

# MUELLER RECORD

PUBLISHED AT DECATUR, ILLINOIS



IN COLORADO ROCKIES ON THE WAY TO DREAM LAKE  
Photo by C. W. Ferguson, Collins, Colorado

JANUARY, 1942

# PROTECTION

Every water works metered service needs a Mueller Water Meter Tester. It protects the consumer if his meter has gone bad. It protects you against complaints. It is as fair and impartial as a judge on the bench. Its decision is based on facts. By a simple operation it shows if a meter is faulty or faultless.

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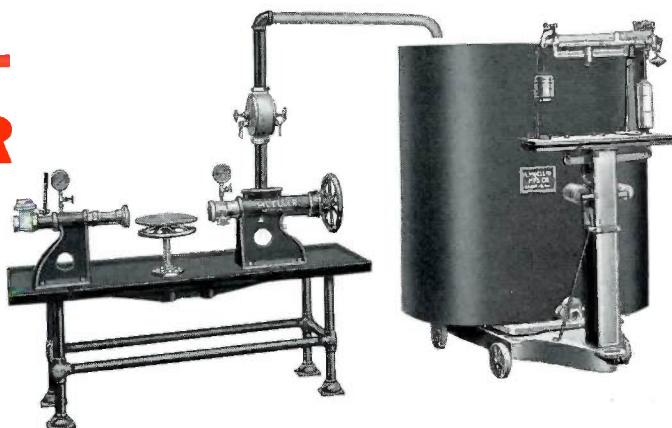
Mechanically accurate, a Mueller Water Meter Tester for large or small plants is worth all it costs in settling complaints and maintaining pleasant relations with the consumer.

## *It Works Two Ways*

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**For the USER**

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1857

**MUELLER CO. Decatur, Ill.**

DEPENDABLE SERVICE ALWAYS

1942

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## NEW YEARS AGAIN

A Happy New Year to all our friends and patrons!

The easy way to achieve this is through cheerfulness and contentment, by the cultivation of hopeful optimism and confidence in ourselves, our friends, and our country.

New Years is just another day in the calendar, not new as a matter of fact. It is as old as the hills and was celebrated 3000 years before Christ; at different times in the year, and for different purposes.

In more recent centuries it has been adopted as a holiday which marks a sort of a moral reformation; including a purpose to correct old habits and establish new principles of living. Supposedly these are to make us better men and women. We unhesitatingly admit and proclaim that there is unlimited opportunity for doing this.

As individuals we have had no part in the vicious aims of a few would-be dictators but as loyal Americans we can and will do our part to protect our independence and our conception of the true meaning of democracy.

### Thoughts From Two Great Americans

Write into your 1942 platform these American thoughts of two great men. One, Samuel Adams, who said:

"Among our natural rights given us is the right to live, to have liberty, to hold property, together with the right to defend these rights in the best manner we can."

And then the immortal Lincoln told us:

"Let us have faith that Right makes Might and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."

This can be done more thoroughly and effectively with a happy, contented mind and a happy smile than yielding to a "I give up" countenance of hopelessness and helplessness.

## Goes Far—Costs the Least

So we say to all, "A Happy New Year," and may each of us do our part to make it one.

Remember:

The thing that goes farthest toward making life worth while,

That costs the least, and does the most is just a pleasant smile.

It does not cost a cent, but is invaluable in keeping up our individual morale and spirit, the spirits of our friends and of our countrymen.

It is with this thought and in this attitude that we repeat the old, old greeting

A HAPPY NEW YEAR



## THE AMERICAN FLAG



There is a little story connected with this poem, "The American Flag," written by Joseph Rodman Drake, sometime between 1795-1820. It is considered one of the finest gems in our national poetry. It is not so well known as other of our patriotic productions, but has a sublime conception, which we think will appeal to Mueller Record readers, who love poetry.

There are some seven or eight stanzas. We present the first and last.

When freedom from her height  
Unfurled her standard to the air,  
She tore the azure robe of night  
And set the stars of glory there!  
Then mingled with its gorgeous dyes  
The milky baldric of the skies  
And striped its pure celestial white  
With streakings of the morning's light;  
Then, from his mansion in the sun,  
She called her eagle bearer down  
And gave into his mighty hand  
The symbol of her chosen land!

Flag of the free heart's hope and home,  
By angel hands to valor given,  
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,  
And all thy hues were born in heaven!  
Forever float that standard sheet!  
Where breathes the foe but falls before us,  
With freedom's soil beneath our feet  
And freedom's banner streaming o'er us?  
—Joseph Rodman Drake.

# THE MUELLER RECORD

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

C. N. WAGENSELLER, EDITOR

## SEX MAKES DIFFERENCE

### Earnest McGaffey's Poem Makes Striking Contrast Between Son and Daughter

We reproduce here a poem and recommend its reading by all those who love poetry, and in our limited way to perpetuate the beautiful lines and sentiment. Years ago, when a youthful newspaper reporter, we clipped such gems as this one below. By chance we came across it while muddling through a lot of what to us in youthful days were literary gems. There have been many times that we have wished for such luck, and were very happy when the fictitious lady proved so good to us.

This poem was reprinted in the Chicago Daily News "Sharps and Flat" column, conducted by Eugene Field, himself a poet of no mean pen. This was quite a few years ago. The lines of "The Prodigal" still bulge with the everlasting truth and eloquently contrast the forgiveness of the prodigal sons and the heartless vengeance heaped upon the erring "prodigal daughters." But here's the poem, which we think is well worth the time required to read, and still more time to meditate upon the unholy difference which sex plays in situations such as the author portrays.

#### The Prodigals

When the roses of summer were budding and blooming

And the yellow wheat bent 'neath its burden of gold,  
The Prodigal Son came, world-weary and tattered,  
To the home where his footsteps had echoed of old.

And they clung to his garments with tears and caresses.

Till the cup of his welcome ran over with joy,  
And the flowers of love and forgiveness were woven  
In a blossoming crown for the Prodigal Boy.

When the icicles hung from the eaves and the branches,

And the winter winds moaned round the dwellings of men,

Forsaken and homeless, the Prodigal Daughter  
Crept back to the home of her girlhood again.

But they turned her away in the storm and the darkness

To the icy-cold winds with their chill, piercing breath,

And the pitiless curses that followed her footsteps

Were fierce as the tempest and cruel as death!  
"That's like Earnest McGaffey," Field commented,  
"His muse always espouses the cause of lame dogs.  
He rails against injustice."

It's our guess that few who read this poem ever heard of Earnest McGaffey.

Strange it is, that one so obviously talented should not have been rated higher in the field of poetry. We may well quote from Gray, two lines from his immortal Elegy:

"Here rests his head upon the earth,  
A youth, to fortune and to fame unknown."

■ ■ ■

## STUDENT DRIVERS

### Statistics Show That Exuberance of Youth Outweighs Caution

It is just natural to suppose that a college student would be a more careful driver of an automobile than an unschooled youth brought up in "the patch."

But the facts do not prove it. Training, warning, or intelligence seem to fall short of a realization of the danger in driving. Experience has proved that none of these qualities recognize the oft proved fact that driving spells danger, and that the most terrible of accidents always happen in the fraction of a second.

The Illinois Safety Bulletin says:

"Outlet for excessive energy and emotional vitality via stunt driving and, not infrequently, drinking, is dangerous folly. So is driving with greater attention to the things in the car rather than to the things on the road.

#### Fractions of Seconds

"In fractions of seconds, lives are sacrificed, brilliant futures ruined, and valuable time lost. The records are filled with tragic accounts of youthful drivers in ruinous accidents—last school year 53 drivers 16-17 years of age, and 466 drivers 18-24 years were involved in fatal accidents, an increase of 13% and a decrease of 4% respectively from the records of the previous school year.

"'To the victor belongs the spoils' is an old adage, but the spoils after youthful parties often are tragic crashes. For safety be a prudent and cautious driver even if one is celebrating a victory."

■ ■ ■

#### Small Coins Scarce

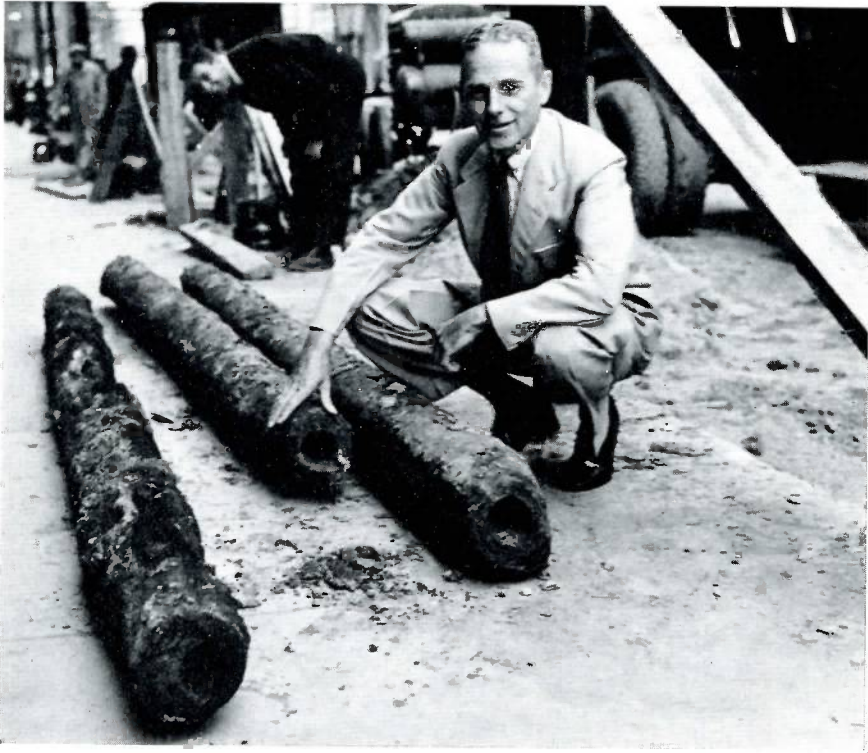
Over a billion of pennies turned out by the mints last year failed to keep up with hungry maws of the slot machines. More than 300 million nickles failed to meet the demand for small coins. How come the shortage when the "Schooners" are out.

■ ■ ■

'Twixt optimist and pessimist the difference is droll;

The optimist sees the doughnut, the pessimist sees the hole.

# Milwaukee's Early Water Mains...



*Dr. Malcolm Rogers inspecting wooden mains which were laid by his great-grandfather nearly one hundred years ago.*

Every now and then someone digs up an old wooden water main. In the early days of the water works industry these mains were accepted as a satisfactory method of transmitting water to consumers. Within certain limitations it was a good system for the period in the absence of any other method.

## Wooden Mains In Milwaukee

The most recent discovery of wooden mains was in Milwaukee, but there is an added human interest in this case. The illustration shows Dr. Malcolm Rogers inspecting the mains dug up on East Michigan street. Dr. Rogers is the great-grandson of James H. Rogers, who had the mains laid nearly 100 years ago. They are relics of Milwaukee's first water works. The mains, made of tamarack, were bored by hand. They were in fairly good condition when uncovered.

## From Milwaukee History

The following is an excerpt from a his-

tory of Milwaukee printed by Donnelley, Gassette, & Loyd in 1881.

"When the late James H. Rogers built the United States Hotel at the corner of Huron and East Water streets, in 1846, the question of an abundance of pure, wholesome water presented itself to the enterprising pioneer. Finding a copious spring on Wisconsin street, on the south front, midway between Jackson and Van Buren streets, he secured the privilege of a supply from that point. Engaging the services of James Brooks, he placed a tamarack main down the alley to Michigan street, thence along the south side of that thoroughfare to the alley between the Chamber of Commerce building and the Mitchell Block, and from that point to the hotel. Mr. Brooks, procured tamarack timber of suitable diameter, cut it into 10 or 12 feet lengths, bored each piece by hand, and laid the main. The late Henry Bleyer, the first wood turner in the place, furnished the connecting pieces and side taps. The enterprise was a successful one, and the hotel was supplied from

(Continued on Page 6)

## BEAUTIFUL BUT DUMB



### Those Old Dry Days

He "And who made the first cotton gin?"

Young Thing: "Heavens! Are they making it from that, too?"

### Give Him a Chance!

Sweet Young Thing: "What shall I do? I'm engaged to a man who can't bear children."

"Well," remarked a kindly old lady, "you mustn't expect too much of a husband!"

### Not on Her Shoulders

Traffic Cop: "Use your noodle, lady! Use your noodle!"

Lady: "My goodness. Where is it? I've pushed and pulled everything in the car."

### Venice Was Flooded

"And what did you think of Venice?" asked the friend.

Mr. Green: "Venice! Venice! Did we go to Venice, Marjorie?"

"Don't you remember—we stopped there, but there was a flood on, so we didn't leave the station."

### Smarty

George: "When it comes to eating, you'll have to hand it to Venus de Milo."

Mary: "Why?"

George: "How else could she eat?"

### They Always Do

Miranda: "I see that Mr. So-and-So, the octogenarian, is dead. Now what on earth is an octogenarian?"

Companion: "I'm sure I haven't the faintest idea, but they're a sickly lot. You never hear of one but he's dying."

First Lady: "Nice building. What kind of architecture is it?"

Second Lady: "I'm not quite sure," said the other lady, "but I think it's Reminiscence."

Customs Agent: "What have you to declare?"

American Tourist (just back from Europe): "I declare that I am glad to be back."

