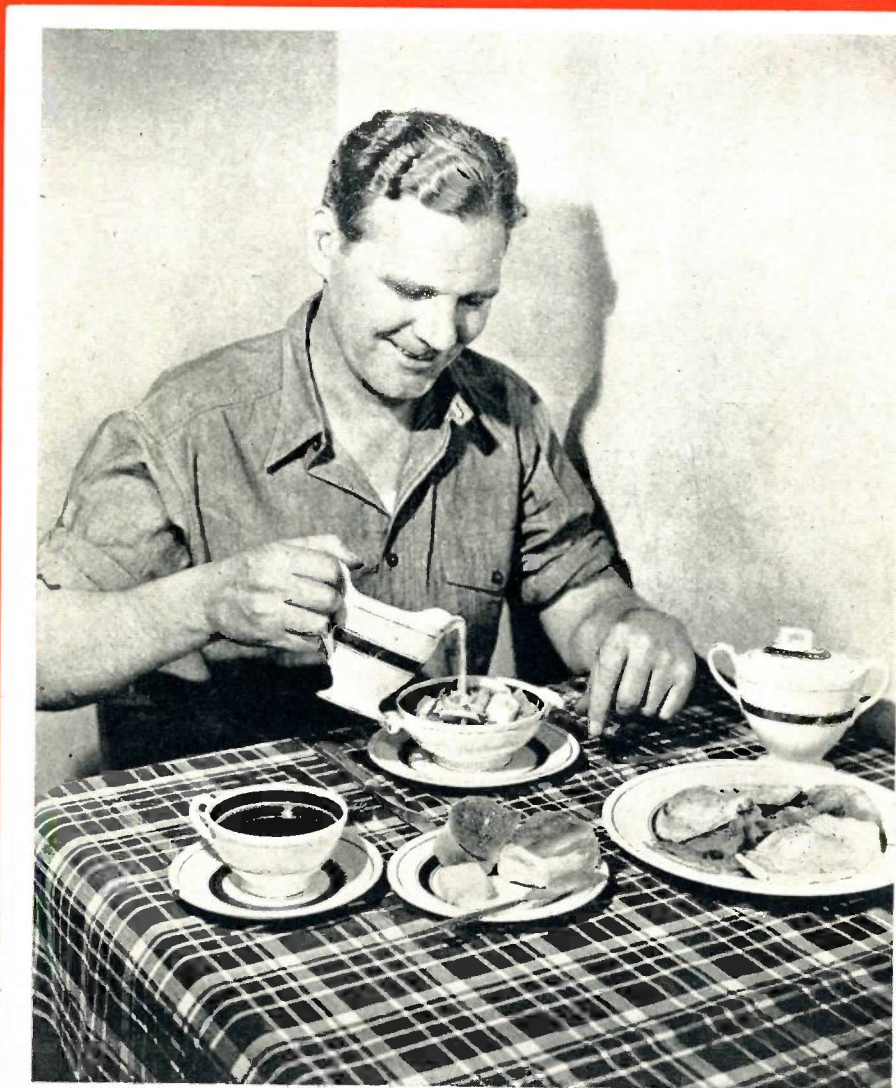


MUELLER RECORD

PUBLISHED AT DECATUR, ILLINOIS



Courtesy Dorothy Ames Carter

STARTING THANKSGIVING DAY RIGHT

NOVEMBER, 1944



THERE SHE GOES !

And it is a shame, too. It might have been saved, for what at first was only a small blaze turned out to be a major conflagration in a short time. No matter how efficient your firemen may be—no matter how fine are your trucks and equipment, if precious minutes are lost at the scene of the fire, fighting a stubborn fire hydrant, it can mean the complete destruction of many buildings. Delay from any cause—even for a few minutes—is disastrous and causes fire losses to mount.

Make certain that your firemen do not have hydrant trouble by specifying MUELLER-COLUMBIAN Improved Fire Hydrants. With cold weather coming on, here is a hydrant that can withstand the rigors of freezing and ice. The self-oiling bonnet section with the weather-proof cap will not stick, bind, rust or freeze in any climate.

The big feature, however, is the bronze-bushed dual drain valves which are an integral part of the main valve. When the hydrant is closed after using, these positively operated valves

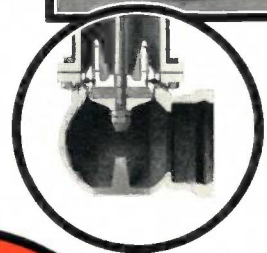
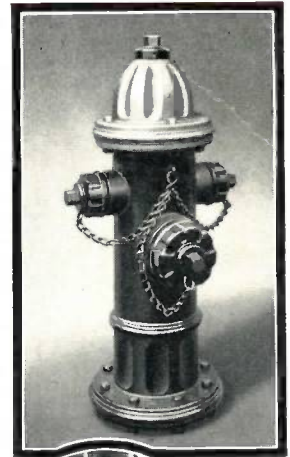
drain the barrel completely dry. It cannot ever freeze, assuring you that there will never be delays from ice and freezing. As a further protection, when the main valve is first opened, water under pressure is forced through the drain openings for an instant and all foreign substances are washed out thus making certain that drain ports are always open. A dry barrel is never subject to rust and freezing.

For description of the many other features that can save your city money write for our new MUELLER-COLUMBIAN Improved Fire Hydrant Folder just off the press.

MUELLER CO.
CHATTANOOGA 1, TENN.

Decatur 70,
 Illinois

Los Angeles 23,
 Calif.



MUELLER-
COLUMBIAN
 FOUNDED 1857

DON'T LET UP NOW!
 BUY MORE WAR BONDS

GET THE HYDRANT FIREMEN PREFER

<p>OFFICERS</p> <p>WILLIAM E. MUELLER President and Treasurer</p> <p>LUCIEN W. MUELLER Vice-President in Charge of Administrative and Sales Engineering</p> <p>J. W. SIMPSON Vice-President in Charge of Sales</p> <p>J. W. WELLS Secretary</p> <p>R. H. MUELLER Chief Engineer</p>	<p>MUELLER RECORD</p> <p>PUBLISHED AT DECATUR, ILLINOIS BY MUELLER CO.</p> <p>Plumbing, Water and Gas Brass Goods</p> <p>86th Year in Business</p>	<p>MAIN FACTORY AND OFFICE Decatur, Illinois</p> <p>PACIFIC COAST FACTORY Los Angeles, Calif.</p> <p>COLUMBIAN IRON WORKS (Hydrant and Valve Division) Chattanooga, Tenn.</p> <p>CANADIAN FACTORY MUELLER, LTD. Sarnia, Ontario</p> <p>BRANCHES New York, San Francisco</p>
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Vol. XXXIII

NOVEMBER, 1944

No. 308

Sail On, O Ship of State

*Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on, O UNION, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what Master laid thy keel,
What Workman wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
What anvils rang, what hammered beat,
In what a forge and what a heat
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!
Fear not each sudden sound and shock,
'Tis of the wave and not the rock;
'Tis but the flapping of the sail,
And not a rent made by the gale!
In spite of rock and tempest's roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea:
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee,— Are all with thee!*

H. W. Longfellow
"The Building of the Ship"

THE MUELLER RECORD

Published bi-monthly at Decatur, Illinois, by MUELLER CO., Manufacturers of Vital Spots Products for the Plumbing, Water and Gas Industries. Months issued: January, March, May, July, September, November.

C. N. WAGENSELLER, Editor

VIEWS ON READING

Great Minds Differ On Its Value— Disraeli Deals the Knock-Out

Blessings on the man or woman who taught me to read. It has been the solace of a lifetime. There are no dull moments when a worth while book is within reach. We agree with the poet Keats who said:

"I had an idea that a Man might pass a very pleasant life in this manner: Let him on a certain day read a certain page of full Poesy or distilled Prose, and let him wander with it, and muse upon it, and reflect from it, and dream upon it: until it becomes stale—But when will it do so? Never—When a man has arrived at a certain ripeness in intellect any one grand and spiritual passage serves him as a starting post toward all the "Two-and-thirty Palaces." How happy is such a voyage of conception, what delicious, diligent indolence."

Books as a general thing are the pathway to a delightful satisfaction and pleasure, a broadening influence on one's mentality while widening the sphere of knowledge.

