



The
MUELLER
RECORD

APRIL, 1930

Now the noisy winds are
April's coming up the hill.
All the spring is in her train,
Led by shining ranks of rain;
Pit, pat, patter, clatter
Sudden sun and clatter, patter!
All things ready with a will
April's coming up the hill.

—Mary Mapes Dodge.

THE MUELLER RECORD

Vol XIX

APRIL, 1930

No. 212

TRY IT ON SICKNESS, TOO

In the past we have had a good deal to say about the importance of first aid for injuries, however slight. The people who work here have learned that it pays to take care of the small injuries when they happen.

We are glad that an even more important safety lesson is beginning to sink in. First aid for sickness is just as important as for accidents. The fact that many people of late have taken care of a cold at once, has saved much sickness this winter.

This confirms our opinion, long held, that most sickness is preventable by a little timely care. Take care of small aches and pains at once. Treat the cold on the first snuffle. These simple precautions will save many days of lost time and lost wages. Take care in time and then forget it.



THE SEVENTY-FIVE DAY LIMIT

The Employees Aid Society undertakes to give as much protection as possible; but it is not practical to insure members indefinitely, especially on ailments that may be chronic.

The following by-law applies:

"Payment of benefits as provided in the By-Laws of the Society shall not continue for more than a total of 75 days. Members who receive the maximum benefit for sickness must pass a physical examination by the company's doctor before being returned to membership."



FIRST AID

For the past month the U. S. Bureau of Mines Rescue Car has been stationed in Decatur. The men in charge of this car are experts in giving first aid and have been teaching the miners and employes of industries allied with mining, such as oil and metal work, proper methods of first aid.

Beginning Monday evening, March 31st, one hundred Mueller men entered their first aid classes for instruction. The second hundred began Monday, April 7th, and there will be still others for the week of April 14th.

The first lesson shows proper methods to stop bleeding. After explanations and demonstrations have been made the men themselves are shown just how to place the bandages, when and how to use the tourniquet; and also, what not to do.

The idea in first aid is to make the patient comfortable, get him to a doctor or a doctor to him in the shortest possible time and with the least subsequent injury. First aid treatment should prevent further injury, stop bleeding, and relieve shock. Most of it is

commonsense and the rest of it is knowing just how.

The second evening, men are taught how to treat shock. Fracture of bones, dislocations, and burns each occupy an evening. Very special consideration is given to artificial respiration for drowning, electric shock, and unconsciousness due to breathing.

The men are evidently interested and a number have expressed a desire to continue training until they become experts. Dr. Long is heading a movement to train several first aid teams in the Mueller plant, and we may train some men to be efficient enough to participate in local and sectional contests.

At a foremen's safety meeting held at noon, April 4th, it was decided to form teams. Dr. Long volunteered to give one evening a week toward instructing such teams. He has had several years such experience in such teaching at Decatur and Macon County Hospital.



PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Slow but steady progress is being made in getting the physical examinations extended thruout the plant. As a health measure, this is one of the best things we have done. There are still some people who do not see the advantage of a health audit, but there is an increasing number who realize the value of knowing the state of their health and improving it.

We hope yet to see the day when a man will take as good care of his body as he does his car.



TEETH AND EYES

The Employees Aid Society continues its work of assisting those who need dental work or glasses.

We hope the day is near at hand when all the workers here will value their eyes too much to attempt to correct vision with glasses from the ten-cent-store.

It is not the style to appear with a mouth full of rotten teeth that pollute the breath and endanger the health, and our dental service will enable anyone to correct this condition.



WEDDINGS

Hazel Anderson, daughter of Albert Anderson, chief janitor, daughter of Albert Anderson, was married on the morning of March 31st to Auburn Ellis, employed by the Wabash. They will make their home in Decatur.

Wright-Stark

Edgar Stark and Goldie Wright were married in Decatur, March 19th. They will reside at 2620 North Main street.

ABOUT VACATION TRIPS

Illinois Offers Many Pleasurable Short Excursions at Small Cost

Many Mueller employes are already thinking of a summer vacation. The thought always brings up the question of where to go. With an automobile one may cover a lot of territory and see much more of interest than possible by traveling on the train. The cost of a vacation is a primary and important consideration, but there are other questions to be reckoned with. The best medical experts now tell us that any trip which is filled with annoyances or irritations is not a vacation at all. It is a detriment and had better be left untaken. When you start on your trip put all your worries aside. Don't think of anything left behind. Go prepared to relax completely and to get every ounce of pleasure possible out of your holiday. If you can't do this you might just as well stay home and loaf, read and rest. If you do not know your home state, see it first. A visit and inspection of the principal cities will prove of value. One can take his motor car and see Illinois for instance at very small expense and with great benefit to himself and family. There are many trips that may be planned which enable you to cover a large amount of territory each day and be back home for the night, thereby saving hotel bills. There are other more extended trips which may be made that keep you away from home only one night. In fact one can get to practically every corner of the state under this plan.

We are not inclined to tunk on Illinois as holding anything of special scenic beauty, and yet authorized travel guides find much of interest.

Northern Illinois is rich in natural wonders. The Fox river valley possesses much natural beauty. There are many lakes including Fox Lake, six miles long and two miles wide. It connects with Grass Lake, very attractive because of its extensive beds of lotus flowers. Then there is Long Lake, Crystal Lake, and nearby the city of Antioch, which has ten good sized lakes within a radius of ten miles. The scenery from Elgin to Rockford is beautiful, very similar to the rugged portions of Wisconsin, and not far from La Salle are the Bailey Falls, Lover's Leap, Buffalo Rock, and Horseshoe Bend. These lakes also abound around Hamilton, Putman, and Chillicothe. At Rock Island, on an island embodying 870 acres of land is the Rock Island Arsenal, embodying the largest manufacturing arsenal in the United States.

