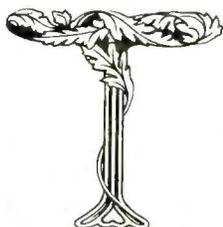


THE
MUELLER RECORD

— *January, 1921* —



THE MUELLER RECORD

VOL. IX.

JANUARY, 1921

NO. 117

The Holiday season just closed was marked with an unusually large number of pleasant events in the factory of the H. Mueller Mfg. Co., at Decatur, Illinois.

The spirit of goodfellowship and the democratic feeling which prevails in this happy industrial family is not confined to an arbitrary season of the year. It is always in evidence throughout the year, but at Christmas time it is emphasized by tangible expressions of good fellowship in the shape of social events and the exchange of gifts.

Among the social events was the party given by the women employes in the Mueller Club House, this being an annual event. It brought together the members of the Company, a few heads of departments, the girls who work in the factory and the girls who work in various offices. This party was held in the Mueller Club House, the preliminary event being a splendid dinner served by the Company's Chef. Carnations were at each guest's place. Singing, dancing and instrumental music was followed by a surprise Christmas tree, beautifully illuminated and decorated. Santa Claus met each girl at the tree and handed out the presents, which were designed to create amusement. After this there were brief talks by Mr. Adolph Mueller, Mr. Robert Mueller, Mr. C. N. Wagenseller and others.

The Children's Annual Party was held in the Y. M. C. A. auditorium on Saturday afternoon, December 18th. There was a great big Christmas tree and a gift for each child. Supervised play took up the greater part of the afternoon. At 5:00 p. m., Santa Claus appeared and distributed gifts from the brilliantly illuminated Christmas tree and after that the children were given a moving picture show. The Christmas party presented a beautiful scene, everybody in the room wearing a gaily colored paper hat of varied shape.

The culminating event of the Holiday season was on Friday, the day before Christmas, when there were numerous exchanges of presents between heads of departments and employes. The firm gave to each employe a large ham or subscriptions to magazines and the employes in connection with the "49" Club gave to the Firm a beautiful large Victrola. For this last event a Christmas scene had been prepared in the Girls' Rest Room and a large per cent of the 900 employes assembled there on Friday noon, December 24th, when the presentation was made. The presentation speech was made by Mr. John Shelton and there were speeches by various members

of the firm and a general exchange of Holiday Greetings. It was a typical Mueller Christmas and illustrated to a very marked degree the democratic feeling which has always prevailed in this big factory. The Victrola is designed for use in the new Mueller lodge, which was built during the past summer at Mueller Heights, south of Decatur. This lodge is located on a hill overlooking the Sangamon river. It is equipped with running water, electric lights, twelve sleeping rooms, kitchen, pantry and a living room of about 30 by 50 feet. It has been beautifully finished and has already been the scene of some happy parties and family reunions for the Mueller families in Decatur. However, it was not designed nor intended for the use of the Mueller family alone. The principal object which the Company had in building it was to make a provision for outings and parties for their employes and it is expected to be in great demand next summer.

To conserve the water supply of Decatur the biggest engineering feat ever attempted in Central Illinois is in progress. It consists of the building of a dam across the Sangamon river which will create a lake from one and a half to two miles wide and seven miles long. When this dam is completed the Mueller lodge will occupy a prominent position on its banks.



MARRIAGES

Mr. Lester Van Crouch of the Core Department and Miss Muriel Brown of the Inspection Department, were married Jan. 2 at the First Christian parsonage by Rev. Henry. They will reside at 905 E. Main St.

Miss Alma Hill of the Core Department resigned on January 18th. She is to be married on January 27th to Mr. Albert Dodwell, a Wabash machinist. The wedding will be at the bride's home. Mr. and Mrs. Dodwell will reside at 1720 E. Decatur St.

Miss Lydia Hendrian of the Drafting Department was married January 20th to Mr. Henry Koshinski, at the St. Johannes church, by Rev. Heyne. Miss Alma Siweck of the Core Department acted as bridesmaid. They will reside at 915 E. Orchard Street. Mr. Koshinski is employed by the Faries Mfg. Co.

Recently the Rotary Club had a "White Elephant Day." Each member was expected to bring from his home some article that had become a "white elephant," but generally acquired something as useless to him.

Mr. Robert Mueller's "white elephant" was a pair of beautiful Scotch plaid bicycle hose which he had worn only once. In the good old bicycle days, Robert provided himself with a fashionable bicycle suit, the climax of which was the pair of hose mentioned. Arrayed in this gorgeous attire he mounted his wheel one day and started for a ride, which ended in a collision with a telephone pole about 40 feet from the starting point. After he had extricated himself from the mass of bent and twisted wires and replaced missing skin with court plaster, he foreswore bicycling forever.

In presenting the hose at the "White Elephant" meeting, he accompanied the gift with the following jingle which he confesses was penned by Mrs. Robert:
To My Brother Rotarian:



WHITE ELEPHANT DAY

'Twas thirty years ago
That Robert bought a bike
His costume must be just so,
Just proper to take a hike.
He mounted to ride away,
And all seemed easy to him,
Until a hitch-post love in sight,
And then did his head swim.
So for nigh on twenty-five years
I've taken care of these precious socks.
It makes me most shed tears,
And tear my once raven locks.
Not at the thought of giving,
For that is a pleasure to me;
But life is hardly worth living
If these speckled socks I can't see.
—Rotarian Robert.



