

# MUELLER RECORD

PUBLISHED AT DECATUR, ILLINOIS

AFTER READING THIS RECORD, MAIL TO SOMEONE  
IN THE U. S. ARMED FORCES



WHEN THE FROST IS ON THE PUNKIN  
AND THE FODDER'S IN THE SHOCK.

NOVEMBER, 1942



# PREPARE TO PRESERVE

We've got a big war on our hands. That calls for economy and savings wherever possible. And one bit of practical economy is fixing up your service boxes. Have you a few Buffalo boxes with broken tops, lugs, or lost lids? Are they filled with leaves and trash which clog up boxes making them inaccessible this winter?

Then get some MUELLER Repair Lids. After cleaning out debris with a MUELLER Clean-out Auger a MUELLER Repair Lid is clamped on. Because of its novel construction there is friction contact the full length of the legs making unauthorized removal practically impossible. This holds the lid flat on the box, and it cannot cock or tilt on edge. No danger of these lids being pried off or knocked off. Keeps out all rubbish. Easily removed by your men with regular pentagon head key. Made especially for the Buffalo box and actually superior to the original lids.

Now is the time to clean out service boxes and put them in shape for many winters. If you need augers or repair lids we can make a reasonable shipment. Write Dept. W-41.

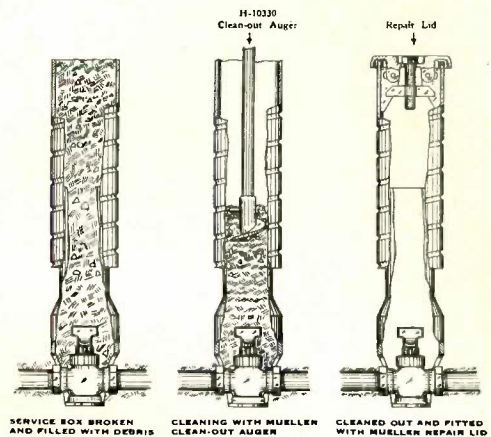


**H-10373  
FOR NEW STYLE  
BUFFALO BOX**



**H-10374  
FOR OLD STYLE  
BUFFALO BOX**

## DO IT THIS WAY



# MUELLER CO.

DECATUR, ILLINOIS

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Vol. XXXII

NOVEMBER, 1942

No. 297

## LIBERTY

The word "Liberty" is much used and much abused. This is, due in large measure



to the different interpretations. From the day of intelligent thought and the gift of oral or written opinion, the word has been kicked about as indiscriminately as a football in a Thanksgiving day game. The common and generally accepted definition is "freedom to think and do as one pleases" which is correct within certain limitations and restrictions. Beyond these limitations and restrictions Liberty may often degenerate to the low level of license. This is all too frequently the case. The wise men who framed the constitution anticipated this and told us with the support of the Bill of Rights just how far we may go and just where to stop.

We are today defending our Liberty of self-government from any possible intervention whatever by any foreign power or any discontented malcontents in this country seeking an abridgement of our rights to self-government.

The word Liberty in itself has always commanded the reverence of thinking men. The writers of the Bible recognized it in Romans viii 21, "Delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious Liberty of the sons of God." The poets have hung verbal bouquets on the word, patriots of many ages have given their lives to it, statesmen have dignified it with their wise interpretation of its solemn and unchangeable promise to a free people. A few anarchists, usurpers and dictators have used it as a cloak to license their unholly schemes with which to delude the mob while seeking to further their selfish personal ambition or personal advantage.

None of these have achieved permanent success and none will so long as we under-

## INVINCIBLE TRIANGLE



### A STORY WITHOUT WORDS

stand the true meaning of Liberty and defend it to the last man. Among the wisest of our great statesmen, Daniel Webster, who gave us this beautiful definition.

"God grants liberty only to those who love it and are always ready to guard and defend it. Let our object be our country. And, by the blessing of God, may that country itself become a vast and splendid monument, not of oppression and terror, but of wisdom, of peace, and of liberty."

And then Otto Kahn, a man successful in business and a benefactor of his fellow men

(Continued on next page)

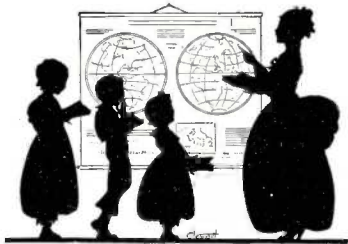


## THE MUELLER RECORD

Published at Decatur, Illinois, by MUELLER CO.,  
Manufacturers of Vital Spots Products for the Plumb-  
ing, Water and Gas Industries.

C. N. WAGENSELLER, Editor

### THE FINEST SCHOOL POEM



It is an old poem, but one that has never lost its charm. When it first made its appearance, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes made this comment: "The finest school poem ever written." Here it is.

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER

*Still sits the school-house by the road,  
A ragged beggar sleeping;  
Around it still the sumachs grow,  
And blackberry-vines are creeping.*

*Within, the master's desk is seen,  
Deep scarred by raps official;  
The warping floor, the battered seats,  
The jack-knife's carved initial.*

*The charcoal frescoes on its wall;  
Its door's worn sill, betraying  
The feet that, creeping slow to school,  
Went storming out to playing!*

*Long years ago a winter sun  
Shone over it at setting;  
Lit up its western window-panes,  
And low eaves' icy fretting.*

*It touched the tangled golden curls,  
And brown eyes full of grieving,  
Of one who still her steps delayed  
When all the school were leaving.*

*For near her stood the little boy  
Her childish favor singled;  
His cap pulled low upon a face  
Where pride and shame were mingled.*

*Pushing with restless feet the snow  
To right and left, he lingered;—  
As restlessly her tiny hands  
The blue-checked apron fingered.*

*He saw her lift her eyes; he felt  
The soft hand's light caressing,  
And heard the tremble of her voice,  
As if a fault confessing.*

*'I'm sorry that I spelt the word:  
I hate to go above you,  
Because,'—the brown eyes lower fell,—  
'Because, you see, I love you!'*

*Still memory to a gray-haired man  
That sweet child-face is showing.  
Dear girl! the grasses on her grave  
Have forty years been growing!*

*He lives to learn, in life's hard school,  
How few who pass above him  
Lament their triumph and his loss,  
Like her,—because they love him.*

■ ■ ■

### DO IT NOW

#### When Through Reading This Record, Mail It To Some Soldier

Your attention is called to the following lines printed on the front cover of this Record:

When you finish reading this Record, Mail it to someone in the U. S. Armed Forces.

We believe you will be well repaid in doing this. The boys in the front ranks will enjoy reading Mueller Record. We know this. We already have a considerable soldier mailing list and many are the thankful letters received, some of them including statements like this:

"After reading the Mueller Record it was passed to all the boys in our barracks. They all liked it."

For the small postage spent in mailing it you will make not one but many soldier boys happy. Anyone in the army receiving this publication is quite certain to pass it around.

Try it.

■ ■ ■

#### LIBERTY—(Continued from page 1)

gave this interpretation of Liberty.

"The deadliest foe of democracy is not autocracy, but Liberty gone frenzied. Liberty is not foolproof. For its beneficent working it demands self-restraint, a sane and clear recognition of the practical and attainable."

Thomas Jefferson, who wrote the Declaration of Independence, told his fellows:

"The God who gave us life gave us Liberty at the same time."

Herodotus 450 B. C. was known as

"The Father of History," and he gives us this clear cut definition of Liberty.

"The major problem of human society is to combine that degree of Liberty without which law is tyranny with that degree of law with out which Liberty becomes license."

No one in this land where Liberty has always been our watch word will surrender this God-given right, no matter what the sacrifice or what the cost.

# Buchanan's Lancaster Home Is Now A Shrine



Above: "Wheatland", home of James Buchanan, fifteenth President of the United States. The home is being restored to its original appearance and will be maintained as a shrine at Lancaster, Pa.

Below: The bathroom. It is a duplicate of the first bath tub in the White House, conforming in size and style. Bath tubs were not very common in the United States in Buchanan's time.



Lancaster, Pennsylvania, is a city to talk about of itself, but an added incentive is the fact that it was the home of James Buchanan, fifteenth President of the United States. His old mansion, in which he lived, has been preserved as a shrine, a fact, we believe, that is not generally known, but it promises to receive increased attention annually from tourists and visitors.

The city of Lancaster was first settled in 1718, incorporated as a borough in 1742 and as a city in 1818. It has the distinction of having been the state capital from 1799 to 1812. Among its oldest buildings, one known as the Masonic building, was erected in 1785.

The city is a cultural and educational center, including:

Seat of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church of the United States,  
Lancaster Business College,  
Thaddeus Stevens Industrial School,  
Bowman Technical School,

Franklin and Marshall College,  
and a fine system of public schools and hospitals.

## A Thriving City Now

The 1940 census gives Lancaster a popu-

lation of 61,345: a thriving city now but perpetuating the history and traditions of its 224 years. And the home of President James Buchanan is an outstanding example of the worthy work.

Buchanan was a native of Mercersburg, Pa., where he was born on April 23, 1791. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in Lancaster in 1812 and settled there for the practice of his profession, eventually becoming the city's most distinguished citizen. An early devotion to politics gave him a world-wide experience. He was elected to Congress, was U. S. minister to Russia, then a Senator, Secretary of State in President Polk's cabinet, then Ambassador to the Court of St. James in England. In two preceding national Democratic conventions he was voted on as the party's candidate for President, but it was not until 1856 that he was chosen and subsequently elected. His term

was full of nerve-racking emergencies, due to the rapidly growing sentiment for and against slavery.

#### Originator of Front Porch Campaign

He was the first of Presidential candidates to introduce a "Front Porch Campaign"; he was elected over Fremont. At the conclusion of his term he retired to his beloved home of Wheatland and died there in 1868.

The land on which "Wheatland" stands is traced back to grants of William Penn. The mansion was built in 1828 for William Jenkins, Esq., then president of the Farmers' Bank of Lancaster.

William Morris Meredith purchased the estate in 1845. He was a prominent figure in Pennsylvania in that day and Secretary of the Treasury of the United States. The estate was purchased by Buchanan in 1848 for \$6750, the exact sum Mr. Meredith had paid.

#### Restoring Wheatland

Our attention was first attracted to this American shrine by Mr. Charles P. Abrahams, superintendent of the Bureau of Water, who had read in the Mueller Record a short biographical article on Buchanan as President of the United States. He referred us to the Buchanan Foundation and Mr. Hugh Forster, its publicity chairman, gave additional information. Purpose of the Foundation is to restore and preserve this historic national landmark. The work is supported by public subscription and many sustaining members in the city and county of Lancaster, among these being the Lancaster Junior League, which contributes a large sum annually and is very active in locating furniture of the proper period with which to re-furnish restored rooms. The restoration is supervised by a Washington historian who passes on every piece of furniture to assure its authenticity of the period it is intended to represent. The restoration is now nearly completed.

#### An Old Period Bath Room

Not the least interesting feature of the house is the bath room which is a replica of the one located in the White House at that time. The bath tub and wash basin are built not only in the same style but in exact dimensions of the White House fixtures. Incidentally, it emphasizes the progress of plumbing. In the days of President Buchanan there were few bath rooms. Now nearly every house boasts of one, and the most modest of these is white enameled iron or vitreous ware, both of surpassing white surfaces, suggesting cleanliness and comfort.

Any tourist driving through Pennsylvania can well afford to deviate from a selected route to visit the Buchanan home—and see Lancaster, old, solid, substantial, historic city.

## PROTECTS BURIED PIPES

### Engineers Promise Large Savings By Use of "Rust Boxes"

There are 420,000 miles of pipe lines in the United States distributing oil and gasoline to points far distant from the source of supply. Rust is a destructive enemy of these pipes. It is more harmful in some spots than others. Engineers claim this is due to electrolysis which is a flow of electricity carrying particles of metal with it and these particles combined grow into tons. This enemy of underground pipes has long been recognized, but no effective remedy was known. It is now claimed that recent invention supplies a means of control which ends the expensive and destructive waste. This is accomplished by what are known as "rust boxes" which may be placed as far as a mile from the pipe line, preventing rust accumulating in pipes in that area. We have no technical details, but these boxes according to engineers, take the electrolysis from the pipes. Earth currents are said to produce electrolysis which flows outward from buried metal. The efforts of the engineering profession to overcome this destructive enemy covers a period of ten years or more, and if they have now succeeded they have provided against a loss running into hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. The cost of reconditioning pipe lines damaged by electrolysis is estimated from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per mile. The cost of the "rust boxes" is from \$1,500 to \$2,000 for the same distances.

■ ■ ■

## THE ORIGINAL VIRTUE

Justice may be defined, that virtue which impels us to give to every person what is his due. In this extended use of the word, it comprehends the practice of every virtue which reason prescribes, or society should expect. Our duty to our maker, to each other, and to ourselves are fully answered if we give them what we owe them. Thus justice, properly speaking, is the only virtue; and all the rest have their origin in it.—Goldsmith.

■ ■ ■

O, many a shaft, at random sent,  
Finds mark the archer little meant!  
And many a word at random spoken,  
May soothe, or wound, a heart that's broken.  
—Scott.

