering lights. It was really beyond description, but I will never forget the sight or sound.

In my job I've had opportunity of observing American, Canadian, and the British in action. They all do a grand job, but I have been terrifically impressed with the work that the British regiments are doing.

The Tommies will storm the gates of hell and laugh when they go through them. They have the brains and are cold and imperturbable. Never get into a trap, and they have a never-failing sense of humor. As I have heard my men say, "The Lymies will never let you down." On anything like nearly equal terms, the Englishman will beat the Hun any day of the week.

I am only mentioning what I do about these Tommies because it rather burns me up to note they get so little credit in the average newspaper that we run across.

I could tell you more—much more, but censorship regulations must be observed. Thank you for the many parcels and cigarettes I have received from you."

From Spr. W. J. Foster, formerly of the Forging Department: "All I can tell you is that I am still with the famous 8th Army who are very well trained but have nothing over the Canadian Soldiers. Our clothes, boots, etc., are the best of any army I have seen yet so with what we have and your support back home I believe we should have final victory in '44.

Italy is a peculiar country and must be 100 years behind the rest of the world. There's one thing though—the plumbing here is very cheap—all the water is carried on the heads of the women in large containers—they never spill a drop. I might also mention that the power in this country is women, children and oxen, and all live in the same building. They have no stoves to cook on, just any old can with a few holes in it, some chips or branches and the smoke is terrific since there's no way for it to escape. Some times they light the fires on the street then when they have coals take it into the house and cook their spaghetti. This spaghetti, with a glass of red wine (Vino Puss), is the whole meal".

From Bud Daws formerly of the Tool Room, "I am with a R. N. Cruiser for training and get along with all the English lads very well, they are a bunch of swell guys. I had a letter from Clair who is on a Canadian Destroyer. You may wonder what type of work I'm engaged in at present. We've been given the privilege of stating one small line of explanation "been on an operation with carriers off the coast of Norway". There's lots more I could say but can't since secrecy in the navy is so necessary."

■ ■ ■

"Little boy, why aren't you in school?"

"Hell, lady, I ain't but three years old."

■ ■ ■

Old Maid (to sniffing Junior): "Little boy, have you a handkerchief?"

Junior: "Yes, ma'am, but I never loan it to strangers."

PLANT 3 POTPOURRI

Velma Thompson didn't need to tell any one that she had been painting at home. She still had white paint on her face next morning when she came to work. What we want to know is she painting the house or her face?

For fancy crochet work see Mickey Adams. She crochets covers for seats, and stools of all kinds, any color or any size. Place your orders now.

Wanted—One extension telephone. One that will reach out to my machine.—Claud Workman.

Dorothy Dial don't believe in doing things the easy way. Anybody can fall out of a car or down the steps but Dorothy falls in the car and up the steps.

Mable Waddell mashed her toe Labor Day. She also received a grass skirt from Hawaii. They are having a carnival at her school and she thinks she could put on a pretty good hula dance if some one stepped on her sore toe. They give prizes for amateurs.

Mable Snyder has been promoted to pilot. She will join the air forces as soon as her basic training's finished. She has piled and repiled boxes and some times you can't see Mable for boxes—but she's there.

Luther Morrison has decided he hasn't any friends at the final table. He was seen in the Gebhart Block with a sign on his back, "W.P.A. worker, please give me a boost".

Tooth Pick Raskin has opened up a hair dressing shop at her desk, open between the hours of 10:30 and 11 o'clock each day except Sundays. She will do your hair any way she wants to on tooth picks. The name is "Tooth Pick Raskin's Place".

P. S.—No use calling at any other time of day as 10:30 to 11:00 is the only time she is at her desk.

Another scandal for Plant 3: Ed Stark was seen out with his own wife one evening last week.

If you are going to buy a new sweater see Roy Coffman. He has all the dope on the latest models with or without.

We have heard of a guy who couldn't hit the side of a barn with all the doors shut with a shot gun. Well Shot Gun Leake can shoot a hole through the ceiling and roof of a house with the doors open.

