

# MUELLER RECORD

*Ruth W*

MAY, 1948

EMPLOYEES' EDITION

No. 145



# MUELLER RECORD

May, 1948

No. 145

GENE J. KUHN, Editor  
Published in the Interests of  
Employees of the

**MUELLER CO.**  
PLUMBING, WATER AND GAS PRODUCTS



FACTORIES  
DECATUR, ILL.    LOS ANGELES, CALIF.  
SARNIA, ONT.    CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

BRANCHES  
NEW YORK CITY    SAN FRANCISCO

TRADE MARK  
**MUELLER**  
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

## Retirement and You

FROM INQUIRIES DIRECTED to departmental foremen and to the personnel office, it is apparent that there are still a number of employees who do not fully understand the benefits to which they are entitled under the Mueller Co. Retirement Trust.

The retirement benefit plan was set up to provide financial assistance for employees who reach the age of 65 during their employment with the company.

Last fall, the company also inaugurated a retirement policy that has come to be known as "the rule of 80," which enables employees whose age and years of service total 80 to retire. Under this plan an employee who is 50 years old and has 30 years' service with the company may retire under the retirement benefit plan.

A third factor governing eligibility is a provision that if an employee becomes totally and permanently disabled before reaching the age of 65, he will be eligible to receive monthly retirement benefit payments based on his length of service and earnings, the same as those reaching 65.

The period for which monthly retirement benefit payments are to be made depends upon the employee's length of service with the company. In general, retirement benefit payments will be made for one-third of the period of service. Thus, if an employee becoming eligible for retirement has a service record of 20 years or 240 months, he will be eligible to receive benefit payments for 60 months.

The amount of the annuitant's monthly payments depends upon the amount of compensation he has received from the company since December 1, 1936. The five calendar years of highest compensation since then and prior to the employee having reached the age of 65 are averaged on a monthly basis, and the monthly retirement benefit payment determined from that. A minimum monthly benefit of \$40 is paid if the monthly average is less than \$183.33.

This retirement plan covers employees at the Decatur and Los Angeles plants, and a separate plan, set up on the same basis, applied to employees at Columbian Iron Works at Chattanooga. A third plan, substantially the same as those at Decatur, Los Angeles and Chattanooga, is in effect at Mueller, Ltd., Sarnia, Ont..

