



*The*  
**MUELLER**  
**RECORD**

JUNE, 1931

*Get Ready! Go!*

---

Mueller Employes Picnic

*to be held at*

*Mueller Heights*

*Saturday, June 27*

*Big Program Being Prepared*

# THE MUELLER RECORD

Vol XX

JUNE, 1931

No. 226

## 99,000 ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

### Automobile Responsible for One-Third of This Ruthless Slaughter

One has to admire the safety first workers—they never quit. And there seems to be little encouragement for continuance of their efforts. However, with what would seem to the casual observer to be slight gains over a long period of years, the workers point to them with satisfaction. They are making progress, but in the face of tremendous obstacles. These obstacles are careless, thoughtless people, who disregard ordinary rules of protection to themselves or to the innocent persons who become victims of this carelessness.

Eighteen years ago a horse was a prolific source of accidents and at that time accidental deaths were associated in the public mind with factories and railroads.

### The Modern Juggernaut

The automobile, which eighteen years ago frightened only horses is now a juggernaut mowing down the innocent and reckless at a terrific rate. In the eighteen years, motor vehicle fatalities have increased 500% while all other types of accidental deaths declined 30%. In 1930 the rate of all accidental deaths was 80.5% as compared with 84.6% for 1913. In 1930 accidents showed a smaller proportionate increase than population. With these small improvements, the safety workers feel encouraged, but the National Safety News points to a toll of 99,000 lives yearly as small grounds for complacency. The small percentage increase seems to fade away with the overpowering total of 99,000 deaths in 1930. This was the largest number of accidental deaths in our history, and the automobile was responsible for practically one-third of these fatalities.

### Problem Causes Worry

The problem of correcting this enormous loss of life is one which worries every safety worker. Automobiles are driven by people from the lowest to the highest mentality, and yet the average mentality seems unable to grasp the danger which accompanies the driving of an automobile in reckless disregard of the rights of others.

### Hardly to Be Expected

Laws are a reasonable deterrent but one can hardly expect a driver incapable of understanding the danger of reckless driving to comprehend the language of the law. Under these circumstances it is not to be expected that a large percent of drivers of automobiles can comprehend the significance of the overwhelming death rate of some 35,000 annually as a result of disregard of the simplest lesson to be gathered from these statistics. The first six months of 1931 do

not indicate that drivers are exercising any more intelligence and more care than they have in the past, and a decreasing death total is therefore not to be expected.

## REMEMBERING ADOLPH'S BIRTHDAY

On the occasion of his birthday—in May—no matter which one because he wears them lightly—Mr. Adolph was in Washington, D. C., attending the sessions of the International Chamber of Commerce. This made impossible the Foreman's Club's usual observance of the day, which is to remember it with flowers. In lieu of this the following telegram was sent:

"Mr. Adolph Mueller,  
"Care Mayflower Hotel,  
"Washington, D. C.  
"Dear Adolph:

"Sorry you are not here to receive our good wishes expressed with flowers on your birthday. Accept our sincere wishes for your continued good health, happiness and success and a continuance for many years of the pleasant relations which have held us together as friends and fellow workers.

"FOREMAN'S CLUB."

## OUR CLASS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Negotiations are under way with Dr. J. A. Melrose of Jas. Millikin University to give a course of lectures on Psychology at the Main Plant, probably in the Gym next fall beginning in October.

A large class will be necessary, and with such a class the fee will be small. About sixty have enrolled. The class is open to all who wish to come in.

This course is highly recommended by a number who have been in Prof. Melrose's classes in the past.

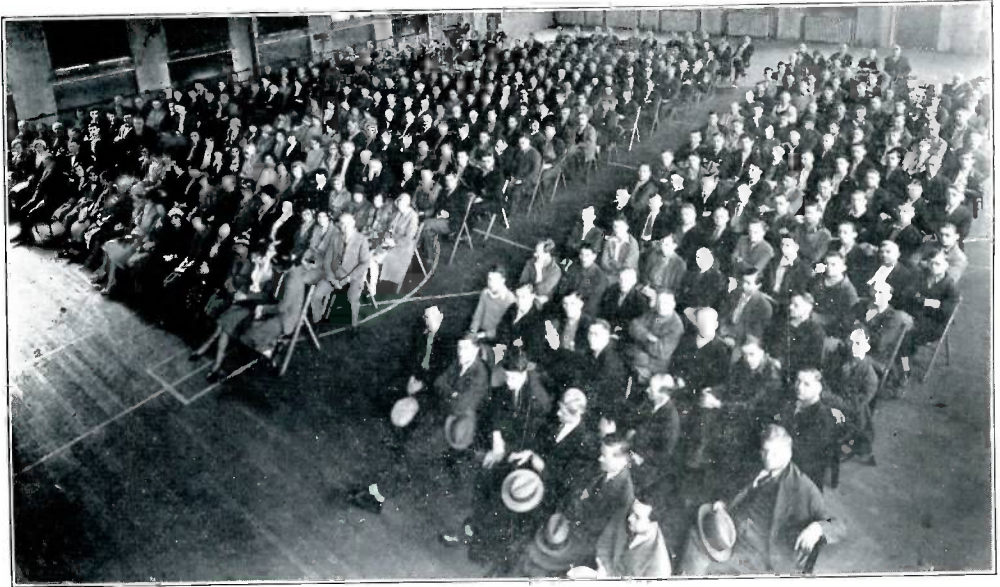
If interested see Mr. Langdon at once as we must secure Dr. Melrose now if we are to have the course next fall, so, do not delay!

Psychology deals with human behavior and under Dr. Melrose's leadership it becomes a subject of fascinating interest.

## FARMER AL BASHORE

Al Bashore of the shipping room hasn't exactly taken time by the forelock but he has taken his hoe by the handle and is fortifying himself against the coming winter. In company with another man he has rented an acre of ground and has planted it in vegetables of all kinds for summer and winter consumption. When Al finishes his day's work he goes home and rests up by cultivating his garden. It's hard work, but good exercise, and Al expects lots of recreation later on in eating up the products of his farm.

## DEPARTMENT MEETINGS



Flashlight of the second meeting held

### DEPARTMENTAL MEETINGS

#### Talks on Safety, Loans and Business—Get Close Attention

The departmental meetings held May 20th and 21st in the gymnasium were attended by practically all employees. These meetings were held from 3 to 4 o'clock and it is a notable fact that the speakers were given the closest attention at both meetings. The platform at the south end of the hall had been dressed up for the occasion. The program was practically the same at both meetings.

Mr. Robert Mueller was the first speaker on both occasions. He made a brief address of welcome in which he referred to the fact that a year ago he had said that he was hopeful that business would come back within a short time. This hope had not been completely realized but he was glad to say that recent weeks had witnessed a slight revival and gradual increase in orders. He stressed the thought that the present called for united, sincere, cooperative effort. It is no time for holding back, criticising or back biting. It is a time for everybody to get together and pull together in one direction.