If you see a streak coming down the line any time don't get excited and think it a

SINGING MARINE SONG



Thos. W. McCoy

Here is a grandson of Mrs. Molly Walker of Elwin, Illinois. She is one of our most loyal workers on second shift. Trouble or no, Molly is pitching on the home front because the boys over there may some day include her grandson. We are making the kind of shells and war materials that he may need desperately some time. At present he is stationed in New York City.

In the picture he is singing the official song of the Maritime Service.

*Heave Ho! My Lads, Heave Ho!
Give us the oil, give us the gas,
Give us the shells, give us the guns,
We'll be the ones to see them through.
Give us the tanks, give us the planes,
Give us the parts, give us a ship,
Give us a Hip-Hoo-Ray and we'll be on our way.*

*Heave Ho! My Lads, Heave Ho!
It's a long, long way to go,
It's a long, long pull with our hatches full.
Braving the winds,
Braving the sea,
Fighting the treacherous foe.*

*Heave Ho! My Lads, Heave Ho!
Let the sea roll high or low
We can cross any ocean
Sail any river
Give us the goods and we'll deliver.
Damn the submarine,
We're the men of the Merchant Marine.*

Robot. It will be Helen Meadows on her new bicycle.

Bill Knight claims he is three weeks ahead of schedule in broad day light.

That sure was a swell looking piece of fried chicken Red brought Iona but the one he gave Norma looked like it had been hatched in the wrong time of the moon or the wolves had gotten to it before Norma did.

Last year Lefty Adams put a head light on his shot gun so he could hunt rabbits at night. It worked swell, Lefty said, although he didn't get a rabbit all season. This year Lefty tried it on squirrels with the same results. No squirrels. He thinks Mickey is falling for all this but just between you and me, she is not.

Wanted—Fried chicken gizzards. No limit
(Continued on page 19)

NEITHER HERE NOR THERE

(Being a Few Idle Ruminations as to
What Makes the Whole Thing Tick)

Just back from our favorite indoor and outdoor pastime of watching troop trains. Our technique is not as expert as in the days when the Office windows looked down upon the tracks, but even yet we follow this particular game with considerable enthusiasm. We have seen troops move East and West, we've seen soldiers, sailors, Seabees, Marines, Waves and Wacs. The train today carried prisoners of war.

There was not much response either to the friendly waves of Mueller employees' hands. The good old American custom of a wave of the hand and a friendly greeting was not one endorsed by the passengers of today's train. The guards on the coach platforms grinned in good old Yankee fashion.

We are reminded again that the war, grimly enough, won't be over when the armistice is signed. Then there will be troubles-a-plenty to be ironed out, and one of our problems will be these same Prisoners of War and their fellow countrymen. We will be caught again in the dilemma of reconciling our natural instinct toward friendliness and doing the sportsmanlike thing and our conviction that our late enemies represent a way of life that is malignant. So long as the ideas of the Nazis and Japs are at liberty in the world so long will our job be unfinished. So long will we need wisdom, strength, compassion, understanding and an unlimited amount of patience.

The new stenographer in the Credit Department is Opal McKnight. Jane Wheeler, for some years stenographer to E. F. Dickey, credit manager, has resigned.

We also greet Mae Suhomske who at present is assisting in the Order Department.

A special welcome to Dale West, our new messenger. Postmistress Doty Gepford experienced some difficulty for some little time in the messenger department, as there were a couple who began on the job but didn't remain long. June Landis was good enough to come back as interim messenger, which helped out considerably.

Dale is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl West, both of whom are Mueller employees.

We were all shocked and grieved to learn that Mabel Gates of the Advertising Department has been forced to take an extended rest in the Macon County Tuberculosis Sanitarium. Mabel will be glad to hear from all of her friends.

Hurry back, Mabel, say we all.

Margaret Woodruff vacationed during the second week in August, including a trip to St. Louis in her list of items of interest.

Sarah Ruth Lentz spent the week of September 10 in Chicago.

BROTHER AND SISTER IN SERVICE



Here is an unusual photograph which illustrates the patriotic fervor of both sexes. This is still further emphasized by the fact that they are brother and sister, Claude Stacey, Jr., in the Army and Dorothy June Stacey in the Navy. They were fortunate in getting simultaneous leaves of absence so that they could not only be together, but could visit their parents for a family reunion. They are son and daughter of Claude Stacey who has the responsibility of seeing that the main office is kept spic and span. Claude, Jr., and Dorothy are graduates of the Decatur High School and both were members of our force before enlisting.