However in the argument we must acknowledge that wise men have divided opinions on the value of books and their benefits to mankind. Job may have started the trouble with his remark, "Oh, that my adversary had written a book", and thereby hangs a tale. Printing as we know it now was then a secret but hand written pamphlets were apparently called books.

Credit to Chinese

The credit for the invention of type is given to the Chinese, dating back to between 1051 and 1058. The inventor was one Pi Cheng and his type were made of clay. The invention of type mold and the use of metal type is first heard from in Korea and books printed from metal type appeared there in large numbers during the whole of the fifteenth century. The earliest record of type casting dates from 1405 and the

earliest extant book 1409. Now books literally rain down on us like a summer shower. They cover every conceivable subject some of which are not so distantly related to a barnyard manure pile.

In fact, they are so close that the odor clings to the page as you read and all of this brings about the divergence of opinion on their worthiness.

Books Criticized

As far back as 1608 John Webster said: "Ignorant asses visiting stationers' shops, not to inquire for good books but for new books."

In this same category was Rosseau, who in 1762 said: "I hate books, for they only teach people to talk about things they do not understand."

It remained for the great Disraeli to deliver the knock out as late as 1870. He said: "Books are fatal; They are the curse of the human race. Nine-tenths of existing books are nonsense, and the clever books are the refutation of that nonsense. The greatest misfortune that ever befell man was the invention of printing."

On the Other Hand

It is a pleasant relief to look upon the other estimates of book value. Cervantes in 1615 said: "There is no book so bad that some good may not be found in it."

Oliver Goldsmith in 1762 said: "The first time I read an excellent book, it is to me just as if I had gained a new friend. When I read over a book that I have perused before, it resembles meeting with an old one."

Thomas Carlyle was a lover of books. In a letter to a friend in 1820 he wrote: "My blessing be on the head of Cadmus or the Phoenicians, or who ever invented books."

If those who love books were to be lined up against those who hate and criticize them the former would head the procession.

Our preference is to line up with Goldsmith and the others who love and appreciate books, rather than the snarling Disraeli, brilliant as he was. In fact, we don't believe that such a mind as he possessed could damn books and printing in earnest, or that he believed his own words.

ILLINOIS AUTOS DECLINE

Outlook for Speedy Relief is Nothing
To Get Excited About



The passenger car registration in Illinois during the first nine months of the year was 1,503,404 which was a decline of 72,601 from the 1943 period. Trucks and chauffeur licenses also dropped but the trailer, motorcycle and automobile dealer registrations were up slightly. This condition in Illinois is probably a fair example of what has happened in other states. There are several reasons for this. One is the absence of so many men and women in the military service. Another is the fact that the usual number of cars were worn out and discarded. In many instances the younger element is preferring the excitement and thrill possible in the motorcycle and again the limited number of new cars because of big makers utilizing their factories for production of war equipment. There has been a big increase of motorcycles since the country became a maze of paved highways. The trailer has become the home of hundreds of thousands of families. This is very apparent in a city the size of Decatur. War production plants have been the magnet drawing thousands of new residents, temporary or permanent. A large proportion of these make their homes in trailers, the estimated increase in population is given at 10 to fifteen thousand residents.

According to all guesses the automobile manufacturers will require several years to meet the demand for new cars, provided the whim of the public does not switch to planes.

Americans are always on the lookout for something different and exciting.

BLOW OUTS

During his campaign for re-election U. S. Senator Scott Lucas had a blow out

two miles out of Rockford, where he was due for a "blow out" at a political rally. He was successful in thumbing a ride and claims he talked tires instead of politics, and perhaps in a language still understood on the floor of the senate by the staid and learned senators without the assistance of an interpreter.

DEATH OF W. J. LANG

William J. (Billy) Lang died in Passavant Hospital, Chicago, August 14, after a two months illness, aged 69 years. He was engaged in the plumbing business for a period of forty-four years, and was classed as a leader, both in trade lines and in the local and state organizations. He was also active in national affairs. Those who knew him and his activities realize that he gave unselfishly great time and ability to the advancement of the master plumber and industry as a whole. He had the gift of leadership which made him outstanding in any undertaking.

His wife, Mabel Lang and a son, William E. Lang, and a daughter, Vera Roden of Detroit, survive him. The son is now in the Army Air Corps, with rank of lieutenant.

TENNYSON'S VISION

In the early 1840's Alfred Tennyson wrote his great poem, "Locksley Hall" and therein had his vision of "the heaven's filled with argosies." The balloon was known at that time but the airplane was still a dream. The poet's vision, however, encompassed conditions of the future, such as now familiar to the peoples throughout the world.

For I dipt into the future far as
human eye could see,
Saw the Vision of the world, and all
the wonder that would be;
Saw the heavens filled with com-
merce, argosies of magic sail,
Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping
down with costly bales;
Heard the heavens fill with shouting,
and there rain'd a ghastly dew
From the nations' airy navies grap-
pling in the central blue.

Let Us Give Thanks . . .

THANKSGIVING DAY

Lydia Maria Child

Over the river and through the wood,
To grandfather's house we go;
The horse knows the way
To carry the sleigh
Through the white and drifted snow.

Over the river and through the wood—
Oh, how the wind does blow!
It stings the toes
And bites the nose
As over the ground we go.

Over the river and through the wood,
To have a first-rate play.
Hear the bells ring,
"Ting-a-ling-ling!"
Hurrah for Thanksgiving Day!

Over the river and through the wood,
Trot fast, my dapple gray!
Spring over the ground
Like a hunting-hound,
For this is Thanksgiving Day!

Over the river and through the wood,
And straight through the barnyard gate.
We seem to go
Extremely slow—
It is so hard to wait.

Over the river and through the wood—
Now grandmother's cap I spy!
Hurrah for the fun!
Is the pudding done?
Hurrah for the pumpkin pie!

■ ■ ■

LET'S HOPE FOR GOOD

Thanksgiving Day Now Safely Anchored on 4th Thursday of November

November 23rd will be Thanksgiving day. As a rule this custom of giving thanks on a specified day dates back to the Pilgrim fathers. The festival is in its essence a harvest Thanksgiving. The best authority we have on its origin says it "perhaps owes its origin to the Pilgrim Fathers as Governor Bradford first set a day in America for that purpose at Plymouth in 1621." Note the colloquial perhaps, which seems to inject a doubt as to its origin. Any religious significances of the day has had to take it on the chin from football and other sports. To a large proportion of the population it means turkey stuffed with

dressing and mince pie to end the feast and begin the tussle with an overstuffed digestive system.

With no intention of robbing Governor Bradford for his happy thought the fact remains that the routine of Thanksgiving was established by Abraham Lincoln's proclamation in 1864 which designated the holiday as the fourth or last Thursday in November. It remained for President Roosevelt to change this. In 1939, 1940 and 1941 he moved the day forward one week which resulted in a divided observance. Hard-boiled old-timers persisted in following the old custom. On December 26, 1941, President Roosevelt approved the House resolution as follows:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, that the fourth Thursday of November in each year after the year 1941 be known as Thanksgiving day, and is hereby made a legal public holiday to all intents and purposes."

It is of interest to note that Lincoln selected the fourth Thursday under the clause "the fourth or last Thursday in November." Under that clause Thanksgiving this year could have been proclaimed on Thursday the 23rd or Thursday, 30th. It happens that the current month has five Thursdays.

Now if the fourth Thursday, definitely provided for, meets with your approval pass your plate for another helping of white meat.

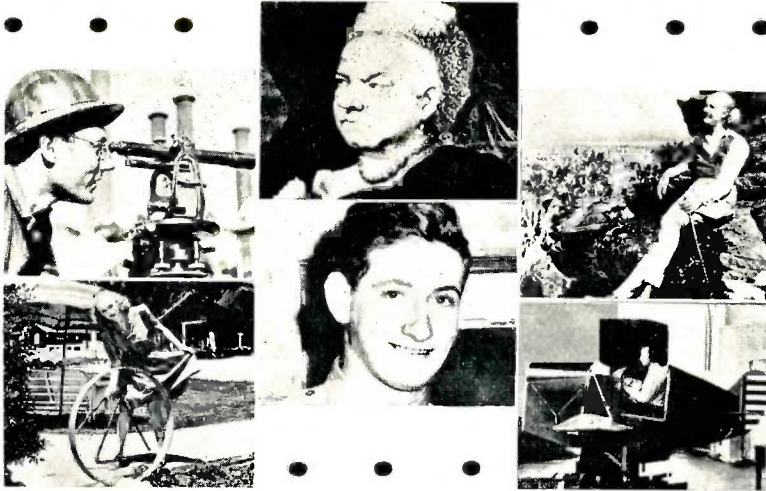
Will Carleton, the poet, expresses his view of the day in the following lines:

Thanksgiving day, I fear,
If one the solemn truth must touch,
Is celebrated, not so much,
To thank the Lord for blessings o'er,
As for the sake of getting more!