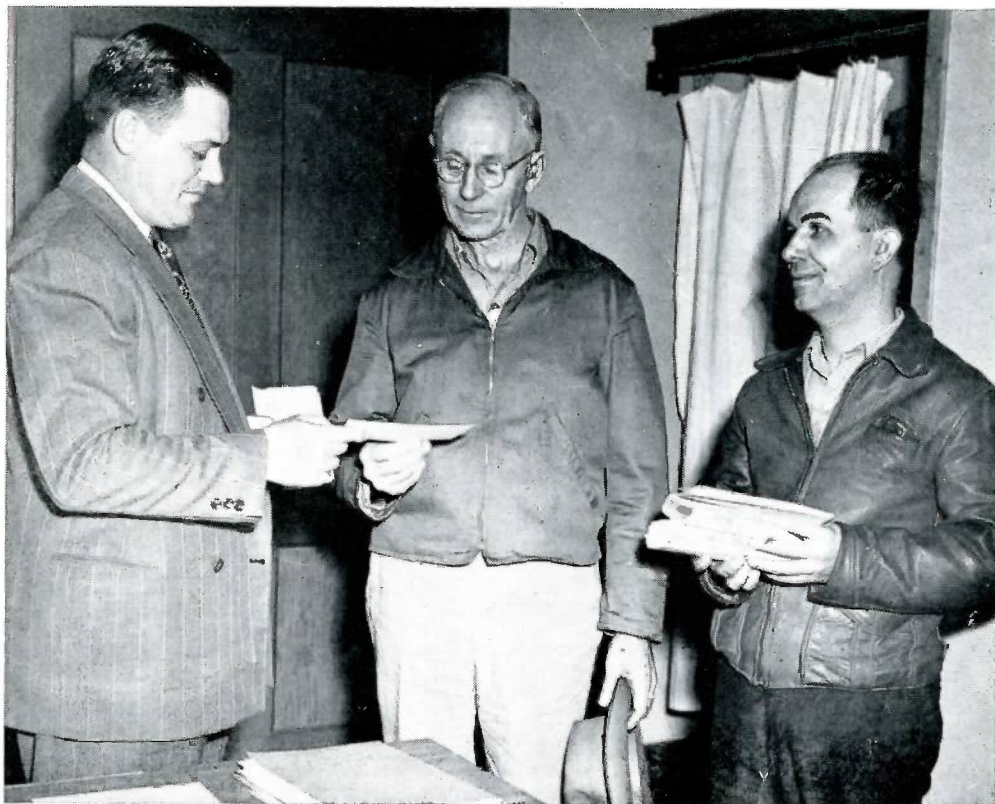
## This Month's Cover

CARL (FARMER) DENSON, head furnace operator in the brass foundry of the Decatur plant, is shown as he skims slag from the spout of one of the 60-inch Hawley down-draft furnaces.

The force of the blast in the furnace carries some of the slag to the spout, where it has a tendency to congeal. It must be cleaned from time to time to prevent it from accumulating and clogging the spout.

Denson has been a Mueller Co. employee for more than nine years, and has been employed in the brass foundry for almost eight years.





*Loyle Davis, left, secretary-treasurer of the Employees' Aid Society, and Hugh Henley, department 8, a trustee, are shown with J. Ralph Adams, also of department 8, who received a check for \$120 when the society's surplus was distributed. Henley is holding part of the 649 checks which went to members when the society was dissolved as a result of the new cooperative insurance plan which provides broader coverage for Mueller Co. employees.*

## Aid Society Closes Its Books

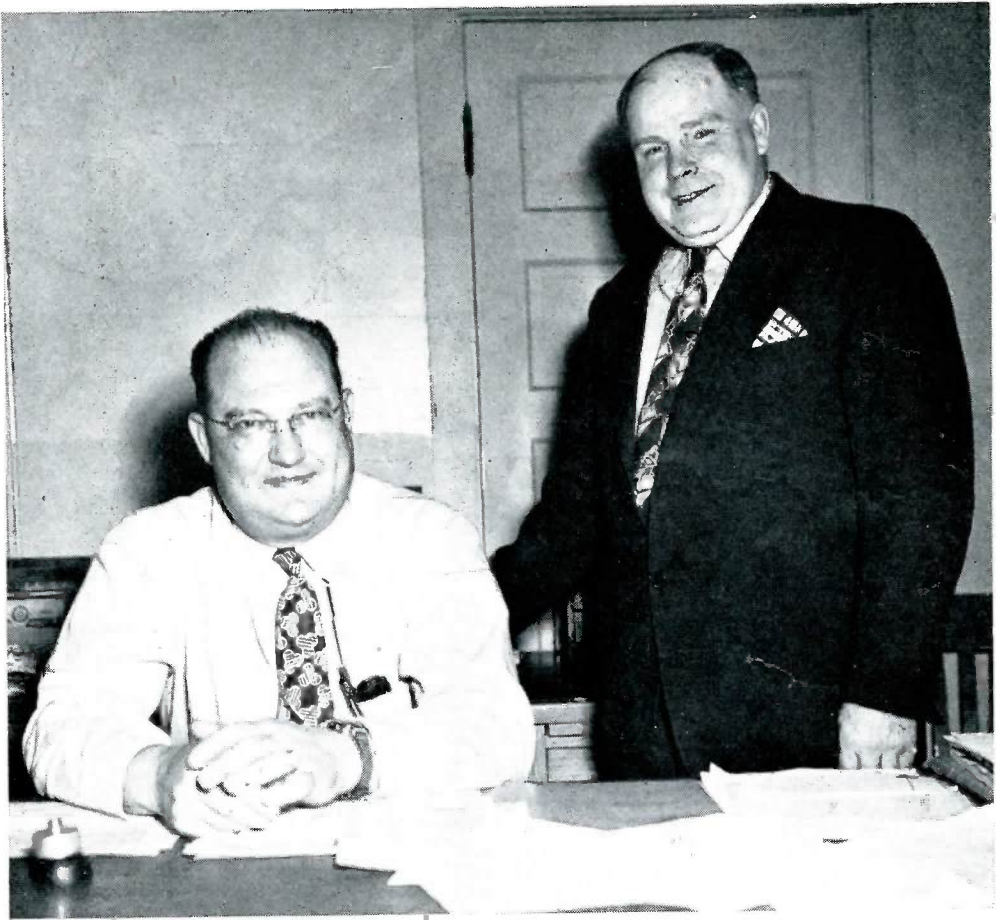
THE MUELLER CO. Employees' Aid Society, started on August 12, 1909, officially was dissolved April 15, when the last of 649 checks drawn on the organization's assets were distributed to members.