Throughout the northern half of the state are many spots of special scenic beauty and many interesting cities which the average traveler from this section of the state seldom reaches. Penal and charitable institutions at Joliet, Bartonville, Bloomington,

THE LANGDON TRIO



Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Langdon take great pride in their three handsome children. The photo of the kiddies by their father shows that the pride is justified. Left to right, the children are: Mary, Ruth and John.

Dixon, Pontiac, Jacksonville, Danville, Quincy, Anna, Chester should be of interest to all Illinois taxpayers.

The southern stretches of Illinois are equally inviting. The great peach orchards, the old towns of Shawneetown and Cairo, the oil fields and the natives themselves, form an interesting study. It is well that every resident of the state should know something of the topography and geography and activities of his local government. So that anyone who is so situated as to be unable to take a long vacation trip can not only acquire a lot of information but a lot of pleasure in touring his own state.

VARIETY OF TALENT

Clifford Gillebrand combines a variety of talents, which are constantly manifesting themselves in different directions. His activity about the factory all day does not diminish his energy. It has already been demonstrated that he is somewhat of an amateur artist, and his attempts with a brush have proved very creditable, and have been very much admired by his friends. Now he breaks forth as a vocalist, and a broadcaster over WJBL, having become a member of the Gaiety Quartette. Friends who have heard this quartette say it is a very good number.

GIRLS STILL WANT IT

The wedding ring is a relic of barbarism. It dates from the days when the wife was regarded simply as a piece of property in the possession of the man. The ring was the symbol of subjugation and slavery.

BRASS CHIPS

Doris Mae, the nine-year-old step-daughter of W. T. Mason, was struck by an automobile March 31st. The car passed over her, but not the wheels, and aside from a few bruises, she was not injured.

Luke Owens and Elmer Merrow have been substituting at the clearance clerk's desk while Maurice Workman is on leave.

Carl Hill returned to work Wednesday, April 2, after having been in the hospital a week for a minor operation.

Art Roper of Dept. 18, is practicing with the Commies at Fans' Field. Drill calls for two hours a day, seven days a week.

Jack Bourner, formerly of the Standards Dept. and Plating Dept., is also on the squad.

Raymond Kileen has returned to work for the present in Dept. 30.

Walter Carberry of the Engineering Dept. has returned to the Country Club as instructor in golf.

A number of our people, we do not know how many, are at work temporarily in Peoria; most of them at the Caterpillar Tractor Company.

Carl Hatch, formerly of the Tool Grinding Dept., is still confined to his home with rheumatic fever. He has been absent from work since last September.

W. J. Wallen is selling radios.

Jesse Moore of the Machine Repair Dept., and Fred Roarick of the Plating Dept., have returned from a trip to the southwest. They visited points in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Tennessee.

Wilbur Allmann, draftsman, is now employed in Peoria.

John Culver of Plant 3, has returned to his home in Trenton, N. J.

Luther Morrison, a member of the Polishing Dept., for a number of years, is now in Toledo, Ohio, attending the Milo Bennett School of Linotype operators. Mable Working reports that he is making excellent progress.

Iona Reed, formerly of the Core Dept., is visiting relatives in Indiana.

Wm. A. Murray is the new salesman engaged for the territory out of St. Louis. Mr. Murray has had a number of years experience in selling plumbing goods and vitreous

ware. We welcome him into our organization.

Paul Jacka and J. A. Richardson of Plant 3, have been in the East on a business trip.

Walter Auer and Ernest Krumsick were so deeply in earnest conversation last Thursday noon, that they did not hear the whistle. When they did come to they had to ring in late.

John Hantle of the Galvanizing Dept., has been laid up for several weeks recovering from an operation for appendicitis.

A. P. Townley and Alex Brule report that they have their new teeth well broken in now and chew as well as ever.

Harlan Himpstead fell on the ice on the way to work during the big snow and was laid up for a day.

Naomi Daeschelin has been absent from work several weeks on account of sickness.

Smith Carder of the Assembly Dept., is now convalescent after an operation.

Fawney Powers of Plant 3 was laid up several days due to infection developing from a blister on his hand.

Alonzo Davey, who has been laid up for some time, is now able to be about, but is not yet able to return to work.

W. A. Atchinson, whose leg was broken by an automobile just before Christmas, is still confined to his home. He reports, however, that he is making gradual progress toward recovery.

John Faith and J. H. Dowden have been at work the last few days improving the looks of the boulevards about the factory.

Orville Spencer, Art Roper and Joe Cheetam are riding in new cars.

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BIG SNOW SWAMPS CAFETERIA

The day of the big snow proved a great booster for the cafeteria. Very few of the employes felt equal to facing the storm for the reward of a meal at home. The result was one of the largest crowds seen in the cafeteria for months. They began filing in a few minutes after the noon whistle and the late comers found the counters almost depleted. Manager Auer and his aids did some lively work getting up emergency supplies. They succeeded in taking care of everybody and the dishes came back so well polished that washing was almost unnecessary.

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Lawrence Schultz, formerly of Dept. 18, is now on the road with the Leader Iron Works on erection work.

BOYS ORGANIZED INTO TWO CLUBS



The upper left hand picture shows the officers of the "Mueller Friendly Indians." They are: Chief, Paul Littrell; Tom-Tom Beater, Ollie Morgan; Wampum Bearer, Gerald Carter.

Upper right hand picture shows entire club with the director, Noel Hudson in the back. Boys in this picture are: James Keris, Sam Keris, Robert Garrett, Gene Garrett, Robert Rhodes, Kenneth Klein, Mason Albert, Delmar Binns, Vern Vandervort, Jack Beehler, Russell Mayberry, Floyd Baum, Bernard Carter, Thomas Cooper, Kenneth Mullis, George Grosnitz, John Patterson.

The lower left hand picture is that of the entire club of "Mueller Comrades." They are: Jack Enloe, Ed Albright, Wilferd Clannin, Phil Keris, Wm. Burchel, Rodell Holderby, Howard Eopp, with Arthur Daniels, director.

The right hand picture is of the officers, reading left to right: Jack Enloe, President; Ed Albright, Vice President; Arthur Daniels, Director; Wilferd Clannin, Secretary; Phil Keris, Treasurer.