### Dog Fancier

Usher at Dog Show: "Pardon me, but can't you find the kennel you wish? If not, I shall be glad to assist you."

Sweet Young Thing: "Oh, thank you. Would you mind showing me where they are exhibiting the ocean greyhounds?"

### Thrifty Housewife

Newly Wed: "How much are your eggs?"

Grocer: "Fifty cents a dozen for whole ones, 25 cents for cracked ones."

Newly Wed: "Crack me a dozen please."

### New Style Banking

Mrs. Hopemore: "I want to open an account with your bank."

Cashier: "Do you want a savings or checking account?"

Mrs. Hopemore: "Neither. I want a charge account like I have at the department stores."

### Fork in the Road

Wife: "What's happened, George?"

George: "Puncture."

"You ought to have been on the lookout for this. You remember the man at the service station told you there was a fork in the road."

### Keep On Studying

"Is your son going to be married?"

"No, I don't believe he ever will. He's studying for a bachelor's degree."

### High Financing

Mrs. Newlywed (to her husband): "Darling, will you lend me \$20 and only give me \$10 of it? Then you'll owe me \$10, and I'll owe you \$10, and we'll be straight."

### Good in Everything

Returned Missionary: "In Africa many of the natives wear almost nothing."

Miss Prude: "Mercy! it's a good thing Africa is a Dark Continent."

### Dry Scrub

Minnie: "You look all out of sorts. What's the matter?"

Nellie: "Plenty. On account of my rheumatism the doctor told me to avoid all dampness—and you've no idea how silly I feel sitting in an empty bathtub and going over myself with a vacuum cleaner."

### Not So Dumb

Golf Pro: "Now use your brassie."

Miss Vacanteeye: "But, I don't wear any this hot weather!"

## TONS AND CARLOADS

### Government Needs For Paper Shows Enormous Quantities

In the November issue of Mueller Record we carried an article on the rapidly increasing scarcity of paper, which was accredited to the defense demands under existing conditions. From that article we quote one paragraph, to wit:—

"It would seem that war has no need of paper, in view of the fact that the contestants are not blowing paper wads at each other. However there are certain constituents of paper which are very much in demand as a result of war."

One of our good readers, Mr. Jack Meyer, of W. A. Case & Son Manufacturing Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sends us "extracts from a bulletin" issued by the National Paper Trade Association which clearly indicates why the demand for paper increases with war.

#### Steel Plants Use It

The uninitiated would probably wonder what use the steel plants could make of vast quantities of paper. The bulletin just referred to explains. Steel plants use paper for the purpose of interleaving armor plate and cold rolled steel to the extent of some 60,000 tons (or 3,000 carloads) per year. One point of embarkation for our troop movements required within a very short period of time 1,000,000 pounds of water-proofed Kraft paper to be shipped immediately for the purpose of wrapping supplies.

#### Other Big Requirements

Continuing, the bulletin lists some of the large items of paper consumption essential to government needs as follows:

Mimeograph, 7,500 tons or 375 carloads

Typewriter, 2,500 tons or 125 carloads

Toilet for each army camp, 2,000,000 rolls

File Folders, 50,000,000

Carbon, 3,750,000 sheets

Paper milk bottles per day for each camp, 1,000,000

Defense stamp albums, 30,000,000

Cover paper for Soldiers hand books, 100,000 lbs.

Super book paper for Soldiers hand books 100,000,000 lbs.

Poster paper for "Minute Men" National Defense posters, 4,000,000 sheets

Target paper, 11,000 tons or 550 carloads

Asbestos paper for each cruiser, 14,000 lbs.

Board for shell containers, 11,000 tons or 550 carloads for month.

Envelopes, 1,250,000,000

Blue print paper for each battle ship constructed, 30,000 lbs. or one carload

#### Direct to Contractor

These figures convey some idea of the present tremendous demands made on the paper industry. The greatest amount of paper required goes direct to contractors under the National Defense Program. "In fact," say the bulletin, "it has been estimated that it requires 1,000,000 tons of paper for each \$5,000,000,000 of Defense appropriation. On the basis of recent Defense figures of \$63,000,000,000 you can readily see where 12,600,000 tons may be directly affected by the Defense Program."

These figures from an authoritative source may convince you that paper is a very important product, not only for industrial purposes, but for commercial use as well.

The lavish way in which the government distributed printed matter may shed some light on the large paper requisitions. The town of West Caldwell, N. J., has 3,458 residents and received 515,100 defense posters.

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

■ ■ ■

#### WHY WITNESSES DIFFER

It is a generally accepted belief that no two witnesses of an exciting thing, like a fight or a shooting affair, describe it alike. This has been proved many times in courts of law. Witnesses may be perfectly honest and sincere but differ when they describe what they saw. The testimony of hundreds of persons describing a crime overestimated the height of a man by five inches, and age by eight years. In 83 per cent of the cases they gave the wrong color of hair. On the occasion of a banquet of Associated Press members, a fake fight was suddenly started in the hall. The editors, who had not been advised of the scheme, were asked to give a written description of what they saw. No two saw it exactly alike, which proves that editors are no different from other witnesses.

■ ■ ■

#### No Substitute

Philosopher — Wonderful, isn't it how nature provides so bounteously for the manifold needs of mankind.

Realist — Yeah, for instance, think how useful ears are to hang spectacles on.

# I'M TELLIN' YOU

©A.C.S.



● And then there are those who do not think because they can't lay off of talking.

● An exchange tells us "our puzzle editor has gone crazy." What another one!

● We know a girl so homely that if she had been Lady Godiva the horse would have stolen the scene.

● Swapping places on New Year's day is an old custom—one person falls off the water wagon and another climbs on.

● The time will come, shouted the wild-eyed orator, when women will get men's wages. Will come?

● They have separate wards in insane asylums for men and women. They're not as crazy as you think.

● Men who have succeeded did not wait for something to "turn up." They went out and turned it up.

● "It's tough to find, for love or money, jokes that are clean and likewise funny."  
—Crier Adv. Service.

● The most polite person we know of is the hilly billy who finished his first ice cream cone and handed back the cone saying, "much obliged for the use of the vase."

● The girl with a figure can get in the rotogravure section without trouble but a man with a big income can't do so short of six figures.

● One hand washeth the other but it takes two to wash a face. Time to use 'em both. It's New Years, you know and a good time to wash out the frowns of the old.

● Men will continue, in 1942, to be jealous and foolish just like the guy who had not kissed his wife in five years and then shot a fellow whom he caught subbing for him.

● We've got a zoo in our home. There's Popski—he's a bear, and Mamski—she's a dear, and Jimmy—he's a kid, and I—am a lamb, says a small girl.

● One of the Christmas novelties was a mechanical doll with a beating heart, but there are a lot of human dolls who lack any kind of a heart but they knock the boys for a loop.

● To all husbands who read the Mueller Record, did you ever hear: "Park double, dear, I'll be in the store just a minute," and learn later from the traffic cop's ticket just how long a woman's minute is?

● The difference between "flations" is this: "In" is when demand exceeds the supply and prices go up and up, and "de" is when the supply exceeds demand and the prices go down and down. No matter which way they "flate" you are the goat.

## Here It Is

We are asked to explain the difference between capital and labor. We pass but pause to remark that the difference worrying each of them is the difference in earnings and the income tax.

(Continued from Page 3)

the spring for many years, the tamarack mains keeping the water sweet and cool."

Dr. Rogers gives us the following details of these old mains.

## Note By Dr. Rogers

"This main was six blocks long. Parts of it were unearthed when street improvements were undertaken from time to time. The most recent instance was this past summer (1941), at which time the accompanying photograph was taken. The opening in the log, which was bored by hand, is two and one half inches in diameter. The mains, as they were excavated, were found to be of an average depth of five feet. Undoubtedly, street filling from time to time had increased the overlying depth of dirt. Where the log mains were wet, the state of preservation was excellent, even to the bark on the outside, which you can see in the picture. Where they were not wet, but only damp, much more deterioration had taken place."



Schiller:—

He who considers  
too much will  
perform little.  
Think enough and  
then act

Longfellow:—

Do not delay, do  
not delay, the  
golden moments  
fly!

And they never  
come back

Shakespeare:—

Man delights not me; no nor woman  
neither, though by your smiling you  
seem to say so.

The great bard knew them.

Shelley:—

The seeds ye sow, another reaps,  
The wealth ye find, another keeps;  
The robes ye weave, another wears;  
The arms ye forge, another bears.

Seems apropos to present times

La Rochefaucauld:—

We should often be ashamed of our very  
best actions, if the world only saw the  
motives which caused them.

We sure would

Archbishop Sharpe:—

It is vain to expect any advantage  
from our profession of the truth, if we  
be not sincerely just and honest in our  
actions.

Live up to your claims

From the Latin:—

In adversity and difficulties arm your-  
self with firmness and fortitude.

Without these you are down and out

Von Knebel:—

He who can take advice is sometimes  
superior to him who can give it.

Generally advice is cheap

Job:—

Man is born to trouble as the sparks fly  
upward.

Job should be an authority

Penn:—

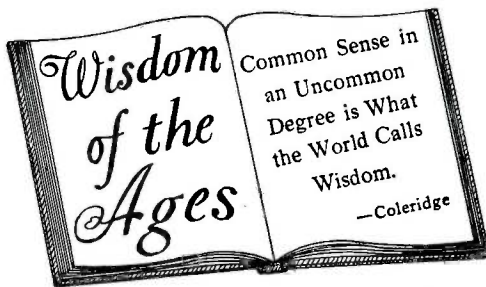
The tallest trees are most in the power  
of the winds, and ambitious men of the  
blasts of fortune.

Most people prefer the blasts

Colton:—

The intoxication of anger, like that of  
the grape, shows us to others, but hides  
us from ourselves, and we injure our  
own cause, in the opinion of the world,  
when we too passionately and eagerly  
defend it.

Bridle your anger



Tacitus:—

All those things  
which are held to  
be of the great-  
est antiquity, were  
at one time new;  
and what we to-  
day hold up by  
example, will rank  
hereafter as a  
precedent.

And Tacitus knew this  
nearly 2000 years ago

H. W. Beecher:—

It is not work that kills men; it is wor-  
ry. Work is healthy; you hardly put  
more on a man than he can bear. Wor-  
ry is rust upon the blade. It is not the  
revolution that destroys machinery but  
the friction.

Get busy and get healthy

Mayhew:—

When you find that flowers and shrubs  
will not endure a certain atmosphere it  
is a very significant hint to the human  
creation to remove out of that neigh-  
borhood.

Call the moving van

Goethe:—

It is a belief in the Bible, the fruits of  
deep meditation, which has served me  
as the guide of my moral and literary  
life. I have found it a capital safely in-  
vested and richly productive of interest.

Good book to believe in

Lillo:—

A noble birth and fortune, though they  
make not a bad man good, yet they are  
a real advantage to a worthy one, and  
place his advantages in a fairer light.

Would that we were worthy

La Bruyere:—

A block head cannot come in, nor go  
away, nor sit, nor rise, nor stand, like  
a man of sense.

That's because he's a wooden-head—  
what else could a block head be?

Colton:—

Many books require no thought from  
those who read them, for the very sim-  
ple reason:—they made no such de-  
mand upon those who wrote them.  
Those works, therefore, are the most  
valuable that set our thinking facilities  
in the fullest operation.

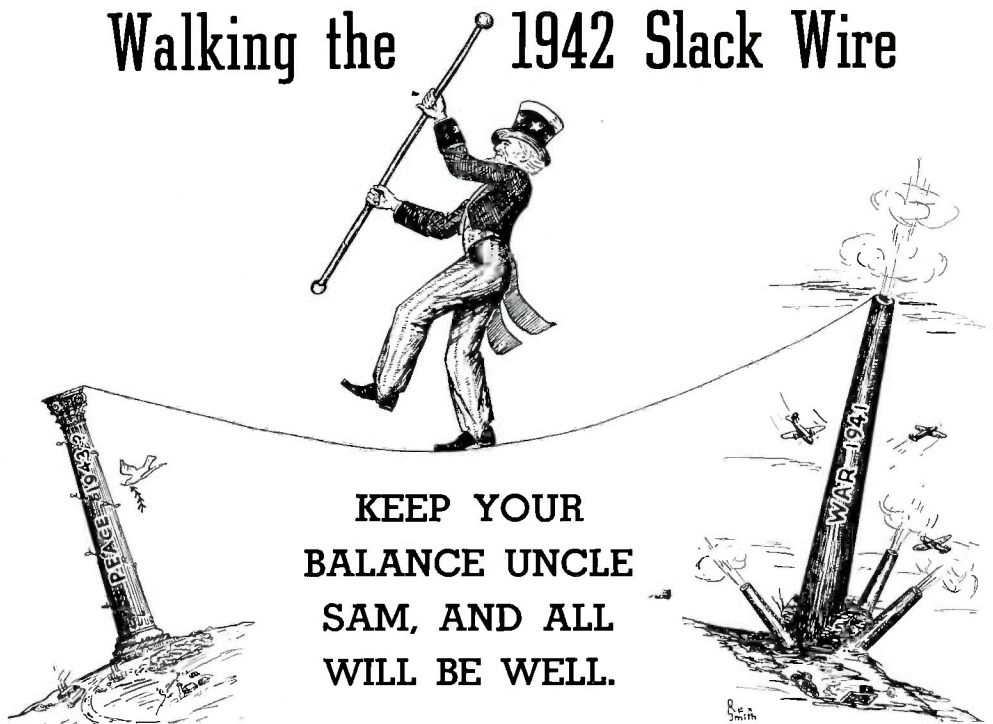
Books without thought are books only

Swift:—

Small causes are sufficient to make a  
man uneasy, when greater ones are not  
in the way; for want of a block he will  
stumble at a straw.

