



The **MUELLER** **RECORD**

January, 1924

THRIFT NUMBER

Keeping accounts is the beginning of thrift.

Keep an account of your personal and family expenses. Quit guessing. Then start to saving systematically.

Save the first dollar of your pay and live on what is left.

Put it in the Mueller Employees' Saving Plan.

You worked for your money. Let some of it work for you.

Your ability to save and to meet your own obligations is evidence of your capacity to carry responsibility in the Company's business.

THE MUELLER RECORD

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EDITORIAL

Some of the hats that have been slung into the ring will find heads entirely too small after the primaries. Voters are very efficacious when it comes to reducing swelling.

The success of self-made men is due their knowledge that they must put in the working parts to get there.

People who are over-sensitive about leaving a meeting while the speaker is spouting will find it simple and convenient to turn off the switch when political speeches are broadcasted. Likewise they can tell the speaker that he is full of prunes without danger of being thrown out.

Nineteen twenty-four is going to be a big year—presidential year and lots of business. We used to think that a presidential year killed business, but business is so big and so important nowadays that it refuses to be disturbed.

Coming elections, of course, could have had nothing to do with reducing income and other taxes—it is just a coincidence.

The criminologist who claims that no new crime has been invented in a thousand years never heard "Yes, We Have No Bananas."

In *Colliers Weekly* of January 10th an article appeared under the title of "But You Can't Grow Wheat by Law." This article was contributed by Rex Large, son of Elmer Large of the Bookkeeping Department. In introducing the article the editor of *Colliers* says:

"We bread eaters will not be helped by fixing the price of wheat. And Mr. Large shows that price fixing won't help our wheat grower either—the only one who can do that, he says, is the wheat man himself."

Rex Large is a Decatur boy and a graduate of the local high school. He did some local newspaper work but aspired to bigger

and more promising fields and migrated to larger cities.

At present he is employed on the *New York Times*.

Sir Isaac Newton, answering a question, said he discovered the law of gravitation by constantly thinking about it. He did not go outdoors and grab it out of the air.

Great achievements have not, as a rule, been the product of what we commonly classify as brilliant men.

They have been slowly thought out and worked out by what we know as plodders.

Lord Kitchener is said to have been one of the dullest boys who ever entered school, and Charles Darwin, the eminent naturalist, whose theories and discoveries still make W. J. Bryan froth at the mouth was so unpromising as a lad that his father prophesied that he would be a disgrace to the family.

A business executive says that he never hires brilliant men. He prefers the average man, or as he is frequently called, the plodder.

This executive says he has seen dozens of these average men achieve success and has seen brilliant men fail.

In many instances brilliant men maintain an outward front, unsupported by an inward ability, and therefore fail under the crucial test. On the other hand, the plodder shows nothing on the surface but has the courage, patience, persistence, and common sense to go through with the problem.

Most of our great men in business today did not spring into prominence through some daring master stroke of brilliant thinking or acting.

On the contrary, they slowly fought their way to the top by laborious plodding through devious paths which finally brought them into the main idea.

Don't be discouraged if you are only a plodder—just keep on plodding.

A motor expert says the six wheel car is coming, but this does not interest the pedestrian, who has little interest after the first two wheels have passed over him.

BOYS' CONFERENCE AT GALESBURG

Kaj Olsen Tells About State Gathering Attended by Him

Kaj L. W. Olson furnished the Record with an extended account of the Tenth Annual Older Boys' Conference of Illinois held at Galesburg, November 30 and December 1 and 2.

The report is interesting but too long for a publication the size of the Record.

Thirty-eight boys went from here by special car, picking up ten boys at Clinton and thirty at Bloomington. Fred Throckmorton of the local Y. M. C. A. was in Galesburg and warmly welcomed the Decatur delegation.

There were numerous meetings but the one which proved of most interest to the visitors was the banquet given in the armory of the Illinois National Guard. There were a lot of good speakers and the boys were full of pep and enthusiasm. The following program was observed:

Welcome from the City of Galesburg—E. W. Mureen, Mayor.

Welcome from Galesburg Churches—Rev. C. E. Bengston.

Welcome from Knox and Lombard Colleges—J. M. Tilden, President of Lombard.

Story of John L. Sullivan—Attorney Robert C. Woolsey.

Welcome from Galesburg Schools—O. O. Young, Principal of Galesburg high school.

Welcome from Y. M. C. A.—A. O. Lindstrum, President.

Response—Stuart Luckey, President of the 1923 Conference.

The banquet program was finished in time for the boys to get to the First Methodist church where addresses were made. "The Relationship Between God and Nature" was emphasized in an address by Dr. Thomas Graham, dean of the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, Oberlin, Ohio, and Dr. John Timothy Stone, pastor of the Fourth Presbyterian church of Chicago. Both speakers made reference to the main subject which was "Life—What Shall I Do with It."

There were numerous song and other services making up the three day program and some very fine addresses were made to the boys including the following:

Life and Christ—Dr. Thomas W. Graham.
Spirit of the Three G's—Getting, Giving, and Guiding—H. W. Gibson.

Life and my Vocation—O. C. Robinson.
Life and The Christian—Dr. Thomas W. Graham.

Matching Mountains—H. W. Gibson.

In conclusion, Kaj's report says:

Sunday morning is not the time for one to sleep. Most of the boys know this and they were all ready to get up in time to attend

church with their hosts and hostesses.

The main address of the meeting held Sunday afternoon, "Matching Mountains," was given by H. W. Gibson. Mr. Gibson considered man's biggest battle lay in defeating his thoughts. Thoughts, according to the author, were the downfall of many men.

The last session of the Conference was held at 7:00 o'clock Sunday evening; following was a short meeting with another song service directed by G. W. Campbell. The closing address of the evening was given by Arthur Rugh of Ohio, and director of Y. M. C. A. activities in China. One of the inspiring moments of a beautiful service at the church Sunday night was the bowing of 1,100 heads in prayer to an older boys' conference meeting in Mt. Vernon, Ill. At the city in the southern part of the state, at the same time, heads were lowered in prayer for the Galesburg delegates.

The Decatur delegates left Galesburg at 9 o'clock Sunday night and arrived in Decatur at 2:30 Monday morning.

The most popular man of the conference was George W. Campbell, director of student activities at the Y. M. C. A. College in Chicago, who led all musical programs of the conference. Cheers for Campbell were given at each meeting, as well as the giving of certain gifts.

FINE YOUNGSTER, THIS



This is Jerald Travis Johnson, aged ten months. He certainly is a happy, good-natured youngster, and his father, Travis Johnson, of the Brass Shop, may be excused for swelling up with pride when he speaks of "my son."



Leisure Hours



MUELLER SOCIAL CLUB ORGANIZED

Those interested in the Saturday evening dances met Wednesday evening, January 23, with Chairman Lusk of the dance committee and completed arrangements for the Saturday night dances.

Mr. Lusk had interviewed the mayor and the city attorney in regard to the matter of a license for our dances. He was told that if the dances are for our employes and their guests limited to one each and admitted either by the employes' badge or a special guest pass, that no license would be necessary. It is understood that this is a purely social club.

These social affairs are open to all employes, but to gain admission they must wear their metal badges. Each employe may invite one guest and one only, and these will be provided with special guest passes, which may be procured at the Employment Office. The reasons for this are well understood.

The committee is planning to have good music and to defray the cost of the orchestra a charge of twenty-five cents per person (fifty cents a couple) will be made at the door. The music will start at 8 o'clock.

Special care will be given to introducing those who attend and to promoting acquaintance. It is hoped that all will take enough initiative to prevent anyone from feeling ill at ease.



XMAS. IN THE NIGHT FOUNDRY

As the last issue of the Record went to press in time to be distributed December 24, we had no opportunity to report the unusual celebration held by the Night and Day Shifts in the Foundry.

Some enterprising foundryman cast a Christmas tree in brass and this was set up in the corner of the molding room. There were appropriate gifts for a number of the men and much originality was displayed in the selections.