✦ BOYS' CLUBS

Charles Auer Has Organized Two Groups for Athletics and Play

Two clubs for the boys between the ages of 8 and 16, who are sons of Mueller employes, have recently been organized by C. G. Auer. The first meeting was held on March 29th at the Mueller Gymnasium on Monroe street, and officers for the two clubs were elected at that time.

Both clubs will meet every Saturday morning from 9 to 12, and trained supervisors from the Y. M. C. A. will be in charge. It is planned to first have a general business meeting, followed by a study hour, at which time the boys will be addressed by local business men on subjects of interest. Trips will be made through local factories and business houses, moving picture programs given, and instructions will be given on a subject in which the boys are especially enthusiastic, airplane building. Over night hikes will also be held for these clubs at the Mueller Lodge after the weather opens up. After this educational hour the remainder of the morning will be devoted to gymnasium work.

At the first meeting about fifteen boys reported in the older group of boys, and eighteen in the younger group.

Parents are urged to send their sons down to the gymnasium every Saturday morning, for these meetings will not only prove interesting and a source of enjoyment to the boys, but at the same time will be educational.

✦ DEATHS

Mrs. Homer Miller, 825 N. College street, died suddenly Monday evening, April 7, of heart failure. Funeral services were held at Monson's Chapel and burial at Vandalia.

Mr. Miller is watchman at Mercer street, and is well known to men in that part of the plant.

R. L. MOORS, JR., AND NIGGER



Dick Moore, our vitreous ware salesman, appeared the other day with his arm in a sling. He explained that he had bought for his son, Dick, Jr., a Welsh Arabian pony, and Dick the elder had gotten a little too close to the business end of the pony, and the pony kicked him and broke his arm. Dick is still recuperating. He admits that he gets a great kick out of "Nigger."

THE LOW MARK

Three Employes Use Less Than 10c Worth of Supplies in March

Each month requisitions for stationery and factory supplies are sent to the heads of departments. The object of this practice is to bring to the attention of the head of the department the amount and value of the material used. This gives the head of the department an opportunity to make any correction in the use of supplies that may seem necessary. The plan is working out very satisfactorily and it shows some interesting conditions.

The expense of some departments naturally runs higher than others, especially as relates to factory forms, while other departments show a smaller per centage.

The low record of March for supplies is held by Addah Paradee of the Filing Dept., who drew three cents worth; Kitty Wilkins, who was second with five cents worth, and Bertha Paradee, third with eight cents worth.

MASONIC REPRESENTATIVE

The March issue of the Springfield Scottish Rite Magazine mentions the appointment of Matt Trott as special representative of the Commander in Chief of the Scottish Rite Masons for the Decatur district. This not only covers all Masonic degrees from 3rd to 33rd, but includes the Mystic Shrine. It also gives Decatur district four representatives, the others being Geo. Van Cleve, Gene Wylie and Will Starr.

PING PONG CHAMPIONS

Dorothy Reed Wins in Girls Division—Arthur Martin Wins Title

Ping Pong Tournaments which have been conducted at the Boys' Opportunity Home and the Girls' Welfare Home this spring are over, with the boys carrying off the victory. (Continued on Page 7)

These tournaments were sponsored by Mr. Adolph Mueller, who had ping pong tables made and presented to each of the Homes. Girls from the main office have been supervising the games. The girls who have devoted their time to the promotion of the tournament were Mary Wilkins, Clara and Dorothea Uhl, Vera Wyant and Lucille Smith.

The results of the Girls' Tournament were as follows:

First prize—A compact, went to Dorothy Reed.

Second prize—A bracelet, was awarded to Mary Elsie Thrasher.

Third prize—Beads, went to Marcella Willison.

The Boys' Tournament netted winners as follows:

First prize—Flash light, Arthur Martin.

Second prize—Knife, Donald Kirby.

Third prize—Book, Sammie Whitaker.

The winners of the two tournaments, Arthur Martin and Dorothy Reed, played the finals at the Mueller Gym on Tuesday, March 25th. Arthur Martin was the victor and was awarded a new indoor baseball for the use of the boys at the Home.

Two I. P. L. busses brought the boys and girls to the gym during the worst of the snow storm which raged on March 25th, plowing through snow nearly as deep as the huge wheels on the busses, but arriving punctuously on time.

After the tournament, refreshments consisting of sandwiches, cocoa and cookies were served.



W. R. Gustin, purchasing agent, was confined to his home by illness for several days in the early part of the month.



FOREMEN'S CLUB; MUELLER LODGE

7:00 P. M., Thursday, March 20, 1930

Roll Call—J. W. Wells.

Progress in Physical Examination—E. H. Langdon.

Training in First Aid—Mr. Anderson of U. S. Bureau of Mines.

Progress in Budgeting—J. H. Cheetham

Our Labor Situation—C. F. Roarick.

Calendar Reform—O. C. Keil.

utes).

Sales Outlook—J. W. Simpson.

utes.)

Remarks—L. W. Mueller.

DRIVE SAFELY

Let's All Help to Cut Down the Frightful Auto Toll

There were 3,000 more deaths from automobile accidents in 1929 than in 1928. On this basis the total for 1930 is figured at 36,000. The hazard grows greater each year. Experts in safety are busy trying to work out plans which will overcome this awful slaughter, but the problem is one that baffles them.

To educate the drivers of automobiles is a well nigh hopeless task. Too many of them have no conception of what carelessness and caution mean when they are at the steering wheel. They have no decent regard for rules of driving, the rights of other drivers, or pedestrians. They drive their own car with their feet, which is an essential, but feet do not carry brains, the supreme essential to driving.

In this organization we can do our part toward improving safe and sane driving. Be careful. Keep in mind that danger of accident is always imminent. Take nothing for granted. The best driver is always the one who has his car under control. Watch for blind corners and in any event keep your eye on the other fellow. Give the pedestrian the best of it. At quitting time do not try to show how fast you can get away. Rather demonstrate how carefully and safely you can get into traffic lanes. It's better to be a trifle late getting home than to damage another car or injure some fellow worker or some member of a fellow worker's family.