Makes mountains out of mole hills

# Walking the 1942 Slack Wire



## THANKSGIVING FEAST

### Boys in Camp Had Swell Meal— Soldiers' Fare in Civil War

A Detroit paper advises us of the Thanksgiving dinner served to the boys in camp. It sounds quite ritzy but we do not wish to criticize the boys. In fact we are pleased to know that they were so handsomely taken care of. Here was the menu:

For Thanksgiving the soldiers in camp had grapefruit, shrimp, soup, turkey, cranberry sauce, candied yams, mashed potatoes, peas, corn, mince and pumpkin pie, cheese, nuts and coffee.

Wonder what they had for Christmas dinner?

We think that here is a case of where that old saying, "an army fights on its belly," does not apply. Let us ask you gentle gourmet, how could any one go on the battle field with a load like that. It isn't in human nature to do anything but take a nap or lounge around with a cigarette, cigar or pipe in one's mouth, or to sit down drowsily to read. We've had experience with meals of the kind cited and therefore are in a position to speak with somnolent authority.

## Civil War Menu

Of course being in camp learning the soldier trade, and being a "jour" workman in actual service does not furnish a fair comparison, but it does recall stories told by union soldiers when they came back north after the sectional unpleasantness had been settled. When asked about what they ate the answer would be "sowbelly, beans, hominy, corn pone and black coffee." This, however, was not all any single menu, it constituted a division between the three daily.

Not very appetizing or appealing as any one will admit. It called for some measure of forgiveness when the old vets boasted of stealing chickens, pigs and even cattle in order to get something resembling good food.

## Old Grouch's Story

One old grouch's story was that they got dried apples for breakfast, drank water for dinner and swelled up for supper. He was such a roaring republican that he added "and that's what you'll eat young feller if you vote that damned demmycratic ticket."

There was just one flaw in his story—drinking water, if there was any side street to duck away from it. That was the last thing old Jake would drink and we therefore stamped his story as fiction and not fact.

## Always Something New

(From Nation's Business)

Aluminum is avoided with a new infrared lamp by using a mushroom-shaped bulb with an internal reflector behind the filament. It gives fairly uniform distribution of the heat rays. Sealed within the bulb, the reflector is protected from tarnishing.

A non-metallic material is designed to replace aluminum in many uses. It is one-third lighter and in some qualities is said to surpass the metal itself. It does not crystallize, is free from corrosion and pin hole formations. Except for small amounts of rubber is made of non-strategic materials.

A sponge rubber is made from an oil resistant synthetic for uses where oil, grease, or other solvents might deteriorate natural rubber. Has good resistance to temperature.

An apparatus for carrying to workmen on jobs where time would be lost if they went for water themselves is easily carried with an adjustable harness to fit the back comfortably, complete with container for paper cups.

A heater designed primarily for railroad switches, operates 30 to 40 hours on one and one-half gallons of kerosene. It is protected against burning fires and being blown out.

A gasoline blow torch that uses no pump, introduces no air into the fuel tank, is reported to have increased safety and convenience. Pressure is maintained by vaporization of the fuel through heat transmitted by the burner.

There is an improved starter device for fluorescent lights, has a stopper element which automatically cuts out the starter if the lamp does not start after a reasonable time. It remains out until the cause of the inoperative condition is rectified. The unit eliminates blinking and prevents much unnecessary wear on the starter.

A simple method of tin plating requires only a few seconds dipping in a solution at room temperature.

The appearance of a custom cut shingle roof is now obtainable with the ease of application of strip shingles. They come four shingles to a strip. Tabs quickly give proper alignment and spaces for joint protection and at the same time prevent monotonous regularity.

A new electric heater is made to be built into the wall. A grill closes it to prevent exposed hot wires or glowing elements. A motor driven fan distributes the warm air throughout the room.

Muddlers shaped like a stream lined diving girl are made of plastic in many colors. They may be used as picks for hors d'oeuvres and may be printed.

A new accounting machine for pay roll work has an interchangeable control plate which makes the machine available for other work when not used on pay rolls.

A truck has been designed for moving frozen food products from wholesaler to consumers or retailers. It has two rows of cylindrical storage compartments. Operating from small gasoline compressors it maintains sub-zero temperatures indefinitely.

A new type of rubber sole and heel combines the advantage of a tire cord fabric with rubber. It is said to outwear leather and even hob-nailed shoes. Easy to wear and not noisy on floors.

■ ■ ■

### ON THE WAGON

An artist painting in the country had a farmer spectator.

"Ah," said the artist, "perhaps you too are a lover of the beauties of nature. Have you seen the golden fingers of dawn spreading across the eastern sky, the red-stained, sulphurous islets floating in the lake of fire in the west, the ragged clouds at midnight, blotting out the shuddering moon?"

"Nope," said the farmer, "not lately. I've been on the wagon for over a year."

■ ■ ■

### PRESIDENT'S PAY

George Washington and 16 of his successors got along on \$25,000 a year. Grant received a "raise" on the last day of his first term (March 3, 1873) to \$50,000. On the last day of Theodore Roosevelt's administration the salary was increased, for the benefit of the incoming Taft, to \$75,000.

## SAGE'S IDEA OF LIFE

### An Early Millionaire Tells What Wealth Really Means

The penalty of winning a great fortune is scorn, jealousy, envy and hatred of the mob. Physiologically and anatomically a rich man is no different from a poor man. He may be mentally superior but as Burns has said, "a man's a man for all that." Rich men can be and are public benefactors. As a rule, without them the world would not be what it is today. There are good men and bad men among the very wealthy but by the same yard stick we find this to be true of poor men.

Among the early very rich men was one named Russell Sage, who was possibly more hated by those knowing nothing more about him than the fact that he was a millionaire. Their mental picture of him was gained through newspaper articles and cartoons. Those who knew him personally revered and admired him for his many fine qualities. His aloofness from publicity had much to do with unfavorable public opinion.

It's quite likely that newspapers resented his rule of denying interviews. And it is certain that his dislike of publicity made the public look at him in a false light.

#### Died Worth Millions

Russell Sage died 36 years ago leaving a fortune between \$60,000,000 and \$100,000,000. He had no education beyond that of a district school, worked as farm hand and at the age of 15 years was apprenticed to an older brother who conducted a grocery at Troy, N. Y. For a time he was interested in politics, became an alderman, county treasurer and finally a congressman, but he abandoned politics to become associated with Jay Gould in western railroad enterprises.

Always having kept aloof from publicity, Mr. Sage, in the last years of his life, consented to an interview by a representative of the New York World.

What he said in that interview is as interesting and as full of common sense wisdom as the day it was printed. Sorry that it is too long to reproduce in Mueller Record but here are a few excerpts.

#### He Was Charitable

"If I could live my life over I'd make charity a life study. It is a science. It cannot be learned in a day. My experience has been that a large class of professional mendicants prey upon the well-to-do."

"From time to time I've read a month's appealing letters to me, and had trained agents investigate the writers. Most of them

were from persons who would not help themselves if given a helping hand."

"Real charity is dispensed without the blare of trumpets."

"Notoriety, professional philanthropy, and alms giving have always been repugnant to me."

#### Silence His Rule

"I've never courted publicity for what I've done. Silence has been my rule and practice."

"If I had my life to live over again I am sure I should not attempt to move in what is called 'good society.'"

"I would rather be one of a few gathered together by a bond of friendship than to partake of all the glitter and hollowness of what is called the 'Four Hundred.'"

"The friendship of a few outlives life itself. Friendship remembers, society forgets. In the home only is there true happiness."

#### Fine Tribute to Wife

"If I had my life to live over again I would marry earlier than I did. The tender care of a good wife is the finest thing in the world. I am thankful indeed that I have had this in the fullest measure."

"Thrift is the first element of successful manhood. When you have made your fortune, it is time enough to think about spending it."

#### Advice to Young Men

"Two suits of clothes is enough for any young man. The only thought a young man need spend about clothes is to find bargains at the lowest prices."

"Let him be on the lookout for cheap hats, bargains in shoes, knockdown in suits. He is fostering business traits that augur well for his success in years to come."

"The boy who knows bargains in socks makes the man who knows bargains in stocks."

#### Rich Man Nation's Agent

"A rich man does not work for himself alone. He is really the nation's agent. He turns his wealth over constantly in a way that helps others. No one need be alarmed over the constant increase in wealth limit. Big enterprises require big men. Had I my life to live over again I would work just as hard."

"It's the man, not the money, that makes the amount of individual wealth wrong. A good man cannot have too much money. The easiest way a poor citizen is made is through inheritance."

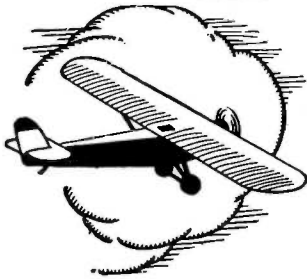
#### Simple Pleasures

And let me say in conclusion, if I had my life to live over again I would do as hard a day's work as I knew how. I would not feel it necessary to take vacations: I'd get my pleasures simply—a drive in the afternoon as I have always done, and dine simply on plain food. After dinner there would be a little reading of the papers or of good books; a chat with friends that might drop in and maybe a game of whist. I get plenty of relaxation from an exciting rubber. When

(Continued on page 28)

## AN EARLY AVIATOR

### Santos-Dumont Contributed Much To Development of Planes



40,000 rivets are used in a modern fighter plane; 500,000 in a bomber; and about 3 million in the latest "super-bomber."

Half a century ago Santos-Dumont tried to fly his airplane across the Potomac river, but fell into the stream before he got across.

Today planes cross and recross the Atlantic and Pacific on schedule and no one gives them a thought. Things done and past are soon forgotten. However, Dumont has earned a place in the history of heavier than air flying machines. Dumont was a wealthy coffee grower in Brazil, but his ambition was in promoting flying. He became an inventor in 1898 and constructed a series of navigable balloons equipped with gasoline engines and thus established the efficiency of such engines as a motive power for that purpose. In 1901 he won the Deutsch Prize of \$50,000 at Paris, France. In 1906 he made a flight of some hundred feet with a flying machine not buoyed up by a balloon. In those early days when air travel was more speculation than accomplishment, Dumont should be given credit for valuable contributions to the science of flying, but as a general thing his name has been forgotten. A writer on aeronautics says:

"While Santos-Dumont, a wealthy young Brazilian, thrilled the world with flights in his non-rigid built in France 1908-1912; Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin, a German army officer, designed a rigid airship as early as 1873 and completed his first cigar-shaped dirigible at Friederichshaven and flew it July 2, 1900."

The Encyclopedia, says: "The science of aeronautics definitely dates from 1783, when the Montgolfier brothers, at Annonay, France, constructed the first balloons." Since that time there have been many attempts to produce a flying-machine safe enough for practical use. In 1903 the experiment of Wright Brothers at Kitty-Hawk, opened the gates for the speedy advancement and development which we have today and to which we now pay very little attention. Speaking of Wright Brothers experiment our authority says: "They suc-

ceeded first in solving the basic principle of equilibrium in flight before installing an engine in the world's first successful airplane in 1903."

Continuing he says: "Efforts to fly by heavier-than-air craft antedates all other experiments in aerial navigation. The first authentic instance is recorded in 67 A. D. One of the earlier students was Leonardo da Vinci, whose sketches, still in existence indicate an extraordinary technical knowledge of the mechanical problems involved."

From the data assembled it appears that it has required 1875 years to develop the original idea to the point of mass production, which is now going on in this country.

However the real development of the airplane has not been since 67 A. D. but from the day Wright Brothers gave their demonstration thirty-nine years ago. The early planes of this century did not compare with those of today. In the first World's War airplane engines had to be overhauled every fifty hours while today's planes go 600 hours.

And this is all due to American enterprise, engineers, high skilled mechanics and machinery designed to meet special requirements. Oh yes, and to men willing to back it all with the necessary cash to build factories and equipment, pay salaries and take the chance of losses.



### A TASTE OF SCOTCH

Customs are constantly changing. If they did not, it would become a dreary old world. In the olden days, no young swain "keepin' company" with a girl would have harbored the thought of permitting her to assume half the cost of an evening's entertainment. We are told that in a good many instances nowadays this is common practice. We see no objection to it, but we do see a further change which would benefit the young men. It is Scotch, and instead of describing the new method we reproduce a joke that makes the plan easily understood. Here it is:

"Hae ye been oot wi' your lassie again?"

"Aye, dad, why do ye look sae worried?"

"I was just wonderin' what the evening cost?"

"No more than half a crown, dad."

"Aye? That was no sae much."

"It was a' she had, dad."



### Beware of Ladders

He laughed when they told him the ladder was weak,

And remarked it would hold half a ton.

It cost him a hundred to settle the bill

When the doctors and nurses were done.



# Breakers Ahead!

On the opposite page are five tables relating to the new income tax rates, and the approximate amount to be paid on annual incomes. The figures given were supplied by the United States Treasury Department over signature of Secretary Morgenthau.

No doubt many readers have seen these pamphlets, especially those employed by large companies, as they were sent to manufacturers for the purpose of inserting in pay envelopes. Banks have also been asked to distribute them.