According to the World Almanac, the day is not observed in Kentucky.

■ ■ ■

Attempt the end and never stand in doubt;
nothing is so hard but search will find it out.—Herrick.



Courtesy Look Magazine

What Are They Doing? Figure It Out Yourself

Just as if you have nothing else to torture your thinking apparatus in these days of war uncertainty, we give you the above to figure out. It's good mental exercise and not so brain trying as many which beset you. The history of puzzles dates back to the ancient Chinese who in themselves are something of a puzzle. Many puzzles are constructed on a mathematical principle. The mechanical toy problems are of very ancient origin especially those derived by the Chinese. Those known as the tangram make possible the formation of 300 figures. Those on this page are not so intricate. For instance those who have seen pictures of Queen Victoria may spot her in an instant in the upper center of this layout—but they would be wrong. See page 32 if you want to know the right answers.

UPPER LEFT

He is surveying the landscape with a:

- (a) Sexton
- (b) Sextant
- (c) Transit
- (d) Binoscope

LOWER LEFT

"Come and get it", sounds on the ranchers:

- (a) Xylophone
- (b) Esophagus
- (c) Gong
- (d) Triangle

UPPER CENTER

Clothes make the man but can't disguise:

- (a) W. C. Fields
- (b) Edward G. Robinson
- (c) Jack Benny
- (d) Fred Allen

LOWER CENTER

"Commando" Kelly was cited at:

- (a) Anzio
- (b) Pittsburg
- (c) Salerno
- (d) Normandy

UPPER RIGHT

These fashionable breeches are:

- (a) Buskins
- (b) Slacks
- (c) Culottes
- (d) Jodhpurs

LOWER RIGHT

Hop in and take a spin in a:

- (a) Gyroscope
- (b) Helicopter
- (c) Link trainer
- (d) P-38

■ ■ ■

LITTLE LINES OF LOGIC

To know how to hide one's ability is great skill.—Rochefoucauld.

They are able because they think they are able.—Virgil.

The best way to keep good acts in memory is to refresh them with new.—Cato.

So many worlds so much to do, so little done.—Tennyson.

We do not count a man's years, until he has nothing else to count.—Emerson.

Youth is a blunder; manhood a struggle; old age a regret.—Disraeli.

I'M TELLIN' YOU



● Women snore, too. And that's only a half told tale.

● If your feet burn try a mustard bath. Great combination—hot dogs and mustard.

● Let us do today what we should have done yesterday and put off until tomorrow the thing we should do today, thereby maintaining harmonious continuity; without any radical change in habit.

● Hard to please. The ladies wanted sheer stocking to make their legs look bare. Then they followed suit and discarded hose. Now they paint their legs to make them look like hose. We might remark that now she is painted at both ends—face and legs.

● We are quite familiar with chubby Winston through newspaper pictures, not over-looking the cigar between his fingers.

● The present fad for absence of dress skirts has produced one good result—a husband can no longer hide behind them.

● An Indiana editor was seriously injured in an automobile collision. The editor had failed to make a note of the fact that the freedom of the press does not include railroad crossings or auto routes.

● No, the customer is not always right, but the dealer lets him believe so, and then sells him something he does not want or need.

● The inductee who took with him a shoe spoon for boot training soon learned that he should have taken a pillow to stuff in the seat of his pants.

● High speed and low mentality make the highways good-bye ways to the undertaker.

● Dictatorships thrive when freedom is thrown aside.

● There are always two sides to an argument, and occasionally one side is right.

● One of those quiz cranks asks us "how man first reached the new world." Give it up but chances are that he made a mistake and took the wrong train.

● We are told that after the war we will have a changed world. This is no more reliable than a weather prediction. It is our simple-minded observation that the old world has been changing from the day it started.

● We learned the English alphabet in the primary department with average alacrity but we are still working on the government departmental alphabet puzzle with small hopes of success.

● The girl who formerly had nothing to wear spent her time on the bathing beach. But now with plenty to wear she doesn't wear it and spends her time on busy streets and in offices, but attracts less attention than the old time gal on the beach.

● There was a time when we wouldn't buy a thing because it cost too much. "That was long, long ago and far away".

● Unintended and unconscious humor always hits the bulls-eye. This is because it is a natural. It does not bear the trademark of the professional jokesmith. The "intelligent compositor", an ironical and sarcastic shaft aimed at the man who sets the type, creates the most laugh provokers.

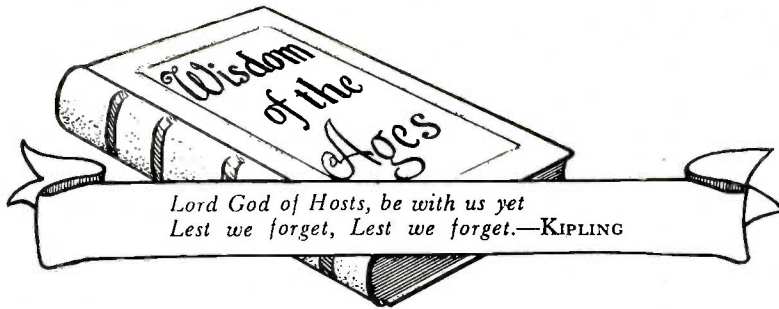
● And now we have learned of the hill-billy couple who questioned the legality of their marriage because the bride's father had no license for carrying a shot gun.

● The pessimist and the optimist some times see through the same spectacles and agree. The former thinks all women have loose morals and the latter agrees with him.

■ ■ ■

Hubby: "On my way to South America I saw a lot of beautiful panoramas."

Wifey: "I thought you promised me you wouldn't run around with those native women."



Wm. Matthews:—

There is a wide difference between general acquaintance and companionship. You may salute a man and exchange compliments with him daily, yet know nothing of his character, his inmost taste and feelings.

Colton:—

Make the most of the day, by determining to spend it on two sorts of acquaintances only—those by whom something may be got, and those from whom something may be learned.

Shakespeare:—

To thine ownself be true:
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man.

St. Evermond:—

Affectation is a greater enemy to the face than small pox.

La Rochefoucauld:—

Moderation cannot claim the merit of opposing and overcoming ambition; they are never found together. Moderation is the languor and sloth of the soul; ambition its activity and heat.

Kingsley:—

I say we ought to reverence books, to look at them as useful and mighty things. If they are good and true, whether they are about religion or politics, farming, trade or medicine, they are the message of Christ, the maker of all things, the teacher of all truth.

Bacon:—

Houses are built to live in more than to look on; therefore let use be preferred before uniformity, except where both may be had.

Old Testament:—

Your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

Jefferson:—

Peace, eminence and honest friendship with all nations—entangling alliances with none.

Sir Thomas Overbury:—

The man who has not anything to boast of but his illustrious ancestors is like a potato—the only good belonging to him is underground.

Lincoln:—

When you have got an elephant by the hind leg, and he is trying to run away, it's best to let him run.

Swift:—

When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign, all the dunces are in a confederacy against him.

J. A. Froude:—

Wild animals never kill for sport. Man is the only one to whom the torture and death of his fellow creatures is amusing in itself.

Sydney Smith:—

We shall generally find that the triangular person has got into a square hole, the oblong into the triangular, and the square person has squeezed himself into the round hole.

Elbert Hubbard:—

It is not book learning, that young men need, nor instruction about this and that, but a stiffening of the vertebrae which will cause them to be loyal to a trust, to act promptly, concentrate their energies, do a thing—"carry a message to Garcia".

Bacon:—

Men of age object too much, consult too long; adventure too little, repent too soon, and seldom drive business home to the full period, but content themselves with a mediocrity of success.