Here is a bit of advice on automobile driving worthy of consideration, and it comes from the house organ of one of the biggest automobile companies:

Avoid whenever possible the busy streets and roads in your communities. If you can reach your destination by using less frequent thoroughfare, by all means do so. The other way may be the longer but it may, after all, be the speediest; in all events it is the safer. Busy thoroughfares are the cause of more accidents. Try the empty streets and roads a few times as an experiment. The experience may teach you something.



CHAMELEON, PERHAPS

A Ford which changes its color according to the weather has recently been noticed parked in front of the shipping room. It first appeared with a silver background with a stippled effect showing all colors of the rainbow. Two weeks later it again appeared with a mahogany finish. Speculations are being made as to what next. Investigation disclosed the fact that Herman Chepan of the Machine Shop has been responsible for this advance showing of what a well dressed fiver wears this spring.

ROBERT EUGENE



Robert Eugene Wombacher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ansel Wombacher at the age of five years. The father is a member of Department No. 31.

ENTHUSIASM

It's a wonderful quality. It has put many men over the top. But it is like any other great force—it must be directed intelligently if it is to be made profitable to the brain and body in which it is centered. Much of enthusiasm is like fireworks—it flares and looks good for the moment and then dies out. That kind is of little value to any one. In fact, it is of a character that makes the individual appear foolish. There are many enthusiastic individuals who have made themselves the laughing stock of friends and even of whole communities. Their fault was a lack of intelligent direction of their enthusiasm in order to profit thereby. And the same is true of any human quality. Back of it must be intelligence, energy, activity and a purpose to which it can be applied so as to produce results.

It will pay any one to cultivate this kind of enthusiasm. It's contagious and profitable.



CHRISTMAS NOT ALWAS SAME

It may not be generally known that Christmas has not always been observed on the twenty-fifth of December. There was no celebration of the Nativity until nearly 100 years after the death of Jesus. Since then it has been observed on the 1st and 6th of January, the 29th of March, the 29th of September, the 19th of April and the 20th of May.



Queen Elizabeth was the first English sovereign to use a fork.

It takes 500,000 rosebuds to make one ounce of the oil of roses.

Financial Statement
EMPLOYEES' AID SOCIETY BENEFIT
FUND

January 28—April 5, 1930

Jan. 28, Cash Balance.....		\$ 444.41
Receipts		
From Mueller Co. Feb. March and April.....	\$ 150.00	
Bond matured.....	500.00	
Interest on bonds.....	165.00	
Dues January.....	776.75	
Dues February.....	702.45	\$2,294.20
Total		\$2,738.61
Payments		
Death C. W. Winegard- ner	\$ 150.00	
Flowers	5.00	
Error40	
Benefits listed below.....	1,385.49	
Total		\$1,540.89
April 5, 1930, Cash Bal- ance		\$1,197.72

Resources

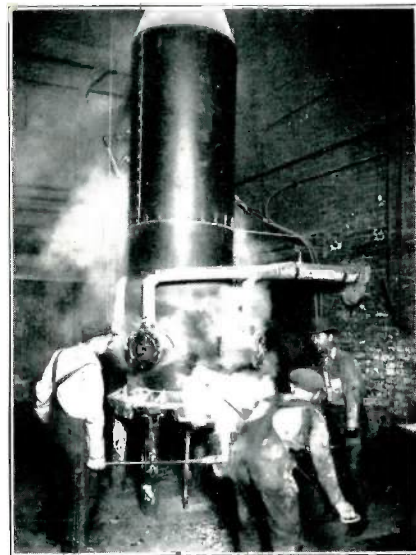
Bonds (par value).....	\$6,200.00
Bldg. & Loan Stock 1-1-30	1,797.55
Emergency Loan Fund.....	1,800.00
Cash	1,197.72
Total	\$10,995.27

E. H. LANGDON, Treas.

BENEFITS PAID

Chas. Hanes \$57.30	John Simpson 5.00
Lee Bloxam 24.00	Ed. Carter 3.50
Wm. Lee 27.40	L. E. Clark 3.50
A. Davey 39.69	Chas. Kuntz 2.50
Wm. Hill 24.00	J. E. Foster 2.50
Chas. E. Dodd 10.50	S. A. Davis 2.50
C. H. Jerden 36.00	Louise White head 4.00
O. M. Green 7.50	Mrs. Clara Moess- ner 2.00
J. J. Marty 70.80	Clarence Roarick 2.50
Melvin Scoles 28.05	L. E. Corn 2.50
W. A. Atkinson 70.40	Robt. Lusk 5.00
Dick Sheeley 62.00	L. B. Ritchie 3.00
Iona Reed 12.00	H. L. Phillips 5.00
W. E. Behrns 5.00	Bruce Sattley 5.00
W. F. Bainter 7.00	J. D. Smith 5.00
Geo. Craig 7.50	Roy Whitaker 5.00
Wm. Wall 6.00	Esther Ham- mers 32.20
Wilbur Allmon 2.50	W. S. Anderson 5.00
John Scoles 6.50	John W. Lines 1.50
A. Schudjaria 5.00	Lee Smith 15.00
Peter Weber 5.50	G. Leipski 6.25
C. A. Brock 3.00	Wm. Berkley 1.00
G. Blankenburg 5.00	H. A. Wilkins 9.00
Alma Virden 20.00	Chas. Meador 3.50
R. Armstrong 2.00	Alva Davis 2.50
Frances Schuer- man 33.00	E. McDaniel 20.00
Van Campbell 31.00	Amos Wrights- man 12.00
C. L. Robb 8.00	F. L. Stevenson 7.50
Gladys Cochran 38.20	Frank Scholes 4.00
E. H. Umphrey 10.50	H. A. Gilbert 22.00
Jas. E. Davis 55.20	
H. Vandervort 5.00	
G. H. Collins 5.00	

FOUNDRY'S NEW CUPOLA



A new piece of equipment, that has been of much interest to the foundrymen, is the new cupola for melting brass. The outfit is mounted in the southwest corner of the foundry. It is much smaller than the cupola for iron.