Robert Lusk received a stocking full of toys from some lady admirer. There was a twenty-jewel watch for O. T. Brown, a rag doll with a dark complexion was waiting for "Shorty" Klinkhamer; Harry Miller received a fine bunch of fragrant onions from Mollie, and Dave Clements was made happy with a bottle of Old Crow. Other gifts are listed below:

Baldie, a Scripps Booth.

Long Green, a package of Camels.

John Faith, a brass chili bowl.

Henry Deterding, a small crucible and shank.

Paul Luebbers, a horn from Goldie.

Clark Masters, a ten-thousand-dollar violin from Hester.

Blackie, a fine bar of castile soap.

Baby Hawkins, a bell.

Deterding gave all the foundrymen a fine bottle of French perfume—very powerful and penetrating.



FAREWELL TO OLD CLUB

Since 1917 company members and heads of departments closely associated with production, selling and advertising, have met at noonday lunch in a building used for assemblies, etc.

On the day that we met there for the last time prior to moving into our handsome new dining room in the recreation building, business was forgotten, and a farewell ceremony was held. Members of the Noonday Lunch Club joined with the factory employes in their large dining room for these exercises.

C. G. Auer, chairman of the executive committee in charge of the new building, was the song leader. He had paraphrased some old and popular songs to suit the occasion and these were given with great gusto, starting with "Auld Lang Syne."

Short talks were made by Messrs. Adolph and Robert Mueller, W. T. Mason, John Shelton and Bert Jackson.

The latter said that in the many years he had worked here he had never missed a pay day, always had "three squares" a day, always knew that he had a job and always knew that he could get a hearing from the company.

And that was the last of the old club house, which is now being razed to make room for the new brick building to be used for regulators and heat control systems.

In the meantime Mueller employes are comfortable located in their new recreation building, with spotless dining rooms and a fine large hall for play.



PICNICS

The annual picnic of the Mueller Employes at Port Huron and Sarnia will be held July 19. It's quite probable that some of the employes from Decatur will want to attend.

PRIZE WINNERS, 1923

More interest than ever was taken the past year in the Company's Suggestion System. On the morning of December 24 the winners were notified to be on hand at the new Mueller Club at noon when the annual Christmas gifts from the employees to the Company members were presented.

Adolph Mueller then announced that a total of 383 suggestions had been turned in against 93 last year.



Clyde Saylor

The first prize of \$100.00 for a suggestion for increasing production went to Clyde Saylor of the Engineering Department. Mr. Saylor has been with the Company since 1905. He began in the Brass Shop and after considerable experience there was transferred to the Engineering Department.



Roy Campbell

Second prize of \$60.00 went to Roy Campbell, Order Dispatcher in the Brass Shop. Roy has been with the Company since 1909, and has demonstrated his ability to handle an exacting job. Roy also sent in nineteen other suggestions which were accepted. His prizes totaled \$155.00.

Other winners in this class were F. L. Wyant, Albert May, W. F. Dannewitz, and Marion Pippin.



Chas. Dunaway

For reducing overhead, Charles F. Dunaway of Department 57 won the first prize of \$100.00. Charles came from the Okaw bottoms in 1914 and his job is the important one of looking after all the belting in the plant. Charles is an expert on belts and countershafts.



E. A. Waltz

Second prize of \$60 in this group went to E. A. Waltz of the Pattern Department. Mr. Waltz began work in the Brass Shop in 1907 and later found his way to the Pattern Shop where he is an expert

mechanic. Although he is a quiet, unassuming man, he is the proud father of ten children.

Other major prize winners in this group were Mrs. Minnie Hielman, third and fifth prizes; William Padrick and Edward Hantle.

There was but one prize winning safety suggestion turned in and that was sent by J. V. Keck of Department 8, but it drew \$100.00. Mr. Keck has been in the Brass Shop continuously since 1914. He operates the big New Britain semi-automatic machine. Mr. Keck also has a large family of seven children.

The Company pays at least \$5.00 for each suggestion that is accepted. Thirty-four other prize winners received \$5.00 each for a suggestion turned in and accepted.

There will doubtless be more interest in the Suggestion System in 1924 than there was even last year. The prizes offered have been posted in all departments in the factory, and the opportunity is at hand to cash in on your thinking. There are six prizes aggregating \$250.00 in each group, for increasing production, for reducing overhead and for preventing accidents. Do not overlook the opportunity to turn in suggestions for safety and accident prevention.

When the suggestions come in to Mr. Wells, they are registered and turned over to the committee, which does not know the name of the person handing in the suggestion. As it takes a lot of time and work to examine these suggestions as carefully as they do, it will help them in their work if the suggestion is turned in on the form which the clerk in your department will be glad to supply. Let your suggestion be clear, brief and to the point.

Suggestions to be rewarded in 1924 must be received before November 1, otherwise they will be carried over until next year.



New lockers have been ordered for the men's locker room and are now on the way. It is expected they will be installed some time within the next week or ten days.



First Row :—R. C. Whitehead, F. W. Dannewitz, Fred Wyant, James D. Dively.
 Second Row (Seated):—Harry Koontz, Rex Mason, Mrs. Heilman, Teresa Conley, Fairy Hughes, J. V. Keck, Charles Dunaway, Roy Campbell, A. E. Waltz, G. Leipski.
 Third Row (Standing):—C. F. Morenz, Smith Carder, Wm. Disponett, Cecil Foltz, Mike Fleckenstein, H. L. Himstead, S. A. McKaig, Wm. Cantwell, A. A. Warren, L. N. Rohr, A. Spitzer.
 Fourth Row (Standing):—J. T. Smith, Homer Whiteside, B. A. Mason, Wm. Padrick, M. T. Miller, Walter Auer, Ray Salesbury, Albert May, Ed Hantel, Ches Lupton, Marion Pippin.

PORT HURON AND SARNIA

J. H. McCormick Tells of Recent Visit

I received instructions to visit the Port Huron and Sarnia plants on January 17-18 at the time of the stockholders' meetings, and to report to salesmen in regard to the things being accomplished at these plants.

Arriving at Sarnia on the morning of the 17th I commenced a tour of the plant and was very much pleased to run into Mr. Roy Coffman and Mr. William Meehan from the Decatur works.

I remained with these men during the day, and by listening to their conversation with other foremen, was able to add materially to my own observations as to the production efficiency of the plant as compared with Decatur.

Summing up my conclusions on this point, I believe that Sarnia is not far behind Decatur, except in the advantage that Decatur has on account of larger production. This means without a doubt that Sarnia is the most efficient plant of its kind in Canada.

The Sales Department is arranged similar to Decatur. It has three divisional heads which, combined, makes an executive sales committee.

They manufacture most of the staples made at Decatur, besides a number of lines in addition. They do forging and have some good contracts in hand and others in prospect. They are now selling and will soon manufacture, both gas and electric driven water supply outfits for country use. Every

sale of these outfits carries a sale of other plumbing material. The field in Canada for this product is unlimited.

They have the sale of a fine line of enamel ware which carries with it the advantage of assembling and selling complete fixtures. This arrangement will be taken advantage of in an architect's catalogue now in preparation.

They make a flushometer and are successfully making sales.

They are also making a line of hospital Elbow Operated fixtures which they now have orders for and many prospects.

The plant set a mark at the beginning of last year which they proposed to reach but fell short a little, due to the failure of Canada to travel the road to normalcy as fast as anticipated. The 1924 automobile license tags are not yet ready for distribution in Canada.

There is no doubt about their future as they have everything in their favor in the way of efficient production, an ever increasing market, room for expansion, a capable management and a sales organization that has all the elements necessary to succeed. Their policy is like that of a well known automobile driver, who broke all speed records for trans-continental driving. When asked his method, he stated that he picked out the farthest object he could see on the highway ahead, and then drove like h— to reach it.

The 19th was spent in the Port Huron
 (Continued on page 16)



Safety News



SAFETY COUNCIL ORGANIZED

The following men, representing the departments indicated, have been appointed by Superintendent Winegardner to serve on the Safety Council:

Lloyd Flanders—Core Department.
H. C. Sparr—Ground Key.
W. H. Snyder—Night Shift.
Alfred Wilkins—Polishing.
Thomas Hill—Machine Shop.
Charles Dunaway—Construction.
William Muirhead—Foundry.
Harry Glenn—Compression.
Colonel Turner—West Side.
Louis Wallenbrock—Tool Room.