■ ■ ■

*When you finish reading this Mueller Record, mail it to someone in the U. S. armed forces.*

MUELLER RECORD



## GREAT LAKES

### Famous Naval Station North of Chicago Prepares Thousands of Boys for Service

In these days of distress, doubt and uncertainty the name of Great Lakes Naval Training station is on thousands of tongues, yet only a few referring to it know little more about it than the mere name. For what little is said of it in this article we are indebted to "The Aristology Magazine."

#### Known Everywhere

This nationally known "Primary Naval School" is located half way between Chicago and Milwaukee. It may be compared to an enormous hotel, with a transient population of 50,000 American youths eager to become members of the navy. They are constantly coming and going, just like travellers entering a hotel for a few days and leaving as soon as they can dispose of their business.

#### Cornfield Sailors

Strange enough the youths going to Great Lakes for training have the lure of the sea in their veins without ever having smelled the tang of salt water. They are more at home in the corn fields or milking old "Bossie" in the evening. They arrive each day at the railway station by the hundreds, frequently by the thousands. While they are coming in, numbers have finished and are on the way to ship or to whatever land duty they may have been assigned.

#### Five Weeks' Training

The average stay at the training station is given as five weeks but in that period the boys learn a lot about ships and ship duties. Great Lakes Training station occupies about 850 acres and is constantly patrolled by marines day and night, increased vigilance being the order of the day in these hectic times.

When the future personnel of the navy arrives at the school they look as little like the trim sailors and marines they are to become as a row boat looks like a cruiser.

#### Initiation

They bring little or nothing in the way of luggage or clothing. A clerk reels off their names and numbers. They move to tables and write down this information on tags, cards and shipping labels. Then they move to a big room with the floor blocked off in squares. All clothing is stripped from their bodies and they stand there in nature's informal uniform. They are allowed to keep their toilet kit, money and books but are compelled to give up their square ivories of "Seben come eleben" variety, cameras, lewd pictures and straight razors.

#### Physical Examination

All naked they are moved to the showers

and undergo physical examination by a score of physicians. Within an hour they are in uniform and all the equipment they will have in the future is doled out to them. This consists of blankets, hammock, clothes, shoes, and a long canvas bag in which they carry their outfit. When packed this bag weighs about one hundred pounds. That night the embryo sailor or marine takes his first night's sleep in what will be his bed during the term of his enlistment. Twelve feet of space for each six men is about the average allotment.

#### Do Their Laundry

They must do their own laundry and must keep bodily clean and neat in appearance. Training begins immediately. Sea language is taught together with names and parts of vessels, the training room becoming a part of a ship's deck.

Within a short time the teachers learn what special work the boys are fitted to perform and then each one concentrates on learning all he can of the special duties he is expected to discharge when in service.

Depotment and obedience and politeness are quickly manifested. They learn to speak softly, move silently and quickly and almost invariably show by their conduct that they are interested in serving their country to the utmost of their ability. There is plenty of recreation, music and reading time when not otherwise engaged.

#### A Little Personal Reminiscence

The writer knows something of the results of the Great Lakes Training school. His youngest son is an example. In the former World War he was accepted through special provisions before he had reached the usual age. Within six or eight months he was a member of the crew of the Frederick Taussig, an ammunition carrying ship and made seven or eight round trips across the Atlantic delivering munitions for the Expeditionary Forces. Throughout his service he made a study of navigation receiving valuable aid from the navigation officer. At the close of the war he was transferred to the Edward W. Cole, a torpedo boat destroyer, and cruised the Mediterranean for several months. When he resumed civil life he found a position with one of the large meat packing houses in Chicago and is still in their service holding an important executive position in the south.

His six year old son does not know it but his career has already been selected for him.

"What is it to be," we inquired, having already made a good mental guess.

"The United States navy, sir," was the answer, "the greatest training in the world for a boy."

# I'M TELLIN' YOU

©A.C.S.



● A modern miracle—Telling a hair raising story to a bald headed man.

● If the game you gave the boy is silly and childish, don't prove it by playing with it.

● Christmas is in sight. Remember many a person will forget the past in the present.

● It's a sure sign of Christmas when a Scotchman rummages around for last year's tie.

● Newspaper Headline—"Too many women in the Woman's Auxiliary Corps want to be officers." Well?

● It's pretty hard to tell what and when the world is coming to but it must be nearly there by this time.

● Advice to newly weds: Why waste money on an alarm clock. When the baby is asleep it is time to get up!

● There would be a greater incentive to Christmas happiness if there is more happiness expressed in the gift.

● "Should a woman tell her boy friend before marrying that she has false teeth?" No! A thousand false teeth no! Let the teeth tell it.

● The hale fellow well met has more friends in the beginning than he needs or wants but after the show is over has fewer friends than he needs.

● The War Production board expects to manufacture 240,000,000 gallons of alcohol during the coming year. Big job ahead, boys. Bottoms up.

● The whirly gig of time does some funny things. In 1940 there were no running boards on cars. In 1941 no gear shifts and now in 1942 no tires.

● Notables spend a good portion of their time dodging autograph fiends. At that it is easier and a lot more satisfactory than to be finger printed.

● New York chorus girl says the greatest asset a chorus girl can have is brains. Maybe so, but don't forget that a woodenhead is still better than a wooden leg.

● If the American boys in foreign lands drive tanks through the ranks of the enemy like some of them drove automobiles through traffic at home the war will soon be over.

● Illinois bought \$608,257,000 worth of War Bonds, January to October.

"Not without thy wondrous story can be writ the  
Nation's glory, Illinois, Illinois."

● Don't envy your neighbor's ladder of success or try to borrow it for your own use. It won't answer. You have the same ladder and all you need do is to learn how to use it.

● "Dear me," wheezed grandpa, "times have changed. See more for nothin' in a walk around the block than you used to could see for a dollar in a burlesque show when I was a young feller."

● Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the clothes closet. Makes no difference if coat, trousers and vest do not match in color. It is patriotic to wear them. Remember the flag you worship has three colors. So why worry about your clothes?

## Treacherous Memory

Being introduced to a fashionable lady, the gentleman so honored made a mental note of her name, Mrs. Hummock. "I'll remember that," he whispered to himself. "It rhymes with 'Stumach.' Hummock-Stumach, that's easy money." All day and far into the night he kept on the job, and the next day meeting the lady he said with great satisfaction, "How do you do, Mrs. Kelley."





**Shenstone:—**

A miser grows rich by seeming poor;  
an extravagant man grows poor by  
seeming rich.

But neither fools anyone.

**Shakespeare:—**

Now good digestion waits on appetite  
and health on both.

Health generally takes the rap.

**Seneca:—**

Our alarms are much more numerous  
than our dangers, and we suffer much  
oftener in apprehension than in reality.

Especially in war times.

**Burke:—**

Better to be despised for too anxious  
apprehensions, than ruined by too con-  
fident a security.

Don't be too sure of yourself.

**Butler:—**

A man convinced against his will is of  
the same opinion still.

Just stubborn.

**Prior:—**

Examples I could cite you more;  
But be content with these four;  
For when one's proofs are aptly chosen  
Four are as valid as four dozen.

Four of a kind generally win.

**Anon:—**

There is nothing as cheap and weak in  
debate as assertion that is not backed by  
fact.

Assertion and proof are strangers.

**Cicero:—**

The contemplation of celestial things  
will make a man speak more sublimely  
and magnificently when he descends to  
human affairs.

Sure source of inspiration.

**Young:—**

By night an atheist half believes in God.  
Afraid to go home in the dark.

**Addison:—**

Knowledge is that which, next to virtue,  
truly and essentially raises one man  
above another.

Knowledge, the great fulcrum.

**Voltaire:—**

Labor rids us of three great evils; irk-  
someness, vice and poverty.

The big three

**DeQuincey:—**

The laughter of girls is and always was  
among the most delightful sounds on  
earth.

Depends on the laughter.

**Anonymous:—**

The precepts of the law are these, to  
live correctly, to do an injury to none,  
and to render every man his own.

Looks easy.

**Gratian:—**

At twenty years of age the will reigns;  
at thirty, the wit, and at forty, the judg-  
ment.

Mile posts of life.

**Shakespeare:—**

The man that hath no music in himself,  
Nor is not moved by concord of sweet  
sounds,

Is fit for treason, stratagems and spoils;  
Let no such man be trusted.

"Sweet Adeline" not accepted as evidence.

**Shakespeare:—**

In God's name cheerily on, courageous  
friends, to reap the harvest of perpetual  
peace by this one bloody trial of war.

However, there have been many wars since  
William said this.

**Watts:—**

Though reading and conversation may  
furnish us with many ideas of men and  
things, yet it is our own meditation that  
must form our judgment.

Self-dependence needed.

**La Rouchefoucauld:—**

Passion often makes a madman of the  
cleverest man, and renders the greatest  
fool clever.

Works both ways.

**Havard:—**

Our country's welfare is our first con-  
cern, and who promotes this best, best  
proves his duty.

Let's prove our duty.

**Cecil:—**

When two goats met on the bridge  
which was too narrow to allow either  
to pass or return, the goat which lay  
down that the other might walk over  
it, was a finer gentleman than Lord  
Chesterfield.

The original Dear Alphonse

# Mr. and Mrs. America In Full Accord . .



Contributed by Arthur Folwell and Ellison Hoover—Courtesy N. Y. Herald Tribune Syndicate

Let's quit whimpering about restriction and limitations and get down to brass tacks.

Suppose we do have to go without tires, sugar and gasoline. In the final analysis these are not essential to life.

They are luxuries to which we have become so accustomed through easy living that we, baby-like, are inclined to cry when they are taken away from us, even temporarily.

The American soldiers on a dozen battle fronts don't ride about in automobiles. They go about on two legs and they do not cry about it or complain.

We would all be better and more patriotic Americans if we accepted with good grace what seems necessary under present conditions.

## Forget Sacrifices

If we had a grain of reason we would forget the "sacrifices", the non-essentials taken from us, and we would say "Bully, that will save me money with which to buy more war bonds". Instead we belly-ache about it. But there are only a few who do this. The real trouble is that they are just chronic kickers.

## Bonds Are An Investment

It has been pointed out so many times that buying bonds is nothing more than investment—a way to save money while performing a service to our country. Eventually you get back more money than you put in. Wars cannot be fought without money. It is money that furnishes the muscles and sinews of war, and "We, the people," must furnish the muscle and sinews either on the battle front or the home front.

Practically every generation since the Revolution have had to do this and there is no escape for this generation. So let's have patience and endure; the sacrifice will one day be beneficial.

**BUY BONDS AND STAMPS** — not grudgingly but gladly and willingly. It will give you the satisfaction of knowing that you did your part on the home front while our boys were doing theirs on the battle front. And all will be well.

## Notes From Washington

No miracle is going to give us rubber, because the rubber on our wheels is the last we will get until the war is won.

★ ★

In 1941 the United States imported more than 1,000,000 long tons of rubber and 98 per cent of this came from the far east, from regions now overrun by the Japanese. We will get no more rubber from those regions until Japan has been defeated.

★ ★

A tremendous quantity of rubber goes into tanks. There are 1,750 pounds of rubber in a medium sized tank.

★ ★

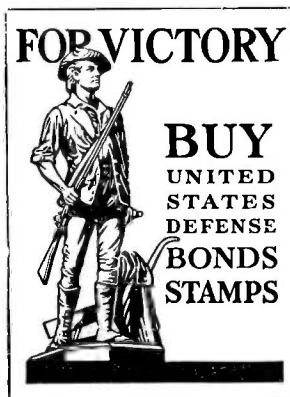
No one should drive his car at a speed above 35 miles an hour. Tire treads wear out twice as rapidly at 75 miles an hour as they do at 35 miles an hour.

★ ★

It is every automobile driver's duty to make his tires last as long as possible. Tires today are a national trust.

★ ★

Something new has been added to the lobby of a hotel in Charlotte, N. C. Resplendently patriotic in red, white,





and blue, a huge nickelodeon stands majestic beside a potted palm. You put a quarter in and you get a tune plus a War Savings stamp. The tune comes from the juke box and the stamps come from one of two pretty girls supplied by the Office of Civilian Defense. Popular selections are "Any Bonds Today", "God Bless America", "Anchors Aweigh", "Semper Fidelis", and other patriotic music.

★ ★

If Liberty is worth having and worth fighting for, it is surely worth paying for by buying bonds.

★ ★

War bonds are worth all you pay for them. In future years they will be worth more than you pay for them today, both in money and in the satisfaction that you helped win the war.

★ ★

When you buy a war bond you are doing more than showing you are a patriot. You are proving that you are a patriotic American citizen standing squarely on your feet in defense of your privileges, your family and your country.

★ ★

There is a "Bond of Freedom" that has held this nation together for 166 years. There is now required another bond necessary to continue this freedom — WAR BONDS. Don't forget it. It's up to YOU.

■ ■ ■

### SILLY STUFF

Exactly what we thought when we read the first paragraph and then read clear through to the final period, proving our own weak silliness. Very likely you'll do the same thing.

A nickel and a dime sat on a fence. The nickel fell off—why didn't the dime? It has more sense (cents).

What business is a skin game? Fur business.

What can walk over water and under water, yet does not touch water? A man walking over a bridge with a pail of water on his head.

Why is a lollypop like a race horse? Because the more you lick it the faster it goes.

If the ice wagon, including the ice, weighs 2000 pounds, what does the ice man weigh? He weighs the ice.