However, we feel that there are many persons reading the MUELLER RECORD, subject to this new tax, who have not received the semi-official facts. The informative character of the pamphlet makes it of especial interest and value to every one. Then, too, the treasury department suggests a saving plan for meeting amounts to be paid by which saving the quarterly payments can be met with less inconvenience, or perhaps, in some cases less hardship. These tables begin at the lowest taxable amount and include tax classifications up to a net income of \$25,000 per year.

## Some Examples Given

The new tables disclose, for instance, that if your net income for 1941 is \$5,000 and you are a single person with no dependents, you must save at the rate of \$40 every month, or \$483 a year, for your Federal income taxes. If you are married but have no dependents, your savings for taxes should amount to \$31 per month, or \$375 a year. If you are married and have one dependent, you must save \$27 a month, or \$323 a year. If you are married and have two dependents, you must save \$23 a month, or \$271 a year. If you are married and have three dependents, you must save \$18 per month, or \$219 a year, for the payment of Federal income taxes.

## Gross Incomes

The figures are based upon net income which means your gross income from all sources, less allowable deductions such as taxes, interest, contributions, etc., and effect has been given in the tables to the various exemptions to which your status entitles you, viz, married, single, one, two, or three dependents.

We suggest, however, to those who are not clear on this question of exemptions that they consult some one in position to advise them, or to go to the federal tax collector for the necessary information. It is his duty to give you the required procedure.

# Prepare to meet the coming of Income Tax Payments

It is just good judgment and business to prepare to meet the quarterly payments by saving the necessary amounts. There is no way of evasion, which if attempted, might cause one serious trouble.

If you can pay your assessment in a lump it is a good way to get it out of your system. Otherwise, you take it in four reduced doses during the year.

■ ■ ■

## THE LONGEST RECORD

### John J. Robinson, Faithful and Valuable Employee at Flint, Mich.

John J. Robinson, Flint, Michigan, died Saturday, November 15, at the age of 76 years. His was the longest record of any one on the payroll of the City of Flint. Mr. Robinson began work in April 1887, and with the exception of a short period or two he had worked almost full time from the day of his first employment.

He moved to Flint when it was a town of 8,000. At that time there were only 24 miles of mains, no meters, and only a few fire hydrants, these mostly in the business section.

His fund of information was of great value to the water company. He knew the location of every main in the city. When the city purchased the plant from a private company, Mr. Robinson supplied the data for the system of blue prints, thus securing a record which had heretofore been carried in man's mind and memory.

Mr. Robinson was born July 4, 1865, at Barrow-in-Furnace, Lancastershire, England, and came to this country in 1879.

He was an earnest, industrious, conscientious man, faithful to every trust in social and civic life and had the respect of all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, a son, four daughters, two sisters, two brothers, fourteen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

■ ■ ■

To believe in men is the first step in helping them.—Anon.

Friendship consists in forgetting what one gives and remembering what one receives.—Dumas.

## WINTER WARNINGS

### Auto Hazards Increase with Cold Weather

Every driver of an automobile must surely know that the hazard of driving in winter is greatly increased by weather conditions. "Motor News," official publication of the Chicago Motor Club, has already called attention to this fact. This period, say engineers of the safety department, begins with the first cold snap, and continues five months. Drivers, therefore, are already in the increased danger circle. Carbon monoxide poison is perhaps a leading cause. The engineers say it lurks in every car.

Leaks in the exhaust systems which allow the poisonous gas to filter into the interior of cars not only result in many asphyxiations each year but also contribute to many traffic accidents. Drivers who inhale even a minute proportion of monoxide become sluggish and unable to cope with emergencies in traffic which they ordinarily handle with ease. Such "gassed" drivers have been found to figure in many cold weather accidents.

The insidious manner in which carbon monoxide claims its victims is its chief danger. Since it has no odor, no taste or color, its presence frequently cannot be detected until too late. Its symptoms, dull headache, nausea or a tired feeling, are usually traced to anything but exhaust fumes.

### SHORT WAVE WARNINGS

1. If you have already checked against leaks, do it again.
2. Always keep one window in the car open.
3. Always be sure the garage doors are open before running the engine.
4. Warn all members of the family of the dangerous monoxide.

### Live Stock on the Road

No matter what your personal opinion may be or how many times you have growled, "There oughta be a law against it," cattle, hogs, horses, and lesser animals still graze along highways. They are a distinct menace. Many states have anti-grazing laws, but these are not entirely effective. "Motor News" warns winter motorists to Florida and some other southern states to beware of this road menace, pointing to ten states wherein live stock is permitted to roam at large, these states being:

Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Florida.

Records of past years show many accidents because of "foot free" live stock.

## THE FIELD OF HONOR?

### Duelling Outlawed by Most Civilized Countries—Some Famous Meetings

Duelling is out in this country and in practically all others except in France where it once flourished to a great extent. It still prevails there to a limited extent, but if newspapers are to be believed French meetings on the field of honor are rather of the opera bouffe type. There was a time, however, when many affairs of honor in that country were tragic, fatal affairs. This murderous method of avenging an insult, either real or fancied is pretty generally in disrepute.

Duelling is of old origin. The private duel existed in France in the early part of the 15th century but was not known in England until the beginning of the 16th century. The practice spread rapidly in the British Isles, where the rapier or the pistol were the favorite arms. The last notable duel in England was fought between the Duke of Wellington and Lord Winchelsea, in 1829 and the practice in France disappeared about 1852.

### Long Illegal in America

Duelling in this country has long been illegal. Heavy penalties have been imposed by all states since the Civil War. It is forbidden by the Articles of War and the Navy Regulations. The first reported duel in the United States was at Plymouth, Mass., in 1681, but no names or particulars are given. The most noteworthy duel in this country was the one between Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, the former being killed.

### Washington Against Duelling

General Washington was opposed to duelling and discouraged it. Upon appeal to him he supported the refusal of General Nathanael Greene to fight Captain Gunn, when challenged by the latter, in 1785.

Other notable duels of historic interest during the Revolutionary period included, General Charles Lee and Col. John Laurens; Generals Cadwallader and Conway; General McIntosh and Button Gwinnett, the latter being mortally wounded.

### Jackson-Dickinson

The most notable duels in the early portion of the nineteenth century were between Andrew Jackson and Charles Dickinson in 1806 in which the latter was killed. Another was the meeting between Thomas H. Benton and Charles Lucas in 1817, the latter being killed. In 1820 Commodore Decatur and Captain Barron, Decatur being killed. Henry Clay and John Randolph



fought in 1826, and Congressman Cilley and Graves met in 1838, the former losing his life. In 1859 Judge Terry and Senator Broderick met to settle some question and the latter was fatally wounded.

#### Some Western Duels

According to history duelling was not confined to any particular class or section. It was resorted to by prominent men in Missouri and near by states. The duelling rendezvous was Bloody Island, on the Illinois side of the Mississippi river. This island, by reasons of change in the river and improvements was joined to Illinois in 1856. The eastern portion of Eads Bridge rests on what was once the island. These and other facts were recently presented to the Missouri Historical Society by Irving Dillard of the Post Dispatch editorial page staff, who also referred to some of the noted duels. In reporting this meeting the Post Dispatch said:

#### Lucas' Pistols

"The pistols held by Charles Lucas, who was killed by Thomas Hart Benton in their second duel were presented to the society by a great grand niece of Lucas."

#### At Five Paces

Another duel described was that in which Joshua Barton, Lucas' second and brother of Missouri's first Senator, David Barton, was killed in 1823 by Thomas Rector, following a dispute over favoritism in appointments by Rector's brother, Gen. William Rector, public lands surveyor for Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas. The speaker also told of a duel in which Maj. Thomas Biddle, who was nearsighted, and Congressman Spencer D. Pettis killed each other at a distance of five feet in 1831.

#### The Hamilton-Burr Duel

Perhaps the most tragic and lamentable of all American duels was that between the great statesman, Alexander Hamilton, and Aaron Burr. They were rivals in politics, and Burr, who was frequently and effectually opposed by Hamilton, on a trivial pretext beguiled him into the duel. Hamilton detested the practice but accepted the challenge to maintain his influence and protect his honor. This duel was fought July 11, 1804, at Weehawken, N. J. Hamilton is credited with firing his pistol into the air. Burr aimed to kill and did. Hamilton was picked up mortally wounded and died the following day. Burr, a man of brilliant mind, a force in politics and society, became an outcast. He left this country for England from which he was promptly expelled. Napoleon would have none of him. He endured privations and insults innumerable, finally returning to the United States to die.

From this brief reference to a detestable practice it may be seen that it was not the resort of men of the middle class but of those of high political, social, and mental talents, including statesmen, jurists, Army and Navy officers.

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## CALIFORNIA STILL LEADS

### Biggest Sectional Group in the A.W.W.A.

California section of the American Water Works Association, continues to be the largest in the country. This fact was brought out at the recent annual meeting by Wm. W. Hurlburt, chairman of the membership committee. Forty new members have been secured and the total membership of the section is now 547. This section will doubtless continue to hold fast to the "old oaken bucket," symbol of the largest sectional membership.

In attendance at this meeting were National President Louis R. Howson, Harry J. Jordan, secretary of the National Association, George W. Pracy, San Francisco, W. W. Hurlburt, Los Angeles.

Harry Jordan, secretary of the National Association, came direct to the meeting from a visit with the Federal Officials of the O.P.M., and had valuable information to report.

Louis R. Howson, National President, stated that the organization had grown fifty per cent in the last five years. The membership is now 4,250.

Important new committees are now at work for the National Association was mentioned by President Howson.

One is studying and accumulating facts on depreciation accruals, life history and mortality of water works materials. A new management committee is concerned with the diversion of water works funds and is endeavoring to develop a model form of management organization. The third is the new priority defense committee, whose activities were reported by Secretary Jordan.

There are now 12,800 water works in the United States. They serve 82,000,000 people. About 30,000,000 of these are served by 2,100 water treatment plants. A survey in 1924 showed that water systems accounted for 73.4 per cent of production.

Today, due to better maintenance of meters, approximately 85 per cent of water production is accounted for. Five hundred and eighty plants in the country soften water as well as filtering it.

(Continued on page 19)

# Thirty-five Centuries of Service

The annual dinner and other exercises in honor of Mueller Veterans were held at the Club House on the evening of November 17, and brought forth an attendance of some 130 men and women whose term of service exceeded twenty years or more. While this is purely a local affair of interest principally to Mueller employees, we feel that it will be of interest to many of our readers, because of some unusual facts brought out. For instance, the combined years of service represented by those present with a record

ladies are all proud of their record, but age considerations make them rather reticent to going into too much detail.

### Hold Important Positions

However, the one who has served over 35 years occupies the important position of Billing Clerk. Another over 25 years is in an important position in the factory, those over 20 years are stenographers in the office of the chairman of the board, another is in the purchasing department, another in the office of the general sales manager, an-



Numerals following names indicate years of service: Seated, left to right—J. W. Wells, secretary, 25; W. E. Mueller, president and treasurer, 20; A. G. Webber, Sr., an employee of Hieronymus Mueller and later a prominent member of the Macon county bar, 52; Adolph Mueller, chairman of the board, 52; R. H. Mueller, chief engineer, 40; L. W. Mueller, vice-president and works manager, 20; J. W. Simpson, vice-president and general sales manager, 42; Frank H. Mueller, director of research and development, 15. Standing—A. G. Webber, Jr., attorney for the company; Louis Schario, 45; Harvey Camron, 43; William Seeforth, 46; William H. Campbell, 48; B. J. Marty, 47; Lewis Fagan, 42; J. P. Thorpe, 40; August Schudziara, 43; Charles Laughlin, 41.

exceeding twenty years or more reached the grand total of

### Thirty-five Centuries of Service

There are not many industrial plants that can equal this record. Mueller Co. is proud of it and we are sure that employees sharing in it are proud of their part.

### Terms of Service

The terms of service of the different groups are:

Over 50 years.....	2
Over 45 years.....	4
Over 40 years.....	7
Over 35 years.....	13
Over 30 years.....	23
Over 25 years.....	17
Over 20 years.....	64
	130

Among these were women who hold the following long term services:

One over 35 years, one over 25 years, seven over 20 years. With customary gallantry we refrain from giving names. The

other is the cashier, another is our chemist, and the two remaining have important places in the factory. These ladies have held the same position throughout their terms of service. That's another interesting record.

The dinner served in our cafeteria was enlivened by the appearance of the professional floor entertainer, Patricia Melville, Chicago.

The exercises opened with the singing of "Star Spangled Banner" and "America." On one side of the platform was the flag on a standard, and at the other side was a bronze bust of Hieronymus Mueller.

### Service Buttons Awarded

The award of service buttons to those entitled to them was made upstairs after brief speeches from the platform which was occupied by those who had served forty years or more.

Frank Mueller, officiated as chairman, introducing the principal speakers and those employees of the group with more than 40

# Typified by 130 Mueller Veterans



Numerals following names indicate years of service. Standing, left to right: Chas. Cochran, 20; J. P. Thorpe, 40; George Patterson, 35; C. N. Wagenseller, 35; Frank Taylor, 25; Earl Meador, 30; M. H. Stratman, 20; Mike Fleckenstein, 30; Cal McQuality, 20; Herman Salefski, 35; Ernest Waddell, 20; Alva Morrison, 25. Seated: John Gray, 20; J. W. Wells, 25; Roy Pease, 35; Ed Harris, 32; O. J. Hawkins, 30; George White, 22; Laura Becker, 25; Henry Leipski, 20; Al Lindamood, 27; Roy Coffman, 20; Cecil Kelley, 20; Charles Gilmore, 20.

years of service. Frank's genial personality and his happy faculty of frequent humorous allusions to the different speakers contributed much to putting the company in a friendly and receptive frame of mind.