Swift:—

And he gave it as his opinion "that whoever would make two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better of mankind, and do more essential service to his country than the whole race of politicians put together."



Samuel B. Morris.
Late Dean of En-
gineering, Stanford
University

Change at Los Angeles

★ ★ ★ ★

*H. A. Van Norman Succeeded by
Samuel B. Morris as Chief Engineer
and General Manager*



H. A. Van Norman

★ ★ ★ ★

An important change has taken place in the water works at Los Angeles, important because of the prominence of the men concerned.

Samuel B. Morris, widely known in water works circles, is now Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, succeeding H. A. Van Norman. The prominence of the two men in the industry, both being known nationally, give an added interest to this bit of news appearing in a recent issue of the Western City.

The Los Angeles plant is said to be the world's largest combined water and power system. It serves 550,000 electric customers and 350,000 water consumers. Mr. Van Norman remains with the plant until the first of next year at a salary of \$1,000 per month. The position of Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Department of Water and Power pays \$25,000 per year.

Leaves Fine Record

Mr. Van Norman in retiring leaves behind a fine record of achievement. At the age of 65 he leaves a service record of 37 years. He had planned to retire last November when the water and power divisions of the department were reorganized into a single body but consented to remain until the reorganization was completed and functioning. He was a construction superintendent for Los Angeles Gas & Electric Corp, in 1907 when he resigned to supervise two divisions of Los Angeles Aqueduct.

In 1924, the Board of Public Works had him placed in charge of the construction of the north outfall sewer and he was made Los Angeles City Engineer

but by August of 1925 he was back in the department again as assistant engineer of water works and supply. In 1929 he succeeded William Mulholland as chief engineer and general manager of the Bureau of Water Works and Supply.

Among Van Norman's principal works were the Mono Basin project, Bouquet Dam and reservoir and the interconnection of the municipal water system with the Colorado River Aqueduct.

A Worthy Successor

Samuel B. Morris who succeeds Mr. Van Norman was born in Los Angeles 54 years ago, attended the predecessor of California Institute of Technology and also Stanford University, and in 1912 went with the Pasadena Municipal Water Department. He left there in 1935 as general manager, and for the past eight years has been Dean of Stanford's Engineering School.

He was 1943-1944 president of the American Water Works Association and holds many engineering consultant positions or similar affiliations with national and public bodies.

Owing to his national prominence in the water works industry and also as Dean of Stanford's Engineering School, he has a wide acquaintance in the water works and engineering fields.

■ ■ ■

"Smith, what is the formula for water?"
"HIJKLMNO."

"Where did you get such a silly idea?"

Smith: "Well, yesterday you told us it was H to O."

Mark Antony: "I want to see Cleopatra."

Servant: "She's in bed with laryngitis."

Mark: "Damn that Greek, anyhow."

NEW AUTO OUTLOOK

Eager Buyers May Have to Wait For Anything Radically New

It would be reasonably safe to wager that 50 per cent of bond buyers are future prospects for becoming owners of automobiles. If they are hopeful of accomplishing this object immediately on conclusion of peace, or even within a year or so later, they are doomed to disappoint. The men in position to know are much less hopeful, not only of an immediate production of cars, but also of the thought that the new automobile will have all kinds of gadgets, conveniences and comforts.

That is the way it has been figured by "The Motor News" of the Chicago Automobile Club, which says:

"First, the situation now. About 5,000 cars a day are junked in auto graveyards throughout the nation. It is estimated that 20,000,000 cars are necessary to maintain essential transportation in the United States. On the basis of present rates of car deterioration the number of working cars may sink below the twenty million danger line sometime in 1945, if new cars are not produced."

Record Production Needed

Even if cars are produced in 1945 and full automobile production goes on in the next three years—it will take until 1949 for the nation to have as many cars in use as it had in 1942.

The best estimates on the immediate demand for cars is placed at ten million passenger cars in addition to future annual requirements. This estimate suggests that between twenty and twenty-five million cars may be made and sold in the first five or six years following peace. Manufacturers remembering experience of the previous war are making plans for the most suitable reconversion possible. They say the first cars to roll from the lines will be the 1942 models. This will keep the new cars as inexpensive and reliable as when the war began.

Innovations Later

The innovations will come later. It is agreed the trend is toward lighter cars

with better visibility. Wind shield supports will probably be reduced in size and the rear window enlarged. Automatic gearshift and head light dimmers are considered in the first innovations.

Some of the manufacturers predict a sizeable increase in price. There may be some novelties added but in general the automobiles of the future will be what they have been in the past.

This may be a shock to many visionary people who have looked forward to radical change in shape, size and equipment with spacious rooms, second story bed rooms, including bath rooms, flower beds on the sides and a line in the rear to hang out the family laundry as the car whizzes along at eighty miles an hour.

■ ■ ■

JACK DREW THE JACK

As a fighter Jack Dempsey was a great drawing card, although when in the ring Gene Tunney must be given part credit.

Winner	Loser	Receipts
Tunney	Dempsey	\$2,650,000
Tunney	Dempsey	1,895,725
Dempsey	Carpentier	1,626,529
Dempsey	Sharkey	1,083,890

Joe Louis never figured in a million dollar gate. The largest was \$948,352. That was when he fought Max Baer.

■ ■ ■

POPULAR CRAZE



RAT CONTROL

Organized Crusade Against Detested and Destructive Rodent

"How now a rat? Dead, for a ducat dead!" Hamlet, as quoted, believed he had killed his detested step-father, and his likening him to a rat was the most odious comparison he could conjure. The rat is among the most hated member of the vermin tribe and yet as smart and cunning as his long tailed friend in Hades.

The best authority is none too positive as to the origin of the rodent, stating "it seems to have originally come from Western China." It is now common throughout Europe and the new world where it was carried by ships. Rat distribution by involuntary human agency may be compared with that of the cockroach, which man has likewise carried over the globe.

Two Species

There are two common species of rats, the brown and the black. In Europe the brown rat was a comparatively late comer but is known to have entered Russia in large numbers in the early part of the 18th century. Prior to this migration the European area was entered by the small black rat before the 13th century. The brown rat has been successful in a large extent in exterminating the smaller black rat which is now rare in the northern United States but well known toward the south under the name Alexandrine or roof rat.

The brown rat began to be prevalent in eastern American sea points about 1750 and a century later had reached the Pacific Coast. Rats are practically omnivorous in their diet. They eat almost any kind of human food, vegetable or animal. The genus *Mus* is an exceedingly large one, containing nearly 150 species.

Sport For Terriers

In Great Britain the hunting out and killing of the rats on a farm with the aid of terriers is a recognized sport, rarely indulged in elsewhere.

Our present interest in the rat was provoked by reading an article by Don

B. Whalen, Extension Entomologist of the University of Nebraska.

Twice a year there is a restlessness in the rat tribe, and a migration takes place. In the spring they leave buildings for the fields where more succulent food is obtained and the breeding period more advantageous. In the fall they return to the buildings.

This is a protective urge, seeking shelter from the coming cold to places where they find shelter and stored up food. Food and shelter are two dominating factors governing their habits and emphasizes their abundance as well as the damage they do.

Time to Kill Them

Regarding extermination Prof. Whalen says:

"Naturally, the best time to kill rats is when they are more numerous around the buildings and when their food is not varied and at a minimum. This is during the fall and winter. However, a well-planned rat control program will not wait until the rats actually invade the buildings. It should start by making the buildings rat-proof so as to have few shelters for these unwelcome boarders. When the days and nights begin to get cold rats must have plenty of food to keep themselves warm. Even without putting out poisoned baits a community could, if it made a concerted effort of rat-proofing, discourage the rats so that they would not build up large populations. Another thing about fall baiting is that there is plenty of time for a follow-up campaign of some sort to kill those rats that were too timid to eat at the first banquet.

Our Greatest Enemy

The government pamphlet on Rat Control makes these startling claims: "Despite all that has been done to combat the rat, however, this pest is still mankind's greatest enemy in the animal world." This pamphlet says rats are probably decreasing in number in some localities in the U. S. although this decrease is only beginning to be apparent. The chief factors responsible for this are present-day sanitary requirements and modern building construction.