It will melt 500 pounds of brass every 15 minutes. Special coke is the fuel used and the gas fumes escape thru the stack. This is eliminated one of the drawbacks of foundry work.

E. H. Langdon 2.00	Harlan Him- stead 2.50
Oliver Davis 5.00	Atex Brule 15.00
L. Huddleston 5.00	A. P. Townley 10.00
E. Booker 5.00	John Holling- sead 20.00
Levi Prater 15.00	O. L. Harn 15.00
W. T. Mason 10.00	Geo. A. Hill 3.00
Bert Jackson 27.00	D. H. Washburn 6.00
Ralph Cox 3.00	Louis Weaver 3.00
Guy Rice 3.00	Chas. Tucker 4.00
J. O. Peifer 1.00	John Hantle 57.30
Jack Bohn 10.50	Ralph Cox 2.00
C. Cunningham 2.25	Smith Carder 38.40
C. F. Yonker 1.50	Naomi Daesch- lein 45.00
Lester Wallace 6.00	T. A. Peifer 22.50
Paul Baldwin 2.50	F. D. Powers 12.00
Fred Wyant 3.00	Carl Hill 3.00
W. G. Cranston 2.40	Howard Gragg 10.00
John Faith .60	Edgar Stark 3.00
F. Huddleston 5.00	
Floyd Carr 3.75	
John Reed 5.00	
F. Hornbeck 10.00	
J. W. Howe 10.00	
Lois Quinn 44.20	
	\$1,385.49

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Wolf-Adams

Helen Wolf of the Core Dept., and Roy Adams were married in Decatur, March 8th. They will live at Macon.

PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

Dorothy Hill, stenographer to Ray Salisbury, appeared in a recital April 3rd at the Decatur Musical College. She took part in three ensemble piano numbers.

Al Ridgway, formerly stock-keeper at Plant 3, is now stock-keeper of purchased parts at the Main Plant.

Marshall Hobbs has become a member of that great brotherhood that sits up into the wee sma' hours to try to tune in on Vera Cruz, Porto Rico or some other place in the outlying regions where somebody's attempting to croon a song or make a speech. Hobbs, on the 1930 census, can say, "Yes" to the radio question. And, although the census taker won't put down anything about the merits of this particular radio, Hobbs is prepared to stand up and tell the world that his radio is all right.

Spring must be here. Two of the Dorothys from the Production office were out on roller skates a few days ago. That ought to be an authentic sign.

IN THE INSPECTION DEPT.

Ed Harris, formerly inspector of purchased goods in the Receiving Department, has been transferred to Department 30.

Brugh Werner reports that he has garden in that is doing nicely, thank you. He out-guessed the weather man and got the seeds into the ground before the snowstorm came along. H. E. Slater is another inspector who is an enthusiastic gardener.

Roy Pease and Louie Wyant are recent additions to the Inspection department personnel.

Beulah Jenkins is on a 60-day leave of absence which began March 24th.

During and for a few days after the March 25th snow storm, Roy Pease was forced to move back to town. It just wasn't possible to get out to the suburbs around Harristown.

From the conversation current a week or so ago it looked as though there was a crying need for an insect powder, a centipede eradicator, or something of the sort. Everybody had something to say about BUGS. It seemed that everybody must be in a fair way to go absolutely "buggy". However, the West Side Sherlock Holmes tells us that the Bugs weren't really Bugs, and they didn't crawl or bite. They were Iron gas stops with the letters B. U. G. stamped on them.

TENNIS IS NEXT

Basketball season for the girls is over, and the next thing on the program will be tennis. The girls are anxiously awaiting the time when they can begin practicing, and hope to have some good games this spring. All girls interested in tennis are urged to get into communication with Clara Uhl. The gymnasium is reserved for the girls every Wednesday night.

LETTER FROM JAKE VOELCKER

A copy of the Mueller Record containing the announcement of the death of Chat Winegardner was sent to Jake Voelcker, who was a former employe of our company, but is now located in Indianapolis. The two men were close friends for years and Mr. Voelcker wrote to friends here paying a fine tribute to the memory of Chat and speaking highly of his worth as a citizen and employe. Many of the older Mueller employes remember Mr. Voelcker whose father was also for many years an employe of the company, and a member of the first group of seven men to receive a check for \$500 for 25 years' service.

MATT TROTT TELLS THIS ONE

Billy Ford, manager, and Francis Carroll, assistant manager of the Atlanta branch, are joint owners of a Chinese timkum dog. These are a very rare dog, seldom seen in this country and on account of the peculiar build attract immediate attention. They are very valuable as a house dog as well as for hunting purposes, and Mr. Ford and Mr. Carroll take great pride in showing and talking about the animal.

WALTER TAKES HIS EXERCISE

Walter Auer does not condescend to indulge in such athletic diversions as setting up exercises, basketball and golf. When Walt wants exercise he wants the real thing, such as flattening out a lawn with a big roller. He has just completed such an engagement. He says the roller weighed three hundred pounds. That was its weight when he started, but at the close of the day it was nearer three thousand.

DOLLING UP MAIN OFFICE

Workmen have been engaged for several weeks rearranging the offices on the third floor. Mr. Robert will take the space formerly occupied by the cashier, while the office he vacates is being equipped with a bath. A complete outfit of Mueller vitreous ware and Mueller fittings will be installed. This will not only be a convenience but will be a fine advertisement for our line of goods.

The interior of the office is being entirely redecorated.

Denmark's population increased approximately 21,000 between July 1, 1928, and the corresponding date of 1929.

There are about 400 different varieties of mosquitoes.

People are growing taller. In 1794 the average height of the Gordon Highlanders of Great Britain was only a quarter of an inch over five feet. It's now several inches over that.

The discovery of rubber dates back to the second voyage of Columbus.

The male ostrich incubates the eggs.