More than \$18,000 in assets were distributed after all claims were paid. The largest single check to a member was \$120, the smallest 38 cents.

Loyle Davis, personnel director and secretary-treasurer of the Aid Society, described the action as follows: "Because the new cooperative insurance program offered much broader coverage and benefits were higher and in view of the fact most of the employees were also carrying Blue Cross for dependent cov-

erage, it was the decision of the members of the society to dissolve the corporation. This action was taken in a general meeting called for that purpose on November 17, 1947."

November was the month in which the company and employees started their new cooperative insurance program which provided benefits for life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, weekly accident and sickness benefits, daily hospital benefits, miscellaneous hospital charges benefits, and surgical and medical expense benefits at nominal monthly costs. The new plan was made available for employees at monthly costs of from \$2.06 to \$3.49, depending upon the individual's earnings.



*Clarence C. Roarick, seated, who succeeded Frank E. Taylor, right, as factory manager of the Mueller Co.'s main plant at Decatur. Mr. Taylor retired, effective May 1, after more than 31 years of service with the company. Mr. Roarick has been with the firm since 1928.*

## C. C. Roarick New Factory Manager

CLARENCE C. ROARICK was appointed as factory manager of the main plant at Decatur April 9, succeeding Frank E. Taylor, who retired after more than 31 years of service with Mueller Co., during which time he worked his way up through the ranks from a hand in the brass finishing department to general superintendent and then factory manager.

O. C. Keil, Mueller Co. secretary, also announced that the company's management committee had appointed Leo Wiant, head of the standards department, as industrial engineer with supervision and direction of industrial engineering

at the main plant, and the direction of these activities at the Los Angeles, Chattanooga, and Sarnia, Ontario, plants.

Ralph K. (Pete) Duncan, head of the tool engineering office, was named as Mr. Roarick's successor as divisional superintendent of tool making and machine repair. Department heads of the tool engineering office, heat treating, tool making, and machine repair will report to Mr. Duncan.

L. W. Mueller, chairman of the board, pointed out that although these three appointees were comparatively young, they are all experienced Mueller Co. men.

Mr. Roarick, whose father was form-





*Leo Wiant, former head of the standards department, who was appointed industrial engineer and will have supervision and direction of industrial engineering at the Decatur plant and direction of these activities at Los Angeles, Chattanooga and Sarnia, Ontario.*



*Ralph K. (Pete) Duncan who was promoted to divisional superintendent of tool making and machine repair April 12. He was formerly head of the tool engineering office. He succeeds Clarence C. Roarick, who was promoted to the post of factory manager.*

erly general superintendent of the Decatur plant, started working at Mueller Co. as a stock sorter in the shipping department during summer vacations from Decatur high school. Following his graduation, his first full-time job with the company was as an apprentice draftsman in 1928. In 1931, he was transferred to the tool and machine division as a draftsman and apprentice engineer.

Five years later he was given a contract as a foreman and became tool engineer and head of the tool making and tool designing department. Early in 1941 he became tool and machine division superintendent, having supervision over tool designing, tool making and machine repair.

Mr. Wiant began with Mueller Co. in the polishing department on February 14, 1927, and six months later was transferred to the main office as a price checker, and later the same year he was transferred to the standards department. He became head of the standards department in December, 1933.

Mr. Duncan also started with the company in 1928. He was first hired as a draftsman and then was promoted to tool designer and checker. He was given an assistant foreman's contract in June, 1937, and in 1945 his position was listed as foreman and tool designer.

Mr. Taylor's long service with the company was unbroken from June 18, 1917, to May 1, 1948, the effective date of his retirement, although he also had worked for the company for several months in 1916 and again in the early part of 1917. Starting as a brass finisher, he became an engine lathe operator, a set-up man, and foreman of the ground key department. Upon the death of Charlie Roarick, Clarence's father, he was appointed general superintendent of the main plant in November, 1937, and on December 1, 1943, he became factory manager.