What is it that you can cut at both ends to make it longer? A ditch.

What sort of hair has a king's dog? Dog's hair.

If your mother-in-law was in jail what would be your favorite letter? Letter B.

Why should "Watermelon" be a good name for a newspaper? Because its insides would really be read.

### Little Things Teach Lessons

Three things have taught me courage—  
Three things I've seen today;  
A spider reweaving her web  
Which thrice had been swept away;  
A child refusing to weep  
In spite of a cruel pain;  
And a robin singing a cheery song  
In the midst of a chilling rain.

—Albertson.

## PRESIDENT HELPS

### Fat Man Appeals For Clothes So He May Continue Work

Some men are fat and some men are thin. The particular one now claiming our attention is of the fat variety. He is more than fat. His ring side weight is 386 pounds, and his protuberances are of sufficient size to forestall close approach either fore or aft. Mr. M. R. Wolfkeil is a ship worker at San Pedro, Calif. Like most victims of obesity he is good natured and full of natural fun. The fact that his circumference calls for a 57 inch waist band is a plague to clothing dealers.



### Flies Distress Signal

In this dilemma Mr. Wolfkeil decided to fly a flag of distress and he went to high authority for help. The authority was no less a person than the president himself, who received a wire that the sender had voted for him three times, and asked no favors now, but he was in need of help in procuring clothing so that he might continue his work in the shipyard. The letter was turned over to WPB with instructions to handle promptly, which was done and Wolfkeil has received his pants.

Exact price was not given but it is a safe bet that it was a fair one.

### He Is Right

Mr. Wolfkeil announced "that this is the only country in the world whose president would take time out from fighting a great war to get one of his supporters a pair of pants."

Little incidents like this, perhaps, lightens the president's arduous days in these hours of great problems.

■ ■ ■

A good law unenforced is like a good promise unfulfilled.

## DRESSES FROM FEED BAGS

### Mrs. Doumoulin, New York, Defends Innovation in Interesting Letter

In the July issue of the MUELLER RECORD we carried an article under the caption, "New Gowns for Ladies." The subject mat-



ter was the making of dresses out of flour sacks, feed bags, etc. The illustration here reproduced carried out our suggestion of a simple method by which the "gown" might be made in resemblance of pants by merely cutting diagonal openings at the corners of the bottom of the bag with colored ribbons in the mouth of the bag to tie over the shoulders to suspend the garment. The advantage of this we pointed out, was that the ladies could wear

the pants on the street as well as in the home.

In the article in the July issue we said: "Despite the source of our information we hesitate to accept the story without question. We shall, however, keep our eyes open and seek visible truth of this innovation but we do not expect to find it on Fifth Avenue, New York or on Gaddes Lane, Decatur."

And here follows a really interesting letter from Mrs. F. L. Doumoulin, Stony Point, Rockland County, N. Y., reproduction of which was granted us by the writer:

#### Look Better Than Some on 5th Ave.

"My husband brought your Record for July for me to read your article on, 'New Gown For Ladies' as he knew I had been making dresses out of the printed feed bags. My brother is in the poultry business and the prints were so pretty, in fast colors and the material not bad, that my sister started making house dresses out of the prettier ones. Of course you would not be liable to see them on Fifth Avenue although I have seen some dresses on Fifth Avenue that did not look half as good. Then I began making dresses out of the bags.

#### Fad Is Spreading

"Also a lot of my brother's customers, who buy poultry and eggs from him, began buying the bags. We have also covered cushions on porch gliders and chairs and made lunch cloths and drapes out of these bags. The dresses are well worth making. Suppose you have heard from other people

by now. Well, I will stop writing now as I am anxious to finish another 'Feed bag dress' which I have started."

We are hopeful that Mrs. Doumoulin's letter will inspire other ladies to "go and do likewise." Why not? Conservation is a watchword of the hour.

■ ■ ■

## HENDRIK VAN LOON

### At the Age of 60 Takes Up Study of Scandinavian Language

Hendrik Willem Van Loon was born in Rotterdam, Holland, but has spent the great part of his life in this country, where he became a writer with a world wide reputation. He graduated from Cornell, studied at Harvard and Munich and afterward was a newspaper correspondent at Washington, Moscow, St. Petersburg and Warsaw. He has been a lecturer on Art and Literature in different American universities and was a war correspondent during the first World's War. Later he was professor of Modern European History at Cornell College and professor of History at Antioch College in Ohio.

This would seem to be enough to satisfy any man but to us it appears that Mr. Van Loon was just winding up to put a fast one over the plate. He wrote many books of an informative and educational character and now at the age of 60 years decides that he will learn the Scandinavian language. He says this means two years of lessons and copy book exercises. To this distinguished man the principal objection he finds to his highly practical method of education is that it takes too much time and is too much of a grind. He realizes that most people call 60 years "old age" and adds, "I do not know what the words mean." Another of his gems of wisdom is: "I have never lived through a moment that was not filled with interest. I have never known a moment of boredom." Speaking of the fact that most people think his method of study takes up too much time he replies "that he has merely learned to divide his time."

Great is Mr. Van Loon—great as a correspondent, a traveller, an educator, an author, a philosopher, but greater than all these he is

#### GREAT AS AN EXAMPLE,

of what a real man really is and what such a man is capable of accomplishing.

■ ■ ■

*When you finish reading this Mueller Record, mail it to someone in the U. S. armed forces.*

MUELLER RECORD





## **Always Something New**

(From Nation's Business)

A coated fabric which glows visibly in the darkness. Can be cut in letters or strips to mark doorways and stairways. Cheaper than luminous paint. Applied with glue, paste, or thumb tacks. Easily removed.

For fighting fires where a spray is more effective there is an attachment for ordinary fire extinguishers. It is a permanent attachment, does not affect the extinguisher. Operated by thumb pressure.

A plastic material for repair or alteration of wooden or metal patterns for foundry work. Wet down with a solvent it can be formed in any shape which is retained when dry. Can be beveled to a feather edge and will adhere to wood, metal and other materials.

A guard for fingers while working punch press, grinding, etc. A finger stall is made of leather except half the back which is elastic webbing. It can be used on thumb or finger and affords good protection.

For heavy small items packed in wooden cases there is a new fastener to replace the hasp and hinge type hardware. Said to save steel, attached with five screws. No cutting is necessary. Opens and closes easily.

Swivel chairs have been designed for manufacture of wood and plastic to replace the former required mechanism.

Pocket calendars with your advertisement imprinted are now made of playing card stock in place of plastic, the stock formerly used. Make good appearance and are economical.

There is a durable elastic film for protection for polished surfaces against corrosion, finger marks and dust. It is applied with a brush, dip, spray or roller coating. Made clear or in various colors for ready identification. Dries in a few minutes, does not become brittle and strips free as a complete film.

Darning socks and other small repair jobs is now made easy. Small patches with a moisture adhesive are made in a variety of

colors. The patch is set by applying a hot iron. Said to withstand considerable wear and washing.

Welders are provided with protection against molten metal sparks. Clothing is made of cowhide and is so cut as to require the minimum number of seams. The seams are reinforced with metal. The fasteners are of the snap type and closely spaced.

■ ■ ■

## **DOMESTIC HEAT**

### **The Powers at Washington Worry About It—So Do Consumers**

Just how the domestic heating problem, which must be faced by thousands this winter, is somewhat up in the air. Thousands of persons who depend on oil for their artificial heat are likely to be off the "firing line." The question of handling domestic heating apparatus and fuel for these consumers is a difficult one to solve in a fair and equitable manner without causing a great deal of discomfort and expense. There is a ray of hope in the fact that there is a difference of opinion among the gentlemen at Washington now holding the "fire shovel." They may disagree for so long a time that it will be spring before the question is settled.

Secretary Ickes supports the Petroleum Industry War Council's plea for higher prices.

Leo Henderson opposes any overall general price increase, suggesting that a direct subsidy for wildcatting operations might be preferable.

He is against price benefits to the industry as a whole.

Complicated difficulties have been encountered. One order forbids use of gas devices as a major source of heat in new buildings whose foundation was not completed March first. Another order forbids manufacture of fuel oil or domestic space gas heaters except for armed forces.

It is going to be hard to satisfy all heat users in the country. When the members of the average family can not be satisfied under normal conditions what is to be done under abnormal conditions brought on by the war? In every family there are members who want to be toasted to a golden brown, while others demand temperatures a little above freezing. The same is also true in large office buildings. We know of nothing so difficult to do as to please individuals with the exact quantity of heat necessary for personal comfort.

This is because so many of us are fish and the remainder hot potatoes.

# THREE BROTHERS IN SAME COMPANY



ROBERT, 22



MERLE, 19



RILEY, 25

Alva Morrison, familiarly known by his friends as Blackie, is a veteran employee in the Mueller Co. foundry. He has three sons of whom he is justly proud and we are proud of him. These sons are all in the service somewhere in Australia. Reading left to right in the accompanying picture above, they are: Merle Morrison, aged 19, Robert Morrison, aged 22, and Riley Morrison, aged 25. A somewhat peculiar circumstance is the fact that these three brothers are all in the same company, 132nd Regiment, Medical Department. Herewith is a letter received from them recently under date of April 27th. It takes a long time for a letter from Australia to reach Decatur but it was none the less welcome to the boys' parents and friends. It should be of interest to any reader in throwing a side light of the life of a soldier on the battle front.

"Just a few lines to let you know that us three boys still receive the Mueller Record tho it is usually a month late, but it is still as interesting as ever and is about the only book that we see out here on this lonely Southeast Pacific island.

"I'm writing this letter by candlelight as it is just now getting dark. We had to work all day, and our mail didn't come in until late this evening.

## Two Sacks of Mail

"We have had two sacks of mail since we left the States. We left Camp Forrest on January the 17th and arrived in Australia the 27th or 28th of February after a safe voyage thru the Atlantic and Pacific.

"We were billeted in private homes in Aus-

tralia and had the best go I have had since enlisting with the National Guards in Decatur.

## Where?

"We were in Australia about a week, and then we continued our voyage to this lonely island.

"As yet, our unit hasn't seen any action, so we are allowed to go fishing, swimming and deer hunting providing there are no details to be done.

"There is also plenty of wild fruit such as limes, lemons, oranges and cocoanuts and also other wild vegetation.

"Last week our company went up into the hills and mountains to learn the trails and paths so that in case we would have to use them we would know where they were and where they would take us.

"The streams are springfed from up in the mountains and so we have clean, fresh water to swim and fish in, and the boys do plenty of both. Our main hindrance for fishing is our lack of equipment, but the boys have been doing fair with what little equipment we could buy on the island tho it wasn't much.

## Record Like An Old Friend

"I received three letters and your Mueller Record, in which I read about the tragic death of Mr. Joseph M. Brownback and wish to send my deepest sympathy to you.

"Well, I will close this letter for this time, and I will appreciate your kindness to continue sending us boys the Mueller Record, for we really enjoy it immensely.

"Yours sincerely,

"Merle, Riley and Robert Morrison."

MUELLER RECORD



## AN INCURABLE AILMENT

### Running Off at the Mouth is One Thing Physicians Have Never Overcome

We all do a lot of talking about war, rationing, restrictions, many of which are regarded as unnecessary, but we pop off with opinions without any knowledge of the facts. Bad practice but most of us are guilty. Instead of forming and expressing these opinions under such conditions it would be much better to put ourselves in the "dumbbell" class and say: "I don't know."

#### Conserving Tires

There is the question of tires. How many times have we heard some person say, "We'll get new tires within a year?" The fact is that we will be lucky if we get new tires, or even retreads, before 1944. That is what informed authorities in Washington tell us. The only exceptions will be essential workers. Conservation of rubber is a vital necessity but it is difficult to make some people understand this oft repeated fact.

Then we hear that, "they won't pay off the war bonds at maturity; they'll issue certificates." War bonds are redeemable in cash for any emergency 60 days after you buy them. Should there be a reissue they are certain to be bought as a sure investment by banks and by financial houses.

#### Sugar Shortage

"There is no shortage of sugar; rationing is just to discipline the public." This is a half truth. It is true that there is plenty of sugar, but not enough vessels to transport it and war materials both. The same condition applies to oil. And finally, "we can't win this war in the face of the losses the Allies have taken."

#### And Then the Japs

The men in Washington knew that 1942 would bring us plenty of bad news. They assure us, however, that final victory will come when the full weight of our power is thrown against war weary German troops and industry. It is possible that the tide will turn in 1943 and probably before. Should this happen and we win over Germany we will then take time off to sweep the Japs out of our back yard.

#### An Impossibility

In courts of law decisions are based on facts under rigid rules of evidence. Opinions are of no value and are not admissible. The random and unrestricted opinions lacking a foundation in fact is not only undesirable and unnecessary but also harmful to our cause by creating an atmosphere of distrust.

The physician can relieve and cure some diseases. But running off at the mouth is still a medical impossibility.

## PRESENTS FOR SOLDIERS

### They Want Everything From Fish Hooks to Medical Books

The postal authorities have advised early mailing of Christmas presents to the soldiers, especially those at the front. In fact they told us to do this in October. However there is still time to remember the boys in camps in this country. Just what does a soldier want? His desires are as varied as those of his fellowmen at home. Under any circumstances selecting a Christmas present is a hit and miss task. The ever active and thoughtful American Red Cross comes to the rescue of those who are sorely troubled. While this great organization is thinking largely of soldiers on distant fronts, the facts presented are applicable to all men in the service, no matter where stationed.