The five essential steps in rat control, in order of importance, are as follows:

M U E L L E R R E C O R D

1. Permanent rat control organizations should be provided for large cities and rural districts.

2. All shelters for rats should be eliminated and all garbage, trash, and other wastes on which rats can feed should be promptly disposed of.

3. All buildings should be made rat proof.

4. The rats themselves should be destroyed by use of poisoned baits and traps. If it is desired to avoid the slight risk of rats dying in inaccessible places traps should be used. Rat burrows and hiding places should be fumigated with poisonous gases.

Natural enemies of the rat should be protected when they are not destructive.

■ ■ ■

THE AMERICAN OUTPOST

Citizens of U. S. Living In London
Foster Good Relations and Friendship

Among the letters reaching the editor's desk was one from the American Outpost, 13 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, London W. C. 2. It bore the date of Sept. 24 and acknowledged receipt of "a copy of your lively little Mueller Record magazine." The writer added: "We do appreciate the considerable publicity given our work in this manner through large circulation covering so wide a range of people, on which I hope you will accept our congratulations."

These excerpts from letters to Americans tell the objects of the organization:

With British at War

"As you know, the American Outpost was formed by the members of the American colony in this country who stayed through the blitz and lived with the British at war. Our purpose was to report to the people at home what we saw for ourselves and learned about Britain during this crisis. In much the same way, through a weekly publication in this country, we tell our British friends about America.

In addition to these two publishing activities, we devote a great deal of time to fostering Anglo-American friendship in general, and in disseminating information concerning both countries with all the means at our disposal. We feel that an unofficial medium of this kind can do, and in fact we can modestly state already has done, a great deal to improve Anglo-American relations."

GOODBYE FOR 4 YEARS

With the din of a presidential campaign still ringing in our ears we recall the political orator and the wind that blew through his whiskers, preserved for future generations by "The Speakers Library," in the following apt description:

"The statesman throws his shoulders back and straightens out his tie, and says, "My friends, unless it rains, the weather will be dry." And when this thought into our brains has percolated through, we common people nod our heads and loudly cry, "How true!"

The statesman blows his massive nose, and clears his august throat, and says, "The ship will never sink so long as it's afloat." Whereat we roll our solemn eyes, applaud with main and might, and slap each other on the back, the while we say, "He's right!"

The statesman waxes stern and warm, his drone becomes a roar. He yells, "I say to you, my friends, that two and two make four." And thereupon our doubts dissolve, our fears are put to rout, and we agree that here's a man who knows what he's about!"

The boys with their pitchforks are now clearing out the stalls in the barn of memory and the piles outside in the barnyard grow in size—and give off an unwelcome stench.

■ ■ ■

Cowboy: "What kind of a saddle do you want—one with a horn or without?"

Dude: "Without, I guess. There doesn't seem to be much traffic on these prairies."

■ ■ ■

Blondie: "That boy friend of mine is trying at times."

Redhead: "Huh! Mine is trying all of the time."

■ ■ ■

THE OLD BASKET BACK



"DO YOU MIND IF I WRAP THE TOMATOES IN THE LETTUCE LEAVES—WE'RE SHORT OF BAGS."

THE BIG FOUR IN DENVER WATER WORKS



City and County Building Housing Denver Municipal Water Works Offices

Denver, the dream city of the Midwest—rich in resources, glorious in surrounding scenery, modern in its parks, public buildings, public utilities and its system of government. It lies on a level plain 5,280 feet above sea level, while beyond rise the snow-capped peaks and deep blue shoulders of the Rocky Mountains.

It is not of the city we desire to write but of one of its great public utilities—the water works—particularly the men entrusted to and active in its operation. It is interesting in the beginning to note that the men directly responsible for the successful operation of this most important of all public utilities are veterans in the service.

He Fits the Phrase

There is George F. Hughes, general manager, with a record of 38 years. He has been described in the somewhat hackneyed phrase as “the genial and capable”, but if the phrase ever fit anyone without a wrinkle, it is the subject of this sketch. Mr. Hughes started as an inspector November 1906, at a salary of \$50 per month, but climbed step by step until 1936 when he reached his present high position. Naturally he has seen many changes in the development of Denver’s fine plant, and in that development has played an important part. In

addition to his position as general manager he fills the office of Secretary of the Board of Water Commissioners.

Early Days in Denver

In a recent issue of the Pittsburgh National Water Journal, Mr. Hughes contributes some interesting data on early days of Denver’s water service. He writes: “The modern Denver family uses 3,000 gallons of water per week”. How then in the “sweating 70’s” did this family’s forbears wash the gent’s red flannels, seven petty coats per lady, and all take a bath on one barrel of water per week? It seems to fall in the category of such feats as pulling a camel through the needle’s eye, but we have the word of F. C. Timson, believed to be the longest-time resident of Denver now living. He should know. He was the man on the wagon delivering the said barrel of water. He began the tank wagon deliveries in the 1870’s. Water from the nearby river was rich in fish, suckers, crawdads and grasshoppers. Well water was also polluted by wash from barnyards and outhouses. It was this condition prompting Mr. Timson to establish his tank wagon service. The business expanded and Mr. Timson says that in those times he made a clear profit of \$50 to \$60 per day. A tank load of water cost \$2.00. A 2½ gallon bucket,



ABOVE: William H. Millikin, City Superintendent.

ABOVE: Carl Anderson, Ass't. City Superintendent

CENTER: George F. Hughes, General Manager and Secretary of Board of Water Commissioners.

LEFT: Harry Weber, Senior Clerk, Water Works Office.



used by many consumers, cost 5 cents on the ground floor and ten cents on the second. Some of his customers were the Windsor hotel, telephone company, hospitals, even the pest house, and Chinese laundries until the time of the Chinese riot.

William H. "Billy" Millikin is another man who has worked his way up in this modern water works plant. Except time out for World War I, he has been on one construction job after another. He began on December 10, 1910 as a surveyor rod man. Since June 1943 he has been city superintendent.

Millikin Made His Way

In his third of a century on these jobs, he has worked on practically every unit of the Denver water works system. After having helped build it he took a hand in helping run it, having been through the mill and knowing when, why, and how. In emergencies he steps into the job of anyone working under his orders. We quote an incident to prove the point. "Before the first World War he was inspecting material for installation of new valves at Lake Cheesman. One day a big valve badly needed at Cheesman Dam had been transferred to a wagon, ready for the long, 22-mile trek over Old Stony Hill. Millikin had been eager for some time to see the intense activities at Cheesman Dam. They were waiting for the valve. But the "muleskinner" who was to drive the team quit unexpectedly. Millikin volunteered, and

pulled into Lake Cheesman camp that night — tired and hungry, but very happy."

His activities, interrupted by his two and one-half years service in the first world's war were resumed upon his discharge. These finally led to his present important position, City Superintendent, an office he has held since June 1943.

Anderson Close Second to Millikin

Carl Anderson, now assistant City Superintendent, seems to be very much the same type of man as Mr. Millikin. He has been a member of the force for 34 years, beginning as water boy on water works construction jobs. From this boyhood job he has advanced to his present position step by step—water boy, lead kettle man, carpenter's helper, plumber's helper, caulker and sheet foreman.

The Water Department is fortunate in having men like William H. Millikin and Carl Anderson, who are practical and efficient, and who know the work they are supervising because they have climbed up the ladder themselves.

The Senior Clerk

Harry Weber is a senior clerk in the Denver Municipal Water Works Office. He has 21 years service with the Water Department, eighteen of which in the Main Office. He receives complaints of leaks, both in mains and home services and notifies property owners by printed forms or phone. Seven times out of ten,

(Continued on Page 15)

WHY NOT?

Send This Copy of the Record to
Some One On the Fighting Front

The Mueller Record is in receipt of a letter from a young soldier friend who was through the Guam campaign. He says:

You have no idea how much I enjoyed the copy of the Mueller Record which you so thoughtfully sent to me. Laughs and a sense of humor are important over here, and I must admit that I received my share of laughs from the many jokes and cartoons in the magazine. I've passed it on to other Marines.

Guam is over with long since, and we're all anxious to get back in the scrap again and get this war over with. It was quite a hot spot while it lasted.

Pfc. Albert Sellers,
Co. B, 1st A/Amph. Bn.,
III Amphibious Corps.

The single purpose of publishing the above is to bring to attention of our readers a little act of thoughtfulness within their power, and to make a suggestion.