With Mrs. Taylor he expects to leave next month on an extensive trip to the West Coast. He feels that his time will be pretty well occupied during his retirement with his farm south of Macon,



*The winner and still champ is the ground key division team which came through the season with its second consecutive bowling title in the Mueller Bowling League. Membership of the team is the same as last year. Members are Galen Jenkins, Martin Riewski, Eddie Nalefski, Ben Taylor, Van Riley and Haldon Hanson. Nalefski is captain of the ground key team.*

## Ground Key Does It Again

**H**ISTORY REPEATED itself in the Mueller Co. Bowling League this season as the Ground Key Division team won its second consecutive championship and one of its members again captured the league sweepstakes event.

Galen Jenkins was this year's sweepstakes winner, the title last year going to Martin Riewski, a team-mate. Ed. Hartwig turned in the high individual average for the season. Hartwig's average this year was 182, compared to an average of 177 last season, when he was in fourth place.

In addition to the \$10 prize he won first prize in the sweepstakes, Jenkins also picked up \$2.50 for high natural game and another \$2.50 for high natural series. Clarence Hill was second in the sweepstakes with a \$7 prize, Anthony Grossman was third with \$5, Robert Taylor was fourth with \$3, and Herman A. (Jack) Chepan was fifth with \$1.

Following Hartwig, the ten high bowlers for the season were: Eddie Nalefski, 179; Ben Taylor, 177; Walter Behrns, 176; Al Degand, 173; Jack Bain, 171; Henry Stratman and Martin Riewski, 170; and Al Hill, Wilbur Edwards and Clarence Hill, 169.

The Ground Key team cinched its championship for the season well ahead of the season's end May 4. Specialty Division and Product Engineers tied for second, and the Tool Makers were in third place. This is how they finished:

Team	G	W	L	Pct.
Ground Key Division	108	65	43	.602
Specialty Division	108	58	50	.537
Product Engineers	108	58	50	.537
Tool Makers	108	57	51	.528
Works Mgr. Office	108	56	52	.519
Experimental Shop	108	56	52	.519
Main Office	108	55	53	.509
Pattern Shop	108	48	60	.444
Brass Finishers	108	47	61	.435
Machine Repair	108	40	68	.370





*High individual scoring honors went to these bowlers. Seated, left to right, they are: Martin Riewski, Ben Taylor, Al Degand, and Wilbur Edwards. Back row: Clarence Hill, Al Hill, Eddie Nalefski, Jack Bain, and Ed Hartwig. Not shown are Walter Behrns, Henry Stratman.*



*On the feminine side of the bowling picture, this Mueller team placed second in the Minor Ladies League. Members are, left to right, Wilma Maleska, captain, Ruth Liestman, Betty Dehority, Aline Moore, Betty Walker and Catherine Bauer. Two of the members also bowled on another team, and Betty Dehority was the sweepstakes winner in the City Girls League.*

# Plant No. 3 To Borg-Warner Corp.

**Manufacturer leases Decatur site which has been idle since 1932, except for war-time munitions work.**

**L**EASE OF PLANT NO. 3, near Decatur, to Borg-Warner Corporation of Chicago was announced May 22 by C. S. Davis, president of Borg-Warner, and Albert G. Webber, Jr., Mueller Co. president. Borg-Warner Corporation acquired a five-year lease on the plant with an option to purchase the property after two years.

The company will take over Sept. 1.

The lease covers five buildings at the site and 37 acres of land. A total of 57 acres is under fence at the site and is covered by the option. The buildings include the main plant, which has a floor space of 105,000 square feet; warehouse building, 20,000 square feet; stock building, 7,000 square feet; power plant, 3,000 square feet; and a sewage disposal plant

designed for a village with a population of 2,500. The plant receives its water supply from the city of Decatur, and has a 100,000 gallon elevated storage tank.

Mr. Webber pointed out that Mueller Co. was not disposing of a productive unit. "With the exception of its war-time use, plant No. 3 has been standing idle since 1932. The decision to lease or sell the property was made on that basis."

The main building and power plant were erected in the middle 1920s, and was put into operation in 1926, when production was begun by Mueller Co. of vitreous ware. The plant was shut down in 1932, when the manufacture of vitreous ware was discontinued. Later, it was used by the Civilian Conservation Corps as a headquarters and warehouse.