SUGGESTION PRIZE WINNERS

Following are the names of timely additional suggestion prize winners:

Name	No. of Suggestions	Amount
Arthula Hendrickson	1	\$ 5.00
Ancel G. West	1	5.00
Claude E. Roe	1	5.00
Geo. Anderson, Jr.	1	5.00
W. L. Shockley	1	5.00
F. W. Dannewitz	1	5.00
Harry Smith	1	5.00
Jas. T. McKown	2	10.00
John Pritchett	1	5.00
Evelyn Thompson	1	5.00
Clark L. Curry	1	5.00
August Schudziara	1	5.00
Hubert L. Cook	1	5.00
Daniel Burger	1	5.00
Geo. W. Curtis	1	5.00
Raymond Bulla	1	5.00
Elvis V. Musgraves	1	5.00
Helen Causey	1	5.00
John C. Willis	1	5.00
John Chalcraft	1	5.00

(Continued from page 17)

to the amount just so there are plenty of them, before or after meals it makes no difference to Helen and Nola, any parts of fried chicken just so they are gizzards.

It was bad enough for Bessie to wind the alarm clock then set it so it wouldn't go off, but next morning in the excitement to get to work in time she tried to put on Ann's clothes. Well, that was the limit.

Why do we buy war stamps? So we can lick the other side.

Bill Knight: "How did you hurt your leg, Cobb?"

Cobb: "I threw a lighted cigarette butt down an open man hole and stepped on it".

When Bar Fly Latch and his pal Lefty Adams left the party at Fike's, Mickey drove the car while he slept, but when they got to Lefty's house and Bar Fly got his own car to go on home he started due south in place of north. So Georgana had to drive home. How in the world did he ever get home before they were married?

Just to prove what a bright young man Outlaw is—When he was laid off at Plant 3, he thought that also laid him off at the Polar Co. too. So he didn't show up there for five nights for work. (And he claims he is smart enough to be Coffman's foreman.)

For bowling lessons, see Pat and Latch. Pat says if he stands on the right side of the alley he throws the ball down the left gutter and if he stands on the left side the ball will always go down the right hand alley, and Latch says for me too.

Carl Oakley's braggin' sure got him in the dog house. He told us how he took his wife's check and gave her 25 cents out of it for spending money each pay day. But when Carl was seen at a free ball game and his wife at a show she had to pay to see things looked different. When asked about the check business she said she took care of both checks—and Carl, who was standing there, just sorta grinned.

Norma didn't come to work one day—Said she had to lay off to get her a new apron. Something happened to Norma's apron the day before.

Every one at Plant 3 was sure glad when Amy Hartwig got word that her husband, Leland, was safe and on the way back home.

Received a letter from Dorothy O'Byrne the other day. Said to give her best wishes to the old bunch. Dorothy lives in Latham, Illinois.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Lee Bauer July 22 a baby girl. She has been named Dona

Jean. Lee is in the navy in the South Pacific.

The next time Virginia buys a set of swings she is going to try to set them up herself.

Red looks nice in a red sweater but he would like to try on a yellow one.

Frank Walker dreamed there was a drunken man in his house. He hit Eula. When asked about it, he just laughed.

Received a letter from Ike Gouan, who is now in the navy. He is well and likes it fine. Address Isaac L. Gouan, U.S.N.R.B. Navy #10, Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California.

Also received a card from John Taylor. John is well and getting along O.K. He is in New York City.

Lucille Zerfowski's friend, Chase Fitch, is home from Italy. It has been two years and five months since Lucille has seen him. He was in the invasion of North Africa, on the Anzio beachhead, was in Naples, Rome, and Florence, Italy. So he will have plenty to tell Lucille, if that is what they will talk about.

NOW OVER SEAS



Pvt. and Mrs. Carl Austin and two youngsters, Lenora Mae and Arthur Edwin.