The first six men will serve for six months, the last four for three months. Thus half the council will be new men every six months.

The first meeting of the Safety Council was held January 10, with W. T. Mason presiding and Chat Winegardner present. E. H. Langdon acted as secretary.

Chairman Mason explained that the purpose of the Safety Council is to get information in regard to accidents and safe practice and gradually to take such measures to prevent accidents and to promote safety.

W. S. Enloe then reported in detail on the thirty-one accidents that happened between that date and the first of December. Each case was examined separately. In this

dents by departments in the old club room. They recommend that this same board be placed elsewhere if a place can be found for it.

The Council recommends that the lighting in the Night Brass Shop be improved as a safety measure.

In handling heavy barrels with a truck, the wheel should always be blocked on the side where the man is hold ing the handle. A photograph was taken showing the proper way of doing this.

Subsequent meetings of the Safety Council will be reported in the Mueller Record.



Many accidents are caused by sending the body out to work and the mind out to play.



He who would laugh last must believe in Safety First.



You pay most for Safety when you try to get along without it.



The engine may "die" many times; the driver dies but once.



A locomotive has the right of way and can generally prove it.



SAFETY WEEK IN DECATUR

The Decatur Herald and Review have been giving safety considerable publicity this week, which is being widely observed as Safety Week. The public schools are teaching safety to children and they are carrying the good word home. The Mayor and the City Council, along with the Association of Commerce, the co-operating to push educational work in safety. Automobile owners will be asked by school children to sign a pledge that they will observe motor laws, make a sustained effort to reduce the hazards of traffic.

The industries of the city are forming a community safety council to affiliate with the National Safety Council. They will give intensive study to occupational hazards with a view to removing them.

All who have studied the question of safety agree that the problem lies in getting people to THINK SAFETY. Caution must become a habit instead of carelessness.

All citizens are asked to join in a movement which is increasingly vital to life and well being.



process a good deal of useful information came to light.

The Safety Council approved the large blackboard that for a time showed the acci-

THE JAYWALKER

By Collier



RULES FOR JAYWALKERS

Every morning phone the doctor and the undertaker, giving your itinerary for the day. This will avoid delays in reaching you with the ambulance.

Always carry a card bearing the names of the doctor, the undertaker, your favorite hospital, the beneficiaries of your life insurance policies and those you have remembered in your will.

Don't put off for tomorrow what you can do today. The life of a jaywalker is a gay one but short and uncertain.

Choose the busiest street in the city for jaywalking stunts, preferably at the rush

hours where there are more spectators. The more automobiles the greater the danger. The greater the danger, the more sport you will get out of it.

Don't pay any attention to traffic signals. You won't hurt an automobile if you collide with one.

Wear blinders. If more convenient, bury your head in an umbrella or a newspaper. The effect is the same.

Let the motorist do the worrying. That is one of the privileges of driving a car.

Don't be concerned about your debts; remember, dead men pay no bills.

—National Safety Council.

Duck Hunters Turn Cow Catchers



HUNT DUCKS AND FIND A COW

This is the story told by one of the hunters. Coming down the river from Monticello near the Oakley bridge, Chat, Bill Ferry and John-the-Belt-Man (Charles Dunaway) discovered a cow mired down in the river with her head and shoulders above water.

Chat borrowed a rope which Ferry tied around the cow's neck. Working on the theory that it is much better to lead than drive, Chat took the lead rope and started up the river bank while Ferry and John shooed the cow from the boat. This seemed all right until Chat's feet slipped out from under him and down he went. John swears that when the rope slacked, the cow's head flew back two feet while Ferry states that the head and neck were the only parts of the cow that moved and that about one more pull and that cow would have been a giraffe.

As the cow did not want to go in the direction she was headed it was decided to humor her and go the other way. The lead rope was then thrown to Ferry in the front end of the boat. John, who was in the back end, took hold of a grapevine and pulled the boat while Ferry pulled the rope and

Chat did the shooing. This worked until John let go of the grapevine. The boat shot ahead and landed on the cow's back. Down went the cow. She came up blowing like a whale.

The whole outfit floated down the river about twenty feet when that darned cow decided she wanted to land on the other side of the river, and away they went.

The cow had a bell strapped to her neck and when she landed on the other side she shook herself and rang the bell for a landing.

The fact might be mentioned that Ferry and John were members of a life saving crew for a number of years, Ferry having tended bar in Monticello, while John served his apprenticeship on the Okaw.

The cow was chilled from standing in the water and if she had been shaking dice for a million dollars she could not have shook any harder. Ferry coaxed her up on the Oakley bridge, which is made of iron and when that cow would shake one could have heard that iron bridge rattle for two miles; that is, if the bridge had been shaking as hard as the cow was.

Note: This story differs from the average as the greater part of it is "cow."



Thrift Thoughts



PERSONAL EXPENSE ACCOUNTS

(By Adolph Mueller)

I have been requested to give a few facts for readers of the Mueller Record concerning my personal cash book.

My system is very simple. Since I was 17 or 18 years of age I have kept a cash book account, indicating source of receipts and amount thereof, expenditures and accounts to which charged.

Perhaps I am not as accurate as formerly, but I do maintain an accurate account of all my receipts, and still post my principal expenditures, such as light, gas, telephone, interest, life insurance, charity, clubs, etc.

Also, I itemize all expense charges against any property I may own.

Reference to my books any year shows me just what I spent for any item for any month. This is interesting because it enables me to check myself on expense. It also points the way to reduction of expenses if necessary and is an aid to any one saving systematically.

To save money one must firmly decide to do so; then decide that nothing short of unavoidable misfortune can deter you from doing this; then make this saving the first thing you do upon receiving your wages; then get along on what is left.

This will mean sacrifices; but you must make sacrifices to save.

Before reaching 21 I began saving money by buying property and making payments on some lots. It required two-thirds of my monthly earnings to meet these payments. I never missed a payment. In fact at times I was able to meet payments before they were due.

Punctuality in saving is all important. In the first place it becomes a habit, which extends into other activities; in the second place it establishes confidence in you and improves your credit.

Investment in lots so located as to give an increase in value is good but really the best investment is in securities which will not decline in value and pay a fair interest.

In looking for security investments too many people pick those promising large dividends or large interest returns. Remember that this class of investments are always more hazardous.

Any investment greatly exceeding the normal rate of interest should be subjected to careful scrutiny and rigid investigation.

Pick something paying smaller returns but of unquestioned soundness.

PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNTS

(By E. H. Langdon)

Because I have kept accounts of my income and expenditures since 1902, and because I believe so thoroughly in the value of such accounts, I am taking this means to tell my experience.

There are many advantages in having the figures about your own finances instead of guessing at them. People who think that they can remember just how they spend all their money are mistaken. I have found this out when I have allowed my expense account to slip for a week or two and then later tried to make it up from memory.

I have found these accounts useful in determining whether I could or could not afford a new overcoat, or a trip to Colorado, or a course in the Alexander Hamilton Institute, or a Ford car. These records are also of value in checking up the cost of living from year to year. Several times I have had occasion to sell furniture, and various other items, and the record of the cost of these things was very helpful in setting prices for which I would sell them.

Before any one is in a position to begin to save systematically, he should have the facts in regard to his own finances. The only way he can do this is to have some method of account keeping. This does not mean that he need be a trained bookkeeper. Any one who can write and add figures will find that it pays very well indeed to spend a little time in keeping a record of income and expenses. The time it takes is no objection. The difficulty is in forming the habit, but when the habit is once established, the interest in the results more than compensates for the time and effort.

Personal Accounts

For the single man I would suggest that he keep his expenses under the following headings; Board (including all spent for food).

Room rent.

Clothing (including washing).

Amusements.

Tobacco.

Social life.

Advancement (including books, postage, home study).

Health.

Gifts (including church and charity).

Savings (including life insurance and investments).

Incidentals (should be kept in details).