JUST ONE OFFER

"How much to Macon?" asked the untraveled Georgia darkey.
"Three forty," replied the agent.
"Too high; I'd rather walk," and off he started. Soon the train came along and whistled.
"Yo needn't whistle for me," muttered the darkey. "Ah made yo' an offer wunst and yo wouldn't taken it. So yo' go on, train. Ah aint comin' with yo'."



The right words behind a good product, like Mueller's, will sell the goods.

Better a word that lasts, than the last word.

At the present price of Mueller goods there should be no question about getting orders.

Why cry over spilled milk—the cat's got to live.

"PLUG BLACKSMITH'S" LETTER IS COPIED IN MANY PARTS OF WORLD

"I wonder if you knew that one of the richest men in the world was 14 miles north of Norfolk, right here in Pierce? That man is the writer. I am just a common plug blacksmith, but oh, how rich!

"I go to my labors each morning, work until noon, go to dinner, return at 1 p. m. and work until 6 o'clock. I enjoy the greatest of all blessings, good health.

Rokefeller would give all he possesses in money and holdings for my stomach, but he can't have it.

"Each day sees something accomplished and every job I turn out I feel I have done my customer a service worthy of my hire.

"I have a wonderful little wife. She has stuck to me 22 years so I know she must be a dandy to accomplish that.

"I have a little home, a beautiful little daughter, a son grown to maturity and now in life's game for himself.

"Rich? Why, man alive, who can possibly be richer?

"Then, to add to all the above riches, I take my old shotgun in season and ramble through fields, woods and tangle, in search of the elusive cottontail, teal and mallard with my faithful old pointer at 'heel' (now past 11 years old), and he is as happy as I when on the hunt. Then, when I get back, oh, how good everything does taste.

"Then, when night has spread its mantle over this good old universe, I settle down in a good old easy chair, enjoy a smoke, and then roll into bed and never hear a sound until the beautiful break of another day.

"Rich, did you say? Well, I guess. Dollars? Not many. You inquired about RICHES, not material wealth.

"The height of my ambition is to so live that I may have no regrets for having lived, when the time comes for me to shuffle off this mortal coil, and I hope by that time to have accumulated just enough dollars that myself and mine may not be objects of charity.

"This, then, is my ideal of a rich man. If anyone enjoys life more than I do, he is to be envied for his riches. With kindest regards.

Edward J. Meyers."

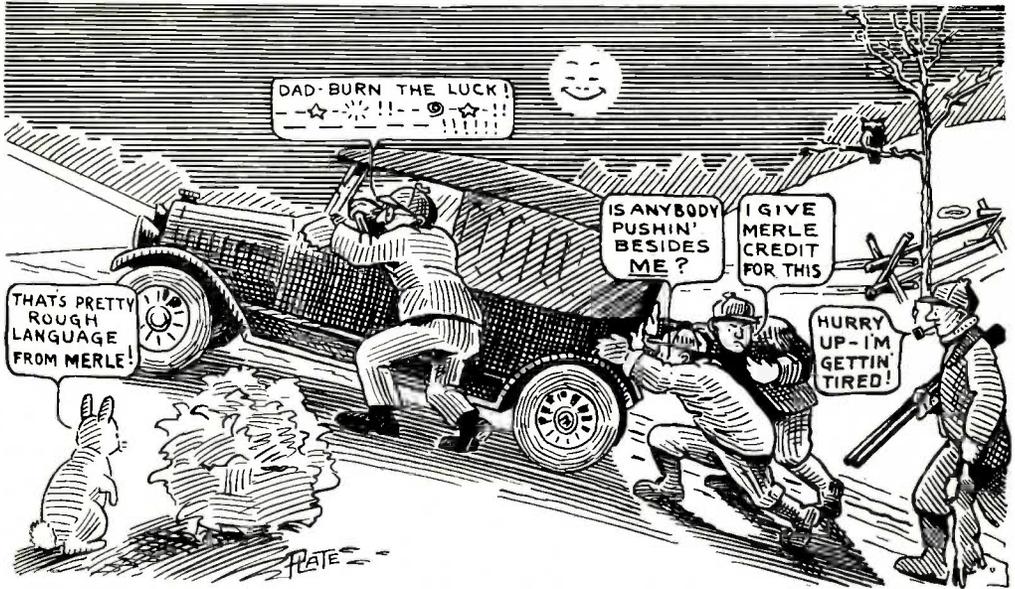


NEW TOOTHACHE CURE

Chas. Auer—"I've got a horrible toothache. What will cure it?"

Draper—"You don't need medicine. I had it the other day but my wife kissed me and so consoled me that the pain passed away. Why don't you try that trick?"

Auer—"Believe I will. Is your wife home now?"



Friday preceding Christmas, Merle Cobb, Billy Simpson, Everett Mueller and E. K. Shaw went on a rabbit hunting expedition. They got back home some time in the early hours Saturday morning, frozen stiff. Blow-outs, engine troubles, etc. It's a long story—why use up words telling it? You tell them, cartoon, you know.

HENRY PLATE QUILTS

With the close of the old year, Henry Plate, head of the Drafting Department, retired from the company's service. He has been succeeded by Chester Hathaway, who has been in the drafting room for many years, with the exception of two or three years.

Henry's voluntary retirement is regretted by his fellow workers, with whom he has always been popular. Readers of the Record will not miss his good natured cartoons which have added humor and interest to the pages of the little paper. He is still our official cartoonist.

Henry has no permanent plans in view. Temporarily he will remain in Decatur and do a general line of art work.