Italians never use the number 13 in lotteries.

U. OF I. STUDENTS VISIT US



On March 13th, advance commerce students in the class of Professor A. G. Anderson of the University of Illinois, took the day off, engaged a special bus and came to Decatur to visit the Mueller plant.

The morning was spent at the Pottery and the afternoon at the Main Plant.

These men are especially interested in problems of management and during the noon hour, Gerald Preshaw of the Cost Dept., conducted an informal discussion on standards costs.

After leaving here the students visited the new Wabash Car Shops.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, April 2nd, a party of about fifty students from the Roosevelt Junior High School visited the Main Plant.



A SAFETY LESSON FROM ATLANTA

Matt Trott, who supervised the building of our branch house in Atlanta, Ga., says that southern contractors are taking safety seriously.

As the building was nearing completion, a workman drove up to the job one morning in an old Ford car, bumped it roughly into the curb, and left it there. The Scotch contractor saw this performance, and called the man to him.

"Is that your car?" he asked, pointing to the Ford.

"Sure, why?"

"Do you work on this job?"

"Yes."

"Well," said the contractor, "you don't work here any longer. You can get your time right now. The man who will handle his own car as carelessly as you have, is not the man to handle my equipment. A man that is careless is apt to hurt himself or some one else."

THE LEGION SHOW

Many of our employes attended the Industrial Exposition and Carnival of the American Legion held in the Frede Chevrolet building on East Eldorado street, March 27, 28 and 29th.

There were several surprising things about this local undertaking. One was the wide expanse of floor space in this splendid new building. It's two stories high. The second floor is reached by a ramp—an incline up which autos make the grade under their own power. It's the first improvement of this character in Decatur so far as we know, although it is not a new idea in larger cities. We venture to say that the Frede Company has the finest salesroom and garage in Central Illinois.

The other surprise was the exposition and carnival. Many of the booths would have been a credit to a large national undertaking. And there were hundreds of Decatur citizens who were astonished at the great variety and high class products made in this city. We had a booth showing plumbing goods and vitreous chinaware.

The attendance was enormous, over 5,000 the first night, over 6,000 the second night and on the closing night.

The American Legion expects to make the affair an annual event, and are hopeful of exceeding their recent undertaking. They base their hope on the completion of the new state armory which will lend itself to a better and more effective display.



METAMORPHIS OF MR. CLARK

Judging from the picture of the venerable chemist on the cover of last issue of the Mueller Record, we would say that L. E. Clark has aged remarkably of late.

BEING AN APPRENTICE

Present Day Conditions and Pay Compared to 40 Years Ago

The other day we received from a friend a newspaper clipping which referred to the initial issue of that paper years ago, and called attention to the fact that this writer was a carrier in the second ward. We were more than that, we were "the devil" in that print shop, and it was some job. Read the "menu."

Up at 5 o'clock.

Ten blocks walk to office.

Built fire in 2 cannon stoves.

Swept editorial rooms and printing office—a space of 30x100 feet or more.

Carried day's water supply from livery stable one half block away to second floor of office (two buckets at a time, at least twelve buckets total).

One hour to go home for breakfast.

Fed a Gordon jobber, treading the press.

At 3 o'clock fed the daily edition through newspaper press.

Carried the second ward route.

Returned to office to do certain chores before quitting at 6 o'clock.

In between times ran errands.

And the pay was \$2.00 per week and darn glad to get it.

This little recital is not for personal parade. It's for comparison. The case is not exceptional. Boys in that day worked, and were underpaid. Today the average messenger boy on a bicycle earns four to five times that much per week and growls about his job.

An apprentice learning a good trade averages \$10 to \$20 per week. Some of them have an auto in which to ride to and from work.

Looking back to those \$2.00 per week days one realizes the hardship of old apprenticeship conditions, as compared to conditions of today, when boys deprived of proper schooling are given the opportunity of learning at the expense of employers along with many other privileges; when they work in clean, sanitary, well heated and well lighted buildings. The boy who works today is in a privileged class and is well paid.

Times certainly do change and invariably for the better of humanity.

The working boy of today has much to be thankful for—but nothing more than the fact that he did not have to learn a trade forty years ago.



HURT HIS FOOT

Charles (Chippy) Reeves of the lead department, has been laid up for several days on account of a painful injury to a foot sustained when a chunk of iron fell upon it.

NEW METHOD OF TAXATION

Commission Proposes New Plan With Which Tax Payer Should Study

It would seem that something is going to be done about Illinois methods of taxation. Perhaps there is nothing more necessary than taxation which every good citizen recognizes and at the same time nothing is more unpopular. This is due, not so much to paying a tax, but to the amount of the tax. It makes little difference who the taxpayer may be, he can always find injustice and inequality in the assessment against him.

A movement to reform our methods is now under way. We are not prepared to pass judgment, but are calling attention to it at the beginning of the movement. Every owner of property should make it his duty to follow this movement closely, gain all possible information and determine whether to give it approval or disapproval.

The Illinois Tax Commission has just reported a plan with complete revision of our system of taxation. It is in line with recent suggestions by Governor Emmerson.

It is proposed to do away with the township assessor system and replace this by a county assessor system. Under the propose county system there would be a full time supervisor in charge in each county who would work with the advice of five district supervisors appointed by the tax commission.

Another important suggestion is the proposal that property assessment be placed on an actual basis of full value of 1931.

The state commission asks for broader powers of equalization, which would enable it to raise or lower the class of property or of any taxpayer.

Another proposal is that the tax administration of Illinois be consolidated into a single department, preferably the Tax Commission.

That this Commission have authority to substitute its own appointees for local governments to adjust that rate to changes in valuation resulting from the reassessments. In order that revaluations will not affect the amount of revenue collected, the Tax Commission says:

"That the general property tax in its present form has outlived its usefulness and must be abolished, and to do this there must be a complete revision of the revenue provisions of the constitution. Broad discretion on tax policies should be lodged in the General Assembly."