One can buy for a few cents a small ruled cash book and enter his income on one page and his expenses on the one facing it and several following, and then post the various items to a ledger with the headings listed above. Or he can follow a simpler plan and get a book with a somewhat wider page and rule columns with these headings. At the end of the year these columns should be totaled up and compared with the total income and the balance on hand. It would be well to check up these accounts every month. On paper this sounds like a good deal of work but in reality is a very simple matter.

Bank Accounts

It is a great convenience to have a checking account in a local bank. This makes it unnecessary to carry any amount of money with you. The checks you give are cashed at the bank and returned to you, signed by the persons to whom you gave them. These checks are excellent receipts. Furthermore, it is to one's advantage to be known at a bank. The confidence of a banker is an excellent thing to have and can be built up by little attention. Care should be taken never to overdraw a bank account, as this is sure to bring undesired attention to you. Keep a register of checks drawn and deposits made and balance on hand.

Bankers, more than others, are interested in thrift and are well placed to give good advice on financial matters, which they are always glad to do without charging for it. If more people consulted their bankers before making investments, there would be fewer losses from "wild cat" speculations.

Family Accounts

When a man marries he has two reasons instead of one of keeping an account of his finances. I have found that it costs more than twice as much for two people to live together than for two people to live alone. There is always something to buy for the house that one living alone would not need.

Family accounting is similar to personal accounting except that there are more claims upon the income. The following headings are suggested for family accounting:

- Rent or payments on a home.
- Food with sub-divisions for groceries, meat, dairy, fruit.
- Fuel and light.
- Telephone.
- Furniture and furnishings.
- Clothes (account for each member of the family).
- Advancement (including books, school expenses of children).
- Health (doctor, dentist and drugs).
- Social (clubs, lodges, etc.)
- Giving (church and charity).
- Amusements.
- Transportation (street car and automobile trips).

Savings (insurance and investments).

Other items in detail.

It may be that keeping household accounts will be an easier matter for most men than keeping personal accounts, because the wife will see that it is done. Marriage is a partnership in finance as well as in life and all the financial facts in a household should be known to the wife as well as to the husband. The bank account should be subject to the signature of either member of the partnership and all checks should be registered and the balance remaining in the bank should be shown at all times.

Entries for expenses should be made as soon after the money is spent as possible. Accounts that are allowed to get behind are of far less value than those kept up to date. If a family will keep accounts for five years on a plan like this, much interesting and useful information will be disclosed. Buying is bound to be more carefully done. It will be possible to shift more and more items over into the savings column.

With this information at hand, it is possible to save definitely for a home or productive investments for the care and education of children and for many other objects.

All the advantages that accrue to a large corporation in its accounting are to be had by the individual or the family that keeps a record of income and expense. As I said before, it is not the work of doing it, but getting the habit started that will bring results. This difficulty, however, is more imaginary than real and my advice is to start at once to keep your personal or family accounts.



A GREAT AMERICAN

Two hundred and eighteen years ago on January 17, Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston. There were seventeen children in his father's family and Ben was number thirteen and the youngest of the boys. His father was a capable and intelligent American who gave much thought and attention to helping his boys find the right work in life.

For a time he meant to make a minister of Ben because he could read easily, but this did not appeal to the young man nor did his father's business as a candle maker.

Although Franklin spent only one year in school, he says that he cannot remember the time when he could not read. He borrowed books as he could and read them. Reading matter in those days was scarce and expensive.

Ben's father apprenticed him at the age of twelve to an older brother, James, who had a printing shop. He easily learned to set type and operate a press and wrote occasional items for his brother's paper and

slipped them under the door at night so no one would know who the author was. James seemed a bit jealous of the gifted Ben and sometimes beat him, but otherwise treated him quite well.

At length, at the age of seventeen, young Franklin got tired of his brother's ill temper and ran away to New York, but was unable to find a job there and went on to Philadelphia, where he got work as a printer. This city was his home for the rest of his life.

On the morning of his arrival in Philadelphia he bought three loaves of bread and went down the street with one under either arm and eating the third. A young lady standing in a door smiled at his green country boy who afterwards became her husband and one of the great figures in American history.

Franklin wrote for his son some account of his early life, which he called his "autobiography." It is one of the classics that our children are now required to read in school. It is an honest and interesting account of the experiences of a versatile and capable man in a new and undeveloped country. At that time Boston, New York and Philadelphia were small towns. There were no book stores, and poor printing shops, and very few newspapers.

Franklin worked at his trade as a printer in England for a time, but returned to Philadelphia and went in business there. Here he published "Poor Richard's Almanac," whose homely and practical philosophy made Franklin's name synonymous with thrift, and gave him a place in literature.

In the course of his long life (he died at the age of 84) he had a part in many interesting and important events. He invented the modern stove, organized the colonial postal system, established the American Philosophical Society, started the Philadelphia Library, founded a high school, which finally became the University of Pennsylvania, proved by his experiments with a kite that lightning is electricity, went to Europe several times to negotiate important treaties, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was American ambassador to France during the Revolutionary war, and helped draw up the Constitution of the United States.

Many of the people that Franklin met were poor because they did not take care of the money they earned and spent unwisely. This so impressed him that he undertook to impress upon the American people of this time the necessity of thrift. He did this so effectively that his birthday is celebrated throughout the country in a National Thrift Campaign.

While Franklin did not fit in with the narrow sectarianism of his day, and was ac-

counted by some as an unbeliever, he was at heart a religious man and had a firm faith in the goodness of God.

His was a life of varied usefulness. Many of his inventions have been of permanent value to mankind. He is the "patron saint" of printers. Moreover, he was a bookseller, publisher, author, editor, cartoonist, engraver, printing ink maker, typemaker, and he improved the printing press.

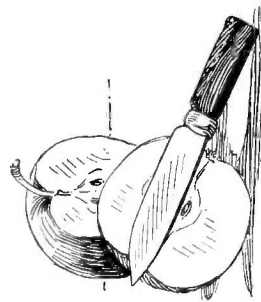
He was great in several other lines; science, philosophy, diplomacy and statesmanship. Five universities conferred honorary degrees upon him.

Franklin made his way up from poverty and obscurity to usefulness and fame by the solid value of his services, not only to his own time, but to a long future.

He was one of the ablest of that group of fine men who laid the foundations of our government. Such men have made America the great land of opportunity that it is.



AN APPLE A DAY



It's not our business to bust into private affairs, but upon reading last month of a certain young lady who required the attention of a doctor each day, we are constrained to advise "that an apple a day keeps the doctor away."



PROTECT THE BOY WHO THINKS HE IS A MAN

When a boy reaches the age of 16 or 17 he begins to feel that he is a man and wants to take a man's job with a man's pay to prove it. Many such lads are always seeking jobs. Some of them are earnest workers for a time, but they have not the strength and endurance of mature men.

The friends of such boys often use their influence to get them jobs and if the boy is placed on heavy work his effort may lead to back strain, rupture, or some other accidental injury. Do not recommend boys for work that is too heavy for them.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

Night Foundry

Paul Luebbers, clerk of this department, assures us that we will hear from the Night Foundry bunch.

Harry Miller has two clog dances and a fine singer. He is thinking of joining a vaudeville circuit.

We are sure we have one good auto mechanic. "Fat" Hoyer explained to the boys that gas in the carburetor was the cause of trouble in getting started on cold mornings.

Will someone kindly inform Clarence Byers concerning the proper season to dig parsnips. He does not want his crop frost bitten.

"Shorty" Klinghamer wears a happy and durable smile. Why? His prospective father-in-law, L. E. Hunt, works in the Foundry and they are great pals. At any rate, Mr. Hunt knows how "Shorty" spends his evenings.

It is reported that Dick Wilson laid in a new supply of a dozen rolling pins.

"Fat" Hoyer told Harry Miller the other evening how his father used to catch wild ducks on the river. Hoyer the elder would put a guard over his head, dive under the ducks and seize them by the legs. This item is published for the benefit of some of our other duck hunters.

The night that it was 18 below zero George Hawkins bet "Shorty" Klinghamer that he would get an early start for home in the morning. At four o'clock that afternoon George was still trying to start his flivver.