When you have finished reading your copy of this Record, why not forward it to some soldier or sailor. The men at the front crave reading material, and we believe, reading of a light and entertaining character. It will cost only a few cents to contribute to the pleasure of some one in the ranks if you will mail this issue.

Men on the fighting line are not looking for sympathy, pity, tears or advice. They are American boys who are there to win the war. They are willing and anxious to do their duty, and as our soldier friend says: "After hot fighting in Guam we're all anxious to get back in the scrap again and get this war over with."

Send your copy of the Record as suggested. From the many letters we have received we are certain that it will be welcome and appreciated.

■ ■ ■

"How much are potatoes worth now?"

"They're worth no more than they ever were, but they're costing about six times as much."

AN ANNIVERSARY

Wright Brothers Made December a
Month To Be Remembered

December 17th marks an outstanding anniversary in aeronautics. Marvelous as it was and important as it has proved in peace and war few persons could name just what this achievement consisted of. It was on that date in 1903 that Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk flew a heavier than air machine. True it was not much of a flight, but it was sufficient to prove that it could be done, and that the dream of centuries had found the open door leading to the modern plane used today for civilian travel and for death dealing destruction on the field of war. The usefulness of the plane and its place in naval and commercial fields has not been reached. The war has emphasized its convenience for speedy and safe travel in the least possible time. It seems that it will be vastly more popular for pleasure trips in days to come. Overnight trips to far distant points will become common place. What its effect will be on railroad and steamship travel remains to be seen. The Wright brothers certainly succeeded in starting something at Kitty Hawk December 17, 1903. From that feeble effort we find today thousands of planes over foreign lands turning the tide of war in our favor. The development has not yet reached the limit. Some day, perhaps, man will step from his home, attach a pair of wings to his shoulders, give a hop and fly away like a bird.

It is not too much to expect. We can put our finger on a lot of "human birds" now. All they need to complete the metamorphosis is a pair of wings.

■ ■ ■

Up To Date

Grandmother surveyed the new dress her granddaughter had just donned, with considerable disdain and disgust. The modern young miss noted the apparent disapproval and inquired, "Grandmother, dear, when you were my age didn't you set your cap for granddaddy?"

"Of course," replied grandmother, "but it wasn't my kneecap."

M U E L L E R R E C O R D

In The Army Now



What a Mess

New WAC: "Where do I eat?"

Captain: "You mess with the officers."

New WAC: "I know, but where do I eat?"

Found His Place

Sergeant: "Private Mills, what did you do before you came here?"

Mills: "Accounting, sir. I kept books."

Sergeant (sneering): "White collar job, eh?" Mending pages, dusting desks and sharpening pencils, I suppose."

Mills: "No, sir—we kept an old sergeant for those jobs."

Pair of Them

C. O.: "Who brought you here in this disgraceful condition?"

Pvt.: "Two MPs, sir."

C. O.: "Drunk, I suppose."

Pvt.: "Yes sir, both of them."

Third Time the Charm

Recruit: "I joined the army for three reasons:" "First, I wanted to fight to defend my country. Second, I knew it would build me up physically. Third, They came and got me."

He Violated Orders

M. W. Stalker, U. S. Navy, came home to Decatur on furlough under "leave instructions which forbade him to take no part in press conferences and not to talk with reporters." His father is a reporter on a local paper.

Oh! Grandma.

Hard Boiled Sarge: "How about some old-fashioned loving?"

Sweet Young Thing: "All right, I'll call grandmother down for you."

Dumbell

Husband (answering telephone): "I don't know. Call the weather bureau."

Pretty Young Wife: "Who was that?"

Husband: "Some sailor, I guess. He asked if the coast was clear."

Good Guess

Buck private paying hotel bill: "What's that you are wearing around your neck?"

Cashier: "That's a ribbon, of course, why do you ask?"

B. P.: "Well, everything else is so high around here I just thought it was your garter."

In Small Bits

First Marine: "You mean to say that Jap was nervous when you surprised him in the jungle?"

Second Marine: "Yea, when I tossed a hand grenade at him, he simply went to pieces."

Sergeant's Snarl

Pvt. Snafu was late for retreat.

"Well, it's nice to see you soldier." said the sergeant, with a modulated snarl. "We had so feared that you'd signed a separate peace."

Called His Hand

A private, wanting leave, told his captain a sad story about his sick wife longing for him.

Doubting Captain: "I'm afraid you are not telling the truth. I have a letter from your wife urging me not to let you come home because you get drunk, break the furniture, and mistreat her shamefully."

Soldier: "Sor, may I speak to you, not as an officer, but as mon to mon?"

"Yes, what is it?"

"Well, sor, I was just thinkin' you and I are two of the most iligant liars that ever lived. You see, I'm not married at all."

■ ■ ■

(Continued on Page 13)

his troubles commence with the property-owner. But he quickly convinces the property owner of the hazard of a leak, and one hundred per cent co-operation is in effect within forty-eight hours or less. His years of service bespeak the fact that he appreciates the property owner being on the giving end and him on the receiving end.

Who is there to dispute the fact that these four men have been instrumental in contributing to the success and efficiency of Denver's splendid plant and service.

The evidence that they have been is found in their combined service of 127 years,

An All-Around Cargo Carrier



—Official U. S. Army Photo

The above cargo carrier is one of the late additions to the army and has already proved its value in France. It is known to the army as M-29 but the men in the service quickly named it the "weasel" because it is equally efficient on any surface road, snow, ice, swamp lands or improved highways. Big and clumsy as it looks it is light in weight. It is said that its pressure on the ground is one-fourth of that of a fully equipped infantryman.

Goes Anywhere

Combat troops on fighting fronts in many theaters of operations are now being supplied with these track-laying, water-going vehicle known as the "Water Weasel". The vehicle is used as a cargo carrier and is designed to haul supplies or troops over swampy land where ponds and streams may be a barrier to passage by ordinary cargo vehicles. It travels through mud and soft ground with the ease with which it plows through water or skims over dry land.

The amphibious "Weasel" was developed to specifications furnished by the

Ordnance Department, Army Service Forces, and the Office of Scientific Research and Development to the Studebaker Corporation. It is a full track vehicle, the tracks providing the water propulsion as well as the land traction, thus no complicated change-over is necessary when the carrier passes from one element to another. Its wide semi-flexible tracks make possible the distribution of its weight over a broad area and the carrier will remain on top of ground that would ordinarily bog down a vehicle of similar weight. The "Weasel" can climb grades of 45 degrees.

Control System

The vehicle is 14½ feet long and 51 inches high. It resembles a cross between a low-slung automobile and a boat with a sloping brush-resisting bow. The driver sits behind the bow with the instrument panel at his right elbow. The engine is behind the panel. Space at the rear accommodates three passengers, or cargo. Two levers in the driver's compartment control the steering. Each lever is linked to brake on the steering

differential. The vehicle can be turned in a 12-foot radius. For water travel, direction is controlled by a cable running to two rudders at the rear. These rudders are hinged and can be swung upward out of position when the vehicle returns to land.

ELEPHANTS HELP

Big Beasts Invaluable to Uncle Sam
in India



—Official U. S. Army Photo

The elephant walks around in the circus and is full of tricks but in his native habitat he is largely a hard working beast of burden. No animal extant can equal the elephant in the load this beast can carry and make four miles per hour without balking. This load varies from 1700 to 2,200 pounds. There are two species of elephants, the African and the Indian. Some of them have a soft snap decked out in rich trappings with a lavishly furnished howdah on its back for the occupancy of maharajah or other potentate. The majority, however, are like the majority of humans, beasts of burden or toilers at heavy work.

The usefulness of elephants covers a wide field as the war picture above illustrates. They are valuable in time of

war as well as of peace. The elephant illustrated herewith has a particularly easy though unusual task. The same may be said of the two Americans atop the big beast. They are:

T/S Jakubowski, Brooklyn, N. Y., checking a splice while S/Sgt. H. Mal-lory, Windham, N. Y., looks on

Elephants are the only means of transportation which can get through the swamps at Assam, India.

This elephant is serving a triple purpose—freight car, passenger car and step ladder.