#### Safety, Health and Thrift

E. H. Langdon spoke on welfare work and safety. He called attention to the things accomplished in the past year and mentioned that in placing orders for coal the company has saved employees something over \$1,500 what they would had to pay if they made their own purchases at retail prices. Most of his talk was on the subject of bor-

rowing money and he cited numerous cases where employees had been benefitted through coming to the company instead of going to organized loan agencies. He showed how the loan companies while keeping within the law, do collect more interest than a worker can afford to pay. The Illinois law on small loans allows 3½ per cent, but the fact is not generally known to the borrower that this is a monthly and not a yearly rate. It is a yearly rate of 42% on a small loan by reason of this rate. In some cases Mr. Langdon was enabled by careful planning to release employees from the big burden of interest.

The purpose of this talk was to impress upon his hearers the willingness of the Employees' Aid Society to help them over these hard spots and make it easier for them to get square with the world. In doing this, however, the company expects to arrange the way that this object is to be accomplished. He warned workers especially against the "salary buyer" who charges at the rate of 20% a year.

Mr. Langdon is always ready to consult with employees on subjects of this kind.

#### Address by Adolph

Mr. Adolph Mueller closed the meetings with a friendly talk on business conditions. He emphasized what Mr. Langdon had said and told how some of the stories of what employees wanted loans for made him smile. Frequently persons ask for money loans for most unusual purposes, far apart from the purposes and policies of the company. We do not make these loans for the purpose of enabling employees to indulge in luxuries or



gratify whims, although some seem to think it a straight business loan and that they can use the money as they choose. The loans are made for the purpose of aiding those in distress, to help them out of their troubles and not to invite new ones. Mention was also made of the frequent objection to Mr. Langdon's quizzing applicants for loans so closely. They seem to resent this as none of his business. However, this information is what Mr. Langdon must have in order to make the proper recommendation to the company. It's all confidential and no employe need hesitate in telling the exact status of his affairs. This is the first step necessary to secure the desired assistance.

#### Business Situation

Touching on business, Mr. Adolph said that it was pleasing to know that orders were coming in slightly better. There is no sensational increase but he felt hopeful that we will gain ground. He explained the difficulty of keeping all employed when business is so intermittent. The company may be compelled to shorten hours in some departments. This will not be done unless it becomes absolutely necessary, but it was his thought that it would be much better to do this in the summer months, rather than accumulate stock that is moving slowly and then be forced to make the reductions in hours during the winter. His entire talk was an earnest, sincere expression of conditions and the company's desire to do the very best it could to keep everybody working.

The audience seemed to be fully impressed with the frankness and sincerity with which Mr. Adolph gave them the facts of the present situation and the policies of the company which now must be guided by the conditions of business.

#### Help Boost

As has been suggested before, every employe can help by boosting Mueller goods in Decatur. It is estimated that our sales here annually are about thirty-one thousand dollars. Statisticians and economists insist that every \$4,000 worth of goods sold calls for one employe. From this it would seem that our own city is helping to the extent of giving us business enough to employ six or seven persons, while the company is paying out a million and a half dollars in wages annually with money brought to Decatur by outside business.



#### ONE MAN SHOW

Charles Auer, whose fame as a horticulturist, is a recognized fact among friends and fellow-workers, displayed some two thousand of his choice and gorgeous peonies at Gushard's on Saturday, June 6th. It is said that this was the greatest one-man show ever on display in central Illinois.

#### SPRAYING LABORATORIES



Oscar Friend at Work at Plant 3

#### PLANT 3 NEWS

Oren R. Phares has been re-employed as caster for Plant 3.

Travis O. Johnson, who formerly worked in our Production Control Dept., as order drummer and was laid off in February, 1930, has been helping on the Construction Gang and more recently has been transferred into our Shipping Dept. at Plant 3 under Barney Marty.

Melvin Wisnasky, formerly of our Ground Key department, and who has been working temporarily around the kilns at Plant 3, has been taken on the regular force.

Jess Moore, formerly of our Machine Repair Dept., and who has been employed recently until under Swindell-Dressler in erecting the new kiln at Plant 3, has been placed for the present in our regular organization at Plant 3.

John Phillips, who was laid off from Plant 2, some months ago, has been given work in the Slip House at Plant 3.

Roy Vandervort of Dept. 300 has been temporarily placed at Plant 3.

Hugh Moomey, who served during the winter and spring months as night foreman at the Main Plant, has been transferred to the Slip Room at Plant 3. Needless to say, Mr. Moomey will find that handling wet clay is a different proposition than firing a boiler with coal.

Axel Olsen, formerly machinist apprentice and more recently of Plant 3, has been recalled on his old job as sander.

Albert L. Anderson, Ray Adams, Charles Dunham, Fletcher Curry and Jess Linton have been recalled on their old jobs at plant 3 due to the completion of the new kiln.



#### PLUMBERS AT MILWAUKEE

The annual convention of Master Plumbers will be held at Milwaukee the latter part of June and the company will be represented there by a fine display.

## THINK SAFETY FIRST

### Accidents Thus Far in 1931 Spoil Our Record for 1930—Rules Were Disregarded—Some of the Mishaps

In the April issue of the Mueller Record was printed the following paragraph:

"The year ending Dec. 1, 1930, established the lowest accident record we have ever had. The average lost time for employes for the year was four hours, which is about half the usual rate. In 1931, however, a series of accidents combined to spoil our record for the current year."

Let us go over our accident statistics and review at random several cases to illustrate the nature and variety of accidents that have happened in this plant and will continue to happen unless every executive, every foreman and every employe thinks and acts Safety First.

They read something like this:

1. At 1:15 P. M. an employe while planing lumber on planer caught tip of finger and cut it off.

#### Double Header

2. An employe in the power house sprained right wrist removing ashes with a long handle shovel. Shortly afterwards same man was wheeling ashes up a board incline, his foot slipped, straining the muscles of his leg. The accident laid up this man 163 hours.

3. A helper got some hot sand in top of his shoe while dumping molds which fact he did not report for three days. In the meantime a third degree burn had developed causing this man to lose 135 hours. If you were this man's foreman what would you have done in this case?

4. A heavy wrench leaning against a post fell to the floor due to vibration of machinery, striking nearby worker on the toe. Employer rang out without getting First Aid. Next morning this employe telephoned that he would be absent, where upon the First Aid man made him a visit, discovering that he had a severe mashed toe, rapidly developing into gangrene. Dr. Long got on the case and had the man back to work after losing two weeks' time! Did this foreman practice Safety First? It was a foreman!