*Interior view of the main building. The truck shown at the right indicates building's size.*



During World War II, Mueller Co. converted the plant for the manufacture of munitions. Production was begun at the main plant in July, 1942, of 37 millimeter shells and then transferred to plant No. 3. The plant later was used for the manufacture of 57 millimeter shells, and at the end of the war the plant was manufacturing 155 millimeter shells. During its peak during the war, the plant employed about 1,200 persons.

Acquisition of the plant by Borg-Warner is part of an over-all expansion and modernization program involving several products, Mr. Davis said. The company previously made an effort to locate one of its plants in Decatur, having bid for Building B of the Victory Ordnance plant, which was used during the war by the Caterpillar Military Engine Company.

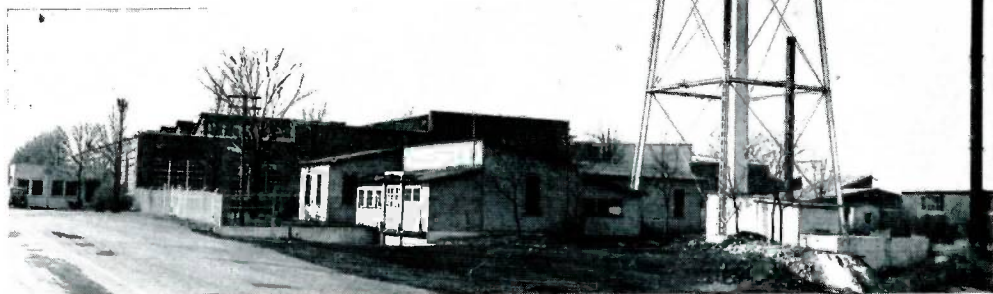
The main building at plant No. 3 is equipped with a sprinkler system, lighting and power, including a transformer bank of 1500 KVA, entry switches and the installation of a modern Trumbull power bus. The building is of single-story, brick construction.

Broker for the transaction was the P. H. Sproat & Co. of Decatur. W. H. Hipsher, assistant treasurer of Mueller Co., played a leading role in completing negotiations for the lease, Mr. Webber said.

Since Mueller Co. terminated its war-time manufacture of munitions, the plant has been used only for storage.

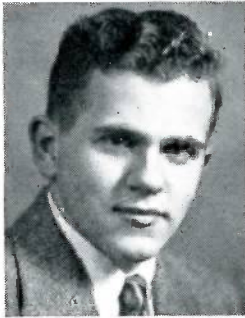
Borg-Warner Corp. has about 30 plants throughout the United States, and manufactures a number of products.

It is the fourth major manufacturing concern to select Decatur for a plant site within recent months.



*The exterior of the main building at plant No. 3, Decatur, is shown in these two views.*

# This Year's High School Graduates



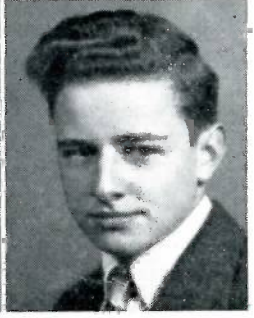
Virgil L. Ellington



Louise Nash



Jacqueline Chepan



Emmett True



Agnes Fleckenstein



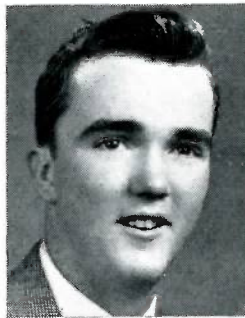
Robert Armstrong



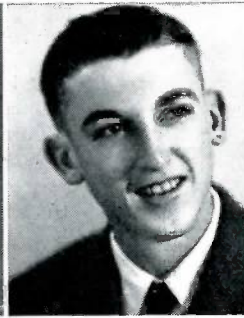
LeRoy Carter



Eileen Luka



Donald Bateman



Bill Shumake



Laura Musgraves



June Woodrum



Leonard Jones



Norma Talley



Robert Bauer



Carolyn Duncan



**E**IGHTEEN SONS and daughters of Mueller Co. employees were included among the 1948 high school graduates this spring. The schools represented



Betty Dickerson

George Blakeman

were Decatur high school, Moweaqua Community high school, Warrensburg, Stonington, St. Teresa, Atwood Township and Mt. Zion Community high school. The graduates included:

Robert E. Armstrong, son of Karl Armstrong, maintenance department, Moweaqua high school.