Elephants in Texas

In this connection it may surprise our readers to know that in Texas a herd of elephants were used in building a high-way back in 1932. After writing the above article about elephants, we chanced to turn to a 1932 volume of Mueller Record and therein found an article dealing with this Texas incident. The big animals played an important part in the construction of the Spencer Highway in Harris county, known then as the "model highway in the state." This highway is only 12½ miles long and was constructed by the Gulf Bitu-lithic Co. of Huston. The soft ground made hard work and slow going. In addition it had rained one or two days per week for 12 weeks. Added to this a short railroad siding made an unusual amount of switch. In this dilemma some bright mind suggested that what was needed was a herd of elephants, so the contractors got them, and much of the difficulty was thereby overcome. In the article pulished in Mueller Record January, 1932. A photograph of the elephants at work was shown. Even this fact might not have been evidence of the truth of the story. A listener might be justified in asking:

"Oh, yes, where did they get the elephants? Wire Africa to send them by air mail?"

This was not necessary. The Bitu-lithic company borrowed them from Christy Brothers circus, which was in winter quarters nearby.

It is quite possible that this was the only time in American history that the African beasts were used in public works.

NOT ALWAYS CORRECT

Time and the Historians Seem to Jumble Facts Occasionally

History is a very imposing and impressive word. When one picks up a book labelled "history", he is apt to be half sold on the thought that what he is going to read is the truth and nothing but the truth, but this is not always the correct conclusion. What he is about to read is a correlation of incidents and facts of different periods of time in correct sequence dressed up with the author's interpretation of their meaning and importance. Few persons question any statement made by an historian, because he reads with the belief that the author has studied the subject and verified each incident and fact beyond the question of a doubt. It is possible, however, that the facts may be indisputable but the authors interpretation of their meaning is often erroneous.

A book of supposed authority quotes opinions of the greatest thinkers, orators, statesmen and scholars on the subject of history and historians. What they say is not so interesting as their divergence of opinion and their interpretation of the facts.

Brings Confusion

Misinformation or misunderstanding brings about confusion to readers. Too many historians want the subject to coincide with their own thoughts and beliefs. Take the burial place of Columbus as an instance.

We are told by one writer that:

"The present oldest city in the Americas is Santo Domingo, founded August 4, 1496 by Columbus. In its cathedral lie the remains of the great discoverer." The writer of the above gives this credit for the information: "Briefed from the Bulletin of the Panamerican Commission of Intermunicipal Cooperation."

An Encyclopedia is generally accepted as authority but even these cumbersome books are not infallible. However, the one we are consulting, says:

Back to Seville

"Broken in health, Columbus returned to Spain in 1504, and two years later,

(May 20th, 1506) he died at Valladolid. There he was buried, but his bones were later removed to Seville (1513), then to Santo Domingo, in Hispaniola (1536), then to the Cathedral in Havana (1796), and again, after the Spanish-American war of 1896-9 to Seville."

Columbus' life was one of travail and trouble, but like John Brown, "he lies a-moldering in the earth somewhere but his soul goes marching on."

■ ■ ■

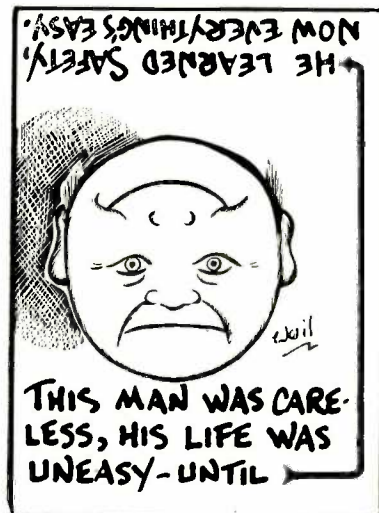
FUEL ECONOMY

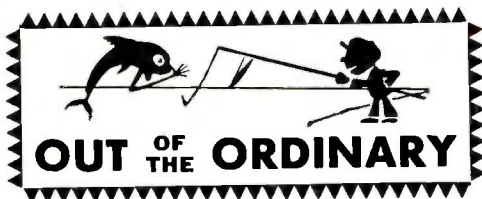
The War Production Board advises householders they may save from 10 to 25 per cent on fuel consumption by a home heating unit control procurable from any dealer or contractor, and from many hardware and mail-order houses at a cost of \$5 to \$35. The government previously released large quantities of materials for manufacture of these controls to help householders economize on fuel.

For from \$5 to \$7 you can purchase a barometric damper, the commonest type of heat-control unit suitable for the average home furnace and most types can be installed without difficulty by the householder himself, except in a few instances when expert aid must be called for.

Domestic regulator sets (electric) and other types of controls are also available.

■ ■ ■





Right Leg: Herschel Morris, Lamar, Colorado, contacted a rattle snake which bit him on the leg. The laugh was on the snake. It so happened it was Herschel's wooden leg."

Blind Man's Suicide: Ramond Swasey lost his eyesight, and was provided with a Seeing Eye dog named "Luke." The sightless man and Seeing Eye dog became great pals, until Luke developed a bad habit of snapping at passersby. Swasey's friends returned "Luke" to the training school, from whence he came, and Swasey? He hanged himself with "Luke's" leash!

Salary Exceeds Congressman's: Committee investigating need of federal aid for persons under physical handicaps learned something when they called Earl Richardson, blind dealer in cigars, soft drinks and candy. His stand was near the Capitol. He testified that during the last year he made \$14,000, four thousand dollars more than a congressman's salary.

Meet Miles From Home: George W. Deffenbaugh and Lynn Knight, two Decatur boys enlisted in the navy at different periods. To their mutual surprise they met at Guadalcanal. A bear dance and talkfest followed. Both of their vessels had anchored in the same harbor.

Enuf Said: Abjon Jaramillo, living in Bogota, Colombia, is 75 years old and father of 43 children, 30 by his first wife and 13 by his second. In a whirlwind finish this second wife gave birth to quadruplets. Pass the flag to Abjon with no questions asked.

Wacs Gain Weight: The Wacs in the military district of Washington, D. C., have been ordered to take 15 minutes of active exercises daily. Too much beef. Sixty-seven out of 93 gained 9½ pounds in a week.

The Cash Came Back: Seaman Roudet O. Turner felt lucky when rescued after his ship foundered near Farrallon Islands, off San Francisco. The loss of his wallet containing \$1000 in currency did not worry him. He was surprised, however, when the wallet with cash was returned. It was found on

the beach 25 miles from the scene of the wreck.

Needle: Richard Yeager, 19, Bartlesville, Okla., essayed the part of a magician but in "swallowing a needle", he overlooked some part of the trick. After quick, strenuous work a surgeon dug it out of his throat. Richard was following the plough through the cornfield the next day, "needleless" to add.

Forgot the Fish: Members of the Pittsburgh Sea Food Council met to inaugurate an "Eat more fish campaign." The chef "got his line tangled". It was discovered that fish, the main "piece de resistant" was not on the menu. The club members, frothed, fumed and fasted for an hour while the chef fried fish for them.

Uncle and Nephew: Edward Dean Findley was one day old Sept. 22nd and his uncle was no older. Edward's grandmother on his mother's side gave birth to William Dean Barrett the same day. William Dean was the 12th child.

Takes a Rest: Sergeant Andrew Kuhar, aged 59, asks for retirement after 30 years' service. In all that time he did not take a lay-off "because there wasn't any place to go," but now he is going to California and take it easy. "So long, Andrew, take keer of yourself."

Fast In His Face: Pvt. Adams answered roll call at Smoky Hill army camp—uniform spotless, helmet properly adjusted, shoes shined—in fact perfect, except he had forgotten to remove his old corn cob from his mouth. The drill sergeant called his attention in language that required no interpreter.

Odd Requests: The official in charge of the Dallas Information, is a target for many curious inquiries. One man wanted a permit to build a small house on the rear of his lot and then there was the maiden lady who wanted a list of marriageable men.

Beating Express Charge: Jim Owen, a Lake Taneycome, Mo., sportsman, made a good buy when he ordered a high bred registered female fox hound. The "lady" came through in a crate O.K. with seven pups born enroute.

Let's Hope: Mrs. Esther Esterly, Allentown, Pa., gave birth to her 20th child a few days ago, and fell back exhausted, saying, "This is my last. I've done my share." Not a dissenting voice was heard.