Here is what experience has taught Red Cross workers by actual investigation.

An answer was had when Red Cross field directors at Port Darwin, Australia, Port Moresby, New Guinea, and in New Caledonia undertook several transcontinental buying trips by air.

#### Varied Shopping List

Red Cross Field Director Peter Croes of Port Darwin pioneered the plan when he obtained passage via Army transport plane to fly 1,500 miles to the nearest shopping center. Word got around on the grapevine of the projected tour, and when he took off he had a shopping list four feet long and \$2,000 to spend. Prominent on this list were cases of soap, shaving brushes, phonographs and records, lighter fluids and flints, and embroidering needles.

Field Director James Stewart, at Port Moresby, had an equally diversified list. It included 200 harmonicas, 2,000 candles, chewing gum, pipes, knives, thousands of razor blades, barber clippers and shears, bingo games, and horseshoes. He had to compromise on a request for three alarm clocks, as he found only two when he went to buy them.

#### Many Fishermen

New Caledonia is a fisherman's paradise, and the list which John Carney, Red Cross field director there, took to town was top-heavy with hand lines, sinkers, feathered lures, and hooks. But he was also bidden to purchase medical books, flat irons, photo supplies, and a pair of cameo earrings for the chaplain's wife.

One of the principal troubles on such a shopping tour, according to Red Cross representatives, is not the great distances, but the fact that so many items are strictly rationed.

## HEROES AT HOME

### There Are Many Cases Like That of John Frank Hughes

Heroism is not confined to war alone. In peace times we have many striking examples of it. Men, women and even little children show qualities of heroism by accepting without complaint some disabling affliction, or some permanent injury which renders useless their physical powers while leaving them with their mentality free and vigorous. There is no doubt that there are hundreds of cases of this character, but comparatively few of them come to public notice.

#### A Striking Illustration

A striking illustration of this is the case of John Frank Hughes, 1528 Twenty-third street, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He is 27 years of age, and for several years has been confined to his home, until five years ago when he became bedfast, paralyzed from the hips down as a result of arthritis.

He has never given up all hope, accepts his lot uncomplainingly and maintains a



bright and seemingly happy disposition. His mind is alert and his interest keen in what is going on in the world. He is familiar with current events through his radio, newspapers, magazines and books. Scientific discoveries, experiments and invention claim his attention and thought. He keeps his hands and mind busy a good part of the time by repairing clocks and doing wood



carving. This mechanical and artistic diversion gives him much pleasure and is especially valuable in that it takes his mind from his affliction. He carved his name and address on the wood of a cigar box with the blade of a razor. His success led to further and more intricate efforts.

#### Samples of His Work

Other samples of his skill and patience include wood chains, small cages with dice or balls inside, key rings in many different sizes and shapes of keys. This all reminds us of Mary E. Waller's "Wood Carver of Lympus" which we read some years ago and which left a deep impression on memory. At that time it did not impress us so much as a reality as it did a story. It is not all clear in detail but the hero was a young man in the same condition which John Frank Hughes finds himself today. We wonder if he ever read that book.

The subject of this article regards a small stature of the widely popular radio team, "Lum and Abner" as among the best of his work. This image is about seven inches high. The figures were carved from a solid block of wood and the only tool used was a small one blade-pocket knife. "Science and Mechanics magazine" sponsored a contest and John's work will be entered.

The editor of the "News Bag," house  
(Continued on page 15)



# THE LAST THURSDAY

## In November Back as Proper Day For Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving day is back home this year—the last Thursday in the month of November. For several years past it has been bouncing around to various days of November. It had always been a day subject to selection by the occupant of the presidential chair at Washington, D. C. The present occupant saw fit to change it and it became a sort of a peripatetic holiday. Various governors picked out their own Thanksgiving day which they had a perfect right to do. It had never been, up to that time, a holiday fixed by law. We simply followed the action of Governor Bradford who named the first Thanksgiving day as far back as 1621. The change made by the president was never popular although he was well within his rights in making it. Recently congress settled the question by making the day a fixed festival and went back to the last Thursday in the month of November. It is a sort of harvest festival. It was Governor Bradford's intention to return thanks for the bountiful crops which it was the good fortune of the Pilgrims to glean. It was then a deeply and significant religious festival. While it is still thus celebrated it is also looked upon by thousands as just another holiday with no obligation other than an occasion for rests, sports and recreation.

### Turkey Gastronomic Emblem

Turkey has always been the accepted gastronomic emblem of the day. It is not clear why this should be so, but probably due to the fact that wild turkeys were plentiful in the newly settled country and easy to get by the Pilgrims. The turkey is strictly an American game bird but had not been domesticated in that day. It belongs to the pheasant family. Formerly it was erroneously believed to have come from the country of Turkey.



### Only Two Species

There are only two species. The domesticated form is derived from *M. Galliparo*, which in the wild state ranges from Southern Canada to Mexico. The other species is found in Yucatan, British Honduras and Guatemala. It is not so large, but has brighter plumage. The turkey is polygamous and at pairing season the gobblers put up a terrific battle to determine leadership of the flock.

### Gobbler Swell Head

The comparison "proud as a peacock" is

frequently heard, but when it comes to being the swell-head of fowldom, the turkey gobbler steps into the front rank. He is a notorious strutter, spreading and fanning out his tail, blowing up his feathers and gobbling noisily to attract the attention of his female followers. He does not attract as much attention, however, as when he is stuffed with dressing and oysters and resting on a big platter Thanksgiving day. That's the time when the boys and girls and their children flock back to the unequalled dinner, not necessarily such as mother used to cook, but the kind she is still cooking.

Another second joint and some of the white meat, please.

## HEROES AT HOME

(Continued from page 14)

magazine of the Gulf States Paper Corporation, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, from whom our information was obtained, said in his article about Mr. Hughes:

### Complete in Detail

"John has every detail on his carving even to the hair on their heads, whiskers on each character, watch chains, flowered tie on Lum and bow tie on Abner. Abner is seated, with his legs hanging, on a cracker barrel. He has a penknife in his right hand and small piece of wood with shavings on it in the left hand. Lum is standing by and Abner looks up as if to say, 'There comes Grandpappy Speers now, Lum.' The carving was completed and painted in appropriate colors which makes it life-like in every particular.

"We hope John wins the capital prize in the 'Lum and Abner' carving contest.

"The detailed carving of Lum and Abner proves that John Frank Hughes is a genius in carving."

## ST. LOUIS PREPARED

Recent inspection shows St. Louis has 15,100 fire hydrants and 1,250 miles of water mains. There are four pumping stations. It is recommended that plans be devised for protection. Possible sources of emergency supply consists of 29 swimming pools, 14 storage tanks, 28 wading pools, and all known springs and wells. All underground pipes for air conditioning plants have been located. It's suggested these might be badly needed in an emergency.

### Charlie Poor Second

A New York school teacher asked her class to name the ten greatest men in the world. One boy wrote: "New York Yankees, 9; Charlie McCarthy, 1. Total, 10."

"Meet success like a gentleman, and disaster like a man."

# Christmas Is Coming



Here we are on the borderland of Christmas and it is none too early to begin preparations for its observance, "For Christmas comes but once a year."

How many times have we used that familiar expression without knowing its origin. The complete quotation is;

"At Christmas play and make good cheer  
For Christmas comes but once a year."

Henry Mencken in his Dictionary of Quotations credits the couplet to Thomas Tusser, 1580.

However we find almost the same couplet credited to G. McFarren in the same year. This version is;

"Let's dance and sing and make good cheer,  
For Christmas comes but once a year."

There is nothing to show which of the above two authors had the first inspiration, but at best it all means the same thing.

## Christmas Reading

There are many ways to spend Christmas. To those who like to read, Dicken's "Christmas Carol" is always new and stimulating. In the White House and in many American homes it is never overlooked.

Washington Irving, the great American author, has given us numerous fine Christmas articles. His beautiful word picture of an old fashioned English Christmas is well worth a few moments of your time.

The writing of either of these immortal men of letters will intoxicate you with the real intent of Christmas, bring to your troubled mind a soothing satisfaction of contentment and happiness. In your mind's eye, if you are blessed with a modicum of imagination, you will find yourself participating in the scenes of many years ago which either of these authors so faithfully portrayed.

On this particular occasion we turn to Irving's "Sketch Book" and read again, with as much interest and enjoyment as we have many times before, his observations and comments on Christmas holidays spent in Bracebridge Hall.

## Servants Celebrate

Irving writes of Christmas Eve at Bracebridge Hall where he was a guest during the holidays. Describing his arrival with his companion, the younger Bracebridge, he says:

"As we approached the house we heard the sound of music, and now and then a burst of laughter from one end of the building. This, young Bracebridge said pro-

ceeded from the servants' hall, where a great deal of revelry was permitted, and even encouraged, by the squire throughout the twelve days of Christmas, provided everything was done comfortably with the ancient usage. Here were kept up the old games of hoodman's blind, shoe the wild mare, hot cockles, steal the white loaf, bob apple and snap dragon; the Yule log and Christmas candles were regularly burnt, and mistletoe with its white berries hung up to the imminent peril of the pretty housemaids.

## Felt at Home

"It was really delightful to see the old squire—seated in his hereditary elbow chair by the hospitable fireside of his ancestors, and looking around him like the sun of a system, beaming warmth and gladness in every heart. Even the dog that lay stretched at his feet, as he lazily shifted his position and yawned, would look fondly up in his master's face, wag his tail against the floor, and stretch himself again to sleep confident of kindness and protection. There is an emanation from the heart in genuine hospitality which cannot be described but is immediately felt and puts the stranger at once at his ease. I had not been seated many minutes by the comfortable hearth of the worthy old cavalier before I found myself as much at home as if I had been one of the family."

## Atmosphere of Hospitality

The reader can almost see the bluff old Englishman with his addiction to old Christmas customs and ideals and feel the atmosphere of his hospitality, an inheritance from ancestors reaching back for centuries. Then came the Christmas Eve supper which Irving describes with such charming intimacy and frankness as to make you feel that you were one of the company. He says:

"Besides the accustomed lights two great wax tapers, called Christmas Candles, wreathed in greens were placed on a polished beaufet among fancy plate. The table was abundantly spread with substantial fare; but the squire made his supper of frummenty, a dish made of wheat cakes boiled in milk with rich spices, being a standard dish in old times for Christmas Eve. I was happy to find my old friend, mince pie, in the retinue of the feast; and finding him to be perfectly orthodox, and that I need not be afraid of my predilection. I greeted him with all the warmth wherewith we usually greet an old and genteel acquaintance."

The mirth and jollity of the occasion rings in your ears as you read. One visualizes the odd character of Master Simon as he sings an old Christmas song:

Now Christmas has come,  
Let's beat up the drum,  
And call all our neighbors together,  
And when they appear  
Let's make them such cheer

As will keep out the wind and the weather.

## Home Brew

Then comes the old harper from the servants' hall where to all appearances he had been comforting himself with some of the squire's "home brewed." The rollicking dances, the jokes, the happy familiar commingling of the old folks and young make up a Christmas Eve true to English traditions. All of this, and more, Irving tells about in his delightful descriptions.

In foot notes he tells us of customs which still prevail some of which have been modified by time. Regarding mistletoe he says: "Mistletoe is still hung up in farm houses and kitchens. The young men have the privilege of kissing the girls under it, plucking each time a berry from the bush. When all are plucked the privilege ceases."

"I could not help but notice a pie elaborately decorated with peacock feathers. The peacock was greatly in demand on state occasions. When made into a pie, the head appeared above the crust, at one end, the beak neatly gilded, while at the other end the tail appeared. Massinger gives some idea of the extravagance with which this was prepared for the gorgeous revels of ancient times."

### Irving Cites Odd Customs

The Yule clog is a huge log brought in with great ceremony on Christmas Eve. It is lighted with the brand of last year's clog. While it lasted there was great drinking and singing, and telling of tales. The Yule clog is supposed to burn all night, but if it went out, it was considered a sign of ill luck.

There were other superstitions. If a squinting person came to the house while it is burning, or a person barefooted, it is also an ill omen.

The brand remaining from the Yule clog is carefully put away for the next year's lighting.

On December 24, 1652, a protest was placed before Parliament against observance of Christmas, the protest being supported by biblical quotations. The Flying Eagle, a small publication of that period said: "In consequence of which Parliament spent some time in consultation about the abolition of Christmas day, passed orders to that effect, and resolved to sit on the following day, which was commonly called Christmas day." The above gleaned from Washington Irving's writings on English Christmas customs.

### From Other Sources

In the homes of the Englishmen there was a lord of misrule or master of 'merie disportes.'

During the fourth century December 25th and January 6th were both celebrated as Christmas day.

The introduction of the Christmas tree is credited to the Germans.



The man that hails you Tom and Jack,  
And proves by thumps upon your back  
How he esteems your merit,  
Is such a friend, that one had need  
Be very much his friend indeed  
To pardon or to bear it! —Cowper.

The Yule log was originally of such dominant importance among the Lithuanians and Letts that their words for Christmas Eve literally signify "Log Evening."

Christmas Eve is the proper time for putting up Christmas Greens and it formerly was regarded unlucky to bring holly into the house before that time.