Addresses were made by W. E. Mueller, president, Adolph Mueller, chairman of the board, James P. Thorpe, over 40 years service, Louis Schario, over 45 years service, Charles Laughlin, Robert H. Mueller, and A. G. Webber, Sr., who was one time an employe of Hieronymus Mueller and later for many years a prominent attorney, and the company's legal adviser. He was presented with a diamond set emblem as a member of the organization who has served 50 years or more and responded in a brief address of appreciation for this recognition of his service, and association with the company and employe. All of the speeches were mostly of a reminiscent character.

Pins emblematic of other terms of service were given as follows:

Forty-five years or over—Louis Schario

Forty years or over—James P. Thorpe

Thirty-five years or over:—

Roy B. Pease

George Patterson

C. N. Wagenseller

Herman Salefski

Richard E. Kirchner

Thirty years or over:

Orville J. Hawkins

Michael Fleckenstein

Earl Meador

Twenty-five years or over:

Laura Becker

Alva Morrison

J. W. Wells

Frank E. Taylor

\*O. H. Sharlock

\*J. P. Stenner

\*Geo. F. Sullivan

Twenty years or over:

Charles E. Cochran

Henry Leipski

Charles Gilmore

John Gray

Cal McQuality

Cecil Kelley

Martin Stratman

Ernest Waddell

Roy Coffman

\*Geo. W. White

\*Paul L. Hines

\*Harold A. Probst

\*Salesmen

Footnote: In the above we have given the number of those over certain years of service, and not the exact number of years. For instances, in the 20-year group, there are ten persons who have exactly 20 years of service. The remaining 54 have from 21-24 years of service.

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## GIFTS TO EMPLOYEES

Wednesday, December 17, the afternoon quitting whistle sounded a half-hour earlier than usual, and in five minutes the entire force was streaming into the gymnasium for the exercises attending the annual distribution of the company's Christmas presents. Preceding this, exercises were held in the gymnasium. Here the members of the force got their first glimpse of the gay

(Continued on Page 32)

# A. G. A. OFFICERS FOR 1941-1942

The recent meeting of the American Gas Association, Atlantic City, brought an attendance of 1800 representative men of the gas industry of the United States and Canada. It was a patriotic business gathering, a fact emphasized by the absence of formal social features, which formerly held a prominent place on the programs.

Also, the length of the meeting was abbreviated, continuing for only three days, and all this time was devoted to business.

National defense was the outstanding theme. The sessions moved in punctual orderliness under the leadership of Major T. J. Strickler, president of the Association. Major Strickler, as head of the A.G.A. had a strenuous year, facing many questions of great importance to the industry as a result of world conditions.

New officers for 1941-42 are: President, George S. Hawley, president of the Bridgeport Gas Light Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut; Vice-President, Arthur F. Bridges, vice-president and general manager of the Southern Counties Gas Co., Los Angeles; Treasurer, Ernest R. Acker, President, Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corporation, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.



Arthur F. Bridges  
V. P. of A.G.A.

Speaking before the general session, President Strickler took for his subject, "The American Gas Association on the Job." He referred to the Association as a vital agency in modern industry and as one fully equal to the responsibilities of this extraordinary period.

"The American Gas Association is an agency of efficiency, of democracy, and for the preservation of fair competition. In all of its operations it has conducted itself in accordance with these ethical standards, which are universally accepted today as the



George S. Hawley  
Pres. of A.G.A.

measure of honest and enlightened administration.

"No gas company imbued with true industry consciousness can afford to be a non-cooperator. As a matter of fact, the problems facing all business today will require, before they are solved, a more intimate cooperation. Individualism, if persisted in, will but further delay the return of normal conditions. The crying need of the moment is for industrial solidarity."

Mr. George S. Hawley in accepting the presidency of the A.G.A., spoke in a serious vein. He said the Association could carry on successfully the work of the century-old yet ever new industry, perhaps not so successful in the monetary sense, but performing our full duty and pleasure to crush out of existence the ugly thing, Hitlerism. Uppermost in our minds is the tremendous defense program. In all its ramifications we pledge unswerving attention; nothing must interfere with it to the end that "freedom shall not perish from the earth."

"My belief is profound in the ultimate destruction of the world's worst enemy of civilization, but my faith, not so strong in America being able after the 'tumult and shouting dies' to keep intact the economic fabric which has held the people of the United States together in the enjoyment

of what we have called the American way of life. Through it all we must maintain our faith, difficult though it may be, in the homely fundamentals which have made us great. We must possess and practice them and also maintain intelligent self-interest, tolerance and dogged insistence upon what is right in government as well as in business. We do not ask for a complete return to ante-bellum times. We do ask for such balance between powers and obligations, responsibilities and opportunities, that the sovereign people shall in truth be sovereign, for only thus can the glory of the highest civilization be exemplified in our own blessed America."

■ ■ ■  
You Gotta

"What is the difference between a bathroom and a cemetery?"

"There is no difference. When you gotta go—you gotta go."



Ernest R. Acker  
Treas. of A.G.A.

## DEATH OF T. E. BURKE

Many Years Prominent in Labor  
Circles—Formerly Mueller Man



*The late Thomas E. Burke*

Thomas E. Burke, for many years general secretary-treasurer of the United Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada, died of a heart attack, Providence Hospital, Seattle, Washington, aged 77 years. He had been attending the Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor and was stricken on October 10. His body was brought back to his home in Washington, D. C. Funeral services were held and burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Washington, D. C.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Margaret D. Burke, a son, Thomas E. Burke S.S.J., a brother, Peter Burke.

Mr. Burke stood high in labor circles and during his long association with United Association of Journeyman Plumbers and Steam Fitters he was entrusted with much work of importance. One of these missions was as fraternal delegate of the A. F. of L. to the British Trade Union Congress at Brighton, England, Sept. 4-9, 1933. He addressed this convention.

He was appointed delegate to the Workers Education Bureau of America to the Worlds Convention held in Copenhagen, and in addition, while there, attended conferences in other countries.

He was in sympathy with and aided the committee to defend America in aiding the allies and whole heartedly supported our government and president on the foreign policy in the present crisis.

Mr. Burke was widely known for his

kindly, charitable, and understanding way in dealing with his fellowmen. Busy as he was he took a night course in the Chicago College of Law from which he graduated.

He was born March 8, 1864, Points Pass, County Armagh, Ireland and received his early education in a Catholic school conducted by the Christian brothers, coming to the United States at the age of 15 years.

The members of this company and some of the older employees learned of Mr. Burke's death with deep sorrow. He was well known to them and they appreciate the many fine qualities which were a part of his life. Mr. Adolph Mueller always made it a point to call on him when in the national capital.

Mr. Martin P. Durkin, who succeeds to the office of secretary-treasurer writes us: "Mr. Burke often spoke of his former connection with the Mueller Co. and his long friendship with Mr. Adolph and other members of the company."

■ ■ ■

(Continued from page 15)

### Award to Prof. Hyde

The Fuller award this year went to Charles Gilman Hyde, professor of sanitary engineering, University of California, Berkeley, in recognition of 36 years of teaching in the field; the introduction of chlorination in California in 1908; pioneering work in water filtration and long service to the California Section, of which he is one of the founders.

The gadget award went to Orla Casad, water superintendent of Merced, for a unique and effective device used in laying and leveling pipe.

Richard Bennett, water superintendent, Phoenix, speaking for the Arizona Water and Sewage Association presented a plaque emblematic of life membership in the association to R. E. Goudey, sanitary engineer, Los Angeles, in appreciation of his services and cooperation.

### New Officials

Morris S. Jones, chief engineer and general manager, Pasadena Water Department, chairman of the California section.

J. S. Peters, chief engineer, Marin Municipal Utility Division, vice-chairman.

Gerald E. Arnold, chief water purification engineer, San Francisco, re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Robert C. Kennedy, assistant chief engineer, East Bay Utility Dis. Oakland, and Jephtha Wade, Dist. Engineer, California Water Service Co., San Francisco, were named new members of the executive committee.

## Animals In The News

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



• This has grown to be a "doggy" world. Man's best friend now rides in automobiles, is welcome in many of the best hotels, and can now ride on trains, at least on the C. & E. I. line. No less a person than Mr. C. T. Oneal, president of that line tells us so in his "President's Message" page of the C. & E. I. "Flyer Magazine." The opening paragraph shows Mr. Oneal to be a man appreciating the many fine qualities of dogs. He says:

"When I first came to Chicago, I remember seeing Frank Ritter, the blind violinist who stood before the Auditorium Theater and played while opera patrons were leaving for their homes. He was a well known figure, and I recall especially the little white fox terrier who led him up and down Michigan Avenue and about the city; how the little dog was careful to keep the leash taut; and the solicitude with which he looked back to see if all were well with his Master. This was several years before the 'Seeing Eye' dog, and the little fox terrier was many dog steps ahead of his times."

Mr. Oneal adds that his railroad now permits the same coach accommodations for "Seeing Eye" dogs as for a person, except that the dog may not occupy a seat. If a passenger occupies a bedroom, compartment or drawing room he may take his "Seeing Eye" dog with him. Dogs which are household pets are accorded the same facilities, except that they may not ride in day coaches. All this without charge. More than this the company carries a fair share of dog food and other supplies for dogs.

Three rousing bow-wows for Mr. Oneal and the C. & E. I. Men who love dogs are as a rule humane, sympathetic and kindly.

A busy man like Mr. Oneal, who remembers Frank Ritter and his faithful little fox terrier for so many years, couldn't be anything else.

• Rags was a dog of doubtful ancestry, but he made friends readily as "greeter" at the four million dollar passenger station in Atlantic City. He met all trains, sniffed all comers and wagged his tail joyously. He did this for 12 years and when he died memorial services were held and a plaque on one corner of the station was dedicated to

Rags. There were many dignitaries present, a brass band, and city officials. The plaque was donated by J. W. Hemmerly, manager of the Pittsburg Steel Co. The inscription, "In memory of Rags, a great mascot and a good railroader." Several eulogistic speeches were made and the band played "The Whistler and His Dog," and other musical selections in which dogs figured.

• Frank J. Huges, Larchmont, N. Y., sued Veterinarian Dr. Sol Shapers for \$1,000, charging that four inches of his show dog's tail had been cut off when it became infected through improper care of the animal. After three minutes deliberation the jury threw out the Hughes claim and sustained Dr. Shapers charge of \$81 for care of the animal.

• A very pretty story of dogs faithfulness comes from Los Angeles, first in the telegraph and then in photographs by Associated Press. Three dogs attracted much attention by standing guard over a fourth apparently injured dog lying by the curb. When any one approached the "three musketeers" showed their teeth and growled ominously. Finally the injured dog limped away surrounded and guarded by his three friends.

• The story of this little dog was very much in the news. "Skippy" belonged to Mary Fletcher, aged 8, living in a five story apartment on West 66th street. Some mischievous boys dropped the puppy down the chimney, figuring the animal would continue down to the basement. They did not know that it was a blind chimney stopping at the third floor. Representatives of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, firemen, policemen, newspaper men, and photographers figured in the canine tragedy. When discovered that "Skippy's" downward journey ended at the third floor, bricks were knocked out of the wall and the little girl's pet was restored to her. "Skippy" made all the Metropolitan papers with a big story and a page of pictures.

• Johnny Wood, two years old, Syracuse, N. Y., caught his foot in an iron drain pipe. His pet chow began the rescue work by barking, his mother brought a chair for him to sit on, an apple to munch, and called the police to free her son. It required forty-five minutes disinterested attention from Johnny before he was freed. One of the police, with a yard stick, straightened out Johnny's foot in the pipe and the rest was easy.

● We've all heard about the gentleness and timidity of deer but this reputation does not apply to the buck that leaped a six foot fence and landed in Shirley Featheringells pasture over in Indiana. In turn the deer put to flight a horse, an ugly tempered old boar, and a roaming, roaring bull, all of them having resented the buck's presence. The "timid" animal was left alone in the pasture. The buck is supposed to have escaped from a game preserve.

● Small boy in the Ozarks sent to the timber to call Grandpa to supper. Old man was standing silently in the brush chawin' his favorite brand.

"Gettin' dark, Grandpap."

"Yep."

"Suppertime, Grandpap."

"Yep."

"Ain't ye hungry?"

"Yep."

"Wal, air ye comin' home?"

"Nope."

"Why ain't ye?"

"Standin' in a b'ar trap."

● Poochie Toots the Horn—Mrs. Gene Nachtwey, has a year old fox terrier, Poochie. Locked in the automobile while his mistress was shopping, Poochie indulged in his trick of blowing the horn. He kept it tootin' nearly an hour, to the amusement of a large crowd and the mortification of his mistress.

■ ■ ■

#### It Can't!—But Does

"It can't happen to me," idea has been the initial cause of putting many a good man and woman in the hospital. What an absurd thing to say and to believe. Accidents are not foreseen. Don't take our word for it. Look at Webster's dictionary and read the definition of accident. It follows:

"An event that takes place without one's foresight or expectation; an undesigned sudden and unexpected event! often an undesigned and unforeseen occurrence of an afflictive or unfortunate character."