Is there a little "Zoo" in your home—where mother is a dear, baby is a little lamb, brother is a kid, sister a chicken, and father the goat?



DEATHS

Mrs. Lucile Hill, the wife of Owen Hill, of the night shift, died on the evening of January 6th at St. Mary's hospital. Mrs. Hill was buried at Niantic, which had formerly been her home. Mr. and Mrs. Hill have lived in Decatur about a year.

MIGHTY FEW OF THEM

How many of our boys and girls keep up their geography, arithmetic and English, or try to improve their penmanship after leaving school? It's well that they should keep in practice. A continuation of the mental processes which teach them to think and reason is bound to result in profit to them. To those who aspire to better things it is very necessary that they perfect themselves in three studies, namely, the common branches of arithmetic including percentage, English and penmanship. With these as a foundation, augmented by good reading, there is no telling how high one may go in business.



GREETINGS FROM PRES. JETT

Christmas Day the following telegram was received by the Company:

"The Forty Nine Club sends Christmas Greetings to the firm and their families and all employes, and hopes that Nineteen Twenty-One will be our best and that we will all be blessed with prosperity and happiness. Sorry that I can't be there to get my Christmas money from the porch climbers and green table rounders, but hope Oscar can, and gets the grapes.

W. L. Jett, President '49 Club."

NO "CLAWSS" IN AMERICA

Our Working People Are Independent and Respected

The American working man is independent. He is respected and recognized. He associates with "the boss" and is not made to feel that he is in any way inferior. Greater opportunity is presented to him; he has freedom, liberty and an equal political right with the most powerful personage in the country. The working man of today may become the capitalist and employer tomorrow. In spite of all these advantages and opportunities the American working man frequently decries his lot. Let him read the following from the Chicago Daily News, and then study the situation in America as compared with England and he will come to the conclusion that he is reasonably fortunate after all. The News says:

"As a worker in America I enjoy a better chance than does my British "buddy" to make a man of myself, to "get on," to carve out the best possible future. Altogether, I have a greater and better opportunity with all the precious meanings of that wonderful word," writes Whiting Williams, in Collier's.

"The chief difficulty in England appears to lie in that word "class."

"Working class we are, you know," my landlady would say by way of apology for the simplicity of her housekeeping arrangements as she poured the kettle of hot water into the wash tub for my bath in the kitchen after the day of hard, sweaty work at the dusty, grimy "face" of the coal seam there in South Wales.

"I got so I want to throw something at all the workers all over the country every time they fell back on that phrase as a sort of alibi for their lack of ambition and belief in themselves as individuals. But, of course, it is the result of many decades of habit—habit, in turn, caused by many decades of narrow, dangerous margin between the number of jobs and the number of people to fill them.

"Yes, that chap there, 'e's the clerk, (clerk). Look at 'is clothes. Fine, eyen't they? Still 'e gets three bog (shillings) less nor me. Not a bad sort, 'e is. We're fair chummy—'ere in the shop. Hon the street, of course, 'e couldn't speak to the likes o' me."

"And he wasn't complaining about it, either! Even the "bolshies"—and I found many more of them there than here—seem hardly to expect to find themselves greatly elevated after they have hoisted the red flag over the houses of parliament. They appear to take most of their satisfaction in imagining that everybody else will come down to their level, too, so they can then

have an unholy delight in hearing their victims explain: "Working class we are, you know!"



OSCAR IS PLEASED

Acknowledges Gifts from '49 Club and Decatur Employes

Oscar is not with us at Christmas time but we always think of him. The employes and the '49 Club joined this year in giving the Company a handsome new Victrola for the Club House. Of course, this gift was as much for Oscar as any other member of the company, but not being here, he will not get as much enjoyment from the instrument as other members of the company. In view of this fact he was sent a box of nice cigars on the side. Under date of December 29th, he wrote as follows concerning his Christmas gifts:

"I have your letter of December 23rd and note that the salesmen and the Decatur employes combined in securing a Christmas present in the form of a Victrola for the new Club House. This is surely delightful and no doubt I will be pleased to hear said Victrola when I come down to Decatur, which I hope will be more often in the future than it has been in the past. At the same time I feel that the boys have been extremely thoughtful in sending me a box of Sir Godfrey cigars as a side issue, and I surely appreciate same very much. These were received in good order by me yesterday.

With kindest personal regards to the boys and yourself, and wishing you all a Happy, Prosperous and Contented New Year, I remain

Yours very truly,

Oscar."



IF WE ALL WENT ON STRIKE

I wonder what would happen
If we all went on a strike,
And everyone refused to touch
A job he didn't like?

Suppose the cows and chickens quit
And wheat refused to grow,
And corn and clover threw a fit,
And wind just wouldn't blow?

Mankind has such an easy life
He thinks he owns the earth—
If these things would happen he would
learn

How little he is worth!

—Farm Bureau News, Marion.



With the spring season only six weeks distant we should be stocking up orders for Mueller goods.

Many provident persons laid something by for a rainy day but forgot to put anything away for a dry day.

MRS. RILEY'S LETTER

The following letter from Mrs. Charles Riley was received recently. It is typewritten, properly arranged, and is free from any mistakes whatever. In this connection it will be remembered that Mrs. Riley has been blind from birth.

Jan. 4, 1921.

"My Dear Mr. Langdon:

"You will pardon me, I am sure, for taking up your time, writing this letter to you. I feel, however, that you are the best medium through which we may express our appreciation for the Christmas gift given us by the Mueller employes.