Christmas cards made their appearance in 1846. They were first used in England but quickly found their way to the United States and now represent an enormous industry.

The time for removing Christmas decorations varies, but the Christmas season is generally regarded as ending on the 12th night, although by some it is prolonged to Candlemass Day, February 2nd.

There are many beautiful rhymes and Christmas poetry and here is one which seems to fit the spirit of the day.

"Christmas is coming, the geese are growing fat;

Please put a penny in the Old Man's hat;  
If you haven't got a penny, a ha' penny will do,

If you haven't got a ha' penny God Bless you."

English gentlemen had all tenants and neighbors at "The Hall" at daybreak Christmas morning. Strong ale was broached, and the black-jacks (large vessels for holding beer and ale) went around frequently. Hackin (the great sausage), had to be boiled by daybreak. On failure to have it ready two husky young men seized the cook and run her around the market place till she was shamed for her laziness.



## RAGS, OLD IRON

### Cart Pushing Junk Man Gives Way To Society and Business Men

We used to laugh at the old man who pushed his cart up and down the street calling as he went, "Rags, old iron." Now it is no laughing matter. Everybody, including the ladies, are in pursuit, of old iron and other metals in a desperate effort to supply material for manufacturing war materials. No scrap is too small or too large. Concentrated drives have been and are still in progress. There are tons of old metal in the country awaiting reclamation, lots of it in plain sight being passed up every day.

#### Lose Time

Some people seriously and earnestly waste lots of time by not using their wits. They would have better success if they followed the example of Norman Olson of Minneapolis, who runs a business labeled "Special Projects." Olson dropped into a small town and asked the mayor about the scrap drive and was advised that it was all over and the town was cleaned up. Olson nosed around and found the place where old automobiles had for years been dumped in a hollow which had since been covered up. When he got through digging in the ground, aided by two men he hired, he had some five hundred tons of metal worth ten dollars a ton.

#### Up Come The Tracks

In Iowa a good many street car tracks had been abandoned but the rails had not been removed. Now they are coming up by the ton. Duluth had seven thousand tons of tracks when the drive started there. Other sources of great yield are abandoned railroads in all parts of the country. These are mostly tracks leading to mines and industries but which have since folded up.

In the Black Hills, South Dakota, abandoned gold mines are being opened up. They hold invaluable wealth—not gold but now better than gold—tons of iron tracks, hoists, engines, etc.

#### Central Illinois Affected

After the above was written Decatur and Central Illinois suddenly faced the problem of abandoning about 180 miles of interurban track between Decatur and Peoria and Decatur and Danville. The government made the decision, state and municipal authorities objected and the question finally reached the courts. In the meantime the owners of the track sat placidly by and watched the real "scrap."

#### Sift Ashes and Refuse

In these days of scrambling around for

scrap metal of all kinds the General Electric company stands out prominently. A newspaper item tells us that this company turned ashes into "gold dust," which sounds somewhat hifalutin' but is true in a sense. They did, according to the paper, reclaim metal from rubbish and thereby netted a neat sum. At one of their main plants, they burned rubbish and refuse, sifted the ashes and secured 624,000 pounds of iron, steel, brass, copper, and aluminum worth \$10,000. Copper and grease waste taken from pits under the wire drawing machines netted 88,200 pounds valued at \$8,000.

■ ■ ■

### WEATHER NOTES

"Yes it is a nice umbrella," she said, "but not mine. It was raining dreadfully and I said to a nice looking young man going my way, 'where are you going with that umbrella' and he threw it down and ran away as fast as he could."

"Was it cold up in the Arctic?"

"Cold? Cold! Why, when I came home and the doctor took my appendix out—it was chapped."

She: "Haven't I always been fair to you?"

He: "Yes, but I want you to be fair and warmer."

The people who keep on sawing wood in all kinds of weather are the ones who have the biggest woodpile at the end of the season.—Rays of Sunshine.

Witty Boarder: "Ah, your steak is like the weather this evening, madam—rather raw."

Landlady: "Indeed! By the way, your board bill is like the weather too—unsettled."

■ ■ ■

#### Likely

The fellow who takes the worst view of everything is not necessarily a pessimist—he may be a candid camera fiend.

#### They Need To

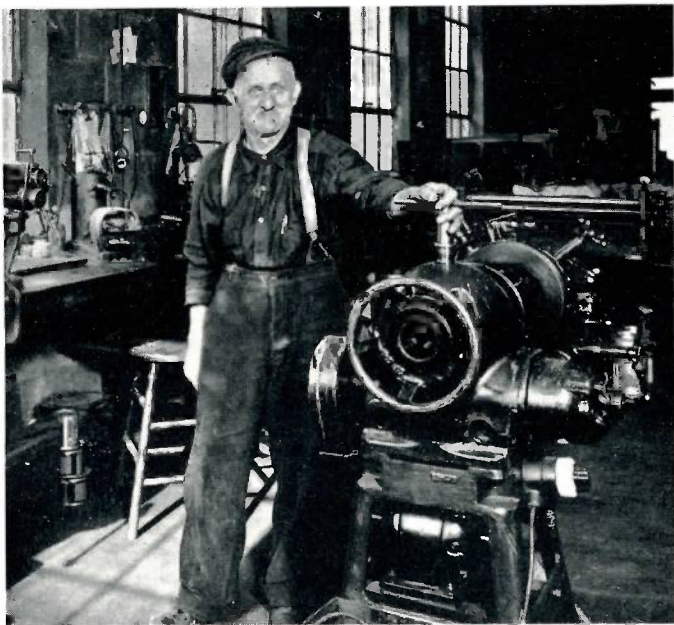
Some recent figures show more accidents but fewer fatalities. The drivers are no more careful, but pedestrians are getting tougher.—The Mike.

■ ■ ■

Most of us envy the fellow who is morally and financially independent enough to stay away from people and places that bore him stiff.

Be wise today, it is madness to defer.

# Still On The Job At 89 Years . .



Mr. Theodore Armbruster of Waverly, Ohio, is 89 years old and has been in the plumbing and heating business for 61 years and is still active. That is some record. Years are no burden to him. His years and his zest for work have failed to lessen his enthusiasm. He might possibly admit that he has slowed down a bit, but that would be about the extent of his concession. Without making a canvass of the country, we risk the opinion that he is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, man in the country in his line of business.

## Always At The Shop

Mr. Armbruster has scarcely missed a day in all of 61 years that he has not been on duty in his plumbing, heating and metal shop. Now he sticks to it, seldom going out on the job. The accompanying illustration proves that he is "still on the job" even though he does not "go out on it" and that there is every reason for saying that he is still active in business.

Mr. Armbruster has been working at his trade since June 22, 1881. Eleven years afterward he started the shop which he has operated and owned ever since.

He is a native of Chillicothe, Ohio, where he was born June 10th, 1853. He was one of a family of eleven children. During the Civil War he helped his brother John in his cooper shop in Chillicothe but later turned his attention to the plumbing and

heating business and in that occupation he has enjoyed success.

## Member I.O.O.F.

His golden wedding was celebrated three years ago. Mr. Armbruster is quite proud of his membership in Friendship Lodge, I.O.O.F., in which he was initiated on Christmas Eve, 1880—nearly sixty-two years ago—and recently paid his dues for this year. Recently he made a 500-mile trip to Lafayette, Indiana, as an honored guest at a Lodge banquet.

## Follow His Footsteps

Mr. Armbruster has two sons, both identified with the business of which their father has so long been a worthy and respected member. His son Frank is identified with the American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corporation, while Arnold is associated with his father at Waverly.

We are told that Mueller brass has done its part in upholding the Armbruster reputation for first-class work. We are proud of the fact that our product has this distinction, and we want to extend Mueller Co.'s congratulations.

■ ■ ■

## The Rosebud

Asked the rosebud of the rose: "Where did I come from, Mama?" Replied the rose to the bud: "Hush little Bud, the stalk brought you."

# Rail oddities

A distinguished ex-railroader is Admiral Ernest J. King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Navy. One of his first jobs was that of "rivet heater" in a railroad boiler shop in Ohio.



The Baltimore & Ohio was the first railroad in the United States to serve the public as a common carrier of passengers and freight. This thirteen mile railroad between Baltimore and Ellicott's Mill, Maryland, carried the first passenger on January 1, 1830. On May 24th of that year the line was opened for regular business. Horses were originally used for motive power and now, from that original thirteen miles of primitive track there are more than 420,118 miles in this country. From that little railroad in 1830, more or less experimental, the railroads have grown to tremendous importance, and are a powerful influence in business, commerce and industry. The east first felt this influence, then the middle west, closely followed by the far west. Far sighted railroad men risked their judgment and reputation as business men in promoting the vast expansion and far sighted financiers did likewise in providing the money to carry out the gigantic plans of crossing miles of sparsely settled wild country. It is true that the national and state governments gave

the earlier railroads thousands of acres of land which were useless because mostly unsettled and inaccessible to the fast growing centers of population. There was urgent need of providing for settlement of the pioneers. Men of great power and influence were developed through the medium of railroads. Among these, the Goulds, the Harrimans and the great empire builder, D. D. Hill just to mention a few of them.

In addition to these there were many great men who made their start in life with railroads but did not stick to them. One of these, whose name is now in the minds of all good Americans, is Admiral Ernest J. King recently made Commander Ernest J. King. This man, who now holds the hopes and the hearts of his fellow citizens in his hand, so to speak, began life as a "rivet heater" in a railroad boiler shop. Every American hopes to see his name enrolled on history's scroll alongside of those of Farragut, the Perrys, Dewey and a score of other naval idols.

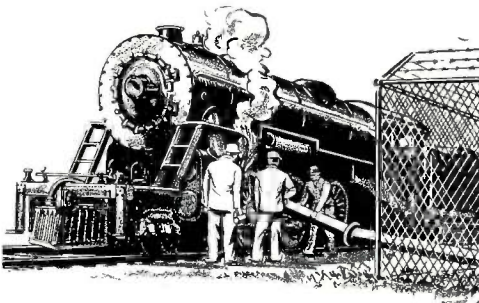
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## Notes

Railway locomotives consumed 75,155,000 tons of coal in 1939. They have consumed as much as 139,000,000 tons in a year.

In 1937 the railroads made important purchases in no fewer than 12,174 cities and towns of the United States. Purchases were reported in 2,638 counties out of the 3,072 counties in the forty-eight states.

For every dollar which the railroads paid their stockholders in dividends in 1939 they paid \$2.82 in taxes to federal, state and local governments.

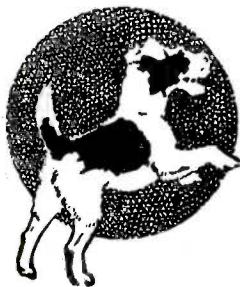


A railroad locomotive, quickly parked outside a war plant's fence and connected to the factory's steam lines, supplied power and saved precious time recently when split boiler tubes threatened to stop production.



## Animals In The News

The cat will mew, and dog will have his day.—Shakespeare.—Hamlet, Act V.



● Mrs. Mathilda Christopher died recently at Oakland, Calif. Her \$80,000 estate was divided among relatives except \$1,000 to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and a \$5,000 trust fund and her home to Gyp, 14

year old fox terrier. Gyp lives in the house alone, taken care of by Mrs. Margaret Gomer, niece of the late Mrs. Christopher. Toast and coffee with sugar and cream in it constitute the dog's breakfast with ground round steak for the day's principal meal.

● And Now a Skunk:—The animals on the west coast seem to like bath rooms. One created a great commotion at Long Beach—and it was an unloved skunk. The little beast got through the window of a widow's home and ala Barbara Fritchie she might have said: "Shoot if you must this gray old head but spare my bath room towels she said." Luckily the skunk did not "shoot" but scurried under the tub and that's where the police found it when they arrived.

● Some meat dealers in St. Louis are offering frozen horse meat for dog food. It is put up in two pound packages marked "Not for human consumption."

● Earth worms in Australia grow to an average length of four to six feet and some times as long as 11 feet. They live in rich clay soil in summer but closer to the surface in autumn. When disturbed they return to their deeper retreat and in doing so make a violent noise.

● "Now what we gwine do 'bout dat billy goat in de crate, boss?" asked the colored employee at the express office. "He's done et whar he's gwine."

● Mrs. Ruth Schiller travelled from St. Petersburg, Fla., to Chicago to attend her divorce proceedings and demand possession of "Kiddo," cocker spaniel which had been in possession of the husband since separation of the couple. The defendant's counsel said, "the husband loves the dog as much as she does." The judge said: "I can't cut

the dog in two but I can cut the years." The husband had "Kiddo" for six months and now the wife has the same privilege. The judge supplemented this with an entry that his ruling was to hold good throughout the dog's life.

A gangster rushed into a saloon, shooting right and left, yelling: "All you dirty skunks get outta here."

The customers fled in a hail of bullets—all except an Englishman who stood at the bar calmly finishing his drink. "Well?" snapped the gangster, waving his smoking gun.

"Well," remarked the Englishman, "there certainly were a lot of them, weren't there?"

The hired hand knew why the little pig left home? Because the little pig's mother was always littering up the place.

"It's raining cats and dogs outside."

"Yeah, I know, I just stepped into a poodle."

## "Ads," Signs, Names

Ad in a Florida newspaper: "Wanted—Man to lay about 600 sq. ft. concrete driveway, labor only, will swap baby or started chicks.