There is no justification for saying "it can't happen to me," and the very use of it stamps you as thoughtless and liable to injury. In the strict sense of the word "accidents," happen to anyone—at home, on the street, in the car, or the factory, but in a great majority of these you are guilty of contributory negligence. It is through becoming safety conscious that you do not contribute through carelessness to these so-called accidents.

## THE AMERICAN WAY

### Two Prominent Men—Canadian and American—Give Opinions

Roy W. Moore, President, Canada Dry Ginger Ale, Inc.: "The American way is the way of liberty. It is the right of a man to think his own thoughts through, and to express them decently in print or by word of mouth. It is the right of assembly and petition. It is the right of protection against tyranny of ukase and edict as opposed to the due process of responsible law. It is the right to choose that device of relations with the Almighty spirit of Life which best will nurture the individual's spirit. It is the right to choose those officers of governance who must truly represent the will and the conscience of the people, and to hold them to the responsibility of representation."

"And it is the right of the individual to engage in any decent occupation of his choice, and to follow it where he wishes, and to reap as his reward such returns as are in decency earned by his skill, his ability, his energy, and his effort."

#### The American Idea

William S. Knudsen, Director General, Office of Production Management: "To the American people democracy is not a theory. It is a reality. To my way of thinking, democracy means a country, a city, a community, a factory, a farm, a school or a simple home, where men and women and children live in justice and charity. The justice is not imposed upon them by some centralized authority—it is in their own souls."

■ ■ ■

Salesman (wiping the sweat from his brow)—"I'm afraid, madam, we've shown you all our stock of linoleum, but we could get more from our factory."

Customer: "Well, perhaps you had better! You see, I want something of a neater pattern and quite small—just a little square for my bird cage!"

There is always a Christmas tie between father and son—and the son usually wears it.

A woman's fondest wish is to be weighed and found wanting.

Foreign property in the United States of which control has been taken by the government now exceeds \$7,000,000,000 in value.

## The Auto Line



There are certain distinguishing marks about this illustration which will convince the reader that it is, or it was, an automobile. It was one of those autos which would go anywhere that any car could go and many places where any other car could not go. This 1912 variety had to do all this over unpaved highways and dirt roads. It was something of a mud-turtle but the owner, Lon Taylor, was as proud of it as today's owner is of his Packard or Lincoln. Lon was the envy of all the farmers on his mail route, but that was before all the farmers had cars of their own, enabling them to shoot ridicule instead of envy and admiration at the mail carrier's then modern conveyance. In those days an automobile was regarded as a rich man's toy and but few persons believed that the day would ever come when they would be more generally driven than a horse.

### BIG NOISE:

First Autoist: "My car has a noise in the rear."

Second Autoist: "Yeah! My wife rides in the back seat, too."

### AND HE HEARD PLENTY

Auto Owner: "Well," said the owner of the automobile after the smash, "all that I can say is I'm sorry."

Truck Driver: "Oh, is that all you can say?"

"Why, yes."

"Well, then listen to me."

### SILENT TOOT

"Anything the matter with the car?"

"Well, there's only one part of it that doesn't make a noise and that's the horn."

### GRANDMA GOT GAY

Twinkle, twinkle little star,  
Grandma in her Xmas car,  
Pushed the throttle down too far.  
Flowers from the D. A. R.

—International Silver Co. News.

### NEW CURE

Gas Station Attendant: "This high test gas will stop all knocking in your car, sir."

Motorist: "Thanks. I'll put a spoonful in my wife's coffee tomorrow morning."

### KNOWS ALL THE ANSWERS

"What would your wife say if you bought a new car?"

"Look out for that traffic-light! Be careful now! Don't hit that truck! Why don't you watch where you're going? Will you never learn? And a lot more like that."

### NOT SLIPPING

Lou: "My clutch is slipping."

Sue: "It's not noticeable, darling, you're nearly squeezing the breath out of me."

### OH! THOSE TRAVELING MEN

Blonde: "Don't you love driving on a moonlight night like this?"

Salesman: "Yeah, but I thought I'd wait until we found a parking place."

### WEANING IT

Service Man—"How much gas?"

Driver—"One gallon."

Service Man—"What's the idea—weaning it?"

### RUMBLE ON

The boy sat in the rumble seat,

His head was in a whirl;

His eyes and mouth were full of hair

His arms were full of girl.

### TWO BASE HIT

"And so," said the magistrate, "this is the fifth person you've knocked down this year."

"Pardon me," said the girl motorist, with dignity, "the fourth. One of them was the same person twice."

### REAR END COLLISION

Doctor: "Why do you have BF7652 tattooed on your back?"

Patient: "That's not tattooed, doctor. That's where my wife ran into me with the car when I was opening the gates."



# FEBRUARY

## GAVE TO THIS NATION THREE GREAT PRESIDENTS OF THE OLD SCHOOL . . . .

January gave us three presidential birthdays, those of Millard Fillmore, William McKinley and Franklin D. Roosevelt, and February does likewise. The presidents of January have already been mentioned in this series.

February is the outstanding month of the year because it is the birth month of Washington and Lincoln. The third president was William Henry Harrison.

The history of George Washington is so well known that it seems to us more interesting to touch upon some purely personal portion of his life.

When the great leader came in from a long horseback ride of inspection over his vast plantation, Mrs. Washington always had ready for him sugar cakes, biscuits, chocolate cakes, and hot mulled chocolate.

Washington was a good dresser. His clothes were made in London. "Whatever you send me," he wrote his tailor, "let them be fashionable."

He loved company. In two months of 1768 he entertained at dinner or had guests on 29 days.

Among his diversions, his biographers tell us "that he loved race horses, contributed to racing purses, and entered his own horses. He liked good wine, the theatre, dancing, cock-fighting and circuses.

A wit, when taken to Washington's boyhood home and told that Washington had tossed a shilling across the Rappahannock river, promptly remarked "that's nothing, he later tossed a sovereign across the Atlantic ocean."

It is claimed that Washington did not think a third term improper. Even this early there was a good bit of political mudslinging and he was tired of public life and sought quiet and rest in his home.

His last birthday was in 1799. On that day his adopted daughter was married to Major Lawrence Lewis. He was Washington's favorite nephew.

Washington stood six feet two inches, which is above the average. He weighed 175 pounds in 1759 and 250 the year before he died.

His eyes were dark blue, or perhaps as some claim, a cold gray. He had been a victim of small-pox and his face was marked by the disease.

Washington is said to have been highly emotional. Jefferson wrote of him, "His temper was naturally irritable and high-

toned. If ever it broke its bounds he was most tremendous in his wrath."

After all he was just a man as he admitted in a contact with a small boy who, at a reception, had raised a rumpus "to see the great man." When he met Washington he was disappointed and exploded with "Why, he's only a man!". Washington bowed gravely and said: "Yes, my boy, I am only a man after all."

### The Great Lincoln

And as with Washington so it is with Lincoln. There is little left to add to the millions of words of praise, sympathy, eulogy, and worship of this plain man of the Illinois prairies. But there still remains the grandeur of his character, his patient suffering through the horrors of Civil War, his unflinching human adherence to right principles, and his untimely death at the hands of an assassin. Along this line Ex-governor Fifer, known as "Private Joe," shortly before his death, quoted from Herman Hoch's tribute to Lincoln. The governor had found this tribute in his reading and he searched for six years before finding the authors name. To many of the readers, we believe, it will be something new. Here it is:

#### Private Joe's

#### Favorite Lincoln Tribute

"There is no new thing to be said of Lincoln. There is no new thing to be said of the mountains, or of the sea, or of the stars. The years go their way, but the same old mountains lift their granite shoulders above the drifting clouds, the same mysterious sea beats upon the shore, and the same silent stars keep holy vigil above a tired world. But to mountains and sea and stars men turn forever in unwearied homage. And thus with Lincoln. For he was mountain in grandeur of soul, he was sea in deep under-voice of mystic loneliness, he was a star in steadfast purity of purpose and of service. And he abides."—Herman Hoch.

Governor Fifer told at length of the first speech he heard by Lincoln, giving a colorful word picture and to the seemingly awkward orator he credits these words:

"Judge Douglas charges me," he said, "with being in favor of Negro equality. I have never advocated Negro equality. I do not believe the Negro is the equal of the white man. He may not be his equal in color; he is not his equal in education, and he certainly is not his equal in social attainments. But in the right to eat the bread his own hands have earned he is the equal of Judge Douglas, or of myself, or of any living man."

(Continued on page 24)

(Continued from page 23)

We have all heard of Lincoln's "lost speech." They were all lost according to the governor, because every speech Lincoln made was a lost speech, because of the magnetism of the man, and his great earnestness of tone and manner and countenance became a vital part of his speech.

In repose Lincoln, according to Governor Fifer, was the saddest looking man he had ever seen.

The reference by Lincoln to the negroes, quoted above, brings to mind one of the innumerable stories credited to him.

During the war the President and Secretary Stanton were driving along the highway when an old negro took off his tattered hat and bowed to them, Lincoln promptly removed his hat and bowed. "Why, Mr. President, you certainly don't mean to take off your hat to bow to a negro" asked Secretary Stanton. "Certainly sir," replied the president, "I can't permit a negro to out do me in politeness."

Which we think one of the best of Lincoln stories. It is so true to the character of the man as we know it from the pages of history.

#### "Old Tippecanoo"

Wm. Henry Harrison was our ninth president. He was born at Berkeley, Virginia, February 9, 1773. His father was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Wm. Henry Harrison entered the United States Army in 1791 and under General Wayne participated in many battles against the Indians. Afterward he was secretary of the Northwest Territory whose delegate he was in Congress 1799-1800. Following this he became governor of the Indiana territory, which comprised the now states of Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan. He also served in this territory as United States Indian commissioner. He defeated the Indians in a big battle at Tippecanoe, Nov. 7, 1811. During the war of 1812 he was first a brigadier and then major general. Resigning his commission in 1814 he settled at North Bend in Ohio which state he represented in congress 1816-1819 and in the senate in 1825-28. In 1835 he was nominated for president by the bulk of the Whigs, and was also candidate of the Anti-Masonic party. He was beaten by Van Buren but was again nominated in 1839 by the Whigs and this time he defeated Van Buren. This last campaign was an exuberant, boisterous affair. It was at this time that processions, camp meetings, badges and other innovations were injected into politics. Harrison was elected in 1840 with John Tyler as vice president but died one month after his inauguration.

## MUNICIPAL

In these days of taxes here, taxes there, and taxes everywhere, it is pleasant reading the fact of Houston's big expansion program without an additional tax burden. The fact was furnished the AMERICAN CITY by Burt Rule, statistician, Houston, Texas. The citizens have approved by a vote of more than two to one a bond issue of improvements totaling \$8,470,000.

There will be no increase in Houston's tax rate, as the city is retiring \$2,000,000 or more annually in city bonds paying interest rates as high as 6 per cent, and averaging more than 4 per cent. Slightly larger amounts of new bonds with a lower interest rate—the bond market is now under 2 per cent—can be issued each year without raising the tax rate of assessments.

#### What Houston Will Do

This bond issue provides for the following:

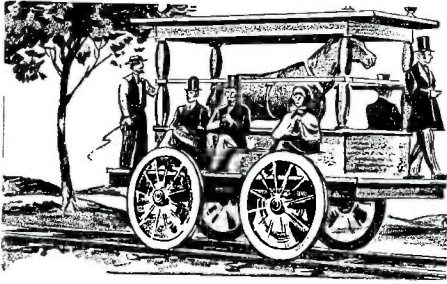
Sanitary sewers .....	\$2,500,000
Storm sewers .....	1,400,000
Permanent paving .....	700,000
Flood control .....	1,000,000
Airport, improvements .....	800,000
Bituminous paving .....	300,000
Tuberculosis hospital .....	650,000
Opening and widening streets....	600,000
Fire alarm extensions.....	320,000
Traffic control devices.....	100,000
Parks and recreation centers.....	100,000

The work outlined is planned to cover a period of three years.

#### Another Southwest Progressive City

There are a lot of larger cities than we find in the south and southwest. They are alive, alert, and progressive as shown by Houston. There is another city of much the same type, Oklahoma City, which did a nation wide service in solving the parking problem, through the use of meters. These have been discussed pro and con, but here in Decatur we have found them not only useful and convenient as well as profitable. The argument that meters were only an additional car expense has been forgotten in the convenience they offer. The average driver is perfectly willing to pay a nickel to park his car for an hour. The parking meter was not invented by a machinist, but by Carl Magee, lawyer, editor, and inventor, of Oklahoma City, where the meter was first tested out and where it is now manufactured. Three hundred and more cities have adopted meters. In many of these there was strenuous objection, but by close observers it is the opinion that cities which once give the meters a fair test would not be without them. They have been used in Oklahoma City since July 16, 1935.

# Rail oddities



Before railroads reached the present standard of speed, comfort, and convenience there were many problems which had to be solved. Some of the ideas were clumsy, and in the light of the progress of today, we might say crazy. Like all other successful enterprises it was a sort of a hit and miss undertaking. Little was known of track laying, road beds, ties, and power. We are not making these statements on our own authority but on the authority of the American Association of Railroads. It was from this association that we got the illustration above. Some unknown genius conceived the idea that a horse on a tread-mill would furnish the necessary propelling power. He therefore constructed a sort of flat car and installed his tread-mill on the platform. The illustration tells the story better than words. The inventor was trying to get somewhere. He did not get very far, neither did his car. Today when we look at or ride in one of the magnificent stream lined trains it is to laugh at the tread mill car of early days.