#### Cheek Bone Fracture

5. Two workmen were walking down an aisle—one close behind the other. The man in front raised a heavy bar to his shoulder in order to carry it easier and in doing so it struck the rear man, fracturing his cheek bone. This does not belong in Believe-it-or-Not—it actually happened in this Plant!

6. How's this one? A flier in the Ground Key Dept. let his hand slip into an air vise just as he tripped valve closing vice on fingers, crushing them. At the same time this same employer knocked a piece of lead off of bench striking and bursting open his little

toe. Could this accident have been prevented? How?

And so the story goes on and on until for 1931 we could enumerate 35 separate and distinct lost time accidents many of them similar to those above. As a reader and an employer, what do you think causes them? What do you think can be done to prevent them? Are you ready to do your part to practice Safety?

#### Inspection Committee

Now for a word about what is being done. A Safety Inspection Committee composed of Henry Morey and C. M. Cornelius has been delegated by the Works Manager with the responsibility of rating and listing potential lost time accidents in each department corresponding to the number and nature of hazards found in each department. This Committee does not in any way replace our old plan whereby each Foreman is responsible for Safety in his division, but is supplementary to and independent from the Plant organization. Much good has developed by the contact made between the committee and the foremen but let us remember that watchfulness, Carefulness, the Thinking and Practicing of safety by the workmen will prevent and eliminate more accidents than all the Committees that might be appointed.

Please don't take chances. Practice Safety. Make it a habit—Start at home with yourself and let the world know that you are a Safe Worker.

#### YOUR TELEPHONE VOICE

How about your telephone voice? Is it pleasant or repellant? If the latter, begin cultivating it until it is pleasant. Every day we answer telephone calls inside and outside the organization and when finished hang up the receiver with a distinct irritation as a result. There are many persons who have failed to acquire good telephone manners or to realize the value of a pleasant, well modulated voice in speaking. The telephone is one of the most valued means of transmitting business messages. No greater disaster could occur to business than its removal. When you are in a hurry or impatient, calm yourself before you take down the receiver. Remember that the person at the other end of the line may be busy and also in a hurry but has laid aside his business to help you out. In many large organizations courteous actions and manners in the use of the telephone is no longer requested of employes—it's demanded.

#### AT THE CONVENTION

Frank Taylor, assistant superintendent, was among those delegated to the water works convention at Pittsburgh. Frank was there to explain any mechanical question which might be asked concerning the large new drilling machines shown for the first time.

## CHEMISTRY STUDENTS



Visitors from U. of I. inspect our laboratory and factory under guidance of Margaret Marcott

## TRANSFERS TO PLANT 3

Friends of John E. Taylor, who formerly worked in the Ground Key Division, will be interested to know that he is being broken in as an apprentice caster at Plant 3.

Donald Ferry and Lyle Woodward, both enterprising young gentlemen in our engineering Department a few months ago, are now working in the casting shop at Plant 3 as apprentice casters.

Otha Mills, formerly assistant to our Cost Reduction Engineer, Joe Cheetham, and later of the Cost Dept., has been transferred to the office at Plant 3.

Gid Massengill, who has a number of friends in our brass foundry, is now on the regular force at Plant 3.

Claude Eaton, who for the past two years, has been one of our promising and enterprising young men in the Core Room, has been recently transferred to the Slip House at Plant 3. Mr. Eaton is to be congratulated upon his recent completion of a foundry engineering course put out by the International Correspondence School. It is unfortunate that business conditions do not permit placing him in this line of work. Adaptability, however, is one important requisite to success in times like these.

Charles Shoemaker, who formerly worked in the Polishing Dept., and later under Mr. Mason, has been transferred to the Glaze Dept. at the vitreous ware plant.

Robert Ross and Elbert Meece of our Polishing Dept., are now in training as Green Ware Inspectors at the Pottery. They are working along side of Norman (Buck) Poole, who also was employed at the Main Plant until a few months ago. These three young men have important jobs.

Howard Baldis, who was on our night fireman's force, has been placed on the night watchman's job replacing C. E. Burdick, who has resigned.

B. J. Marty, who has charge of the shipment of orders at our Vitreous Plant, would like all of his friends at the Main Plant to know that he is on the job every day and doing his bit as he has for the last thirty five years.



## REMEMBER THE RECORD

Pictures for use in the Record will add interest to its page—baby pictures—old time pictures—vacation scenes and pictures of home scenes are always acceptable.

Send them in. The camera club pictures are now used only in the Record going to the trade. These are issued in January, March, May, July, Sept. and November. The intervening months the Record is for factory circulation only. These are the issues in which we want to print intimate pictures of interest to Mueller Employees and their families.



## GUEST FROM SARNIA

Curley Allen, Supt. of the Sarnia plant; O. C. Spears, J. Flood, L. J. Crooks and G. D. Callum, some of his foremen, arrived in Decatur, May 4. They spent several days here.

When they passed the American customs office at Port Huron, they were given a very thoro search for drinkables. Curley says that the officers went over them and their car, inch by inch, and disclosed cavities whose existence they never dreamed. No space the size of a marble was missed.

Nothing was found. Did this please the officers? Not at all. Curley thought they were mad because the search was in vain.



## MILLIKIN BAND CONCERT

A band concert was given in the Mueller Open Air Theatre at Mueller Heights by the Millikin University Band Thursday evening, June 4th. Threatening rain cut down the attendance, but more than 150 persons who took a chance on the weather, were repaid by the excellent program given by the twenty-three musicians under the direction of Professor Hess. The band made a very pretty picture on the platform, resplendent in their new uniforms, against the beautiful background of hills and trees.

The program was divided into two parts, and the sound carried perfectly to all parts of the theater. Two overtures, "King Rose" and "The Admiral" were included in the twenty-five numbers offered. The program was brought to a close with "Millikin Loyalty."



## FOREMEN'S CLUB PICNIC



Snapshots by F. A. Huntley.

The Foreman's Annual picnic at Mueller Heights, Saturday, May 23rd, closed the season for that organization.

There was a good attendance and the affair proved most enjoyable. Up until noon the weather was chilly and unpromising for an outdoor social event, but at that hour the temperature began to rise and when the party assembled on the lawn it proved to be a most agreeable day for the occasion. The committees having this affair in charge is entitled to a full measure of credit for the way in which they handled it. The variety of games and contest had been planned with a view of interesting all visitors and in this the committee almost succeeded.

There was Pinochle for those who did not care for the outside games. The golf contest was in progress from the opening of the picnic to the summons for dinner. Horse-shoe, croquet, and Beano interested a lot of others. The dinner was served on the lawn, cafeteria fashion and at its conclusion Mr. Adolph Mueller announced the prize winners in the various contests and awarded the prizes which consisted of various serviceable or useful trophies. Each award was accompanied by some good natured joke at the expense of the recipient.