Donald E. Bateman, son of Donald Bateman, specialties department, Mt. Zion Community high school.

Robert E. Bauer, son of A. W. Bauer, plant No. 2, Decatur high school.

George W. Blakeman, son of Wilbur E. Blakeman, grinding room, Stonington high school.

LeRoy Carter, son of Roy and Margaret Carter, both of the coreroom, Decatur high school.

Jacqueline Rae Chepan, daughter of

Herman A. (Jack) Chepan, experimental shop, Decatur high school.

Betty Lee Dickerson, daughter of Harry L. Dickerson, ground key division, Moweaqua high school.

Carolyn Duncan, daughter of Ralph K. (Pete) Duncan, superintendent of tool making and machine repair, Decatur high school.

Virgil L. Ellington, son of Lee Ellington, maintenance department, Warrensburg high school.

Arnes Fleckenstein, daughter of Roy Fleckenstein, ground key division, St. Teresa high school.

Leonard N. Jones, son of Roy Jones, ground key division, Atwood Township high school.

Eileen Ruth Luka, daughter of Henry Luka, core room, Decatur high school.

Laura Alice Musgraves, daughter of Elvis Musgraves, maintenance department, Warrensburg Community high school.

Louise Nash, daughter of Lula M. Nash, core room, Mt. Zion Community high school.

Bill Shumake, step-son of James Workman, ground key division, Moweaqua high school.

Norma Fay Talley, daughter of Creo Talley, plant No. 2 machine shop, Moweaqua high school.

Emmett Dean True, son of Roy W. True, brass foundry, Stonington Community high school.

June Woodrum, daughter of Clarence Woodrum, ground key division, Decatur high school.

## Chattanooga

*Marcella Lykins, Correspondent*

We at Columbian Iron are all very happy that all this fine weather has finally come. There is plenty of evidence that many have already launched what we hope will be a wonderful summer—sunburned noses, blistered backs, empty fishing lines, and calloused hands from gardening.

\* \* \*

A number of our girls have been getting in shape by going to the local

Industrial "Y" for swimming lessons on Mondays and Wednesdays. I can assure you that the instructor is a mighty handsome young man, he's a good instructor, too.

\* \* \*

For a while we had high hopes about a baseball team, but unfortunately we were unable to get into the league because we were a little late in getting our bid in. We plan on better results next

year. Certainly do appreciate the help of Rowdy Gann, Bob Harris, and Vance Riddle in making plans.

\* \* \*

We have a new addition to our cost department, Marilyn Anderson.

Chuck Coventry just would try to be young and playful, but he has now repented and put away all childish ideas. Seems that while he was playing with a water gun in a downtown department store his small son, Johnny, wandered away but told the policeman that his daddy got lost. The kind policeman let Johnny take his father home and they promised never to let it happen again.

\* \* \*

Columbian Iron Works has one high school graduate this year. She is Betty J. Alexander, daughter of Will Alexander of the plant's maintenance crew.



She will be graduated from Howard High School, and plans to enter Hampton Institute in the

fall for advanced training in home economics.

\* \* \*

On April 30 four more of our men left us to take it easy. One of this group was retired on the "rule of the 80 point plan" and three were eligible on age. This is a time in life that all folks look forward to and for these men we are very happy and sincerely hope that they enjoy the coming years to the utmost. They are:

John Pinion of the maintenance department who has 22 years of service. He has been our faithful guard for a great number of these years.

James Lewis of the machine shop who has seven years of service. He is much better known throughout the plant as "Tom Cat."

Aaron Young of the foundry who has 18 years of service, and Reuben Wilson who has 26 years of service. These men have served faithfully on their jobs.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Theodore McGinnis in the death of his brother and also to Charles Paris in the death of his mother.

\* \* \*

Some of the early birds who have been taking vacations are Jack Pope, James Morris, Roy Denton, Harold Roberts, Hugh White, James Teeters, Ronald Rogers, James Turner and Lige Daniels.

\* \* \*

We have neither seen nor heard a thing from Howard Morton for some time now. We're getting pretty worried. You know "the quiet before the storm." So I guess we can expect some astounding news from him any day now.