Department 30

Art Metzger came to work the other morning a half hour late and brought his alarm clock to show the reason why.

It is reported that Robert Tauber is going to night school and is studying to be a boilermaker's son-in-law.

Ernest Butts has a bad cold, a good cook, a soft job and a hard time.

Albert May has taken up radio.

Department 18

"Scrubby" Furry of Department 18 has been on the job every day this year—that is, so far. Friends interested in "Scrubby's" good intentions are assisting him in refraining from chewing tobacco. Perhaps they prefer to chew their own tobacco themselves.

Fred Frees has sent a number of his friends glowing post-cards telling of the glories of California. It seems to effect them all that way.

Night Shift

Harold Mansfield and Opal Fister of Argenta were married in Decatur on Christmas Day.

Slim Williams now has a better excuse

Mac and His Car



This is John McCutcheon, not the cartoonist on the Chicago Tribune, but the driver of the Dodge truck. If the Tribune "Mac" gets any more fun from drawing funny pictures than "Dodge Mac" gets out of "his car," he's got to draw some funny ones.

for being late. Red Reynolds informs us that Slim has acquired an "as is" Ford.

Archie Sefton needs more practice before he is an accomplished cigarette smoker. When he tried one up town the other day it made him so dizzy that his condition attracted the attention of a police officer. Archie had to do some pretty convincing explaining before he was allowed to go home. Several of the boys are wondering where Archie gets his smokes.

Chester Morville has resolved to be thrifty in 1924. He is going to give up chewing Horseshoe Plug and try snuff instead. He has to furnish his own tobacco, for no one else in the department chews Horseshoe.

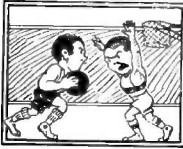
Our Night Shift quartette, composed of Wayne Moore, Frank Shade, Oscar Taylor and John Anderson, needs four good singers. Joe Dial will be pleased to receive applications from young men of talent.

Core Department

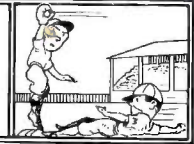
Lloyd Flanders has discovered that the country around Clinton is not covered with "No Hunting" signs. It is expected that there will be a general move of sportsmen to that region.

Wilmer Bailey thinks so much of a work apron that was a New Year's gift to him that he went back to get it and was late the first morning of the year.

(Continued on page 22)



Athletics



GAMES AND CONTESTS

Chairman Walter Behrns and his committee, consisting of Marshall Hobbs, Ed Stille, Clifford Gillibrand and Fairy Hughes, announce that as soon as the new gymnasium in the new club is ready, the games and contests will start.

At this writing the guards for the sprinkler heads and lights have not all been placed and a few finishing touches remain to be done. Then schedules for volley ball, indoor baseball and basketball will be announced. A number of teams have been made up and are all ready to go. The gymnasium has been reserved for Monday and Thursday evenings, and special challenge matches may be scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

It is the plan that everyone who wishes to play may have a chance. If your department has a team, line up with it. If your department is too small to have a team speak to one of the members of the committee and he will arrange to place you on another team.



THE WEST END CLUB

At a meeting held Tuesday noon, January 29, the West End Club was organized and is ready for business.

Roy Coffman is manager; Austin Parr, assistant manager; C. Turner, C. C. Morris, social events; L. B. McKinney and Clara Gilbert, publicity; Ralph Adams, captain indoor baseball; Grover Meadows, captain volley-ball; V. Ellegood, captain basketball; C. C. Morris, yell leader.

Manager Roy Coffman advances his chest about two feet and says, "Come on, boys."



The Weepy Part—Professor (ex plaining the results obtained from the inflection of the voice)—"Did I ever tell you the story of the actor who could read a menu so as to make his audience weep?"

Student (strangely moved): "He must have read the prices."



The man at the corner table in the restaurant had been waiting a long time for the fulfillment of his order. Finally the waiter approached and said, "Your fish will be coming in a minute or two now, sir." The man looked interested, and said, "Tell me, what bait are you using?"

PLAYERS LIMBERING UP

Last Thursday was the second open night at the new Gymnasium and there were more out than the floor space could accommodate.

Roy Coffman's Westside Huskies had challenged the Machine Shop boys to a game of indoor baseball. A five inning game was played with some good individual work, but the game was evidently new to many of the players and was useful as practice. The final score was 10 to 6 in favor of Jerry Edward's Machinists. By the time the season is well under way these boys will be able to put up a good exhibition game.

After the ball game the floor was cleared for volley-ball with twelve players on a side. There was lots of new material on the floor and when there has been time to organize various teams there will be some good volley-ball games.



GYM NOTES

We had looked forward to a newsy athletic page this month but the reporters failed to send in any news.

The work of getting under way naturally moves a little slowly.

The "gym" was opened on Monday night January 21, and while there was considerable practice, scheduled contests did not show up. However, various clubs are being organized and in another month some exciting contests are anticipated.

Physical Director Cranston is a busy man these days, buzzing around like a bee in a clover field.

A supply of medicine balls and dumbbells have been received.



"Father," said vivacious Vivian, as she lay in the hammock on the beach hotel piazza, "this place seems just like home."

"Yes, it's the dearest spot on earth," promptly replied her father, putting away his fountain pen after writing a check for that week's board bill.

A Rabbit Dinner



The December meeting of the Foreman's Club was a social session. The dinner was served in the old club house, and the principal feature was young rabbit. Charles Cochran brought in the bunnies. He is shown in the picture with the game and by his side is his little daughter. After the dinner the foremen and their wives inspected the new club house

(Continued from page 7)

plant. I know of nothing that I can compare this plant with, except appearances now and at the time we all visited it in 1920. There has been a remarkable growth which is in evidence in all departments. This company also set a mark last year which they proposed to reach and which they exceeded. Their prospects for the coming year, considering business now booked and in sight, points to a great gain over 1923.

Signs of crowding is in evidence and new buildings are under construction to take care of it.

We may think that we know Mueller products, but we don't. The most of us are in contact with material from this plant every day and do not know it. Automobile parts made here may be found wherever automobiles are used.

The inspection in this plant is so complete that it seems impossible for a defective piece of material to get very far before being detected. Everyone appears to be an inspector. To a novice it looks as if somebody had lost some small valuable article and that everyone was looking for it. They are making some wonderful dies for forgings and when the subject of competition is considered it may be as difficult to duplicate Mueller "dies." I feel too small to attempt to make any comments on this organization of experts and can only wonder how it was pos-

sible to bring them together in a business that was practically new in many respects.

In general, the welfare of these companies is not overlooked in any particular. Their work extends in many directions for the betterment of the organization and the uplift of the community. I believe a little more appreciation may be found among the employees for the work done in their behalf than at Decatur. This may be explained by the fact that value can only be properly judged by comparison. Many people have always worked for the Decatur plant and can only judge the treatment received by certain self-conceived ideals. While Port Huron and Sarnia organizations being comparatively new, most of the employees have worked for others, and know the difference by comparison.

Their sales organizations may be a shade more aggressive and determined than we are. I consider that this is due to our being inclined to depend too much on our established reputation. This no doubt is a great asset, but is largely counter-balanced by the administrative turn-over in utility companies due to political changes.

There is one big dominant feature very noticeable on both sides of the river and that is the great love and respect held for Mr. Oscar B. Mueller. Everyone seems to realize the vision and initiative necessary on his part to bring about present conditions and under it all maintain that democratic personality that makes everybody feel he is their friend.

Furthermore, this feeling does not confine itself to employees, but I gathered from public officials whom I heard, that by his example and personal interest in civic affairs, a dormant community has been awakened to its opportunities. And well may they say in time to come the words written by Edmund Vance Cooke for the people of Cleveland to the memory of Tom L. Johnson,

"He found us groping,
Leaderless and blind.
He left us a city
With a civic mind.

He found us striving
Each his selfish part.
He left us a city
With a civic heart.

And ever with his eye
Set on a goal,
The vision of a city
With a soul."