### Prize Winners

The winners were as follows:

Golf—G. P. Preshaw, grand prize; J. W. Wells, Low Score Blind Hole; Frank Taylor, High Score Blind Hole; R. H. Mueller, Least number of putts.

Blind Bogie—Paul Jacka, First Prize; Bill Simpson, Second Prize; O. C. Draper and E. J. Butts, third prize; O. J. Hawkins, Booby prize.

Horseshoes—Walter Auer.

Pinochle—Ladies—Mrs. W. S. Enloe; Men—F. A. March.

Croquet—Undecided.

### 76th and 100th Anniversaries

After making these presentations, Mr. Adolph gave out some very interesting information. He called attention to the preparations that are being made for the celebration of the company's 75th year in busi-

ness and ceremonies to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Hieronymus Mueller. These events fall in 1932 but preliminary plans are now under way, and it is hoped to arrange some exercises suitable for the occasion, but it is yet too early to announce any set plan. The character of the event calls for a considerable amount of investigation and study.

### Picnic at Lodge

Another announcement was that the annual picnic of the employees will be held at Mueller Heights next month. It is now thought that the date will be held on June 27th. This is a radical departure from our previous picnics, which have always been held at Fairview Park. There is another radical change in that the event is to be held early in the season. In previous years it has always fallen in the month of August or September. The early summer season seems more ideally suited to picnic purposes. In going to the Mueller Heights for our picnic, it is thought that it can be made a more distinctive Mueller picnic than has been so in the past.



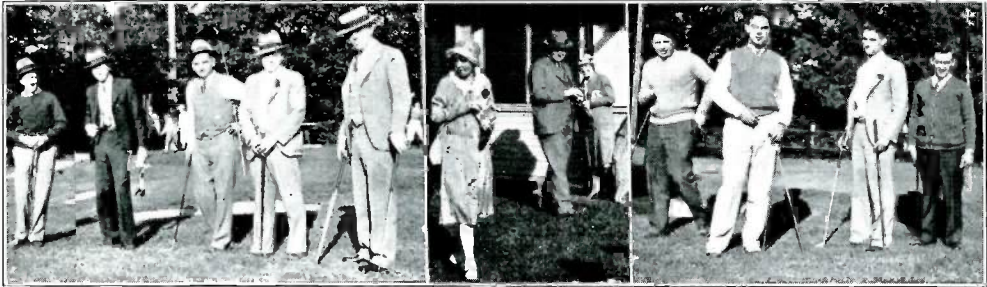
### PLANT 3 ACTIVITIES

Recently the new Swindell-Dressler kiln has been completed at the Vitreous Plant and is now undergoing tests by engineers from that company before finally being turned over to the Mueller Co. for their acceptance.

Many changes have been made in the different departments at Plant 3 and before long Mr. Richardson hopes to have his organization lined up and ready for real production.

W. T. Mason has about finished with re-arrangement work and has almost completed cleaning up after tearing out the old kiln.

Plant 3 with its new kiln and new method of handling ware is one of the most complete and efficient pottery plants in the country.



—Snapshots by F. A. Huntley.

**RUST PREVENTION**

**Importance of Protecting Machines and Tools When Not in Use**

Shut down temporary or prolonged, call for proper care of tools and machines while they remain idle. Rust is the great enemy of metals. Within a short time rust may do great damage, entailing delays in cleaning or replacing parts when activities are renewed. Beirard Jeffs of the technical staff of the Houghton Line, writing in that company's house magazine, says:

**Mistaken Idea**

"There seems to be a general belief that a machine is protected against corrosion if it is merely covered with lubricating oil which has dripped from the bearings. This is a mistaken idea as lubricating oils have few if any rust preventive properties apart from their film strength. They contain no inhibitors, and particles of corrosive materials, which are always present in the air of industrial plants, settle on machine parts, etc., and are held in contact with the metal by means of the lubricating oil.

**Need High Grade Preventive**

"Bright parts of machinery, except bearing surfaces, should be protected from corrosion with a high grade rust preventive not only during lay-over periods but while equipment is in storage. The particular grade of rust preventive, to be employed will depend on the operating conditions and the size and location of machinery, with special reference to climatic conditions. The primary requisites are that the rust preventive be non-porous, tenacious and rust inhibitive. Lubricating oils, petrolatum and similar compounds lack these properties and are unsuited for use as rust preventives.

**For Tools Non-Drying Grades**

"The rust preventive best suited for the protection of tools, parts, etc., is one of the non-drying grades. However, in the case of scientific instruments, delicate machine parts, etc., it may be desirable to use a rust preventive of the drying variety which imparts a hard, dry, tenacious, non-porous, rust-inhibitive film. Such a film will protect the parts over lengthy periods and can be removed, when necessary, with a rag moistened with a solvent.

**LETTER FROM FRANK FORD**

Mr. Adolph is in receipt of letter from Frank P. Ford, a former resident of Decatur and a former employe of the Mueller Gun Store, with the late Archie Wilson as manager, when it was located on Prairie Avenue, just across the alley from the Piggly-Wiggly Store which at that time was the post office.

Frank Ford is a brother of W. B. Ford, who is still with the company and travels in the southern territory. He was married to Miss Effie Quick, a fact recalled to Mr. Adolph in the "25 Years Ago Column" in the Herald, a few days ago. Frank left Decatur many years ago and was first identified with the Shapley Hardware Store, having charge of the sporting goods department, but he has for many years been identified with Scruggs-Vandervoort-Barney Dry Goods Co., of St. Louis, holding a very responsible position.



**ADDRESS CHANGES**

The Personnel Dept. would like to emphasize very emphatically the necessity and advantage of all employes turning in at once any change of address.

During this business depression, it has been necessary to lay off and call back employes on very short notice. It often happens that we do not have the correct address. In such cases, much time is lost in locating the man or else someone who can be located readily is called.

If you do not have a telephone at your home, try and locate a neighbor's or some near telephone and leave the number at the Employment Dept.

If you expect to be called back and receive as much work as possible, it will be necessary for you to let us know how we can locate you.



**WEIGHING HIS FISH**

Blackie, the Monroe street watchman, is getting all set for his annual fishing trip to the southern part of the state. When he is not busy sorting out core wires he is weighing the fish he is going to catch.



## MUELLER ANNUAL PICNIC

Big Affair to Be Held at Mueller Heights  
Late in June

For a number of years, there has been some talk of holding the Mueller annual Picnic at Mueller Heights instead of Fairview Park. It long has been our custom to hold the Picnic in early August or September.

We now have unusual recreational facilities at Mueller Heights, and the fact that the Company desires that this place be more widely used by Mueller employes, it has been decided to hold our annual Picnic this year at the Mueller Heights in June. Everything is at its best then. The out-door season is just opening, and it is a good time for everyone to see what resources we have there. The date is Saturday, June 7, with provisions for postponement in case of unfavorable weather.