\* \* \*

We are very glad to have Roy Hollingsworth with us. He is replacing Joe Lyle, Jr., our former assistant shipping clerk, who left us to go into the Army.

We are glad to welcome Joe Coffman, Raymond Stultz, Garrett Haven, and Grover Hixon, Jr., to our machine shop; also Robert Johnston of the maintenance department and Joseph Clark in the foundry.

\* \* \*

A short time ago Dan Cupid came into our cost department and as a result of some of his work, on April 23, 1948, Gladys Jones became the bride of George Weaver. The wedding was solemnized on the anniversary of her eleventh year of service with Mueller Co. at Candler Memorial Methodist Church with a very impressive ring ceremony. Mrs. Agnes Condra was the bride's attendant and Bob Shoupe served as best man for the groom. Mr. and Mrs. Weaver are at home at 4102 Alabama Avenue, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

\* \* \*

Sam Spence, formerly of the foundry, has left to accept full time pastorate of the St. John's Baptist Church.

\* \* \*

Three of our men in the machine shop are in line for congratulations. On April 2 a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Louie Gamblin, named Fred David; to Mr. and Mrs. B. L. McClendon a daughter, named Donna Ruth; and on March 27 a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Veal and named Nancy Dianne.



# Decatur

Services for S/Sgt. Harold T. Smith, killed in action near St. Lo, France, on July 26, 1944, were held at Decatur May 8.



Sergeant Smith, a turret lathe operator before entering the service, was the first casualty among Mueller Co. employees.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Smith of Decatur. He was born August 7, 1916, and was a graduate of Decatur high school and a member of the First Christian Church, where a memorial service was held for him August 8, 1944.

He is survived by his parents; his wife, Mrs. Madeline Smith; a sister, Priscilla, formerly of the main office; and a brother, Leroy, all of Decatur.

\* \* \*

Meet Linda Kaye Taylor, five-month-old daughter



of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Taylor. Taylor, a Mueller Co. employee for almost 20 years, is a finish reamer in department 8.

The Taylors have three other children — Nina Mae, John and

Juanita.



Recently retired employees included W. S. Enloe, above, Ed. C. Stille, left, and W. E. (Humpy) Behrns. Total service with Mueller Co. for the three was more than 93 years.

Enloe, former paymaster and war-

time personnel director, had been with the company for almost 26 years. Stille, former maintenance foreman, had more than 28 years' service, and Behrns, former core room foreman, was a veteran of more than 39 years' service.



Sunday, June 20, will be of particular significance to C. O. McCarthy, ground key filer in department 8, for his mother, Mrs. Lizzie McCarthy will be observing her ninetieth birthday. Mrs. McCarthy resides at Enfield, Illinois, in the south-

eastern section of the state.

McCarthy has been a Mueller Co. employee for almost 20 years.

\* \* \*

Assets of the Mueller Co. Employees' Credit Union amounted to \$189,277.46 as of April 30, Harold Munsterman, treasurer, reported, and are steadily increasing at the rate of about \$10,000 a month. The Credit Union's financial statement showed a loan balance of \$73,709.47, an increase of \$5,728 over February, the last statement published.

There were 612 members listed on the Credit Union's books as of April 30, and 268 borrowers. Munsterman reported a

purchase of \$10,000 in government bonds during April.

\* \* \*

Clarence Hill, experimental shop, who was actually one of his team's most dependable bowlers throughout the season and who wound up on the ten-high list, finally "dogged out" on the final night



of play in the Mueller Bowling League, thereby winning permanent possession of the dog house and tin of dog food. An appropriate drawing accompanied the gift-wrapped dog house and dog food when the presentation was made by team mates.

## Sarnia, Ontario

*Almeda Reeve, Correspondent*

A successful fall and winter season for the Mueller, Limited, Bowling Club was brought to a climax with the annual dinner and dance held at the Sarnia Riding Club on April 23.

Following the banquet the winning team and players received their trophies. G. W. Parker, president of Mueller, Limited, presented the Mueller-Werdes-Parker Cup to Murray Taylor, captain of the winning Pop-Up tea

Jack McClure presented the individual trophies to Mrs. Doris McLaughlin, office, Norine Boulton, department 7, Melvin Dawson, department 7, F. Tribbeck, department 3, and Murray Taylor, de-

partment 11, members of the Pop-Up team.