Night Club—A place where the tables are reserved but the guests aren't.

### Sign in a Sandwich Shop

"Use less sugar and stir like the devil. We don't mind the noise."

Three sons, triplets, died soon after birth in a hospital at Rawlins, Wyoming. Name of parents, Triplett.

Fred Grubb is a grocer at Sumner, Illinois.

**Before the Judge:** Syn vs. Mann; Wright vs. Best. The defendant was best in the trial court but in the Appellate court it was held that Wright was right. Sauerwein vs. Champagne; Sand vs. Beach.

### Big Lake Ship

The Pittsburgh Steamship company is said to now have the largest freighter, the A. H. Ferbert, on the Great Lakes. The ship, 640 feet long, was launched on May 22.

## THE SUBMARINE SERVICE

### It's Dangerous and Calls For Alert Men Physically Fit

Some of the young men enlisting in the service are attracted to what is generally considered the most dangerous branch of warfare. There is no more hazardous duty than in a submarine. Getting into the submarine branch is a little less difficult than getting out if anything happens to go haywire when the boat is submerged. Everything about serving on a submarine calls for extreme caution at every step from the very beginning. First of all is the question of physical fitness.

When the recruits are given their final examination at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, the physicians are particularly alert to discover men who are suitable or not suitable.

Only men who are physically perfect are put in submarines. The reason is clear enough. The crew lives in narrow quarters. A sick man could not be replaced except by returning to port. No medical officer is aboard. Each man has specific duties and his services are required for the operation of the ship. Even so trivial an ailment as chronic bad breath will bar a man.

### AS OTHERS SEE US

O, wad some power the giftie to gie us  
To see ourselves as 'thers see us

It would from many a blunder free us.

Had the lady furnishing the subject of this little dissertation known her Burns she would have realized beforehand the likelihood of her disappointment and disgust when she gazed upon the plastic replica of her own physical charms. But she did not. This particular lady indulged in the plastic replication referred to for assisting her in the commendable task of making her own dresses. The thought, of course, was that in such fitting to a duplicate of her own body she would be enabled to "see herself as others saw her." She was not mistaken in this deduction, but she evidently misjudged her physical charms as the preview revealed. The replica done and delivered she unwrapped it with fluttering and delightful expectancy, but her anticipated expectations were not realized. Instead she threw up her hands and moaned, "My Gawd, do I look like that thing?"

She hid the dummy away in the attic and covered it with a sheet. Later when the shock had partially worn away she mustered enough courage for another unveiling of the dummy to show to her husband, asking,

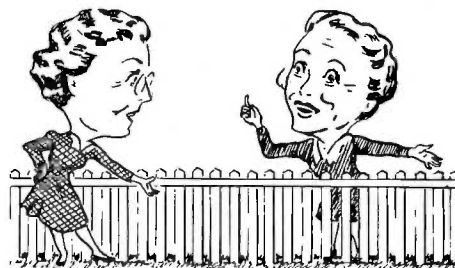
"Well, what do you think of it?"

"Certainly a fine life-like reproduction of the original."

"Beast and brute," she hissed as the replica was veiled from all eyes for good and again consigned to the attic.

Rather a good illustration of Burns' lines. What?

## LEAVE IT TO THE LADIES



The ladies are now in line to do plumbing work in Pine Bluffs, Ark., New Orleans, Memphis and Jackson, Miss., according to an advertisement of the National Economy Plumbers. The advertisement reads:

**WANTED, FEMALE HELP**—Women as plumbers apprentices or helpers. Prefer those mechanically inclined. About 20 to 30 years of age. Steady work on repair trucks principally. Must be able to drive Chevrolet half ton truck. The work is not heavy and any woman of average strength can handle plumbing repair work. Those having at least high school education preferred. Starting pay good and will advance quickly if you can do the work. Apply in person only.

Mother (on phone): "Helen, dear, could Papa and I leave your kiddies with you and Bob tonight? We're invited out for the evening."

### They Win

There are 1030 women in the United States who have taken up law as a career. The census does not give the number of ladies who lay down the law but it is a safe bet that they are in the majority.

### Fashion Note

Who is that large, good looking dame carrying an umbrella?

That's the Countess of Bopshire; a very prominent person.

Where is she so prominent?

Around St. Louis, New York, London and the hips.

# Good Fellowship and Unity Come Through War



The far reaching effects of the war cementing the friendship of nations and the individual friendship of a nation's people is shown by the accompanying illustration. It brings to mind the thought that such friendship burns alike in the hearts of the great and the lowly. Residents of one country who are totally unacquainted with residents of another country allied in the tasks of finishing off Hitler finally, have a fellow feeling which they cannot smother. In this instance it was an Englishman expressing himself to a Canadian he had never seen and in all likelihood never will. A shipping case of textiles from Manchester, England, addressed to a Canadian manufacturer, when opened was found to contain the message illustrated above. On a blank card board was roughly scribbled these words:

"God save the Canadians. Thanks a million—A British Worker."

The illustration sent us by our Canadian plant Mueller Ltd., was accompanied by the following text clipped from a newspaper.

"What could more eloquently express the feelings of those who toil amid the havoc of war than this roughly lettered message from one worker to another? In it is the unspoken appeal for more and more of the kind of resistance that Canadians produce. The hastily sketched flag bespeaks our common interest, our struggle to retain for ourselves and our children the rights of free men. The best way to protect our homes and our families is to stop Hitler where he is.

"There is only one reply to this unusual note of thanks—more and more supplies, guns, ships, food, tanks and bombs to that war torn island. We can do it and we will."

And the great nation across the river from Canada joins in doing her part as every day proves.

## WAR HEADQUARTERS

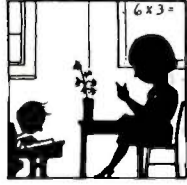
The time-honored baked beans, once virtually synonymous with the Army mess, has yielded to a new champion. In America's new Army it is the potato, not the bean, that is the most popular vegetable among the soldiers. The Quartermaster Corps master menu for the month of September discloses that potatoes will appear in Army meals no less than 39 times and in 14 different ways during this 30-day period. Mashed potatoes are the most popular and hence are listed 8 times. The boiled variety is on the bill 6 times, hash browns 6 times, and lyonnaise 5 times. French fried, baked, creamed and potato cakes are included in the remainder of servings.

Army Services of Supply have saved as much as 60 per cent in ship cargo space on certain items by scientific reduction in the bulk of packaging.

Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, Commanding General, Services of Supply, cut Army red tape by compressing 1500 pages of procurement regulations into a streamlined version, a loose leaf binder of 100 pages.



# School Jokes



## THE REAL THING

Teacher: "Who can tell me what agriculture is? All right, Thomas."

Tommy: "Well, it's just about the same as farming, only in farming you really do it."

## RIGHT!

Teacher: "How many make a dozen?"

Pupil: "Twelve."

Teacher: "How many make a million?"

Pupil: "Very few."

## SHORT CUT

Teacher—"Archie, do you know your alphabet?"

Archie—"Yes, miss."

Teacher—"Well, then, what letter comes after A?"

Archie—"All of them."

## LUCKY DOG

Teacher: "Give me an example of indirect taxation."

Willie: "The dog tax, sir."

Teacher: "How is that?"

Willie: "The dog does not pay it."

## HUNGRY FOR DETAILS

Teacher: "Now, children, every morning you ought to take a cold bath; and that will make you feel rosy all over. Are there any questions?"

Boy in back: "Yeah, teacher, tell us some more about Rosie."

## HUSH MONEY

Pop—"Well, I received a note from your teacher today."

Son—"Honest, Pop? Give me a quarter and I won't breathe a word about it."

## COINCIDENCE

Teacher: "This essay on 'Our Car' is exactly, word for word, the same as your brother's."

Jimmie: "Yes, Miss; it's the same car."

## CAN'T BE "DOOD"

The first grade was having a lesson

on birds. After some discussion the fact was established that birds eat fruit. One small girl, however, was unconvinced.

"But, teacher, how can the birds open the cans?"

## ALSO "NUTS"

Teacher—"What is it that Brazil produces more of than any other country?"

Pupil—"Brazilians."

## EASY APPROACH

John—"Teacher, can someone be punished for something he didn't do?"

Teacher—"Why, no, of course not."

John—"Well, I haven't done my arithmetic."

## SQUAWKERS

Teacher: "Yes, children, an Indian wife is called a squaw. Now what do you suppose Indian babies are called?"

Bright Pupil: "I know—squawkers."

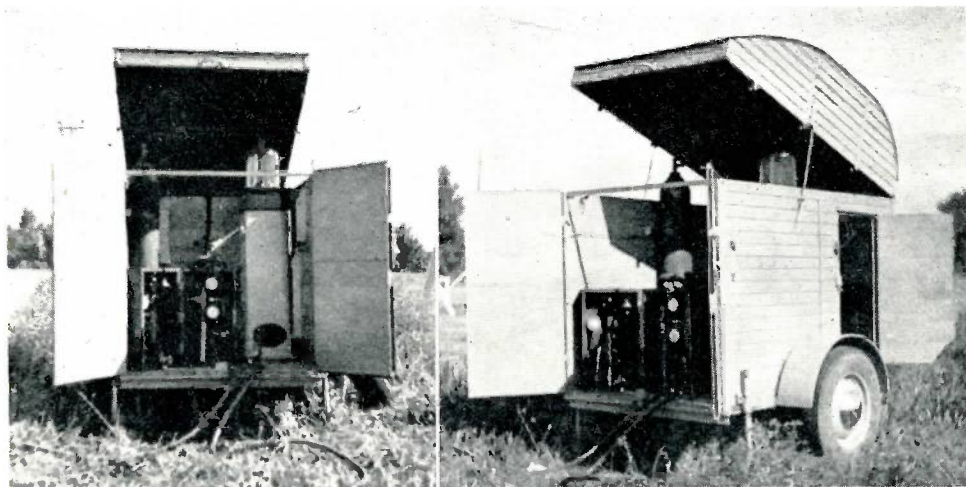
## WASHINGTON AFFLICTED

### Had the Usual Ailments That Beset Mankind in All Ages

Our admiration of George Washington's life and actions perhaps blinds us to the fact that after all he was just a man subject to all the ills that humans are heirs to. His healthy characteristics, his daily actions, his interest in his country's welfare, his military and political genius, his life of retirement at Mt. Vernon, have been portrayed by many different writers and have overshadowed any physical ailments of which he had his share.

Two doctors of the Mayo clinic have made an intensive study of the medical history of the great American. They learned that General Washington had plenty of ailments, as many if not more than the average American. These included measles, diphtheria, smallpox, an infectious disease, dysentery, malaria, rheumatism, pneumonia, conjunctivitis, recurrent headaches, bad eye sight, a tremor of the hands, decaying teeth. In those days some of the diseases mentioned were not holiday affairs. Pneumonia and small pox were not then under control, or partial control, as they are now, and the dentist had not yet acquired the skill possessed today. The father of his country had his share of ailments, and must have had a powerful constitution to withstand the severe weather of winter campaigns during the Revolution, and what today would seem to us to be inadequate home comforts.

# Denver's Emergency Trailer Chlorinator



Three views of Denver's new Emergency Trailer Chlorinator which has proved its value under rigid tests.

The accompanying illustration shows an Emergency Trailer Chlorinator now in use in Denver. The machine was designed by George J. Turre, sanitary engineer of the Board of Water Commissioners, and promises to become a valuable adjunct to the very capable service given the water takers of the thriving western metropolis. The new apparatus is known as the Trailer Chlorinator unit. It has been in use for only a short time but long enough to prove its usefulness in emergency cases.

The entire unit is designed to maintain accuracy of operation, despite transportation over long distances or rough roads. The unit is provided with a Wallace & Tiernan vacuum type chlorinator, having a capacity of 300 lbs. of chlorine per 24 hours; also a small portable chlorinator (Wallace & Tiernan) dry feed and solution feed. The chlorinator can be used to chlorinate water mains under pressure. The capacity of the chlorinator is 50 lbs. per 24 hours.

A manifold having six chlorinator tank connections is conveniently located in the trailer. The trailer unit is completely equipped with rubber hose, couplings, gas mask, first aid kit, and other accessories for emergency use for sterilizing water mains and reservoirs, and all the necessary tools to do the work.

The Rocky Mountain News devotes considerable space to the new chlorinator, stating that it will sterilize 25 million gallons of water daily. Continuing, the News says:

"Sanitation officials of the Denver Wa-



ter Board yesterday announced completion of extensive tests on a homemade, portable water chlorinating system, capable of purifying 25 million gallons of water a day.

"Yesterday, under supervision of George Turre, sanitation engineer of the commission, and his assistant, Joseph P. Cecchini, the chlorinating unit rumbled up to the city reservoir at E. 12th ave. and Detroit st. and treated the entire reservoir in a few hours.

"Mounted on a streamlined trailer, the unit can be towed anywhere where emergency chlorination of water is needed, and in a few minutes can be transforming contaminated water into water that is fit for consumption, Mr. Turre explained.

"The unit was constructed under the direction of Mr. Turre for emergency use in the event of destruction of the city's water system, intentionally or otherwise.