No doubt many will be quite surprised to know of these changes, but it is believed that we can have a better and more successful picnic by holding it earlier in the season.

I. P. L. busses will run from Wood and Water streets to the Heights and Mueller Co. street car tickets will take you there.

At the time of going to press, the following suggestions have been agreed upon by the picnic committee: Chas. Auer, E. H. Langdon and C. F. Roarick have been designated by the company as a general committee to handle the Picnic.

This committee is working in cooperation with the officers of the Mueller Athletic Club and others who have helped make the Picnic a success each year.

## General Outline

The Picnic this year will consist of an afternoon and evening program, altho there may be a golf tournament in the morning. The afternoon program will probably begin at 1:30 at the Nature Theatre, and will be presided over by the president of the Mueller Athletic Club. The Club has taken the responsibility for carrying out the entire athletic program. Its officers will also endeavor to create more interest in using the recreational facilities at the Lodge.

The afternoon program, while in many respects similar to those of past years, will probably be varied with a number of new features, including musical numbers by talent from the organization, turtle race in charge of Frank Tompkins of the Okaw; tug of war participated in by four teams, two from the Main Plant and one each from Plants 2 and 3, and two wrestling exhibitions by wrestlers of some repute and members of our organization, besides other innovations the committee has in mind.

There will be an exhibition of Boy Scouts, also a demonstration of prone method of resuscitation from drowning.

There will be no exhibit this year but we will draw for the sink combination at the close of the athletic program.

## THREE MUSKETEERS



Johnny Langdon with his sisters out for morning exercise.

E. H. Langdon will be in charge of the Baby Show. He has an entry this year.

Ponies will be provided for the children. Burt Jackson will be in charge of contests for children.

Odie Walker will have his Boy Scout Troop on hand to patrol the grounds and make them safe for little children.

Robert Lusk will have charge of the dancing program and he has plans worked out to provide two separate places and music for dancing, perhaps using the outdoor stage for square dances and the Lodge for the regular dances.

The picture show in charge of Mr. Wagenseller will probably also be held near the outdoor theatre.

## Transportation

Matt Trott is in charge of arrangements for transportation and has succeeded in obtaining the use of the old Interurban Station and has chartered two I. P. L. busses which will be put on a schedule to Mueller Lodge from the Interurban Station beginning at 10:30. We feel sure that this will be ample provision for those who do not have cars.

There will be ample concessions on the ground and every effort will be expended in the next three weeks to provide for your entertainment and recreation on picnic day.

Plenty of space for parking. Clarence Roarick is arranging for baseball. Other contests proposed include tug of war with teams from Plants 2 and 3 and two teams from Main Plant; two wrestling bouts are promised; horse shoe tournament; turtle race; greased pole climbing-are in the plans.

Of course there will be plenty of refreshments.

Plan now to go. See you at the Picnic at Mueller Heights, June 27.

## FOR SNAP SHOT ARTISTS

## Help Make the Record Interesting—Some Pointers on Subjects and Snapping Them

Good illustrations for the Mueller Record are always needed—pictures full of local interest.

The unexpected picture opportunities—those little human interest episodes that happen quickly, are briefly enjoyed, then gone—are no doubt often captured with pocket cameras of our readers.

Employees who own cameras can take an active part in producing the Record by keeping the editor in mind whenever good, clear snapshots are made of employees at work or play.

It is necessary that the pictures be interesting, and have as much news value as possible.

## Things to Remember

There are but a few things to keep in mind in order to put more news value and interest into your pictures. First of all, it should be remembered that people are most interested in **other people and what they are doing**. Snapshots of general views, or scenes minus animation of any kind, may be useful for special purposes, but pictures that hold attention longer are pictures in which real folks are playing the leading roles, so to speak.

But, the possibilities of making your snapshots interesting and valuable for illustrations in the Record have not been exhausted by merely having people the center of interest in your pictures.

The next important thing to keep in mind is to have your pictures **tell a story**. By story-telling pictures, we mean that the people, or actors in your snapshots, should be doing something, or at least acting the part in a realistic manner—not merely staring blankly into the lens of the camera.

Everyday picture chances include noon-hour activities: informal groups, ball game, girls' activities. There are week-end and vacation possibilities galore. For instance, John Jones or Jimmy Smith may be adept followers of Izaak Walton. A snapshot of a prize catch will do nicely to substantiate any fancy fish stories.

Pictures showing hobbies or avocations nearly always make interesting snapshots.

A series of good pictures can tell a story of an event as well as a page or two of type.

Pretty girls always make good news picture subjects, but the "actors" should be engaged in some form of work or play. It is said that pictures of children have the most widespread reader appeal, with good animal pictures running a close second.

Close-ups make good informal portraits. This type of picture is one of the rare in-

stances when the subject may look at the camera when the picture is made, but don't forget that a good, broad grin is generally desirable. For this kind of a picture a plain background is better, as otherwise the background will detract from the subject. Pictures of people in dark clothes should be made against light backgrounds, and dark backgrounds should be used for pictures of people wearing light clothes.

## Be Sure on These Points

Instantaneous exposures or "snapshots", as they are commonly called, are usually made while the camera is held in the hands. Before making an exposure, either time or instantaneous, be sure of four things:

First—that an unexposed section of the film is in position.

Second—that, unless the camera has a fixed focus, it is properly focused on the principal object to be photographed.

Third—that the diaphragm lever is placed at the proper opening.

Fourth—that the shutter is properly adjusted for time or instantaneous exposures, as may be desired.

The camera should be held firmly pressed against the body, and when the cable release or exposure lever is operated, the breath should be suspended for an instant. The least jar may cause a blurred picture.



## BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Philip Rittenhouse, Feb. 22nd, a son, Charles Thomas. Mr. Rittenhouse is a tinner in Dept. 31.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. George Anderson, Jr., April 25, a daughter, Joyce Evelyn. Mr. Anderson works in Dept. 15.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Wade Rambo, May 9th, a son, James Edward. Mr. Rambo, as everyone knows, is one of our truck drivers who was recently awarded the city championship in the Safety Contest, Truck Drivers Division.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Brunner, May 19th, a son, William Arthur. Mr. Brunner is one of young machinists in Dept. 300, having attended the apprentice school about two years before taking full time work in the shop.



## CASTING BRASS LETTERS

Under the supervision of Bob Blue and Roy Whitaker the foundry cast beautiful brass letters for use at the water works convention in Milwaukee. They were cast with color metal and were used in forming the trade mark for our copper pipe. The various tints in these letters were so beautiful that it seemed useless to polish them and they were therefore used just as they came from the mold. Some of the letters were quite small which added to the nicety of the job. The molds for the work were made by Godfrey Blankenburg.