\* \* \*

R. L. Bevan, chief engineer of the Union Gas Company of Canada, presented the Bevan Trophy to Mrs. Grace Campbell, office, for the ladies high average, while Lloyd French presented the French Cup to Max Fletcher, department 6, for the men's high average.

The captains of each team in the league spoke briefly and paid tribute to the club executive for the successful season's activities. The balance of the evening was spent in dancing to music supplied by Bill Glass.



Donald Foreman, department 9, was named president of the Mueller (Sarnia) Employees' Credit Union, which is starting its third year of operations, at the recent annual directors' meeting. Percy Knight, department 3, was named vice-president, and Murray Taylor, department 11, was named manager.

\* \* \*

Our sincere sympathy is extended to:

Willis Dennis, department 8, in the loss of his father, Samuel Dennis of Point Edward. The late Mr. Dennis was formerly employed in the assembly department, having terminated his employment several years ago.

Elmer O'Dell, department 3, in the sudden passing of his brother, Blake, who resided at Pertolia.

Jack Cain in the death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Morley Featherstone, Sombra, Ontario.

\* \* \*

The following births have been announced:

To Mr. and Mrs. David J. McFerran, a son, Doran Anthony, on April 13. David is employed in department 2.

To Mr. and Mrs. Morris C. Lester, a

daughter, Maureen Jean. Morris is employed in department 8.

To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stevens, a son, Richard Allen. Charlie is employed in department 9.

To Mr. and Mrs. Garnet R. Denomy, a son, David Ralph. Garnet is employed in department 11.

\* \* \*

**This and That**

We hear that wedding bells will soon ring out for Malcolm Tigwell . . . "Smiling" Bob King of the toolroom has finally purchased his store teeth . . . We are all glad to hear that Mrs. Edward Cook is well on her way to recovery after a lengthy illness. Ed is foreman of the toolroom . . . Don't forget that provincial voting day is June 7 . . . Mueller employees were well represented at the "Ball of the Century," the annual dance sponsored by the Central Century Club. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Parker were one of the couples who were patrons of the dance . . . We are glad to hear that Mrs. Joe Hicks is recovering after an operation. Joe works in department 5 . . . Maizie Nichols, department 11, is wearing a sparkler on her left hand . . .



*R. L. Bevan, left, chief engineer of the Union Gas Co. of Canada, Ltd., is presenting his trophy to Mrs. Grace Campbell, office, for the ladies' high average score, while Lloyd French, extreme right, presents the French Cup to Max Fletcher for the men's high average score.*

# Los Angeles

*William Baker, Correspondent*

Well, it was bound to happen, and it was no surprise to anyone when it did.

We refer, of course, to Miss Ramona Robinson who has left her dictaphone duties in the sales office to take up the singing career she has long worked for.



After studying voice for five years, reward came in the form of a telephone call on April 12.

Ramona was informed that she was to report for an audition the following evening for the Los Angeles Civic Light Opera Company. For such a momentous occasion, it was no help, psychologically, to find 200 other girls vying for the fourteen positions.

The company opened with a presentation of "Naughty Marietta" in San Francisco on May 10

\* \* \*

Among this summer's graduates we have two young men with whom we are familiar, Dale Manning, who spent two summers working in dept. 60, will grad-



William Stach



Dale Manning

uate from Montebello High and intends to resume studies in business college.

William Stach, who also spent two summers in the shop, will graduate from Inglewood High and, at this writing, his future plans are unknown to the Record. Dale's mother is a core cleaner in dept. 10 and Bill's dad is the lead man of the same department.

\* \* \*

Friday, April 30, was Roy "Pop" Baker's last day of duty as foreman of the polishing and plating department. After 37 years of service, Pop has decided to take things easy. He has seen many



*Roy Baker, right, retires after 37 years of service. He is shown with his brother.*

changes since joining the company in 1911 and knows all the "old timers." Pop started in the plating room at the Decatur plant and was made assistant foreman of that department during World War I and was later promoted to foreman in 1930.

Pop Baker was one of the pioneers that helped open our Los Angeles branch and also helped make it grow.

So we bid a fond farewell to Pop Baker and wish him a happy and prosperous retirement.