"The trailer mounts a pedestal-type  
(Continued on page 32)

## SOAP SCULPTURE

### The Nineteenth Annual Competition Shows Thousands of Entries

We confess to a slight elevation of the eyebrows when we learned of the extent of soap sculpture in this country. That such art existed we were fully aware but to learn of its extent was a mild surprise. The men, women, boys and girls have been engulfed in the wide spread hobby in recent years. There is an annual competition for cash prizes. The 19th came this year. The annual increase of entries gives some idea of the growth of the wide spread interest in this pastime,—call it hobby, fad or art if you choose. In the first competition there were three hundred displays; in the third 2,000; in the seventh 5,800 and from then on to the present time a continued phenomenal increase. It is for us to wonder that enough soap is left to wash the cups and saucers, let alone enough to answer for the Saturday night bath if you are satisfied with using laundry soap for bodily cleansing purposes. There is, however, a redeeming feature, the sculptor wastes no soap if he is economical. The chips and parings can be made into suds. It is astonishing to learn that soap carving is especially fine for jewelry models and designs for medals and plaques.

Architects are credited with using it for models of buildings and for garden plans and it also serves nicely for anatomical models.

In a long list of sponsors we find the names of many artists, sculptors and illustrators which indicates that soap sculpture is within the charmed circle of art and therefore no longer to be classed as a hobby or a fad.

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### IN CENTRAL AND S. AMERICA

President Abel Wolman of the American Water Works Association, is a member of the official delegation sent to South America by the U. S. State Department and is now in Brazil. The chairman of this delegation is Surgeon General Parron of the U. S. Public Health Service. There are six members of the delegation which includes three public health experts. In addition to Dr. Wolman; also high official army representatives. The purpose of visiting South America is to meet similar governmental representatives of most of the Central and South American countries to discuss problems of public health in particular relation to war and post-war reconstruction.

## SELLING FARM CROPS

In times like these farmers are sometimes not anxious to sell their crops in a hurry. They may not speculate, but the temptation is to hold back for a higher price. This was true in the last war. Many of the farmers got caught with cribs full of grain, which they were compelled to sell at a low price, which kept them from forgetting that had they sold earlier they would have made much more. It's considered good farming by many successful farmers not to hold on to crops. An authority in the agricultural department was asked at what season of the year do farmers sell most of their crops. He said that over forty-two percent of total sales from farms are made during September, October and November. It is said that farmers have more ready money in this three-month period than during any other period during the year.

## DIVORCES



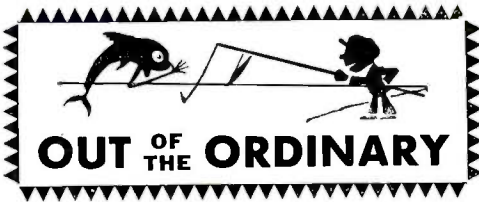
● Mrs. Maxine Lapp of Wheatland asks for a divorce from her husband who was the world's champion plowman in 1935. Mrs. Lapp charges that her husband rested on his honors and left all the farm work for her to do, including the plowing. There are those who cannot stand fame or prosperity.

● A San Jose, Calif., man asks a divorce because his wife made him pay the bill for the private detective she hired to shadow him.

● Reno, we are told, is the place where the cream of society goes through the separator.

● Man may have his way for a day but woman has the will and has it still. There was the 67 year old woman at Athol, Mass. She married her first husband twice and divorced him twice. Then she picked out another husband and divorced him but later took him back through medium of another license and a justice of the peace.





**Porcupine Puncture:** Norman Kelsar went through the battle of Midway. Came out with nary a scratch. Got a furlough and started on his motorcycle from the coast to his home in Ohio. Struck a porcupine in the middle of the road and got a puncture from the animals quills.

**It's Your Guess:** Thomas Dodwell grew sleepy and crawled into a Decatur man's automobile for a snooze. The owner returned and drove to police headquarters where he delivered his package. Thomas finished his night's slumber in the station and was permitted to go home the next morning with no charge financial or legal against him. Form your own opinion and make your own comments.

**Fish Story:** A Los Angeles woman stepped into her bath tub and let out a yowl that brought her husband on the run. There was a fish one inch long in the tub—but that was sufficient for a first class scare. The fish came out of the faucet, and the woman came out of the tub.

**Was of Age:** A light globe on the porch of Edward Broux, Pana, Ill., ceased to burn after twenty-one years of service.

**Far from Home:** Nancy Latourette, Portland, lost her driver's license a year ago. Recently it was returned to her by Sergeant Paul S. Yale, who wrote that he found it while trudging through Australian bush country. Just how it got there is not explained. Owner is glad to get it back although the license expired in 1941.

**Black Eyes:** A. D. Radabaugh, San Francisco, got home from an auto trip through Nevada with a black eye. Explanation—an eagle flew through the windshield and struck him in the face. Proof—eagle brought home with a broken wing. This is interesting but of no value to the "morning after" fellows, who show up at the office with a "shiner." The old half open door or the door jam will still have to serve as an excuse.

**Long Ride:** William Werstler, aged 18, University of Illinois student, rode his horse 1,100 miles from Waldeb, Colorado, to Champaign, Ill. At Alba, Ill., his horse became

sick. The resourceful young man swapped a fancy saddle and bridle for an 11 year old nag and finished the remaining three hundred miles. It required thirty-three days to make the trip. Werstler slept in farmers' barns which usually meant free breakfast and sometimes dinner. His travelling expense was \$40.

**Rich Dog:** Mrs. Nina Joy Beglinger, former Detroit school teacher, left the bulk of a \$100,000 estate to her little dog named Lady Pooh. A daughter and two executors reached an agreement on the will's validity and Mrs. Beglinger's soundness of mind when she sat up in bed in a hospital last spring and dictated the testament. The daughter was at her mother's bedside when she died. The will has been admitted to probate.

**Goodbye Sugar:** Don't kid your wife over the telephone. A Gresham, Wisconsin, man did, telling her he was a federal agent and that he knew that she was hoarding sugar. He was going to investigate! When the joker reached home wifey told him of what had happened, and added: "But I fooled the smart federal guy. I put our hundred pounds of sugar in the sink and turned on the water. It's down in the sewer by this time. Wasn't I smart?"

The husband gave her a loving pat on the shoulder and said sweetly, "You did exactly the right thing honey. Oh, yeah!"

**Just a Minute:** Told by the English warden to hurry to the shelter during the coming bombing the woman replied: "Wait till I find my teeth." Of course the lady had in mind a shower of chewing gum and not bombs.

**When Ignorance is Bliss:** Canodido Yozano, farm worker aged 40, near Los Angeles, was arrested for vagrancy without a draft card. He did not know that he needed one because he did not know that there was a war in progress.

**Knew His Own Medicine:** A local liquor dealer called a trucking company to haul a load to a town 40 miles from Decatur. He specified "that the driver must be strictly sober." Nothing like knowing your own medicine.

#### ■ ■ ■ Champion Spitter

A small boy visiting the Grand Canyon was told that the Colorado river was flowing one mile below the brink. The post card he sent home bore this message:—"I spit a mile today."

# CANNONS GO TO SCRAP

Relics of Former Wars Being Scrapped  
By City Parks



Good bye, old cannon, good bye. There was a time, long, long days ago, when your thunderous roar spread consternation in the hearts of the enemy. But now your iron voice would be like the last squeak of a mouse in the paws of a hungry tom cat compared to the noise of a big gun in a 1942 fracas. Maybe you will be back on the battle field some day as a part of a bigger gun and there is a long chance that you may be part of a big projectile which will contact Hitler and bid him a final and unaffectionate farewell. We hope so, anyway.

There was a time when tales of daring, romance, and heroic sacrifice were the accompaniments of your tongue of liquid fire when it flared on the battle field but with war as with civil life you have been outmoded. The junkman has got you, and your next stopping place is the steel mill.

## Giving Up Old Cannons

Some one in Decatur surrendered you to the ignominy of the junk yard in the name of patriotism and national defense but your muzzle still points defiantly to the sky.

Many small towns in Central Illinois have used ancient cannons like the illustration for ornamental purposes in public parks but now have turned them in. These old relics, some of them no doubt, could tell interesting tales of battles if they could speak our language.

## The First Need

Back of the cannon is an interesting story. Wars between ancient walled cities created a need for them. These wars were of frequent recurrence and they grew in number and fierceness. There was a call for something more destructive than the catapult and the battering ram. The gentle art of wholesale slaughter was in the crude and brutal stage, lacking the culture and finesse of the present civilization.

There is no authentic record of the date of the cannon's appearance in the wars of ancient Europe.

## Early Cannon

Their introduction came shortly after the discovery by Schwartz in 1320 of a new method of granulating powder. It is said that Edward III in his campaign against the Scots used what were called "Crakeys of War." There is no definite data on this point. Another authority, Froissart says: "At the siege of Quesney 1340 the French were repulsed, their horses being frightened by weapons which made a great noise and shot pieces of iron."

## Use Increases

From the middle of the 14th century the use of cannon greatly increased. In 1453, a hundred years after the first authentic record of the use of cannon, Mohammed II had a battery of monster cannon alongside of catapults and other ancient engines of war at the siege of Constantinople. The cannon thus used is interesting as it is the first from which was gathered some detailed description. It was cast of solid brass, was 17 feet long and weighed 18½ tons.

The projectiles were stone balls, 25 inches in diameter and weighed approximately 600 pounds.

## Strange Construction

The earliest cannons were made of iron bars hooped together and reinforced by wrapping ropes, leather or other material around them. Strangely enough the earlier cannons were breech and not muzzle loading. The failure of the pioneers in many cases was not due to incorrectness of their theories but to the fact that mechanical arts were not sufficiently developed to meet the requirements. Even in those early days industry was the key note to progress.

The Thirty-Year War marked the beginning of the advance in cannon making due to the genius of Augustavus Adolphus. He recognized that efficiency of artillery depended on mobility, rapidity and accuracy of its fire. From that time to this many changes have been made in artillery, both in mechanical details, in application to actual use and the number of pieces in effective service in proportion to the volume of men engaged. Airplanes and tanks have brought about many radical changes both on land and at sea.

It all emphasizes the fact that from the time of Mohammed II until the present day each war has made marked advance in ways and means of slaughter of as many combatants as possible in the quickest fashion.

## Another Thought

And then there is another thought worth  
(Continued on page 29)



## In The Army Now

One candidate for induction had difficulty in remembering his wife's name. He had only been married two months. . . . Another one did not know the name of the company that employed him. "Why should I and what's the difference so long as I get my fifteen dollars every Saturday night." . . . One man asked deferment so he could continue his payments on his mother-in-law's false teeth. This required two years. . . . A woman asked deferment for her boy friend with whom she had kept company for 22 years. When asked: "Why haven't you married him," she came forth with the pretty milkmaid answer: "He never asked me, sir, she said."

Sonny: "What does this paper mean by 'seasoned troops,' dad?"

Dad: "Mustered by the officers and peppered by the enemy."

When the German delegation came to Marshal Foch at the end of the War to ask for armistice terms, the Frenchman picked up a paper from his desk and read a set of conditions. "But—there must be some mistake," the leader of the German officers stammered in dismay. "These are terms which no civilized nation could impose on another!"

"I am very glad to hear you say so," replied Foch gravely. "No, gentlemen, these are not our terms. They are the terms imposed on Lille by the German commander when that city surrendered."

Five Ford brothers from Missouri reported to the Coast Guard recruiting station at Omaha for enlistment. The recruiting sergeant threw a fit and fainted when advised, "not to get excited, four more of our brothers are going to enlist in this branch of the service and there is still another but he has to stay home to look after the farm." The ages of the five already enlisted range from 19 to 30. Sounds like a record.

### Bye, Bye, Ice Man

First Soldier: "What's up, Bill?"

Second Soldier: "I sent my girl two letters every day since I was drafted and now she's married the postman."

### Old Feeling Comes Back

First Draftee: "You know, I feel like I'd like to punch that hard-boiled top sergeant in the nose again."

Second Draftee: "Again?"

First Draftee: "Yes, I felt like it yesterday!"

### All Together

Cavalry Recruit: "Sergeant, pick me out a nice gentle horse."

Sergeant: "Have you ever ridden a horse before?"

Recruit: "No."

Sergeant: "Ah, here's just the animal for you. Never been ridden before. You can both start together."

### Lost and Found "Ad" Needed

Officer: "What's wrong with you men? What are you doing climbing trees and crawling through the bushes?"

Private: "Well, Sir, we camouflaged the gun before lunch and now we can't find it."

### No Time For Bath

Pat: "Yes, sir! Ammunition, food and whiskey had run out, and we were parched with thirst."

"But wasn't there any water?"

"Sure, but it was no time to be thinking of cleanliness."

### Always High Up

Applicant: "And how soon are you retired in the air service?"

Recruiting Officer: "Generally after about two years."

Applicant: "Really? And what are you retired as—a colonel?"

Recruiting Officer: "No—an angel."

### His Irish Up

Cursing and yelling on a London street was Clancy holding a doorknob in his fist. "Them damn Nazis will pay for this—blow-in' a saloon right out of my hand."

## CANNONS

(Continued from page 28)

a moment's meditation. A great many of the most valuable inventions designed to provide more comfortable and happier lives, and to safeguard lives, have been quickly diverted to methods of wholesale suffering, horrible deaths and destruction.

Let us hope that the ending of the present war will be the beginning of a new era in which peace eternal shall reign.