### WILD BUT NOT "WRECKLESS"

#### Auto Driver Illuminated With Home Brew, Damages Mueller Girls' Cars

A man in whom the home brew had fermented to the bursting point gave an exhibition of wild and fancy driving Monday, May 25th. In about one half hour he did as much damage as a cyclone out for a full time holiday. And not unlike the cyclone he broke loose from a clear sky, whirled through the streets with care free abandon and left behind him a trail of woe and wreckage. Unfortunately for Mrs. Helen Brannan, Mrs. W. E. Smith and Miss Ruth Myers, he paid his respects to their cars which were parked near the corner of College and Cerro Gordo streets. There was no malice aforethought in this act. The driver was unselfish and impartial in his driving. He tried not to miss anything in the way of parked cars and possibly would not have done so had he not knocked off a wheel from his car at our corner. However, one or more less wheels meant nothing to him and on three wheels with heavy "seas rolling in him," he headed for the east end of the city. In that neighborhood he swiped a heavy truck and lost another wheel. By that time the police riot-squad was on his trail. The old car had performed nobly for him minus 2 wheels, but in a moment of thoughtlessness he steered for a ditch, possibly thinking there was a car there that he had overlooked, and that was the end of his mad career. When the police nabbed him, he explained that he was headed for the lake into which he intended to drive his car. Some of his victims wish that he had been possessed of this thought at the beginning of his mad ride. Altogether he winged nine cars.

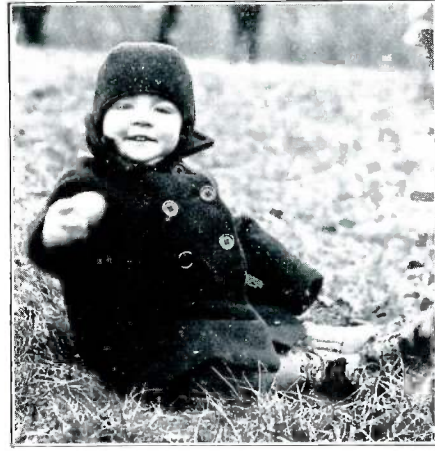
We suggest to the Mueller girls whose cars were damaged by this wild driver that they trade their cars for Austins. This will enable them to pick the Austin up and carry them to their rest room where they can be parked without danger of being the target of a Home B. driver.

The car owned by Miss Myer was damaged to the extent of \$35. Mrs. Brannan will have to charge off fifteen dollars while Mrs. Smith get off easy. The damage to her car was repaired for \$1.50.

### ✦ FORCE OF HABIT

The force of habit has a powerful pull on a person. Some are more susceptible to it than others. Odie Walker is one of these it would seem. Recently we met Odie laboriously climbing the third flight of steps to the old quarters of the drafting room, where Odie had worked for some years. Suddenly he stopped and muttered, "I don't want to go there." Retracing his steps he crossed the bridge to his present quarters on the second floor just west of the telephone desk. We don't know what Odie said when he reached his own office. Maybe it was, "Here's where I wanted to go."

### FIRST EASTER EGG



The little daughter of O. C. Keil at the Easter Egg Hunt. Did she enjoy it? Let the smile tell the story.

### VACATION HEALTH

(By C. O. Sappington, M. D., Dr. P. H. Director, Division of Industrial Health, National Safety Council)

How many of you who read this have had the unpleasant experience of returning from a vacation feeling mentally and physically fatigued?

If you have done this, quite likely it is because you did not apportion your physical and mental energy to the best advantage.

Recreation, as the word indicates, means the re-creating of mind and body.

To accomplish this result, you should choose a type of life which is utterly different from that which you pursue in the workaday world. On the other hand, you should religiously avoid physical and mental "sprees."

Outdoor exercise adapted to age, sex, and previous habits is an essential; proper periods of relaxation are equally important; the use of books and literature in which you are much interested will help to accomplish your purpose.

Make your own selections of the pursuits, both mental and physical in which you wish to engage. But when you make this selection, remember to be moderate and keep in mind that the chief values of a vacation are those which permit you to return to your work with your body and mind rested, and with a zest for work.

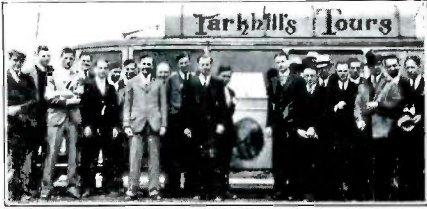
### ✦ DEATHS

Mrs. Otis Green

Mrs. Otis Green, wife of Otis Green, who works in our brass foundry, died on May 26th after an illness of several months. The Mueller organization extends its sympathies to Mr. Green.



## VISITORS



On May 11th, Mueller Co. was host to a group of senior students from the Rolla School of Mines located at Rolla, Mo. This group of ceramic engineers was in charge of Professor C. M. Dodd, who is an old classmate of Van E. Campbell, ceramist at Plant 3.

These students were making a tour of several hundred miles. They told us that up to the day of the visit here, the Mueller Co. has the largest and most efficient looking clay working establishment that they had visited.

It was rather a sad group as one of their members had suddenly dropped dead in a hotel at St. Louis the day before. It is our hope that the rest of their journey was made in more pleasant circumstances.

During the past few years, it has been the privilege of Mueller Co. to provide a field trip for University of Illinois classes. On May 12, Professor Mandeville of the Commerce School brought a group of twenty-eight students to Decatur to visit the different industries in this locality and spent the better part of a half day visiting the Mueller plants. The students are in the School of Business Administration and were particularly interested in our problems of organization, wage incentive plans, time study and management.

They were our guests at noonday luncheon after which Adolph Mueller welcomed them and also related to them his experiences and impressions of the International Chamber of Commerce conferences recently held in Washington, D. C.

Gerald Preshaw of the Cost Dept., was called upon to summarize our cost control system and lead a very interesting discussion with the students.

In the afternoon, they visited the Wabash shops.

Frank Mueller and W. L. Jett attended the American Water Works Convention at Pittsburgh. They drove there in Frank's car accompanied by his wife.

James A. Johnson, who has been laid up for several months with an injury, has returned to work in Dept. 15 as automatic buffer.

Mrs. Grace O'Byrne has been employed as helped in the cafeteria, replacing Mrs. Mary Hubler, who has resigned.

## BRASS CHIPS

C. E. Burdick, who has been night watchman for a number of years, resigned on April 1. Mr. Burdick was a very efficient watchman and will be missed by the organization. Mr. Burdick states that he did not feel physically able to climb the stairs many times during the night as watchmen are required to do in making their rounds. He has our best wishes.

Mrs. Mary Hubler, assistant cook in the cafeteria, resigned May 4th to open a restaurant of her own near John's Hill.

Earl King, one of our molders at Plant 2, is taking a thirty-day leave of absence.