Words cannot express our gratitude. The only way we are able to do so is to invite each and every one to visit us and enjoy the music himself. It is a beautiful machine. We have played the records many, many times. The music is sweet but it is many, many more times so when we think of the friends who made it possible for us to enjoy it.

Charley, although unable to carry a tune, is extremely fond of music. Last week, while at home, he did practically nothing but play the victrola. He has been wanting one for some time. We had both decided to get one later on.

Along with the machine was another surprise. Some of our other friends sent us a canary bird in a beautiful white cage. We surely do have music now.

Thanking you one and all again and again and sincerely hoping that you will all pay us a visit at any time, we are,

Sincerely yours,

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riley,"

1111 N. Monroe Street.



THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE

It would seem that there is a big difference between the closed and open shop. This is especially true in cases where the committee in the closed shop arbitrarily fixes the volume of a day's work. In this connection the following item from the Washington Service Bulletin is of interest:

W. C. Leland, of Lincoln Motor Company, Detroit, in a recent address reported that in a closed shop polishing room the union had stipulated that 80 pieces of a given size was a day's work. This work was transferred to an open shop polishing room and the first day the young man to whom the work was assigned turned out 400 pieces of as good or better quality than the 80 pieces made in the closed shop. When asked if he made an unusual effort, his answer was that he worked very comfortably and that with a day or two of practice he could turn out 600 in a day.

BOXING



Boxing has become a popular subject of late. The foundry boys put on bouts every day at noon. There is some lively sparring at times. Blue Lusk acts as referee.

But the fellows who "mix up right" are young Hill of the pattern shop and Julius the messenger. In action they resemble two windmills revolving rapidly in opposite directions.

There is not enough light in the rest room to take pictures there.

In the cut, Colonel Turner and Dale Browning are trying conclusions in Monroe street.



COST OF LIVING UP TO YOU

The cost of living is up to you just as much as anyone else. Whatever your occupation, the cost of living depends in some measure upon your work.

When it comes to the cost of living there are no bosses—no workers—just co-partners.

The quicker we get together with the one common aim of greater production, the quicker prices will fall.

The cost of living will come down as the rate of production goes up.

Plenty of goods means low prices; few goods means high prices. Make more goods! For whatever you do has an influence on production.

Let's get together and work! Don't forget this—we will make more money if we do more work, because prices will come down, and when prices come down your money will buy more, is worth more and you'll have more to save.

You can help cut the cost of living.

THE TRAVELING MAN

The traveling man goes forth in the spring time and fertilizes the earth with unctuous story, and in the autumn he joins in the harvest song, covering his person the while with fine linen and velvet out of his expense money. He knows his rights, and knowing, dares to maintain them. Therefore, he lives on the fat of the land, despising small things, and cultivates the liberal arts, or the art of being liberal, which is much the same. Like the busy bee that bears the pollen from flower to flower, so he bears seed thoughts from man to man, and the world fructifies and is more glad and bountiful for his being in it.

He is ever a pilgrim but never a stranger. He sings in the church, talks politics on the streets and plays cards on the train. He cheers the country merchant, educates the cross-roads politician, and by dropping a dollar among the Peter Pence, throws a ray of light athwart the pathway of the man of God. A homeless wanderer, his grip is no less embarrassed in the check-room than he among the children of men. He is easy and informal in his manner and often engages the attention of waiter girls without the eccentricity of an introduction. Probably he has met them elsewhere on his route, and it makes him feel at his own fireside to hear their gentle voices calling, "roast beef, roast mutton, veal and Irish stew." And if he is a true knight of the grip, he will aptly answer, "Give me Irish, too." So there is a new music on the porcelain cymbals and joy about the board of the wayside inn that day.

But beneath the gay and nonchalant demeanor there is oftimes a serious mien. Some little locket holds the counterfeit of those who have a story, or in his watch-case is a face that is much to him. More than one dependent relative may be a pensioner on his purse, and now and then he takes a flyer in the market just to chance a little Christmas present for the fireside folks at home. He troubles not the world with his own affairs, whether of grief or gladness, but bears to all about him the spirit of romance and knight-errantry of which he is the only representative extant.

He sits at the same board with the farmer and pays twice as much for his meals without a murmur, and has no intention of starting a new political party to right his wrongs. Now and then he drives across the country, and after buying the team or flivver, as the case may be, he generously presents it to his driver. He travels nights and Sundays, spoils a dream of home to catch a train and worse than a soldier, campaigns in wet and dry, hot and cold. He eats oleo for butter, drinks abominable luke-warm coffee without cream, devours eggs

that any hen ought to be ashamed to cackle over, and is regaled with spring chicken that was beheaded in the presence of her mourning grandchildren.

Such, in brief, is his lot, and such the hero of the grip. His vices are known, but his virtues are oft untold. Like the turtle, his voice is heard in the land, and he is soup for many. He goes forth from the ark when the waters subside, to pluck the first green leaf and blaze the way for the children of men. Those who can't see his blaze will do well to follow his smoke.



ROBERT PRITCHETT JETT



Son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Jett
Los Angeles, Calif.

IT'S A HARP HE NEEDS

Billy Simpson—"How did you like those cigars you got for Christmas, Fred? For 200 of those bands you can get a victrola."

Fred Mueller—"If I smoked them all I would not want a victrola; I'd want a harp."



NEW YEAR'S PARTY

On New Year's Eve, No. 30 boys gave a watch night party at the Mueller Club. Although the attendance was not large, everybody had a fine time. The following note of appreciation was received by the Company:

"In behalf of Dept. 30 I wish to extend thanks for the Club Room New Year's Eve for our watch party.