It is a hopeless hope we know, but it is pleasant and somewhat comforting.



# The National Capital

## **The Center of Feverish Activity**



## **News Notes Akin to Defense and War**

War gulps available Silver supplies. Of the Treasury's nearly three billion ounce silver stock, a billion and a half ounces are reserved for monetary use. Employment of silver in war production is expected to take the place of 40,000 tons of copper alone.

It is pointed out and emphasized by WPB that the need of scrap materials presents a more serious problem even than man power shortage. There is no possibility, officials say, of over-emphasizing requirements. Our duty is to scramble around for steel, rubber and copper.

Protest against inferior tire retreading jobs results in the National Bureau of Standards working out a plan setting up commercial standards. These are designed to protect purchasers against inferior materials and workmanship.

WPB seeks substitutes for wood such as brick, tile and gypsum. Available lumber will be six billion board feet short of requirements. Brick barracks may be necessary and temporary war workers homes may have to be made out of gypsum board wall exteriors.

Consumers are cutting down installment debts says the Department of Commerce. The cut in half the year is given at \$1.5 billions. The second half of the year will bring the total cut to \$3.5 billions. The net decline is expected to bring severe repercussion on consumer financing institutions.

Discovery and developments in chemistry will give the country from 10 to 100 times as many industrial chemicals as it had before. Dr. Charles M. A. Stine, Du Pont vice president says war is compressing into months developments which might have taken half a century to realize if present necessity had not forced the pace. He said aluminum will furnish in one year enough material to build three times the number of passenger cars now operating. The amount of fertilizers to be made available might well change agricultural trends.

Last December as many as 1,400,000 women were employed in war work. That number will be increased to 4,500,000 by December 1942 and will reach 6,000,000 by the end of 1943. By that time women will comprise 30 per cent of the war labor force.

War production drive headquarters has selected 44 suggestions from American workmen for increasing production. These were chosen from 12,000 ideas turned in. A summary of these suggestions has gone to 1500 labor management committees for practical application where possible.

Every congressman receives his share of curious letters from misguided constituents who are misled to believe that a congressman is a "Solomon come to judgment." There may be some exceptions to this high estimate of congressional erudition but we think a majority of congressmen would deny its correctness.

One man wrote a congressman to give him advice on how to build a chimney on his smoke house. Undoubtedly this constituent has not kept abreast of the times. The only thing the present day congressman knows about a smoke house is the one so designated by a cigar dealer as a catch phrase in advertising. If the constituent had asked for advice on how to build a fence he might have received some valuable information especially if he referred to political fences.

Then there was another constituent writing to the same congressman for a formula for making port wine. This constituent was just plain dumb. Why should anyone expect a congressman to know anything about home made wine? Had it been some information wanted on bourbon the congressman might have been able to tell him a mouthful.

■ ■ ■

Blow, bugles of battle, the marches of peace;  
East, west, north and south let the long  
quarrel cease;

Sing the song of great joy that the angels  
began,

Sing the glory to God and of good will to  
man.

—Whittier.

## GOB HUMOR



### "Leave It to Me"

Four U. S. Marines were playing bridge on Wake Island, when a fifth came into their tent and said: "Say, fellows, 500 Japs have just landed."

A big fellow got up and said: "I'm dum-dum; I'll go take care of them."

### Then Suck It

M.P.: "Hey you—what are you going to do with that sponge?"

Gob: "Me? I'm going to mop the bow of the ship right after the christening."

### The Way of the Why

Sightseer: "Why do you sailors have your trousers so loose at the bottom?"

Sailor: "That, madam, is to allow for shrinkage when we are shipwrecked and have to wade ashore."

### The Sky

Susie: "What's the age limit for sailors?"

Lizzie: "Listen, dearie, a sailor at any age is the limit."

### Any Way

Gal: "Would you come to my aid in distress?"

Gob: "Honey, it wouldn't make any difference to me what you were wearing."

### Looked Other Way

First Gob: "Did she blush when her shoulder strap broke?"

Lying Gob: "I didn't notice."

### In the Navy

Gob (writing a letter, to mate sitting on bunk): "Hey, Joe, take yer shirt off. I want to see how yer spell Matilda."

### Eye at Door

"Are you popular with your girl's father?"

"You're darn right. He sees me to the door every time I go to the house."

### No Training Station

Bashful Sailor: "To tell the truth, I haven't kissed a girl since I've been in the navy."

The Girl: "Well, don't come buzzing around me; I'm not running a navy training station."

### Knew the Knocker

Medium: "Ah, I hear the spirit of your late wife knocking."

Gob: "Who's she knocking now?"

### George Still Lives

"George said he'd kiss me or die in the attempt."

"Did he kiss you?"

"Well, he's still living."

### He Got It

Chief—"While I was out with some of the boys the other night, a burglar broke into our house."

Ditto—"Did he get anything?"

Chief—"I'll say he did—my wife thought it was me coming home."

### Slam—Bang!!

Fireman: "That's the best joke I ever heard you tell."

Seaman: "I'm glad you like it."

Fireman: "I don't."

### She Knew

Sailor: "If I had a million dollars do you know where I'd be?"

Girl Friend: "Yes, you'd be on our honeymoon."

## HURRY UP HARVEST

From sun-up to sun-down and even on Sunday Central Illinois farmers are in the corn and soy bean fields harvesting the crops. Never before have so many mechanical devices been in use for harvesting. They are surely proving their value this autumn. In many instances, especially in rural districts, the boys have been given a vacation from school to go into the fields and assist the farmers and in some instances in small communities the business men have taken a day off to give their time to help in the fields. In this particular section of the country it appears that farmers as a rule will get their crops under cover instead of being forced to leave them in the field.

### Few Do It

The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but to be able to keep your mouth shut in one language is priceless.

## MATERNITY WARD

❖ Twins, Trips & Quads ❖

When Arnold Krause, bus driver, Des Plaines, Ill., was called to the hospital ward to see his wife and find out what "it was," he threw up his hands and said: "Oh, Boy! Oh, Boy! Oh, Boy!!!" He was not kidding, there they were—three of them. "Sure got my wish for a boy," he added. Names were pinned on them at once—Tom, Dick and Harry. Mrs. Krause had only one regret, a minor one, which was: "New baby clothes for one will not answer for three, but how was I to know." Both parents were delighted and so were their other three children, aged 4, 7 and 8.

## NOW CHIEF ENGINEER

**Harold E. Hall, Sterling, Ill., Wins Deserved Promotion**

Harold E. Hall has been appointed chief engineer of the Northern Illinois Water Corporation at Sterling, Illinois.



Harold E. Hall

This recognition of his fitness for the important new position is justified by his splendid record. He has been with the company for thirteen years.

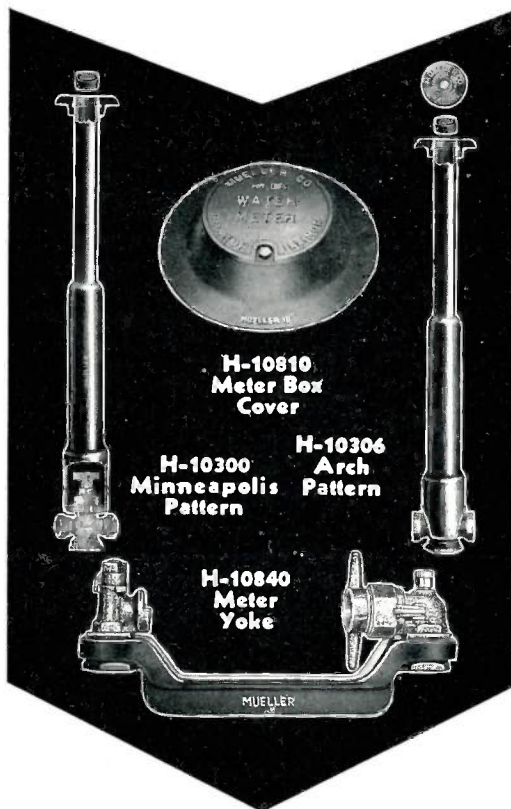
During that period he has filled many positions, as follows, which gave him a wide and varied experience; Fireman, Distribution Laborer, Meter Reader, Consumer Service, Plant Engineer, Meter Mechanic.

This long period on various phases of water works operation, together with his experience with Mr. Watson, an old time steam and water works plant man, furnishes him a fine background for his new responsibilities. Mr. Hall is married and the father of two children and lives in his own home in suburban Sterling.

## CHLORINATOR—(Cont. from page 25)

chlorinator which is fed by a tank of liquid chlorine under pressure. The chlorine, gaseous when released, is mixed with the water in a glass bell at the top of the chlorinator and purified for human consumption.

# DESIGNED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE



Mueller Extension Service Boxes, Meter Box Covers and Meter Yokes are made from the best quality bronze and cast iron obtainable and manufactured to Mueller exacting standards. Good materials, precision workmanship and special features of design have gained Mueller Goods the reputation of giving extra years of service. Always specify MUELLER—the favorite of water works men for over three-quarters of a century.







*We're Fighting  
Mad!*

It is true that America sat back and let those greedy vultures — Hitler and Hirohito — gobble up nation after nation, but when they picked on us a righteous wrath was aroused. And we will not stop until we have licked ALL the enemies of freedom and liberty. . . And because of the need for vital copper and brass in

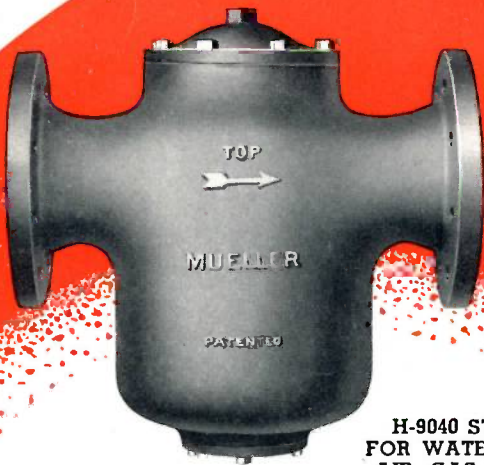
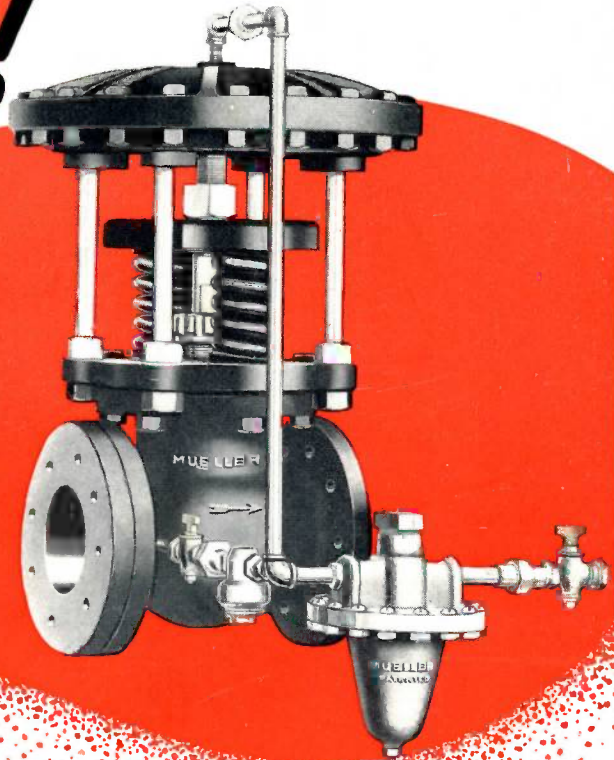
the implements of war, the famous MUELLER line of Plumbing Goods must be curtailed — the same as with ALL brass goods. But when we have totally crushed these Axis cut-throats, all the MUELLER resources will be used to make and keep MUELLER BRASS GOODS the finest anywhere in America at any price.

Dept. P-15

**MUELLER CO. ★★ DECATUR, ILL.**

# Partners!

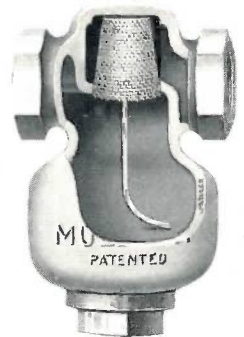
**H-9020 REGULATOR  
FOR HOT OR COLD WATER,  
AIR, AND GAS.**



**H-9040 STRAINER  
FOR WATER, STEAM,  
AIR, GAS, AND OIL.**

No finer partners in industry than the two shown above can be found anywhere—the MUELLER REGULATOR for controlling pressure and the MUELLER STRAINER for removing sediment, grit, trash, and foreign matter from the line . . . MUELLER Regulators are scientifically designed to do the task assigned them. They positively control pressures with very little fluctuation, hour after hour, and with minimum upkeep. The finest materials and workmanship are used, and ample strength and durability are built into the working parts, guaranteeing years of trouble-free performance . . . The unique construction of MUELLER Strainers make them indispensable. The fine phosphor bronze screen is of the inverted basket type, and less liable to become clogged. Protects all regulators, valves, and other devices in the line. Made to last a lifetime.

For complete description, sizes, etc., consult the big red MUELLER "H" Catalog or write Dept. G.42



**H-9030 STRAINER  
FOR SMALLER INSTALLATIONS**

## **MUELLER CO. DECATUR, ILL.**