J. H. McCormick

Isn't She a Cute Little Thing

Norma Elene is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Beavers. The parents and all their friends says "she is just too cute." Who can dispute it? Cliff works in the Assembly Department.



EMPLOYEES' INVESTMENT PLAN

At noon on January 2 a large crowd was waiting at the Employment Department door to open accounts in the Company's new savings plan. Another crowd was waiting the next day.

Installment days—Wednesday and Thursday—find many making their regular payments. One hundred fifty-seven accounts were opened in the first three weeks, and but one was closed. The average payment is about \$3.00 a week.

People from all the shops and offices participated. Many would have come into the plan, but they joined Christmas Savings Clubs early in December. Others have expressed their intention of starting an account soon.

There are still many young men who are missing this excellent opportunity to acquire the habit of saving, and the habit itself is of great value.

For the sake of those who have come to work here recently, we give once more an outline of the plan.

The investments offered are classed as follows:

Class A, 50 cents a week amounts to \$25.00 in a year (limited to those who draw \$15.00 or less a week).

Class B, \$1.00 a week, amounts to \$50.00 in a year.

Class C, 1.50 a week, amounts to \$75.00 in a year.

Class D, \$2.00 a week, amounts to \$100.00 in a year.

Class E, \$2.50 a week, amounts to \$125.00 in a year.

Class F, \$3.00 a week, amounts to \$150.00 in a year.

Class G, \$4.00 a week, amounts to \$200.00 in a year.

Class H, \$5.00 a week, amounts to \$250.00 in a year.

The investor, who must be one of our employees, selects the amount in the class in which he will save. He has 52 weeks to pay the 50 installments. When all are paid he will be allowed 7% on his average in-

vestment for the year. The company does not agree to carry this account over into the second year. At the end of the year the employee withdraws the amount and invests it in some good bank or other security, but he can begin over with the company for another year's saving. In other words the account with the Company is terminated at the end of each year, but a new account for the succeeding year may be commenced.

Installments are to be paid each week in cash at the Employment Office at noons on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The office will be open at 12:30. A book of account will be issued and entries made and signed at time installments are paid.

It is expected that one will see his investment through when he decides to go into the plan. But in case any investor must have his money it may be withdrawn at any time on application to the Personnel Supervisor. In case of withdrawal 3% will be allowed for the actual time and amount.

Accounts may be opened at any time to mature one year later. Do not delay. Make the start now.



SUGGESTIONS

Those Who Make Them Expecting to Win Prize Must Use Regular Form

We find that many employees when writing suggestions do not use our suggestion forms. They use all sizes of paper from note size to legal size. This makes it difficult for us to handle the suggestions properly and we are asking you to see that a supply of suggestion forms is kept in your department and that the employees know where to get them.

You can obtain an additional supply of these suggestion forms any time from E. H. Langdon at the Employment Department.



Lester Carr has been admiring the success of Felix Hodges and the glucose barrel that Ed Blank fears that he may dive in head foremost.

On the Opening Night



The new Mueller Club House was dedicated on the evening of December 20th, the exercises being held in the gymnasium. The photograph shows the large attendance and the interest which employees take in this latest addition for their recreation and welfare.

NEW CAFETERIA OPENED

The cafeteria opened with a rush at noon, Jan. 28. The service was carefully organized and the crowd was handled very quickly considering the fact that it was new to everybody.

This makes several changes in the lunch arrangements. All eating is to be done in the dining room and lunches will no longer be taken to the women's rest rooms.

Soup has been reduced to 7 cents a bowl. Coffee is no longer free, but is served with sugar and cream at 3 cents.

A fine plate lunch consisting of meat, vegetables, bread and butter, coffee and dessert costs only 25 cents.

Lunches from home may be eaten in the dining room. This may be supplemented with coffee and soup if desired.

On the opening day 178 meals were served and there were between 350 and 400 people eating their lunch in the new building.

Judging from the interest manifested at the initial meal, the cafeteria plan is going to prove very popular.

Everything about the dining room is spotlessly clean; the food is of the best and very appetizing. Our eating arrangements are now better than they ever have been.

YOUR COPY

Would you like to have a copy of the Constitution of the United States? We thought so. The Company has arranged with the Decatur Herald Information Bureau at Washington, Frederick J. Haskin, Director, to mail from his office copies of the Constitution to our employees. A list will be made out to allow one to each family.

This great document is worth careful study and is not such difficult reading as some imagine.



A WORD TO NEW EMPLOYEES

Read your booklet of "Information and Rules."

If you must be absent, be sure to report it to your foreman. In telephoning call Main 160.

If you move report new address to Employment Department.

If absent on account of sickness or accident, and you expect to get benefits from the Employees' Aid Society, be sure to notify Mr. Langdon promptly. The Society's By-Laws require members to report when disabled.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Of the Employees' Aid Society, Nov, 27, 1923
to Jan. 28, 1924

Bal. in Bank, Nov. 27..... \$ 517.79

Receipts

Co.'s contribution, Dec.....\$ 50.00
December dues 539.50
Dues from benefit checks..... 100.50
Co.'s contribution, Jan..... 50.00
January dues 556.65

1,296.65

Total \$1,814.44

Payments

Dr. Fisher, services..... 3.00
Bain Floral Co. (Cullum)..... 5.00
Pat Cullen, death benefit
less dues 47.20
Dues from benefit checks..... 100.50
Benefits listed below 1,104.23

1,259.93

Bal. in Bank, Jan. 29..... \$ 554.51

Benefits Paid

Otto Mackey 33.00
LeRoy Houck 19.50
Frank Galka 12.50
Maurice Hopper 53.20
J. Codie Walker 19.00
Clint Allen 12.50
Ed Ernst 18.85
Jess Oldham 32.00
George Redmond 10.00
J. M. Majors 8.00
J. E. Prosser 16.50
Albert Wilkins 35.00
C. R. Murphy 5.83
A. H. Wolfert 10.50
W. L. Kuykendall 6.25
Wm. Butler 13.50
G. L. Reinhart 12.50
W. E. Henkle 2.55
C. E. Carson 2.50
Carlo Danaha 5.00
Mrs. Bertha White 79.80
Lee Smith 7.50
Ed Lloyd 16.00
Wm. Bainter 9.90
Wm. Utsler 3.75
Glen Overton 2.25
Russell Bailey 64.00
Sal Yoder 5.25
H. A. Bachelidor 3.75
E. R. Collins 3.00
Tom Goodwin 19.20
Richard Wilson 3.00
J. H. Van Vleet 18.00
Arthur Welch 111.60
L. M. Bass 15.00
Ellsworth Hill 9.00
Cecil Preston 1.50
Sylvia Bainter 7.60
Wm. C. West 18.00
Preston Lemming 3.00
T. W. Taylor 7.50
George Wilson 18.00
Clifford Beavers 9.00

Ted Peek 8.50
Mrs. Lora Smith 53.20
Walter Screeton 7.50
H. E. Fairchild 1.50
Tom Hill 46.50
Geo. Taylor 5.00
Mrs. Mattie Haines 9.60
John Curtis 26.40
F. E. Moore 1.50
Gerald Yonkers 23.00
H. E. Hukill 65.20
Geo. E. Rodgers 13.75
Arthur Kasczesza 6.25
Carl Marose 1.50
Wm. DeLaughter 8.75
Gale Scott 13.65
Chas. Taylor 4.50
Geo. Abel 4.65
Wm. Burgess 25.00
Veda Bass 5.00
Clarence Masters 9.00

\$1,104.23



WHO CAN TELL

Who broke the soap bowl.
Who stole Murphy's Cozy Corner tickets.
Who wrote Walt Auer's confession.
Why all the main office vamps spend their
lunch hour in Department 50.
Why Henry insists on using the telephone
when he converses with Gilley just across
the room.
How Reedy looks on a pair of skis.
Why Bessie loves Bloomington so well.
Why Harley likes to go to the shops.
If the coasting party to Lake Decatur
wasn't some event.
Who is the grand dragon of the triple
alliance in Department 50.
How the boys like Mr. Hyde's candy bars.
Why Finney goes to sleep on Monday.
Where J. Frye got those goloshes.
Why Pat does not go out to Willard Ave.
any more.
Why Nellie Wicks doesn't start a sewing
school.
Who can tell when Harley dusts his desk.
Would Earl Hyde is Haburt B. Black.
Why the woods are full of savages.
Who put the dress on the pretty Indian
maiden.
Who wrote this contribution.