Respectfully,

Mrs. J. M. Wilkins."



HIS SHIPS COME IN

Leary—"Still waiting for your ship to come in, eh?"

Logsdon—"Oh, no, they've all come in. Whole fleets of them. All hardships."

ELLIOTT NEWS SERVICE RENEWED FOR 1921

Everyone will be glad to know that the News Pictures, which appear at the Foundry Entrance, the Employment Office Waiting Room, Mueller Club and the Monroe Street door, will continue to come during 1921.

The interest in these pictures has been gradually increasing since the service was started last January. There are now a number of people in all departments who watch for them regularly.

Photographs of current important happenings are often displayed in the factory before the newspapers and the moving pictures have them. In the course of a year a surprising number of interesting photographs on a wide variety of subjects have appeared. A large collection of these can be seen on the walls of the Mueller Club. Another collection is being started in the Foundry Rest Room.

Get the habit of watching these pictures during 1921.



CHARLES ARMSTRONG ABROAD

C. C. Armstrong of the Brass Shops, represented the minority stock holders in the annual meeting at Port Huron, January 6th. Although Mr. Armstrong has been a stockholder for some time this is the first time that he has visited the plants at Sarnia and Port Huron. He expressed himself as much pleased by what he saw and by the spirit and enterprise of these organizations.

The recreation buildings, one on the beautiful St. Clair river, and the other by the factory entrance at Port Huron, were especially attractive to him. Mr. Armstrong was particularly impressed by the operation of the big machines in the rod and tube mill.



INJURED

Miss Dorothy Daniels of Dept. No. 20 was taking the part of Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, when her dress caught fire and she was painfully burned. She was unable to return to work until about the middle of January.

Mrs. H. C. Deterding, the wife of our new chemist, accidentally upset a tea kettle of hot water Christmas week and her right arm was severely scalded.



If you act like a nut, you can expect someone to take a crack at you.



The chauffeur tells the champion hard luck story. He took the car out for a joy ride one night and ran over the owner.

HUNTING SANTA CLAUS



Christmas week Mrs. Wilbur Simpson noticed that the children were unusually quiet—a sign of impending trouble—but as she was busy she did not investigate. Presently a little colored boy passed the door—then another, and a little colored girl. “Wonder what those children are doing here,” she thought. “Mark, come here,” she called at length. The little colored boy came.

“Call Jean and David at once: “Jean, David”—and the three stood before her. Mrs. Simpson noticed that the dark color which transformed their faces also spread over their clothing.

“Well, Mark, what happened?”

“Jean said that Santa Claus was up the chimney, and me and David went to see if we could find him.”

“We climbed half way up the chimney,” said Mark. “And he wasn’t there, but I believe he can get down all right Christmas Eve.”



POETRY

We get a lot of poetry from our employes for publication in the Record. It’s a well known fact among writers that few persons can write poetry. It’s also well known that every one thinks he can do this.

Whether one can write poetry or only thinks he can, he is proud of his production, which is as it should be. However, when examined critically, these productions do not always possess merit sufficient to justify publication, especially in a paper like the Mueller Record with limited space.

We desire all employes to manifest an interest in and contribute news items, but we would suggest that this be done in prose.

BRASS CHIPS

The Production Control Board has been installed in the machine shop, Dept. 30, with Mr. McDonald in charge.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Blankenship on January 14th.

The tool racks at the Clerk's Desk in the Machine Shop have been enclosed by a wire partition.

A bulletin was posted recently announcing that Walter Robertson had been appointed Truck Dispatcher.

Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7:30 the Mueller Gymnasium Class meets at the City Y. M. C. A. There have been some lively volley ball games of late.

Volley ball has continued to be a popular outdoor sport at noon during December and January.

Wilbur Edwards of Department 30 resigned on December 27, to join the navy.

Robert Harris, formerly of the Foundry Office, but now of the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, dropped in for a brief visit during the holidays. He has been wearing sailor clothes long enough to feel at home in them and wears a shine that would make the sun cast a shadow. Harris is training for the Medical Department as Hospital Assistant for service at sea. He likes the life and the work.

Miss Mary Welman has taken a position as typist in the Upkeep Stock Department.

Miss Grace Cameron has taken a position in the Drafting Department.

Mr. and Mrs. Claypool and Glen left Decatur January 12. They are going on a farm near Findley.

Russell Gordon has returned to work in the Foundry.

Miss Vannie Sheiry succeeds Miss Roche (now Mrs. Wood) as stenographer in the Sales Department.

Charles Sipe of the Mueller Band is at work again in the Shipping Department.

Ralph Ensor and William Williams are band men who are now working in the Polishing Department.

The father of Arthur and Ed Harris died at the home of Arthur, January 14.

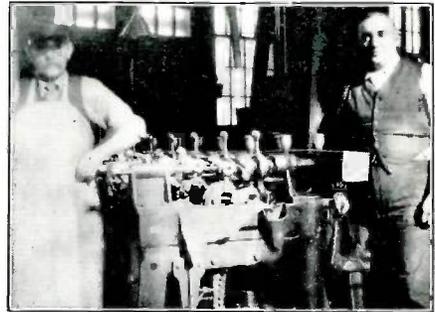
Mrs. Helen Walker of the Mueller Club, who has been ill in St. Louis for some time, writes that she is gradually improving and expects to return to work when she is able.

Mr. Charles Hoffman of the Brass Shop who was laid up with pneumonia last December, suffered with a relapse in January. At last reports he was improving.