Pvt. Carl, better known in plant No. 3 as "Whirl Away", recently spent several days with his family. While he was not employed here at the time of his induction into service he is well known and practically the whole Austin family is employed here.

He came out one afternoon and visited us.

Since this picture was taken he has been sent over seas and his address until further notice is in care of the post master at New York.

“BARGAIN COLUMN PAGE”

ITEMS FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Ice box. 75 lbs. Front-icer. A-1 condition. \$10.00. 1220 No. Monroe.

COTTON PAD: Made to fit Mueller baby crib. Call Mrs. Hubert Maddox, 1237 S. Jasper.

FOR SALE: Large size enameled Frigid-aire, which has been converted into an ice box. This has four doors, a large compartment for ice, and equipped with drain. For complete information, contact O. J. Hawkins, Purchasing Agent, Main Office.

FOR SALE: Shot gun like new. Sixteen (16) gauge single, with recoil pad. 1½ box shells, \$15.00. Dick Tolladay, Phone 5682, 1003 W. North Street.

FOR SALE: Mans' 15-jewel pocket watch. Excellent condition, white case, heavy rock crystal. Glenn Roff, Shipping Dept.

FOR SALE: A two wheel Garden plow with surface attachment. All in good condition. Prospective gardeners should not overlook this opportunity. Telephone 2-0831 or call 1525 North Clinton Street.

FOR SALE: 2 acres on hard road, south of Harristown. Also, 3 grave lot in Fair-lawn cemetery. Ralph Adams, lead dept. Tel. 2-1744.

FOR SALE: 1 Bed Davenport. A-1 condition. Color (Maroon). William Cloney, Boody, Illinois, or Mueller Plant No. 3.

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY: A child's tricycle. Call phone 7786.

WANTED: 1 very small radio. Will buy or trade. table model. Virginia Barnett, Plant 3.

WANTED: Newspapers. We will pay highest price for clean newspapers, folded once and tied in bundles. No magazines. Please deliver to Mueller Co. Shipping Room before 10 a. m. any day except Saturday.

WANTED TO BUY—1 tire for motor scooter, tubeless type size 12 x 3.50. C. W. Murray, 840 S. 17th St. Phone 2-1339.

WANTED TO RENT: 4 or 5 room modern house in Roosevelt school district. (Would take 3 to 5 room apt. Mrs. Marie Brooks c/o Employment Office.)

BOY SCOUT NEWS



Looks like summer is over for Troop 2. We had a very interesting lot of outdoor meetings at the Mary French School. The last one was our Annual Bicycle Rodeo featuring novelty riding, stunts, and a race. Just like cowboys do but on bicycles. Yes-sirree!! This is one live troop that does not fold up for the summer.

The Sea Scouts have really fixed up their boat in fine style. This year it is painted red (the troop color) with a white deck and black trim. The sail is emblazoned with a large Sea Scout insignia. No doubt now whose boat this is. The skipper and crew spent quite a bit of Labor day week-end out at the lake. A cruise is in order soon.

Advancement has taken another spurt. We need it! Robert Morris and Gordon Krone were awarded 2nd Class at the last board. Richard Hoppe earned one of the tough merit badges—Reptile Study. Robert Hughes got Art.

On Sept. 7 our traditional investiture was held for our three new Tenderfeet—Douglas Campbell, Chick Kileen, and Bobby Sefton. And how we put it on! These lucky fellows will remember this day for a long time. We were honored by visits from their parents. Other badges earned were awarded at the same time. Richard Hoppe received a white bar for hitting the board six months straight.

Richard Sefton, ex-farmer, is back in the harness again as troop scribe. Cecil Snow and David Kruzan are coming regular now—we hope. Herbert Harner, after a busy summer reading meters is on deck as usual. Wonder what happened to Stewart File? And Philip Jordon? . . . We can use a few more twelve-year-olds. Tell your friends about Troop 2—“The Livest Troop In Decatur.”

■ ■ ■

“But how on earth did you come to get so completely intoxicated?” asked the magistrate.

“I got in bad company, your Honor. You see, there were four of us. I had a quart of whiskey—and the other three guys don't touch the stuff.”