THE "OP" AND THE "PESS"

An optomist is one who hops out of bed
on a cold morning, saying, "Well, old bed,
I'll be back to you in seventeen hours."
The pessimist hops in bed and says, "Gee,
up again in seven hours."

JANUARY

1. New Year comes in—wind, cold and sunshine.
2. Savings Plan starts. Everybody resolves to be a capitalist.
3. Ice on pavements and cars skid. More join the Investment Plan. Department 20 moved to Receiving Department building.
4. Last meal in old club building. All hands stay for Adolph's speech and Charles Auer's made-to-order songs.
5. Cold—well, I should remark—18 below.
6. Bright and fair but cold. Skating season opens on Lake Decatur.
7. First meal in new Club House. Adolph explains business and wage situation.
8. Weather moderates, everybody glad.
9. Heinrichs of Seattle and St. Louis assures us that he means to get business in Missouri.
10. Safety Council holds first meeting. Time to think safety.
11. Paul Luebbers runs into circumstances that break his New Year's resolution seven times in six hours.
12. Roy Coffman goes to Port Huron for a week's visit of the northern plants.
13. Something must have happened but nobody mentioned it.
14. Everybody out of work in Central Illinois comes to Muellers for a job.
15. The firm name become Mueller Co., and acceptable shortening of a long name.
16. Three inches of snow. Now the Christmas sleds will have a chance.
17. Mueller Night at Art Institute. Franklin's birthday. Robert I. Hunt speaks on "Thrift."
18. Stille ventilates the ceiling of Department 20 with a quarter-inch gimlet. Rollins approves.
19. Cold, snow and moonlight, but there was a good turn out at the Mueller Club Dance.
20. More zero weather. Sleigh-bells jingle once more.
21. Several stayed home to thaw out frozen pipes.
22. More about Thrift and Ben Franklin. Rev. Henry speaks at noon.
23. Skids placed under old Library building; a big motor truck draws it over the snow to a new location on Mercer street.
24. Began digging foundations for new Regulator Department on site of old Mueller Club. Bert Jackson completes 20 years.
25. Roy Coffman starts fire in his hip pocket but is rescued by Chief Duffey's men.
26. Second dance in Mueller Club.
27. Too slippery to go to church, and too rough to skate. Fine chance to stay at home.
28. First meal served in new Cafeteria. Some cats! say we.
29. All formen trying to borrow Henry Ford's book.
30. Movie made of work and play at Mueller Plant.
31. Does Roy Whittaker linger about Felix Hodge's glucose barrel?

EMPLOYEES' AID SOCIETY

Herewith is presented the Annual statement of the Employees' Aid Society for the year 1923. We call your attention to these significant figures. During the year members received in benefits \$7,643.39. The Society received from members in dues \$6,471.10. This leaves a deficit of \$1,172.29, or nearly \$100.00 per month.

Here follows the annual statement:

Balance on hand January 1, 1923..... \$ 810.25

Receipts

Company's Contribution	\$ 600.00	
Interest on Bonds, 7%	175.00	
Picnic Concessions	65.39	
Advances to Loan Fund	52.00	
Members' dues from payroll.....	\$6,370.60	
Members' dues deducted from benefits	100.50	6,471.10
		\$7,363.49
		\$8,173.74

Payments

Benefits—sickness and accident—by check	\$6,827.89	
Benefits, dues deducted	100.50	6,928.39
Benefits, deaths (nine)	675.00	
Flowers	40.00	715.00
Loan Fund—Adjustment Rodger's accounts	82.14	
Loan Fund, advanced to	52.00	134.14
Treasurer's Bond	10.00	
Doctor's Services	8.00	
Dues refunded	4.30	
Cashier for Picnic	7.50	\$7,807.33

Balance in bank January 1, 1924..... \$ 366.41

Resources

Cash in Bank	\$ 366.41
Mueller Bonds	2,500.00
	\$2,866.41

E. H. LANGDON, Treas.

January 23, 1924.

Mr. E. H. Langdon,
Treasurer Employees' Aid Society.

We have checked all the records submitted by you, covering transactions of the Employees' Aid Society for the year 1923 and find that all disbursements made agree with requisitions and are supported by cancelled checks.

Your annual statements correctly shows the receipts and disbursements for the year, also the bank balance and net worth of the Employees' Aid Society, as of January 1, 1924.

L. F. McKIBBEN, Comptroller Mueller Co.

When General C. G. Dawes was named as a member of the reparation committee now in session in Paris, Mr. Adolph, who enjoys a personal acquaintance with the general, wrote him a letter of congratulation. He received the following reply:

Central Trust Company of Illinois
Chicago, Dec. 24, 1923.

Mr. Adolph Mueller.

My Dear Mr. Mueller:

Please accept my thanks for your very kind letter of December 21st. I do not know what is before me in Europe but you know I will do my best to be worth the confidence which others seem to have in me.

I send you my best regards.

Yours,

Charles G. Dawes.

Another interesting letter comes from Judge Farmer of Vandalia, member of the Supreme court and a Candidate for re-election. Mr. Adolph wrote the Justice a friendly letter suggesting that the re-election of Justices Farmer and Dunn should be made unanimous and added that he hoped the Justice would not be so overburdened with work that he could not give some time to golf. He received a very dignified reply which shows the high regard Justice Farmer holds for his office.

(Continued from page 14)

Leslie Lines would like to have a hand truck with a motor so that he could ride instead of pushing it.

William Adams of the Core Department is so enthusiastic about radio that John Dorsey and "Happy" March are thinking of trading their victrolas and records for receiving sets.



Department 5

Louis Dodwell is already figuring on an early crop of worms for his spring fishing.

George Weber thought it was ground-hog day and came to work wearing a white silk tie.

William Wall observes that he gets more eggs since George Tennison has had all his teeth out.

The boys who have been trying to hire Dodwell to stay at home in the basement on ground-hog day, but they have been unable to raise the money to keep him there.

Gray: "Jess, do you know what the Germans are making sauer kraut out of?"

Oldhom: "No, what?"

Gray: "Cabbage, of course."



PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE EMPLOYEES' AID SOCIETY

At their January meeting the trustees of the Employees' Aid Society, consisting of John Shelton, W. E. Mueller, Roy Campbell, Harry Miller, and E. H. Langdon, decided unanimously to offer the following amendments to the By-Laws:

ARTICLE V, Section 4 now reads:

"Payments of benefits as provided in these By-Laws shall continue for a period not exceeding 75 days, from and including the first day for which a benefit is paid. However, the above period may be extended to cover an additional period of 25 working days if, in the judgment of the Trustees, the circumstances warrant."

As amended it will read:

"Payments of benefits as provided in these By-Laws for sickness shall continue for a period not exceeding 75 days in one calendar year. A member who receives the maximum benefits for illness must be examined and found to be in good health by the Society's doctor before he is returned to membership. Benefits for accidents shall continue for a period not exceeding 75 days from and including the first day for which benefits are paid. However, the Trustees may extend the benefit period to cover an additional period of 25 working days, if in their judgment, circumstances warrant it."

ARTICLE V, Section 8, now reads:

"Benefits will not be paid for accidental

injury resulting wholly or partly, directly or indirectly, from intoxicants, or while intoxicated, from or while violating law, or for injuries intentionally self-inflicted, nor for sickness which is caused or increased in whole or part by sexual immorality, intoxication, or the use of intoxicating liquors or narcotics."

As amended it will read:

"Benefits will not be paid for accidental injury OR DEATH resulting wholly or partly, directly or indirectly, from intoxicants, or while intoxicated, from or while violating law, or for injuries OR DEATH intentionally self-inflicted, nor for sickness which is caused or increased in whole or in part by sexual immorality, intoxication, or the use of intoxicating liquors or narcotics."