Have you read the rule book recently? If you do not have one, drop in the Employment Office and get one.



CORNER OF GROUND KEY DEPARTMENT



At the left stands August Kusch, who was a 20-year man in 1918. At the right is Charles Laughlin, who has charge of the grinding. Mr. Laughlin received his \$500.00 December 23rd at the time the firm received the victrola presented by the employees.

The Ground Key Department has broken all records for production during 1920, and starts the new year ready to pass last year's high marks.



REFORMER, SPARE THAT WEED

Reformer, spare that weed.
 Now you've cut out our booze,
 It satisfies our need—
 Oh, don't give us the blues.
 Pray, let us have one bit
 Of earthly comfort left—
 Oh, don't cut out our smokes
 And render us bereft.

Reformer, spare that weed.
 You call it filth—gee!
 You say it's deadly poison,
 Will make a wreck of me.
 But when my pipe goes good,
 And the fire's leaping high
 On a weary winter's eve,
 If that's death, let me die!
 —Trumbull Cheer.

EMPLOYEES AID SOCIETY

The New Plan for the Aid Society Goes "Over the Top"

Since the new plan of benefits for the Employees Aid Society was opened January 1st, about 300 members have gone into higher classes. A general canvas has not yet been made of the works, and those who expect to enroll in higher classes will do themselves and the officers of the Aid Society a favor by dropping into the Employment Office at noon and signing up for the desired class. This will save interruption of work in the shops.

The new plan is really much simpler than many have thought it was. For example: A man who earns \$24.00 or more a week, may enroll in class D. This will cost him 80 cents a month for dues, and an additional membership fee of 50 cents, which he pays but once. He will then be entitled to \$2.00 per day for time lost by sickness after the first week; or \$2.00 a day for the time lost by accident from the time of injury, Sundays and holidays not counted, and a death benefit of \$100.00. The following table gives the particulars of all classes:

Class	Benefits		Dues	To Join		Death	Wage
	Week	Day	Monthly	New	Old	Benefits	Limit
A	\$ 5.00	\$.83	\$.35	\$.50	\$	\$ 50.00	\$10.00
B	6.00	1.00	.40	.60	.10	60.00	12.00
C	9.00	1.50	.50	.75	.25	75.00	18.00
D	12.00	2.00	.80	1.00	.50	100.00	24.00
E	15.00	2.50	1.00	1.25	.75	125.00	30.00
F	18.00	3.00	1.20	1.50	1.00	150.00	36.00

It has been proposed that a class be inserted between Classes C and D, with benefits of \$1.75 a day, and monthly dues of 70 cents. This would take care of men whose weekly earnings are slightly under \$24.00. Those interested in enrolling in such a class should see one of the representatives of the society, named below:

Harry Miller, foundry; Mrs. Murphy, Core Department; John Shelton, production; Everett Mueller, office; Roy Campbell, Brass Shops; Roy Reid, night shift; Roy Coffman, No. 23; E. H. Langdon, Employment Dept.

If you are considering taking more protection, do so without being urged. It is to your advantage and no one is paid for soliciting you.

Election of Officers

The trustees met on January 12th and the following officers were elected:

President John Shelton; vice-president, Everett Mueller; secretary-treasurer, E. H. Langdon.

The terms for the following trustees expire December 31, 1922:

John Shelton, Everett Mueller.

Terms for Harry Miller and Roy Campbell expire January 31, 1921. Each year two trustees will be elected.

The New Constitution

When the re-organization of the Aid Society is complete in all particulars, the Constitution will be printed and placed in the hands of all the members. Your attention is called to the following regulations in regard to payment of benefits. If you expect to claim benefits from the Aid Society you should notify the Employment Office immediately after disability begins, whether it be sickness or accident. You should keep in touch with this office while away from work. Your foreman, of course, should know why you are absent. The Constitution states: "In order to be eligible for benefits it is necessary to notify the Employment Office within 48 hours after the disability begins. Notification may be made by telephone, or by mail, or by a note sent by another employe, or by messenger. Such notice should give the nature of the disability, name of the attending physician, and the date of the beginning of the disability."

Attention is also called to the following section:

"If a member expects to present a claim for disability and remains outside Decatur for care or treatment during all or part of the term of disability, he must first secure permission from the Superintendent of Relief (Mr. Langdon). If possible, he should call in person at the Employment Office to secure such permission."

Benefits will be paid promptly and cheerfully when it is evident that they are due, but it is up to the member to provide the evidence.

Thoughtfulness, promptness and co-operation will help wonderfully in getting claims through.



JACK'S NEW POSSESSION

Jack DeFrates—"Bert, I never expect to get to heaven."

Bert Kitchen—"Why not, Jack?"

Jack—"Because I own the other place."

Bert—"How's that?"

Jack—"Oh, my wife gave it to me this morning."

JULIUS GETS KISSED

Julius, the messenger, sometimes known as "Wop," has troubles of his own. He got too friendly one day with Walter Robertson, who kissed Julius on both cheeks. Robertson had not shaved for a week or so, and when he was through, Julius had Mr. Bassey do up his cheeks in cotton and tape.

**ROMANTIC**

Margery—"Gee, but Zenda is certainly romantic."

Favette—"I'll say she is! Why, she wants to work in an arsenal just so she'll have arms around her."

**DON'T GET CHESTY**

There are nearly a billion people on earth. You are one of them—1,999,999,999 to 1.

When you feel a little chesty, stop and think of the 1,999,999,999. It's reasonable to assume that out of this herd of humans your absence from earth will not stall anything.