John Barnes, father of our accommodating telephone operator, Sylvia Barnes, has been laid off on account of carpenter work running rather low, as Mr. Mason is rapidly nearing the completion of our re-arrangement work. James Johnson, also of our temporary carpenter force, has been laid off for the same reason.

Elmer Baker of Dept. 300, has taken a ninety-day leave of absence to try his hand at selling.

W. S. Enloe, our paymaster, who is very enthusiastic about his new set of teeth, remarks that Elmer Baker, when he had his set of teeth, made by Dr. Knapp, made one important request, namely, that Dr. Knapp make his teeth so that it would not effect his speech. Mr. Baker's friends hope that Dr. Knapp has complied with his request.

Harry Phillips of the Machine Shop, has taken a ninety-day leave of absence and has been fortunate enough to find work as signal man on a steel construction gang.

Charles Hobbs of the Pattern Shop, who was temporarily employed two or three months ago, has been laid off on account of work being slack in the Pattern Shop.

Embry Robinson, late of Plant 2, is now making his home in Mattoon, Ill.

Norman Clark of the Shipping Dept., has been transferred to our Los Angeles Branch. Mr. Clark's friends wish him success and hope that California is not so far away but that he will get back to see his Decatur friends.

H. H. Langdon was a Springfield visitor last week.

Arrangements were made for an excursion to the Okaw cabin for Memorial day, but at the eleventh hour the plan was abandoned because so few signed up. Most of the regulars had other fish to fry during the holiday that went with Memorial day.

## MUELLER BOY SCOUTS

## Troop 2 Making Fine Progress—Future Activities Planned

In the April Mueller Record a complete history was given of our Scout Troop organized under the direction of Scout Master Odie Walker. Since that time, however, quite a number of ambitious plans have been carried out and the Troop is well on its way to complete organization and definite working plans for the future.

Troop 2, as the Mueller Scout Troop is now known, has about eighteen youngsters enrolled, working out each Friday night at the Mueller gymnasium under the direction of Scout Master Odie Walker and his assistants. The boys are showing marked improvement in disciplinary and educational scout work and should be encouraged to carry on their endeavors through the hot summer months.

This will not be difficult as several hikes and outings have been planned. It is hoped that the entire scout troop will be enabled to attend the Robert Faries' Boy Scout Camp on Lake Decatur for a two-week period either in June or July. Scout Master Walker is working hard toward this ambition and should receive credit for his very sincere efforts.

It is also hoped that in the near future a way will be found whereby the boys may provide themselves with uniforms. It seems best that these boys should feel the responsibility of furnishing their own equipment.

Mr. Adolph Mueller has donated the use of the log cabin at the Lodge which is being moved to a more suitable location.

On May 15th a very appropriate Candle Ceremony was held by Troop 7 in the Mueller Gymnasium, at which time the Mueller Scouts were presented with Scout badges and troop committeemen were presented with their certificates.

Troop 2 will also take an active part in the Boy Scout Troop and Track Meet to be held on Millikin field May 30th.

Scout Master Walker is very happy in having as his assistant, Eagle Scout Ross Bullard, transferred permanently to Troop 2. Scout Ross Bullard had the honor and privilege of being sent by the Scout organization to Europe last year, and at the meetings is bringing some of his experiences to the young Mueller Scouts in a very interesting and educational way.

Quite a large number of young boys under scout age have turned out for the meetings and these have been organized into a Cub Scout Troop under the direction of E. D. Powers of Plant 3.

If you have a boy of scout age or one who is interested in scout work, please get in touch with the Scout Master and enroll your boy in Troop 2, as we are confident that before long this troop will be very active in Boy Scout work in this vicinity.

## MORNING FOLKS



Jacqueline Rae Chepan, aged 3 months, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Chepan.

## BILLY IN BLUE UNIFORM

William Bain, who was assistant foreman in our Machine Repair Dept., has been placed on the Decatur police force.

✦

**TRANSFERS**

Everyone in the Mueller organization knows that the company has been expending every effort to furnish as much work as possible for its employees. The superintendent, paymaster, and personnel department has had quite a lively time in keeping track of all the transfers and placements that have been made recently.

W. T. Mason has had a number of temporary workers on his construction force; and it has been necessary to switch around many of the men from one department to another. The company has been fortunate in having the cooperation of its employees during such times, and finds that those men who can adapt themselves and are willing to be changed from one job to another and make an effort to adapt themselves to different situations as they arise, are the men that are finding the steadiest work and are the ones who will receive the greatest consideration from the Company.

✦

**LOTS OF ORDERS**

The printing department does not complain of lack of orders. Last month in addition to thousands of impressions on factory forms, salesman's stationery, and special jobs, the department turned out over one hundred thousand new labels with numbers corresponding to the H catalog.

## COPS CATCH CURLY

Sarnia Superintendent Develops Speed Mania  
Going to Golf Course

Curley Allen, general superintendent of Mueller Ltd. Sarnia, Ontario, is well known to many persons in our organization, all of whom were surprised and shocked to learn that the highway police had pinched him for speeding. Curley's only excuse was his anxiety to get to the golf links, all of which interested neither the patrol officer or the Judge. Curly took his medicine and now he is a target for a great deal of ragging. General Supt. Roarick opened up on him from Decatur with the following volley:

"May 27, 1931.

"Mr. E. W. Allen,  
"Sarnia, Ontario,  
"Canada.

"Dear 'Curley':

"What a fine law-breaker you turned out to be.

"Speed laws are made to be observed, even golfers are not exempted, and when one must exceed them, the airplane is the only logical solution. Why not try it? And for economy I am sure you will find it much cheaper in the end.

"Do try to be more careful next time and even tho you have made a 'birdie' on the golf course do not try to imitate one on the highway.

"Yours truly,

"MUELLER CO.

"C. F. ROARICK,

"Gen. Supt.

"May 27, 1931.

"Mr. L. H. Burleigh,  
"Sarnia, Ontario,  
"Canada.

"Dear Loren:

"It gives me great sorrow to read in our news, that your Superintendent has the 'Speed Wagon Blues.' Each bright sunny morn as I scan the front sheet, I look for some news from your fair county seat. For having been over to your big little town, I am ever awake to its fame and renown.

"This morning at six I arose with the thot that news from your town the news-boy had brought and sure enough there on the very front page, was an item that 'Curley' had gone on a rampage. It pains me to read such scandal from there and my, I did sigh, as I read in despair.

"Oh why, do they pick on an 'innocent' guy when he goes to keep peace around a golf shootin' plot.

"It's all well and good, and no doubt he was right to hit sixty miles in that old trap he's got but the thot of a 'putt' and the joy of a 'drive' made the 'soop' a bit bold and reckless a lot.