A meeting of the members of the Society is called for February 12 at noon in the dining room of the Mueller Club to vote upon the amendments proposed above. There will be opportunity to discuss the amendments then.



WITH US AGAIN

Emil Gustav Jablanowski has returned to work in Department 8. When the war broke out his family was in Germany and for several years he had no word from them. In 1921 he returned to the old country and found his wife and children. Times are hard and after a stay of about two years, he returned to the States. A great many other German people would like to come to this country if there was a way to do it.



CHILDREN NOT EMPLOYED HERE

On December 31 the company posted a bulletin to the effect that children under 16 were not to be regularly employed. In their eagerness to get work young people some times mis-state their age and their parents uphold them in it. According to the law of Illinois, an employer may not take a parent's word as proof of age, but instead must get from the public schools or the county clerk a certificate of age.



BIRTHS

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Red Porter, Jan. 9, a son, James Henry. Red is the clerk in the Polishing Department.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. John Hollingshead, Dec. 19, a daughter, Dorothy Irene.



Discovered

Teacher—Now you have in front of you the north, on your right the east, and on your left the west. What have you behind you?

Small Boy—A patch on my pants. I told mother you'd see it.

COMPANY MEETINGS

During the first week in January the annual meeting of the Mueller Company was held here. Mr. Oscar came down from Port Huron to attend these sessions, and was accompanied by Mrs. Mueller and daughter, Florence, who devoted the week to visiting friends and relatives.

The company meetings were of course devoted to company business, hearing reports and defining policies for the coming year.

While these meetings were of importance to company members there was not much of public interest because the proceedings had to do almost entirely with business.

There was one thing of which all employees should be advised and that was the change in the name of the company.

Heretofore we have always been known and advertised as the H. Mueller Mfg. Co.

Now the name has been changed and we will in the future be known as Mueller Co.

The old officers were all re-elected.

On Wednesday, the following went to Port Huron and Sarnia to attend the annual meetings of those two companies: Mr. Adolph, Mr. Robert, Mr. Philip, J. W. Wells, Roy Coffman, William Meehan and Attorney A. G. Webber.

The outlook for business for the present year is encouraging. Much depends on the way we dig in and get out the goods.

The Sales Department maintains that they will sell the goods if they are provided with the goods to sell.



HOME FROM FLORIDA

J. W. Sampson is home from Bradentown, Fla., where he spent the holidays with his mother and children.

Mrs. Simpson and the children went south last fall to escape the cold. The little folks are going to school there, growing strong and healthy in the warm Florida sunlight, bathing in the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico and altogether enjoying themselves.

The family will remain south until spring. In the meantime Mr. Simpson has taken up his abode at the St. Nicholas.

On his way north Mr. Simpson stopped for a day at Jacksonville, Fla., where he met Bert Kitchen, formerly foreman of Department 18, but now traveling for the company in Florida with Jacksonville as his headquarters.



IN THE SOUTH

Fred B. Mueller departed Saturday, Jan. 19 for Miami, Fla., where he will spend a brief vacation.

After that he will go east for a time on business for the Company, and will then make an extended business trip to the Pacific coast.

IT'S LEAP YEAR

Marriageable Men Must Be On Their Guard These Days

If any men subject to marriage have overlooked the fact that this is leap year, we feel it a duty to remind them of it. The female of the species is out prowling around, armed with the privilege of "popping the question," and of course if asked a man could scarcely be ungallant enough to decline.

Some of the girls in the office, so we understand, are handling the question in a business-like and systematic fashion.

We are advised that this campaign includes a form letter which is to be mailed out to prospects, and the following is said to be an exact copy of the letter:

Loves Flat, Prospect St.

My Dearest and Most Respected Sir:

I send you this your heart to stir. 'Tis you I've chosen first of all on whom to make this "Leap Year Call."

Your heart and hand I ask not in jest and hope you'll grant my fond request. I've chosen you the foremost chance and a home for you I will enhance. So send back without delay your answer saying, "Yes or Nay." If but your heart does not incline in wedlock to be joined in mine, then you must leap year obey and down to me five dollars pay besides kind sir, a handsome dress. I like no more, I take no less. Now you might think this letter funny but I must have either man or money. So please send me your reply and let me be your wife until I die.

If the writer's name you can guess, send your answer to my address. But if for me there is no hope, please send me back ten yards of rope.

With all the knots of love and kisses from one who wishes to be your Mrs.



MINOR ACCIDENTS

Mrs. Laura Becker of the Core Department had the misfortune to burn her arm the other evening while working about the stove.

Ilene Gunter of the Core Department slipped on the icy sidewalk when coming to work recently and broke her ankle. She was taken to St. Mary's hospital.



ANNUAL CONVENTION

The annual convention of the Illinois Master Plumbers was held at Peoria during the week of January 21.

It will be remembered that this organization met here last January.

We sent an exhibit to the Peoria convention and the company was represented there by George White and P. L. Bean, Illinois salesmen.

BRASS CHIPS

Philip Cruikshank took a short course in ceramics at the University of Illinois.

C. T. Ward checked out recently and has gone back to West Virginia.

Some of the boys in Department 9 are figuring on a horse and wagon for Ralph Slayback. He could then go into the light transfer business.

Clinton Wright was late on the morning of January 5 because his coffee froze before he could lift it to his lips. Glen Hester is the authority for this good news.

On the week-end of January 5 Clarence Moore was in Chicago. When he returned he was minus his moustache. He told the boys that it was 22 below in Chicago and it just naturally froze off.

Geneva Parr, blue-print maker in the Drafting Department, and Lowell Burton, formerly of Department 20, were married on December 24 at the home of Rev. A. M. Wells. Mr. Burton is employed by Cope & Fisher. Mrs. Burton is continuing with her work in the Drafting Department. They reside at 130 North Edward.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bridgwater wish to extend through the columns of the Record their appreciation of the thoughtfulness of their friends in all departments who presented them with table linen, cut glass and silverware.

J. A. Maddox is again working in Department 12.

There are several new faces in the Core Department.

Gid Massengill returned on January 4 to the Foundry.

Mrs. Fleeta Purdue and Mrs. Frieda Lankton, who helped with the inventory, are now regularly employed in the Cost Department.

David Dresback of the University of Illinois, worked during the Christmas vacation in the Drafting Department.

Percy Bais of Department 18 has taken a job as yard clerk at the Wabash.

The Receiving Department has been merged with the Production Control Department.

Mrs. Ollie Marmor has been transferred from the Brass Shop to the Advertising Department.

Lloyd Flanders offers to promote boxing matches if contestants will give him their names and perform on each other.

Veda Bass has been laid up for the past two weeks due to an operation on adenoids and tonsils.

Ed Hantle of the Shipping Department is an enthusiastic student of the trombone. He practices daily, diligently and emphatically. Three weeks from the day he bought his horn, his next door neighbor died. This, of course, is a mere coincidence.

Matt Trott was asked to get some news for the Mueller Record, but instead he beat it for New York.

Ethel Dixon and Nellie Blanchard of the Traffic Department enjoy the moonlight sleigh ride with the thermometer at 8 below.

Miss Opal Jackson, daughter of Bert Jackson, is a student at the University of Illinois and is a member of the Illini staff.

Ed Hukill returned to work last week after an illness of six weeks.

Roy Coffman has discovered a new fire hazard. He stuffed a wad of cotton waste in the hip pocket of his overalls and forgot it. In the course of the morning he backed up to close to the flame at the annealing machine and the waste caught fire. There was some lively action for a little while, but the threatened conflagration was extinguished before it was necessary to call out the fire crew.

Clarence Evans had a narrow escape recently from what might have been a serious accident. He was operating the tube-bending machine and as the turn-table came around it caught his brand new overalls at the belt and tore them to the ankle. Clarence was not injured, but he had to get new overalls.

Mrs. Lora Smith of the Core Department returned to work Monday after several weeks' absence on account of illness.

Veda Bass underwent an operation for the removal of her tonsils and adenoids at the Macon County hospital last week.

Everett Mueller returned to work Monday after a two weeks' holiday in Florida.