Your family and friends might miss you, but the other 1,999,999,999 will get along very well without you.

**COMMON SENSE BUSINESS TALKS**

These thought-provoking little cards continue to appear regularly every Thursday afternoon. That these cards are valued and kept is conclusively shown by the fact that 500 persons have saved the first 10 or more cards and have requested and secured a handsome album in which the series may be kept.

KNOWS NO BOUNDS

Advertising knows no boundaries. The printed word finds its way to the farthestmost points of the world. In answer to one of our advertisements we received this inquiry from New Zealand:

Studio 24, Evans Bay,
Road Kilburne,
Wellington, New Zealand,
October 11, 1920.

"H. Mueller, Esq.

Dear Sir: Kindly send your portfolio of Modern Homes and Book of Dependable Plumbing. I am very interested about the American home.

Yours very sincerely,
W. W. Corbett, Architect."

**SALESMAN PROMOTED**

F. V. Johnson, who has been selling Mueller Goods in Dakota and the northwest, has been sent to Chicago as special representative for the line of Regulators. We congratulate Mr. Johnson on his promotion.



Bernard Simonds, of the Shipping Dept. is in training to take Mr. Johnson's territory in the northwest.



An iceless cooling machine has been installed in the refrigerator in the club kitchen.

**CHANGES OF ADDRESS**

It is of the utmost importance that salesmen keep the main office fully advised of any change in residential address. When you determine to make a change, notify the office at once, advising when we shall begin using the new address.

Recently we had occasion to wire one of our salesmen, which we did under date of the 8th. On the 12th we received a letter from him, dated the 9th, and advising us that he had changed his address. We should know of any change of this character immediately. If necessary, wire. In most cases, however, the information may be gotten to us in time by letter, if the salesman will give the matter prompt attention. He surely knows several days in advance what he intends to do, and should tell us, being sure to state that after a certain date he should be addressed at the new number.

**IF ONLY WE COULD**

But should some power the giftie gie us
To see ourselves as others see us,
Methinks 'twould so reduce our chests
That some of us could wear our vests
Twice wrapped about and still so slack
That they would button up the back.

A REAL OLD TIMER



Isaac Davis of Dept. 57 is the oldest man on the force. He will be 77 on the 8th of next March. Mr. Davis is able to set the pace for the young fellows on any kind of work in his line, and he can swing a scoop shovel along with the next one.

About Christmas time Mr. Davis decided to quit chewing tobacco and did quit, and within the next month gained about fifteen pounds.

Can you beat it?



CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Each salesman for the company was given a silk umbrella and if married—a handsome box of assorted soap, or if single—a box of cigars. We are in receipt of many letters of acknowledgment, expressing appreciation of the useful and practical gifts.



SINGING

The noonday sing has been renewed at the Mueller Club on Mondays. Singing is led by Mr. Geiger. This hour is open to all departments. Drop in next Monday and participate.



Travel Pictures at Noon.

Once a week on stormy days Mr. Langdon has been showing in the Club Room a series of travel pictures. The Decatur public schools, which have a large collection of slides, have kindly loaned them for exhibition.

The pictures are shown on stormy days when it is too disagreeable to be outside. They are well worth seeing.

DISPOSSESSED

The pitcher had gone wild in the negro ball game, in which a colored preacher was acting as umpire, and had filled the bases.

Three balls had been called on the batter. Realizing his predicament, the pitcher made a masterful effort to save the day.

"Ball four," yelled the umpire. "Batter out."

"How come I'se out,?" asked the enraged batter.

"What else can I do, nigger. Don't you see dar's no place else to put you?"



IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

In the Christmas issue of the Record, Frank Orr of Department 18, advertised for a wife who could earn her own living and who would take in washing if necessary. The following reply was received:

"Dear F. O., 18:

I was interested in your advertisement. I can wash, cook and keep house. I believe that a woman ought to be able to take care of her husband as well as herself, but why marry a man you have to keep?

Affectionately yours,
Armilla Spinster."



IT HAD TO BE A COLD

Gorham—"What's the matter, old chap; you look bad?"

Hawkins—"Feel bad. Got a cold in my head."

Gorham—"Must be a cold. Couldn't be anything else."



MERLE'S COOK

Draper—"I thought you went home for dinner, Merle?"

Merle—"I used to until we got a new cook."

Draper—"Is she colored?"

Merle—"I say she is. She's very green."



KINDLING

The company sells kindling or any scrap wood to employes at \$1.00 for a wagon load. It is mighty good value for the money.

It costs the buyer \$1.00 per load for delivery and this charge is paid to the driver. If you wish to order kindling drop in at the Employment Office at noon, between 12:30 and 1:00. You may pay the \$1.00 in cash or have it deducted from your next pay check.



MARRIED

Miss Nora Roche, for the past two and a half years stenographer in the Sales Department, was married Christmas Day to Mr. Carl Wood. They will reside at 340 S. New Street.

PILING UP BRICK



A pile of brick and an idea will result in a building improvement some day. As one man passes the pile at noon and night he picks up a brick and carries it home. There are 312 working days in a year, which means 624 brick in that time.


BAND HAS A NEW YEAR'S PARTY

The Mueller Band held a watch night party at the Core Dept. Rest Room on Friday, December 31st, for their families and friends.

The early part of the evening was spent in social visiting and at nine o'clock an oyster stew was served. It was of excellent quality and abundant in quantity. Members of the firm had been invited but were unable to be present. They sent the band boys a fine large cake.