This report which will probably receive consideration at the hands of the legislature next year involves some very radical changes, and its importance justifies the thorough study by every tax paying citizen.

VISITORS AT PLANT 3



Recently the master plumbers in Decatur and a few others from the factory spent the afternoon with Manager J. R. Mayhew at the Vitreous Plant.

It was the first opportunity that the local Master plumbers had of inspecting this new Mueller industry, and without exception they expressed great pleasure in the trip, which, although they are familiar with vitreous ware, had its educational value. The character of the product being turned out of the plant was paid many fine compliments. Plenty of time was given these gentlemen for a leisurely inspection of all these products, and the visit ended about 5 o'clock when the party repaired to the Mueller lodge, where a fine supper was served and after that there was a smoker and an interchange of pleasantries along with some short speeches.



BETTER TIMES COMING

The country has enjoyed a period of prosperity for five or six years and there is more in sight. This is said regardless of the fact that the past few months have been something of a drag. The opening of spring and the settling of the weather will witness a revival of outdoor work. Millions of dollars in improvements of all kinds have been planned and are merely awaiting the time when they can be put into effect. The best judges of conditions predict that the next two years will be the most prosperous this country has ever known.



THE MARCH SNOW

The snow storm of March 25th was a big one and a surprise after the fine weather of February and for the greater part of March. But it was not a record breaker in weather. Last year we had as big a snow on May 2nd and some twenty years ago we had a March snow storm which made the one just experienced look something like a light frost.

WORKS BOTH WAYS

Sewers and subways engage the greater portion of the tax payers' interest just now. They produce arguments, tirades and threats and perhaps lawsuits. No doubt these improvements will work some hardships, especially the sewer which, because of its length touches many property owners. In order to make a worthwhile city, public improvements must go on. When they stop the growth of the city stops and when a city does that its reputation is damaged. Few persons care to live in a city that is not progressive. All taxation seems a hardship to some. There is no doubt that it will fall heavily on many persons if the sewer goes through. Without discussing the merits or demerits of the case there is one phase of the question which should not be lost sight of and that is a general movement throughout the country to make public and private improvements this year to create work. Nothing will add more to a return of prosperity than employment. Any big public improvement in Decatur this year is going to benefit those who need employment.



MATT TROTT'S FAST

Matt Trott, our peripatetic overseer of branch houses, has done some record traveling of late. He spent a day at Dallas, three days at Los Angeles, three days in San Francisco and was home for three days. Then he left for New York and spent three days there. All this traveling was done in less than three weeks and totaled 5,870 miles.

He reports that there is more building in evidence at Dallas than at other cities visited. On the Pacific coast business is fair and in the East it is becoming active.

Mr. Trott says that we have effective branch houses, good buildings, stock and personnel. We would be pleased to see more news items from them, and especially pictures.

CHAMPAIGN PLUMBERS CALL



The above picture shows a group of Champaign Master Plumbers who visited Decatur about a month ago for a complete inspection of the Mueller properties in Decatur. They were accompanied by P. L. Bean, salesman, who makes that town, and while some of the gentlemen were not strangers to us and had made an inspection of the factory at previous times, they all evinced very great interest in the process of making brass goods and vitreous ware. The above picture was taken by Miss Margaret Marcott, and is excellent considering the weather conditions under which she had to operate, the day being cloudy and snowy, it made photographing a very difficult task. The names of the gentlemen shown in the above picture are:

Front row, left to right: John Aschermann, B. J. Meyers, Heine Wahlfelt.

Middle Row, left to right: C. W. Douglas, City Plumbing Inspector of Champaign; F. M. Clancy, of Walsh & Clancy; R. E. Apperson, R. W. Hanson, R. G. Gundlock, Geo. Rogers, Lloyd Apperson, of Apperson Brothers.

Back row, left to right: A. U. Moran, H. C. Gundlock, E. E. McNabb, Geo. Schweighart, E. Kelley, John H. Miller, Square Deal P. & H. Co.; R. D. Ticknor, Secretary Champaign and Urbana Master Plumbers Association; C. D. Brownell, Reliable Plbg. & Htg. Co.; Geo. A. Zirhut.

HELP CHARLIE

Charlie Riley of Department No. 9 when not at work sells tooth brushes. He handles brushes of excellent quality and at a very reasonable price. Everybody uses a tooth brush—or should. Buy your brushes from Charlie. He will treat you right. His telephone number is 2-5146.

PARTY FOR WOMEN

The second social meeting for the wives of members of the Foremen's Club will be held at the Mueller Lodge, Thursday afternoon, April 17th. All those attending will meet at the Mueller Gym at 2 o'clock, and cars will be provided for transportation to the Lodge at 2:30.

Mrs. Trott is chairman of the committee in charge of the plans, and is arranging different indoor and outdoor games for those who do not care to play cards.

This meeting will be strictly a ladies' meeting, and plans will be formulated for the summer activities. Refreshments will be served.

The first party in this series of social entertainments was held on Feb. 28th.



CHANGES AT NEW YORK

Quite a number of changes have taken place in the New York office. E. P. Graeber, who was a member of the selling force has retired and is succeeded by Frank F. Wells, 96 Oakley Road, Belmont, Mass. Harold A. Probst, who has been assistant office manager, has gone on the road as salesman and his headquarters will be 2606 Sunset Ave., Utica, N. Y. The office manager, Charles J. G. Hass, will hereafter carry the title of Manager, Water Works and Plumbing Sales, and A. A. Rice will succeed to the title of Assistant Manager Gas and Plumbing Sales.



BILL COMING BACK

W. G. Cranston, physical director, has written a card to C. G. Auer, stating he expects to return home about May 1st.

THE CAMERA CLUB



"Pictures Taken at Mueller Lodge" was the subject for March. Prizes were awarded as follows:

First—Marian Richards.

Second—Helen Pope.

Third—Eloyse Dickson.

Subject for April was "Miscellaneous" and for May will be "Children."