"It may be his car took a funny streak or maybe his gasoline tank sprung a leak, but the fact that he raced with defiant air

over bad roads and good roads to that road cops despair, that's enough to convict him of speeding 'tis true, and if I ain't a liar that's just what they'll do. I heard he took three swings, opened her up and gave the high sign to the on-coming cop. He went right ahead to learn of the place where all folks go who lead a fast pace.

"Yours truly,

"C. F. ROARICK,

"Gen. Supt."



## WEDDINGS

## Sapp-Jones

Gladys Sapp of the Core Room was united in marriage to Vern Jones at Monticello, April 4th. They are making their home at 1408 North University.

## Erwin-Garren

Ethel Erwin of the Core Room was united in marriage to Kenneth Garren at Petersburg, Ill., on April 11th. They are making their home at 734 W. Eldorado St.

## Whitehead-Anderson

Miss Louise Whitehead and Melvin O. Anderson were married May 1st in the home of the former's brother, Roy Whitehead. Rev. W. M. Obermyer, pastor of the German Lutheran church, performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of George Whitehead of Clinton, and has been employed in the Engineering Dept. for the last six years, having graduated from the Clinton High school and from Brown's Business College.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson of Ramsey and is also a Mueller employe, having been with the company for five years. He is now a member of the Cost Dept. He graduated from the Ramsey High School and also from the Charleston Training School.

Immediately following the ceremony the couple began housekeeping in an apartment at 455 W. Eldorado St.

## Kushmer-Roarick

Announcement was made of the approaching marriage of Miss Esther Kushmer and Clarence Roarick recently at a party given in the home of Miss Marie Bastian. The wedding will be some time this summer. Clarence Roarick is a draftsman in Dept. 36 and the president of the Dramatic Club, and son of our superintendent, C. F. Roarick.

Mrs. Ethel Barding took a two weeks' vacation in May, at which time she and her husband motored to Florida.



Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Jett have taken a house on Cobb Ave. and will make this city their home so long as this city is Bill's headquarters. Bill now devotes his spare time to gardening, paying particular attention to raising "hops."



Financial Statement  
EMPLOYERS' AID SOCIETY BENEFIT  
FUND

March 24 Balance.....		\$ 356.52
Receipts		
Mueller Co., Apr. May..\$	100.00	
Dues, Mar., Apr.....	1,121.65	
Interest on bond.....	102.00	\$ 1,323.65
		\$ 1,680.17
Payments		
Funeral Flowers.....		
John A. Patterson, E.		
V. Winholtz.....\$	10.00	
To Emergency Loan		
Loan Fund.....	300.00	
Benefits listed below.....	932.10	\$ 1,242.10
Bal May 27, 1931.....		\$ 438.07

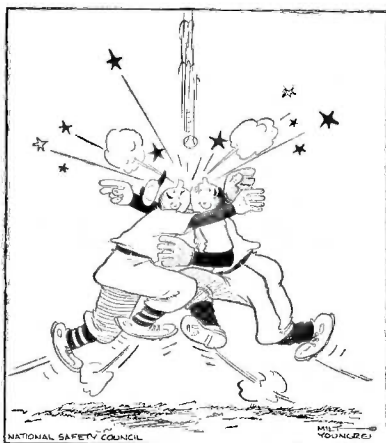
Resources

Bonds, par value.....\$	6,200.00	
Bldg & Loan stk 1-1-31	1,921.60	
Emerg. Loan Fund.....	3,500.00	
Cash .....	438.07	\$12,059.67
E. H. LANGDON, Treas.		

BENEFITS PAID

Margaret Mar-		Dowe Cutshall	1.00
cott	\$7.50	F. J. Albright	6.00
Hubert Mad-		Thomas Coker	22.50
dox	10.00	H. Benvenuto	2.35
Paul Burke	5.00	Dave Mahan	1.50
Wm. Bradley	1.00	Wm. Claugh	4.50
Chester Wood	16.00	Alfred Hexum	4.50
Ward Wake-		John Scoles	66.30
field	12.00	L. E. Runion	10.00
Gus Pauschert	7.50	Carl Robb	3.00
Ray R. Jolly	171.00	J. M. Majors	48.20
Wm. Stockton	6.00	W. S. Enloe	5.00
Elmer Baker	20.00	H. M. Williams	5.00
Julius Graben-		Geo. Hill	7.00
hofer	10.00	R. Taylor	6.00
Grover Meador	23.00	Earl Tague	30.00
C. W. Hatha-		Otto Danne-	
way	2.00	witz	44.40
Naomi Daesch-		Fern Davey	5.00
chlein	16.00	Ira Auer	15.00
Elbert Bailey	15.00	Lee Smith	1.00
C. M. Cunning-		Robt. Lusk	2.00
ham	5.00	Floyd Moore	5.00
O. T. Work-		G. R. St. Pierre	6.00
man	98.80	Al Culver	3.00
Geo. A. Weber	15.00	Lee Peyton	23.40
D.H. Washburn	15.00	Chas. Portee	2.25
R. C. Stafford	9.15	Glen Hester	7.50
Marshall Hobbs	4.00	Robt. Ross	4.50
Chas. Morenz	2.50	R. R. Burrus	7.00
Edith Jenkins	2.00	Flossie Poe	7.50
Chas. Pettus	1.00	Chas. Chambers	7.50
Robt. Tauber	6.00	Loren Burrus	5.00
Wade Rambo	17.50	Rex Waggoner	10.00
Oscar Taylor	40.25		
Wm. Turry	15.00		\$932.10

TEAMWORK PREVENTS ACCIDENTS



"I have it!" calls the shortstop.

"I have it!" yells the second baseman.

And they both make a dive to catch the fly that will retire the side. An irresistible force meets an immovable object and the ball rolls out to center field. The runner pulls up at second before the fielders quit counting the stars.

Another kind of ivory is sometimes seen on the baseball diamond. Two fielders stand looking up at the sky, each waiting for the other to make the catch. The best pitcher can't win with that kind of support.

You've seen a fast double play pull the pitcher out of a hole. That's as good an example of teamwork as you'll find anywhere.

The safety man needs that kind of support. Accidents are like errors and bone-head plays—bush league stuff.



MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBERED

As has been the custom for many years past, the employes contributed a small sum which enabled them to procure beautiful floral pieces to be placed on the graves of Mr. and Mrs. Hieronymus Mueller, Fred B. Mueller, Henry Mueller and Philip Mueller. We are in receipt of the following letter of appreciation:

"To all of our employes:

"We wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each one who contributed to the flower fund and furnished the beautiful flowers for Father's, Mother's and Brother Fred's mausoleum, Brother Henry's mausoleum at Greenwood Cemetery, as well as for Brother Philip's grave at Fairlawn Cemetery.

"It was mighty thoughtful, and we assure each employe that we most thoroughly appreciated the remembrance.

"MUELLER FAMILIES."