■ ■ ■

In the year just closed, the railroads paid in taxes approximately four hundred billion dollars. This was equivalent to 36.8 cents out of each dollar of net earnings. Staggering! Not a knock-out, but—there are other years coming.

Things that seem recent or new to younger generations, and forgotten or accepted as common practice by the older generations, are neither old nor new. There are the refrigerator cars. First patent was issued in 1867, but it was quite a few years later that the cars came into practical service.

Railroad statisticians tell us that 16,000 persons lost their lives at railroad grade crossings during the past ten years. In the next ten years with the increase of new cars

on the highway, this average of 1,600 a year should be maintained if not increased. There are still thousands of drivers foolish enough to try beating the trains to the crossings.

Being a big industry everything connected with railroad enterprises are proportionately larger, such as fire losses. In 1940 these amounted to \$3,577,764. The railroads seemingly find some consolation in the fact that this was less than any year since compilation of records began in 1919, excepting the year 1935.

Thieves have always marked railroads as easy prey, and in times past losses have been heavy. Under police surveillance this costly leak has been greatly curtailed. During the first half of 1941 this loss had decreased to one-fifth of a mill for every ton of freight handled.

"I'm sorry," said the conductor of the fast through train, "but you can't use this ticket. It says New York to Buffalo—not Buffalo to New York."

"Don't worry about that," replied the nonchalant passenger, "I intend to ride backwards all the way!"

A woman passenger on the Pennsylvania express held up the train for thirteen minutes at Harrisburg, until she finished her lunch. She won. If she knew what the train crew said about her she'd probably sue for slander.

■ ■ ■

## A "SMOKE HAWK"

The Indianapolis Board of Safety is after the smoke nuisance. A "smoke hawk" has been named, and is stationed in the observation tower on the city building. According to the American Municipal Association, he is to spot and give the approximate location of excessive smoke sources, either to the smoke inspector or to the police, who are thus enabled to search out the violator. In addition, the "smoke hawk" keeps the clerical records on smoke control activities.

■ ■ ■

He: "There goes a fellow who seems to take the worst possible view of everything."

She: "A pessimist, is he?"

He: "No, he's a candid camera fiend."

## Out Of The Ordinary

**Begged for Return to Pen:** Mrs. Emma Marshall, given a life sentence in the Alabama penitentiary in 1932, on conviction of murdering her husband, has been twice paroled, evidence having been produced tending to show her innocence. Twice she has pleaded to be returned to the prison to finish her term so that she "might watch over and help girls doing time." Her last release came 18 months ago, since which she has constantly pleaded for her return, saying "I can do a lot of good among the girls." She finally convinced members of the parole board and has been permitted to return. Mrs. Marshall is 77 years old.

**Got License on Credit:** George Guinery, Hugo, Okla., aged 101, prepared for his marriage by securing his license made out in advance and then awaited his pension check so he could pay for it. When it came 100 guests looked on while George and Flora McCarty, aged 22, agreed to cling to each other until "death doth them part." Looks like the bride got the best of the bargain, but the groom was resourceful in financing the affair.

**Four Women Lose:** Four women of Yatesville, Pa., opposed their husbands for village offices. Four women are still doing their housework, and four men are passing out cigars.

**College President In New Role:** Three young children of Prof. and Mrs. Carl Bergonann, U. of C., left alone one evening, became frightened. Dorothea, aged six, remembering her father call a certain phone number, succeeding in doing likewise, saying: "I don't know who you are but I know you are a friend of my Dad's. Our girl is gone and we are scared. Won't you come and stay with us." When the Professor and wife returned from a party they found the children in care of University President Stearns.

**May Save Snap Shot:** T. S. Jopsong and a farmer friend, Bismarck, N. D., went duck hunting and bagged twenty fine mallard. They laid these out in a "look pleasant position," photographed them, and then went for a cup of coffee. When they returned they found a drove of satisfied swine licking their chops and grunting gleefully. The

swine ought to make a fine quality of bacon and ham. All Jopsong gets will be a photograph of his day's shooting—that is if he didn't fail to push the button.

**Shave Heads:** Scalping is the penalty for opening a jack-pot in Yugoslavia. Police have forbidden card gambling games, and the penalty regardless of sex is a shaved head.

**Snakes in His Boots:** Conrad Schisler, gasoline filling station, couldn't get his boot on one foot. Naturally he felt inside and pulled out a good sized grass snake. The boot sailed away in one direction and the snake disappeared in another.

■ ■ ■

### THE NATION'S CAPITAL

The war bull is in the industrial china shop.

★ ★ ★

The Government has entered almost every conceivable lending field except pawn-broking.

★ ★ ★

The mood today is that an optimist is a man who is uncertain about the future. If we feel that nothing better than that is ahead for America, let us remind ourselves of the two skeletons in a closet. One said to the other: "We'd get out of this, if we had any guts."

★ ★ ★

Tired after a hard day, a distinguished Congressman in Washington handed the menu back to the waiter and said: "Just bring me a good meal."

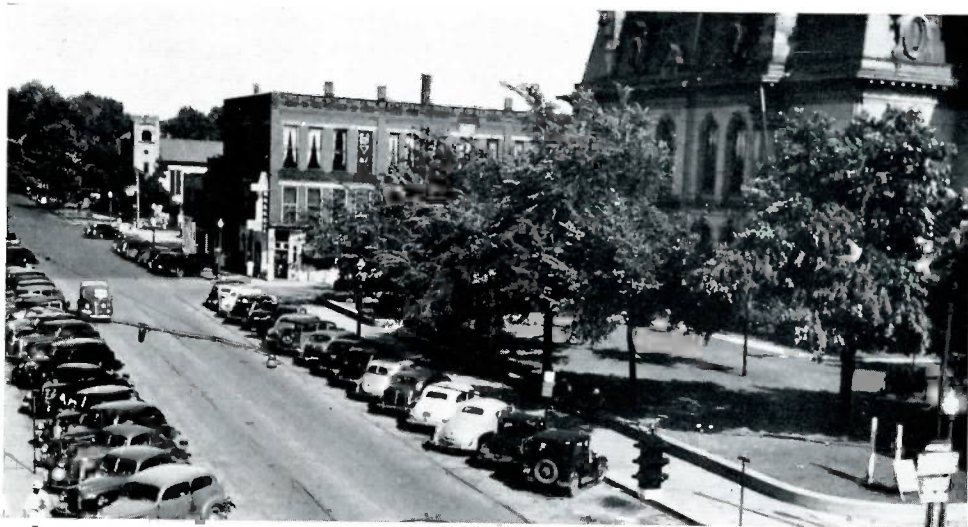
A good meal was served and the Congressman gave the waiter a generous tip.

"Thank yo', suh," the waiter said, "An' if you got any fren's what can't read, you jus' sen' 'em to me, suh."

★ ★ ★

Questions about the desirability and propriety of federal action respecting the dimensions and weights of motor vehicles that may use highways in a state, or particular highways, appeared in hearings opened on December 8 by a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce. Legislation giving the Interstate Commerce Commission such powers was recommended by a majority of the Commission in a report made at the end of July, after an investigation extending over three years and embodied in a volume of more than 700 pages of material.

# America's First Concrete Street



*Bellefontaine Court House Square where the First Concrete Street in America Was Laid a Half Century Ago*

Hundreds of thousands of automobile drivers rolling over hundreds of thousands of smooth concrete highways in happiness and comfort give little thought to the fact that it is the perfection of the roadway that makes all this possible.

Without such highways automobiles never would have reached their remarkable popularity.

And yet these highways have been developed in the last half century. Bellefontaine, Ohio, claims the honor of the first concrete street in America. It was laid in 1891—that was prior to “the horseless carriage days.” We referred to “hundreds of thousands of miles” of this pavement now in use. Sounded a bit extravagant, but the Portland Cement Association tells us that “since this street was built, concrete has been chosen for enough streets and roads to pave *“a four-lane express highway 2½ times around the world at the equator.”*

Bellefontaine met the half century anniversary of its “first concrete street in America” with fitting ceremonies, sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce. We have been furnished with an account of this celebration as well as some historical facts, which should be of interest to our readers. It follows:

“On June 13, 1941, the city of Bellefontaine, Ohio, took a day off to celebrate the fiftieth year of use of the first concrete street in America. The celebration, sponsored by the Bellefontaine Junior Chamber of Com-

merce, was climaxed by the coronation of Miss Merriem Rosebrook, of Huntsville, Ohio, as “Queen of Concrete” and by the unveiling on the lawn of the court house square of a monument, also of concrete, signaling the first concrete street’s half century of uninterrupted service.

It was during the summer of 1891 that the Bellefontaine City Council authorized the construction of the first strip of concrete, eight feet wide, built primarily to keep horses, tied at their hitching posts, from digging holes in the street surfacing then in use. From that “seedling” construction successive city council authorizations during the next few years resulted in the paving with concrete of all four public square streets.

The proposition of paving with concrete had been before the city council a year before the first concrete street was paved. Decision to use portland cement concrete was preceded by strong arguments before the council on the part of G. W. Bartholomew, a cement manufacturer, that concrete was the only material that would yield lasting satisfaction.

Council authorization was given August 25, 1891, to pave an 8-ft. strip “on the west side of Main Street from Columbus Avenue to the first alley south of Columbus Avenue.”

Mr. Bartholomew had gone to Bellefontaine in 1886. There he discovered an

(Continued on Page 32)

## AN UNUSUAL SNAP

### Walter Bowan Gets Good Picture of Night Blooming Cereus



It is generally regarded as a treat, especially by flower lovers, to be in attendance at the opening of a night blooming cereus. There are many who have witnessed and enjoyed this occurrence at different times, but it is far from being a common occurrence.

It recently fell to the lot of a few Decatur persons to be present at the home of Mrs. Johnson, North Monroe St., Decatur, on an occasion such as mentioned. Among the number was Walter Bowan, of our engineering department, and incidentally among the best of our amateur photographers. The photograph made by him under floodlight is reproduced above. The cereus is the genus of cacti, which includes some of the largest members of the order. Several of the species grow to great height.

#### Grows on Arid Plains

The giant cereus (*giganteus*) is a familiar object on the arid plains of the southwest. It grows to a height of sixty feet, and in shape resembles a gigantic tuning fork at times although it usually has several thick, ribbed, upright branches. It is studded with blossoms in the spring, and in June the varicolored fleshy fruits, filled with a multitude of tiny black seeds, are ripe. The plant is known as "pitahaya" and the fruits form a staple food of various Indian tribes in the regions which they grow.

This general statement of the cereus family does not seem out of place in connection with the night blooming variety which is illustrated. There are a number of varieties of this specie, the most notable being the climbing *C. Grandiflorus* which produces lovely, white, brown, and yellow flowers

through the summer months. These reach about eight inches in diameter. They begin to bloom about 8 o'clock in the evening and to close about 3 o'clock in the morning. During the time they are expanded the flowers give out a pleasant fragrance of great penetration. There are also the larger flowered, but less powerful scented. The cereuses are not difficult to grow in a warm greenhouse, if only they receive plenty of air and light. They require plenty of water in the summer, but only small quantities in the winter.

■ ■ ■

(Continued from page 10)

the game is over, my day is done, and I sleep like a top till morning."

"That would be my life if I had it to live over again. All my life my home has been my haven of happiness."

#### Fortune to Mrs. Sage

At his death Russell Sage, excepting a few bequests to nephews and nieces, left his fortune of \$100,000,000 to his wife, Margaret O. S. Sage. Much of this she bestowed on educational and charitable institutions, amounting to twenty million dollars. Then there was a ten million dollar gift for establishment of the Sage Foundation for Social Betterment in the United States. Mrs. Sage died in 1918.

■ ■ ■

#### AIRLINE TRAFFIC GROWS

The importance of supplying airlines with sufficient equipment is shown in their rapidly expanding traffic.

In the first nine months of the year the number of air passengers increased 38 per cent over the same period last year and air express jumped 54 per cent.

The first allotment of 112 two-engine transports for delivery to the lines, beginning in June, has been announced. In all, during 1942 and the first half of 1943, expectations are that 208 two-engine and 20 four-engine planes will be made available for airline operation.

■ ■ ■

#### Armed Merchant Ships

Merchant ships to the number of 1,150 will be armed. They will have splinter protection as well as guns and the ammunition storage and communications equipment that go along.

■ ■ ■

When money talks—it usually sez goodbye.

Sign on the front gate of a house in Edinburgh, Scotland: "Salesmen and canvassers barred." "P.S.—Except those with free samples."

## In the Army Now

### And He Likes the Job

Auntie—But what has your boy friend's army career got to do with him staring at every pretty girl he sees?

Niece—Oh, he's in the observation corps.

### Heart on the Move

Pat: "The bullet went in my chest and came out me back."

Friend: "But it would go through your heart and kill you."

Pat: "Me heart was in me mouth at the time."

### Shod? Shot!

Cavalry Captain—"Say, where is that little roan mare I told you to have shod?"

Cavalry Draftee—"Omigosh, Captain, did you say 'shod'?"

### Sure Sign Nowaday

"Cheer up," said the job on a raft, "we can't be far from civilization, 'cos a couple of bombers have just gone over."