MR. ROBERT'S BIRTHDAY

While sojourning in Florida on March 27th, Mr. Robert Mueller had a birthday. Had he been anywhere else he would not have missed it. Birthdays have a somewhat aggravating habit of arriving on schedule regardless of one's location.

The Foremen's Club always sends flowers to firm members on their natal day, but to send flowers to any one in Florida would be about equivalent to sending an ice box to an Esquimaux, so it was decided to wire Mr. Robert congratulations which was done as follows:

"Another birthday for you, Robert, and one upon which we of the Foremen's Club tender you our congratulations and good wishes. Birthdays are jewels giving an increased luster to the good shining forth in a man's life, and bring to him stronger and more enduring friendships and greater appreciation of the qualities of heart and mind which years alone bring to complete fruition. After many years association, we find you today the same thoughtful, considerate and sympathetic friend and fellow worker, and hope that our fine relationship may be permitted to extend over many years to come.
"FOREMEN'S CLUB."



A three-hundred-pound man stood gazing longingly at the enticing display in a haberdasher's window. A friend stopped to inquire if he was thinking of buying the marked-down lavender silk skirt.

"Gosh, no," replied the fat man, wistfully. "The only thing that fits me ready-made is a handkerchief."

—De Laval Monthly.

SEZ WE

Now is the time for all good men—and women—to pore over seed catalogs and picture backyards blooming as the rose. Later in the season will come the time when the weeds grow in abundance, the sun beats down mercilessly, and men—and women—thinks in his heart that is well to leave flowers to the horticulturist, and it's cheaper to buy vegetables at the stores.

We still hold to the old opinion that the Optimist of Optimists is the man who thinks his hand grown tomatoes and daisies will look just like the illustrations on the seed packages.

It has been estimated that there are six families in Decatur who do not own a radio. Add to those inevitable certainties, death and taxes, something else, payments on the radio.

In the Spring, they say, a young man's fancy lightly turns to thought of what the young woman has been thinking about all year.



ROY BAKER FOREMAN

A factory bulletin announces the appointment of Roy Baker as foreman of the Nickel Plating department. Al Wilkin will continue as foreman of the Chromium Plating department.



GOLFERS GET READY

The golfers in the office and factory have gotten out their clubs and are working to get back their swings which have been in cold storage during the winter.



SUNDAY JOB

The display made at the American Legion show furnished a nice Sunday morning job for several employes. It was rather unexpected, but the Frede Company needed the room bright and early Monday morning, and all exhibitors had to get out before that time.

THE LITTLE MONKEY IN THE SHOP



A monkey is an amusing little fellow in his native haunts or in the zoo. In a factory he is just a plain nuisance.

The monkey has the reputation of being the original practical joker. In the jungle one of his playful tricks is bouncing coconuts off his playmate. Maybe man didn't descend from the ape but the fellow who gets his greatest amusement out of horse-play hasn't developed very far from the tree-climbing state.

Boxing, wrestling and similar sports are fine for working off excess pep in the gymnasium or recreation ground but not on stairways or in factory aisles around machines. The way to develop a good throwing arm is to practice with a baseball where there is no danger of breaking windows or heads, not by heaving nuts, bolts, oily waste, and other ammunition at an unsuspecting fellow worker who is trying to keep his mind on the job.

While we're on the subject of jokes and jokers, there is another kind of humor that is out of place at work. If you have a story that's just too good to keep, save it for the lunch hour or the washroom. Don't spring it on a man who is working at a job that needs all his attention, or on a motoring companion who is trying to steer his bus through heavy traffic. Something is liable to happen if he is polite enough to listen attentively and try to work at the same time.

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EASTER EGG HUNT

Plans are being made by the committee in charge for the annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held Easter Sunday, April 20th, at the Lodge.

FORD SUCCEMBS TO STORM

Karl Brimm, press feeder in the printing department, was recently a victim of the unkind pranks played by fate and the Weather Man. Karl had just become the possessor of a Ford Sedan. When it turned cold and the heavy snow fell on Tuesday, March 25th, the Ford became temperamental, as did quite a number of other cars, and refused to budge from its parking place on Cerro Gordo street. Karl, determined to be the master of his car, persuaded the owner of a car that would run, to hitch on and pull in the hopes of starting the laggard. It was pulled around on Monroe street, past the Club House, and there abandoned, when it refused to run on its own power.

Wednesday, when Karl went back to look at his stubborn possession, he found it in a slightly different condition than when he had retired from the scene of his defeat. A large tree, weighted down with the heavy snow, had crashed, and had selected Karl's Ford to break its fall. We imagine the Ford broke the fall, but it was plain to see that the fall had broken the Ford. With the top mashed in, and windows broken, the Ford was somewhat the worse for its encounter. So ended the battle of Karl versus the Ford and the Weather Man.

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OLLIE'S NEW HOBBY

Ollie Springer has fallen! And how! Heretofore, Ollie has proved impervious, indifferent, and nonchalant toward all hobbies, fads, parties, shows, or other diversions which the girls in the office have found interesting and followed with enthusiasm. But at last she has strayed from the straight and narrow. Morning, noon and night, every spare moment, she spends painting pictures. Glass she has purchased by the carload, and paint by the barrels. Her husband says she even eats her breakfast with a paint brush in one hand. And if you ask Ollie how many sheets of letterheads make a pound, and she answers you by asking whether parrots have green or yellow tails, don't get alarmed, she's only thinking of her newly acquired hobby.

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HEINE HERE

W. C. Heinrichs, salesman in the St. Louis territory, was in the city March 31st. He is optimistic on business and finds it gradually improving day by day.

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DAYLIGHT SAVING

Beginning Wednesday, April 16, Plants No. 1 and No. 2 will work under the following schedule:

Factory—6:30 A. M. to 11:30 A. M.; 12:30 P. M. to 4:30 P. M.

Office—7:00 A. M. to 11:30 A. M.; 12:30 P. M. to 4:30 P. M.

Plant No. 3 will continue their present schedule which is as follows:

7:00 A. M. to 12:00 M.; 12:30 P. M. to 4:30 P. M.