After supper regular rehearsal was held until midnight when the New Year was appropriately welcomed.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM PAUL DEVER

"The big dope is I have been around the world, have seen, heard, absorbed and gobbled up enough to last for my great grandchildren. Left Boston Dec. 4, 1919 and arrived here August 1, 1920. What a welcome sound it was to hear the mud hook drop in South Carolina. Stopped in Panama, Honolulu, Manila, Zamboanga (Southern Philippines) Darien, Manchuria, Singapore, India, Colombo, Ceylon, Aden, Arabia, Suez, Port Said, Gibraltar, Southampton, Kiel Canal, Karlshamn Sweden, and Hamburg. I was anxious to know just what this earth contained and although this was a hot, tough old trip, would not give up my knowledge for anything. We Americans don't know how to appreciate plenty. We are the only nation in the world today that is unrestricted in food and speech. Still the radicals beat it hence and whither, preaching beer and Socialism. All they need is a systematic one month's course in European starvation to ease their gnawing appetite for trouble. Swat the fly!

I intend to grab a rattler for San Francisco soon, there intend to go into dry dock for about a month to learn the ways of humanity again. So just address my mail west and everything will be Jake. Had an idea to beat it back to Fairview for the Picnic, then decided not to. Best wishes to all the old timers, and tell them we will meet in 1921."



The new janitor watched Miss Bennett of the Mail Desk. She worked assiduously affixing stamps and chewing spearmint. The janitor carefully deposited a cuspidor at her side. Miss Bennett has not chewed since.



It appears that Gustin will accept the new smoke stack without making the trip of inspection to the top.



Harry, the six year old son of Everett Snyder of Department 9, died on the morning of December 15 of diphtheria. Mr. Snyder is assured of our sympathy in his time of trouble.



James Robertson of the Construction Department, was married December 11 to Mrs. Dora Wall, of Decatur. They will reside at 940 W. Olive.

FINANCIAL REPORT

EMPLOYES AID SOCIETY

Nov 18—Dec. 31, 1920

Balance on hand. Nov. 18.....\$ 814.99

Receipts

December dues\$296.05
 Contribution from Company
 for December 50.00
 Dues from benefit checks..... 3.85 349.90

\$1,164.89

Payments listed below, Balance
 Dec. 31, 1920 305.85

\$ 859.04

Loaned to Company Sept. 4, 1920.... 1,000.00

Total resources\$1,859.04

Dues from benefit checks..... 3.85
 Mrs. Arletta Ade 11.07
 Mildred Nichols 5.00
 Charles Huffman 29.30
 Leda Schaniel 1.42
 Marie Tankersley 1.42
 John Tosh 39.30
 Mrs. Helen Walker 24.65
 R. F. Wooley 18.20
 F. O. Zetterlind 9.65
 Bertha Geibe 10.00
 Burl Milam 5.71
 Walter Screeton 15.00
 J. W. Cooley 14.65
 Lucille Cameron 3.55
 Anna Giles 10.00
 John Howland 20.32
 Ed Klinghomer 2.84
 George Taylor 17.49
 L. M. Bass..... 15.00
 Harlan Hemstead 5.00
 Mrs. Ella Rost 2.13
 Donald Rogers 2.13
 B. F. Curry 23.20
 Fred Kushmerz 2.84
 James Sanderson 2.13
 Walter Morarity 5.00
 Dorothy Daniel 5.00

Total\$ 305.85

Balance on hand Jan. 1.....\$ 680.45

Receipts

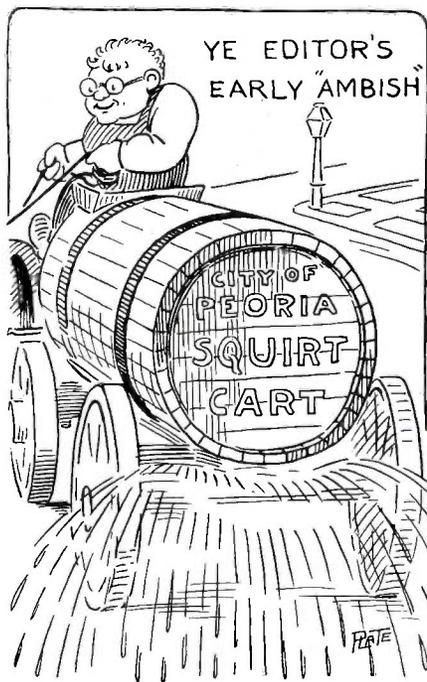
From dues and membership
 fees\$4,199.71
 Sale of apples from O. B.
 Mueller 38.25
 Contributions from H.
 Mueller Mfg. Co., \$50.00
 monthly 600.00
 Dues collected from benefit
 checks 61.40 4,899.36
 Total payments\$5,579.81

Sick and accident benefits
 as per published list...\$3,535.37
 Death benefits 100.00
 Dues deducted from benefit
 checks 61.40
 Expenses and clerical help 24.00
 Loan to H. Mueller Mfg.
 Co. 1,000.00

Total\$4,720.77
 Balance on hand Dec. 31..... 859.04

Resources

Cash in Bank\$ 859.04
 Loan to Company 1,000.00
 Total\$1,859.04



YE EDITOR'S
 EARLY "AMBISH"

EARLY AMBITIONS

While we were having fun with company members, cartooning their early ambitions, Mr. Plate took a few liberties with the Editor and rang in a cartoon on him.

The cartoon is all right as showing an early ambition, but it's long since vanished. Ride a water wagon day in and day out! Nothin' doin'.



FLATE