### Out of The Red

"Where d'ya get the black eye, corporal?"

"In the war!"

"What war?"

"The boudoir!"—Wall Street Journal.

Jim: "I call my wife 'overcoat.'"

Al: "Why?"

Jim: "Because I married her to avoid the draft."

Just like a movie on the lot at Ft. McArthur, California.

Private:—"Sure I know Jane Wyman. We're old friends."

Hard Boiled Sarge:—"Oh, yea! Lot of grape shot."

Private:—"O.K. I'll bet she'll have dinner with me Thanksgiving."

Hard Boiled Sarge:—"I'll bet my month's pay against yours she will not and what's more if she does I'll wait table for you."

Private Fred McClintock scratched his head over losing his "twenty-one dollars a day, once a month." Then he had a bright thought. He appealed to Col. W. W. Hicks, who entered into the spirit of the thing which appealed to him and he put the facts up to Miss Wyman. She thought it a good joke and agreed to dine with McClintock, who said "Oh boy! I get his money and he's got to wait on us."

### Unusual Trainer

"Would you marry a man who would try to use matrimony to avoid military service?"

Old Veteran: "Sure, I would. That's the kind of a man you could soon teach to make up beds and wash dishes."

### A Grandfather

Charles Dodd of Decatur is a grandfather now in service at Camp Wolters, Texas. Inducted at 35 he has no dependents, his wife is dead, his 18 year old daughter is married and recently became a mother. His comrades nick-named him "Pops." Give the man full credit, "Grandpops" now.

### Business is Business

A colonel passed a young soldier in a military camp. He questioned him.

"Your name?"

"Private Levy, colonel."

"What company?"

"No company, colonel. Levy Brothers."

## EIGHTEEN TO ONE

It is stated that it takes 18 men in factories to supply one soldier. This statement is made by Dr. Victor G. Heiser, medical consultant of the National Association of Manufacturers. This eminent physician says that colds are one of the wide spread causes of ill health. One physician claims that colds are responsible for more deaths than war. In addition to this they cause enormous waste of time, energy, and money. We lose about 90,000,000 working days annually from colds alone which represents \$450,000,000 in wages. All of this combined is a big obstacle in producing supplies for defense. Employers are willing to spend large sums of money to protect the health of employees, providing healthful working conditions, medical attention, and medicine, to combat colds. There are so many unthinking persons, who cannot or will not believe that colds are a dangerous enemy and must be combatted. They attach no significance to colds.

The proper thing to do is not to place so much dependence on medicine to cure a cold but to live carefully and sensibly and through observance of simple rules, fortify the system against colds and other ailments. Good habits, proper eating and living will go a long way toward keeping you in good physical condition. Eat plenty of fruit and vegetables each day; drink plenty of milk and water, and don't worry.

"What is your gross income?"

"I have no gross income."

"No income at all?"

"No gross income; I have a net income. I'm in the fish business."



*Viewing the exhibits at the 22nd annual meeting of the Plumbing and Heating Industries Bureau at the Palmer House, Chicago, October 30, 1941, are (left to right) H. O. Nelson of Detroit, president of Nelson Company, newly elected president of the Bureau; T. W. Merryman of Chicago, vice president of the National Association of Master Plumbers and president of the Plumbing Contractors' Association of Chicago; Thomas J. Cronin of Binghamton, New York, president of the National Association of Master Plumbers; and John J. Calnan of Chicago, chairman of the N.A.M.P.'s Bureau Committee.*

## CONVENTION AS USUAL

### President Cronin Announces National Meeting of Plumbers for June 1942

The war is not to interfere with the plans of the National Association of Master Plumbers, according to a letter received from Thomas J. Cronin, president. This does not mean that this necessary part of defensive industry is going to sidetrack patriotic duties and obligations. On the contrary, the plumbers as an association and as individuals are standing loyally behind the government, and hand in hand for national defense. Routine procedure will go on as usual, and the annual meeting will be held as usual. In his letter on this subject, President Cronin says:

"Despite conditions prevailing because our country is at war, we will hold our annual convention in 1942. In our opinion, the 1942 N.A.M.P. Convention will be a memorable one, as it will deal with the problems of our industry under wartime conditions.

"After careful consideration, we have decided to hold an exposition of plumbing and heating products in connection with the convention. Although materials may not be plentiful, and production facilities may be restricted, we feel that an exposition is important to the industry."

Although the location and the precise dates have not been determined, the 60th annual N.A.M.P. Convention and Exposition will be held in the early part of June 1942.

■ ■ ■

Farmers as plumbing prospects grow more numerous every year. Electricity and private pumping facilities blaze the way for bathrooms, sinks and running water for all purposes. Figures compiled and given out show that 1,700,000 farmers, or one quarter of all farms in the country, now enjoy electric service. This is twice the number of farmers who had such service in 1935. Every farmer with electric service is prospect for plumbing.

The plumbing trade keeps up with the times. Red, white and blue in bathrooms forms a patriotic combination which should be accompanied by patriotic songs by those inclined to sing while tubbing.

A new wet bottom boiler has water circulation underneath the combustion chamber which means heat on top, sides, and bottom of the water.

The penalty for doing plumbing in Texas without a license is now \$100 instead of an amount between \$25 and \$250. This became effective June 30 when the governor signed a bill amending the old law.



## "Ads," Signs, Names

The Chicago telephone directory contains two Bonapartes, five Wellingtons.

A survey of the employees at the New River Ordnance plant, Dublin, Va., shows: Bishops, Parsons, Sextons, Testaments, Bibles, Churches, and one Blessing. Very biblical, indeed, but offset by a Farmer, a Gardner, a Draper, two Taylors. After these come a Royal, several Kings, a Kiser, Gentry and Nobles. Charles Evans Hughes is on the pay roll with Jesse James and General Grant McLeod.

At Pontiac, Ill., Howard Street lives on Howard street.

Patrick Barr is a tavern keeper at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Bellies up to the bar on either side.

Earl Current is president of a telephone company at Keystone, Iowa.

Busy Christian is a member of the police force at Pana, Ill. Sinners beware!

In a West Madison street lunch counter, Chicago, is a sign: "Our 5c cover charge is to keep out the Riff-raff."

On the Notre Dame football team, which is supposedly made up of Irish men, we find such names as Ziemba, Kovatch, Bertelli, Juzwik, and Rynkus.

C. R. Rock manages a monument business at Farmer City, Ill.

In West Lebanon, Illinois, Aloaf peddles bread.

I. M. Home is a furniture dealer at Mountain, Michigan, and Mary Moneys is treasurer of a sorority in a North Carolina town.

In a Montgomery, Alabama, paper appeared the following want advertisement: "Wanted a couple to general housework and nurse two babies with good references."

The Houston, Texas, Chronicle is accused of the following: "Wanted to rent a cottage suitable for cows and chickens."

One of the magazines carried this one: "The young lady who was married yesterday afternoon spent three months getting her torso ready."

"The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of all kinds. Look them over in the church basement any time this week." Rather incomplete. The sign writer should have added: "Come early and avoid the rush."

Road side sign: "Eat Gas and Pop 10 miles."

## Helpful Hints

"Remember my son, it is just as great a burden to learn to spend money wisely as to earn it."

Son: "Yes, father, I understand, and I am going to help you bear your burden. You earn the money and I'll spend it."

★ ★

"I want some grapes for my sick husband. Do you know if any poison has been sprayed on these you have?"

"No, ma'am; you'll have to get that at the druggist's."

★ ★

Uncle: "Now, remember the saying, 'A fool and his money are soon parted.' Be careful how you spend this 25 cents."

Nephew: "Yes, I know. But just the same, I want to thank you."

★ ★

The lady sipping her first glass of beer when she suddenly exclaimed: "Why, this tastes just like the medicine my husband has been taking for the past twenty years!"

★ ★

Mister: "What do you think would go well with purple and green golf socks, dear?"

Missus: "Hip boots."

★ ★

If you want to recall things, tie a string around your finger; if you want to forget things, tie a rope around your neck!

★ ★

Molly: "Did you enjoy your canoe ride with Jerry?"

Polly: "No. He just hugged the shore all evening."

■ ■ ■

## TOO MUCH DRIVING

Policeman—"How did the accident happen?"

Motorist—"My wife fell asleep in the back seat."

(Continued from Page 27)

almost pure bed of limestone underlaid by a blue clay containing silica. He worked secretly for a year and one-half in an improvised laboratory in the rear of Frank Butler's drug store where he set up an iron stove. Finally he produced the cement he hoped to get. He obtained patents on the "wet" process of manufacturing portland cement, then built a factory to be known as the Buckeye Portland Cement Works. He had been manufacturing portland cement for several years before Bellefontaine was prevailed upon to try portland cement on its streets.

When Mr. Bartholomew finally had convinced the city council that portland cement concrete should be used, the council passed the required paving resolution with the understanding that Mr. Bartholomew would guarantee the pavement for a period of five years. This he did, posting a bond of \$5,000 to bind the agreement.

The first concrete streets were laid in square blocks. Two of the blocks were taken up and exhibited at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. After the fair had closed, they were dumped into Lake Michigan where the fair's officers had threatened to dispose of the blocks because of their weight when they were first received in Chicago."

■ ■ ■

(Continued from page 17)

Christmas decorations for the children's party, which was held on Saturday, December 20.

On the platform was a bright background every inch of which was suggestive of the great holiday. Flanking each side were illuminated Christmas trees, while a border of large Santa Claus reached entirely around the room.

The exercises preceding distribution of presents opened with patriotic music in which the entire group participated with noticeable fervor and sentiment.

Following came addresses by Adolph Mueller, chairman of the Board, and L. W. Mueller, works manager. Both of these speakers gave recognition to the Christmas spirit, but did not overlook the seriousness of the period which we are facing as a united nation.

Following these exercises, the employees formed a line to the cafeteria where nearly a thousand Christmas baskets were distributed. These baskets contained a good sized ham, and a side of bacon.

■ ■ ■

St. Peter: "And here is your golden harp."

Newly-arrived American: "How much is the first payment?"



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This distributes the pressure evenly and prevents

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*is the Word*



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There is nothing more essential to national safety than water works and plumbing.



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Your strongest, most dependable ally is Mueller goods—designed and manufactured to give your client the service he is entitled to—and above this the protection and the defense of your reputation for good and skillful workmanship, with Mueller reputation behind them—the final insurance on the goods.



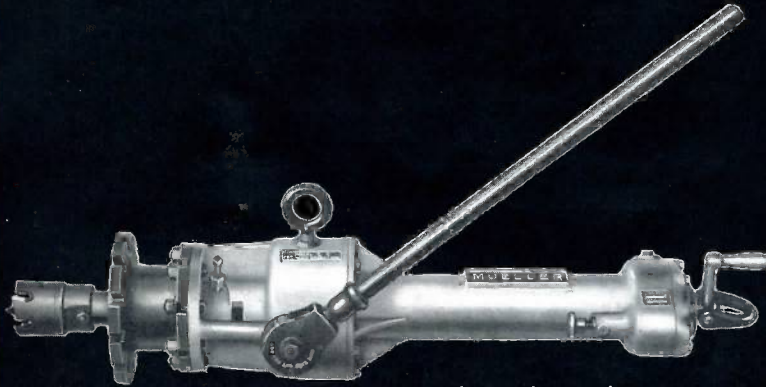
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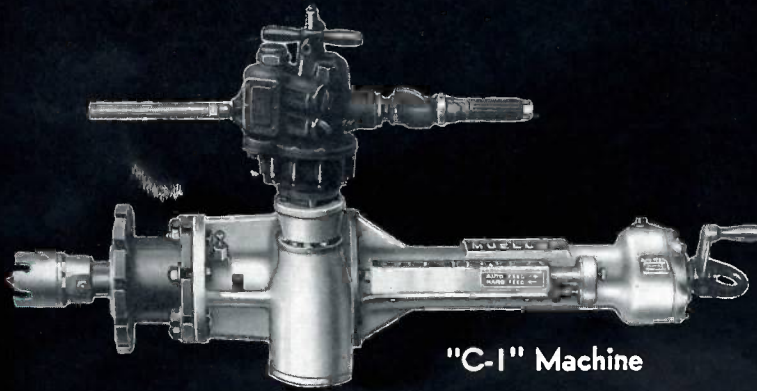
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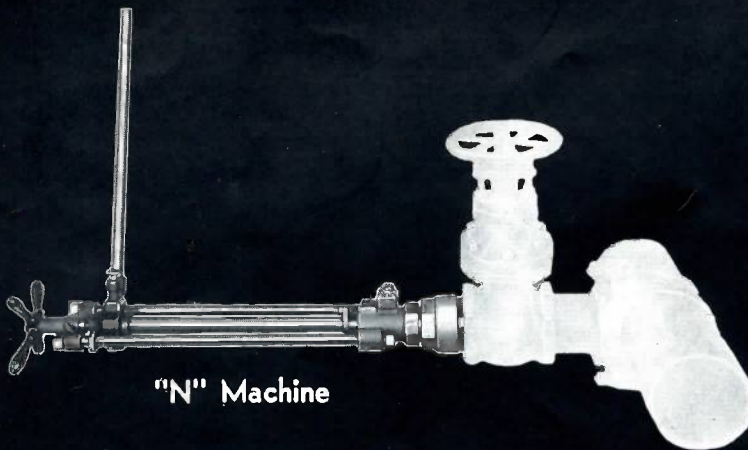
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