"Dere Sirs:—Please send me my money back. After taking six cans of yore corn syrup my feet ain't no better than they wuz."

Notice in rural paper: "Anyone found near my chicken house at night will be found there next morning."

Fair warning at an army base: "Watch your language boys, when writing letters. The censor may be a lady."

Glimpsed on a cemetery gate: "Men Wanted".

Wyoming restaurant window: "Waitress wanted—will marry if necessary".

War Time Help Wanted Ad—"Farm hand. No experience necessary. May spend afternoons in hammock on south porch. Must be able to come to meals on time."

"Lady wishes position as housekeeper for widower; no objection to having one child."

Grandma Stubbins did not have one child after another last Monday night as reported in Friday's Post-Examiner. What she had was one chill after another.

According to Coronet, "Mr. and Mrs. Safety First live in Oklahoma City and they drive a car."

His face was a striking one, and even without his clothes people would have turned to look at him.—London (Eng.) Times.

FOR SALE—A violin, by a young man in good condition, except for a loose peg in the head.—Wabasha (Minn.) Herald.

Lady with license will drive your car; don't mind long strips. Bailey 2355.—Markham, Mass., Times.

'TIS TO LAUGH

There are a lot of people who get along orally but when it comes to the point of stringing words together on paper "can't cut the mustard." Their attempts to do so make them unconscious humorists. H. M. Maxwell found this out when he examined written applications for insurance. A few examples:

Mother died in infancy.

Father went to bed feeling well, and the next morning woke up dead.

Grandfather died suddenly at the age of 103. Up to this time he bade fair to reach a ripe old age.

Applicant does not know cause of mother's death, but states that she fully recovered from her last illness.

Applicant has never been fatally sick.

Father died suddenly; nothing serious.

Applicant's brother, who was an infant, died when he was a mere child.

Grandfather died from a gunshot wound, caused by an arrow shot by an Indian.

Mother's last illness was caused from chronic rheumatism, but she was cured before death.



LIQUOR AND LIFE

The horse and mule live 20 years
 And nothing know of wine and beers
 The goat and sheep at 20 die
 And never taste of Scotch and Rye
 The cow drinks water by the ton
 And at 18 is almost done
 The dog at 15 cashes in
 Without the aid of rum and gin
 The cat in milk and water soaks
 And then at 12 short years it croaks
 The modest, sober, bone-dry hen
 Lays eggs for nogs, then dies at 10
 All animals are strictly dry
 They sinless live and swiftly die
 But sinful, ginful, rum-soaked men
 Survive for three score years and ten.

Next time we encountered the above the following two lines had been added:

And some of us, the mighty few
 Stay pickled 'til we're 92.

And we add:

And when we lay us down to die
 May we be embalmed in rum or rye.

TROUBLESOME BILLIONS

It's Like a Million in Letters With
Exception of Initial Letter

A million and a billion have to a certain degree similar characteristics. They have the same number of letters. They are the same in spelling except the initial letter. After that the similarity ends. A billion is such a vast sum that it browses around on the outskirts of human understanding.

In a previous issue we delved into a billion dollars to ascertain the length of time required to count \$268,000,000,000, assuming this amount to be the public debt.

In a late release by the Tax Foundation, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, we find the experts playing around with this same billion dollar problem and give the result in a pamphlet just issued. Here it is:

"How Much Is a Billion?"

Ask yourself this simple question, "Am I a billion minutes old?" Then make a quick guess for the answer. A minute is such a short interval in time: think how little it seems when you have a train to catch. Many people would and do guess that they have lived a billion minutes.

When you stop and figure it out, however, 60 minutes to an hour, 24 hours to a day and 365 days to a year, you'll find that to be a billion minutes old you would have to live 1,903 years. And, not counting interest, to accumulate a billion dollars you would have to earn a dollar a minute since the year 41 A. D., or \$525,600 a year for 1,903 years.

This simple illustration may help to give you a better idea of how big a billion is. The term is used so frequently in present-day government finance that it means little more to most people than just another expenditure. It takes 1,000 millions of dollars to make a billion dollars. The interest charges on a billion dollars at 2 per cent amount to 20 million dollars a year.

Now then, if 50,000,000 employed people in the nation work 8 hours a day, 6 days a week with 2 weeks vacation and only Christmas for a holiday, and each one of these 50,000,000 employees paid the government one dollar an hour, or \$2,400 a year, it would take 2 years to pay off a government debt of 240 billion dollars. This is approximately what the federal government owes today, and the debt may reach 300 billion dollars before the end of 1945.

It is well then for every taxpayer to understand the meaning of a billion dollars. We have raised many billions for the war

effort and can raise many more. But we certainly do not want expenditures of billions of dollars piled up on top of the war effort for any government activities which may be nonessential."

ARGENTINA'S FONOPOSTAL

Argentina does not appear in very good graces of some of the Americans but when they do anything interesting its worth reading. They have a new and novel postal service. They can transmit their greetings and messages by recordings. It's known as Fonopostal for domestic use and Fonopost for international use. The services has been used by 120,000 individuals since it was established a few years ago.

Use of the service is simplicity itself. The prospective user merely goes to the nearest post office having Fonopostal or Fonopost facilities, pays the fee, and makes his recording in a comfortable, specially designed booth. The postal service takes over from that point, and sees that his message is safely delivered to its destination.

The popularity of the Fonopostal service in Argentina has led other South American republics to experiment with the method. Venezuela recently announced that a similar service would soon be available to Caracas.

QUEER IDEAS ON WAR

Every war brings us a basket of new words, strange names of towns and speculation on military movements. Many persons read this daily offering but it is not all of any great value. Then, again there are many discussing the war who have little or no grasp on the situation or on what it all means. Strangely enough the latter group as a rule do the most talking.

There was the taxicab driver who wound up a hot argument with this one:

"You'll see! The war will last longer than the duration." Maybe he is not entirely wrong.

The army nurse said: "The duration is not over when the Armistice is signed. The duration ends when the treaty of peace is signed between nations. In the World War I the Armistice was signed in 1918, but the duration was not over until approximately 1922."

LT. KEIL IN ROME

Decatur Man Meets Up With Home Folks in Ancient City

Lieutenant Edwin Lee Keil, son of O. C. Keil, comptroller of Mueller Co., has been in the Air Service Training for one and one-half years, and for active service in Italy for seven months. A natural coordinate of this branch of the service is the element of surprise. In fact the air is full of them, but these are offset by those on the ground.

The men in the service expect them and accept them as a part of the day's work. Lieutenant Keil has had his share of them in training and in action. It was reserved for him, however, to get one of his greatest surprises on the streets of



Lieut. Edwin Lee Keil

ancient Rome, when unexpectedly he met a Decatur girl, who had been a member of his graduation class in the Decatur High school. Within a day or two later he got another jolt. A substitute navigator was assigned to Lieutenant Keil's plane crew which had orders for a flying commission. This man proved to be Charles Taylor, of Decatur. It made the lieutenant scratch his head in wonder, but let him tell about it in letters to his parents.

On Holiday, In Rome

"I'm writing this V-mail from the fine A. R. C. Officers' club in Rome before I go out soon to see the Pope at his 12:30 appearance. Five of us from the squadron flew up with the Col. yesterday, and

we've really been having fun doing this city over. Rome is quite a place with lots to do, and the Red Cross and Army have really done a fine job in seeing that the American soldiers have a good rest when they do come up. Yesterday I was surprised as the devil to run across a nurse here who was in my D. H. S. graduating class. So, today she and I are going around Rome together to see the Pope, take the bus tour and probably go dancing or to a movie tonight. She's been overseas about 18 months now, and her name is Jean Lash. I don't remember her very well from high school days, but I do remember she was in our class.

Two more of my crew have left for home now, just leaving about 4 of us waiting our turn. I sure hate to see them leave!!

Two nights ago our S-x group major invited another guy and me to meet our wing s-z col., and we really had a good time with him. He is a very interesting man."

Substitute Navigator Decatur Boy

Over in Italy Ed and his BW crew were scheduled for a mission over enemy territory to drop bombs on oil wells and refineries. His regular crew navigator was too ill to make the trip, and a substitute navigator from another idle crew was sent to him.

You can imagine Ed's surprise when he learned his temporary navigator was a man from Decatur named Charles Taylor.

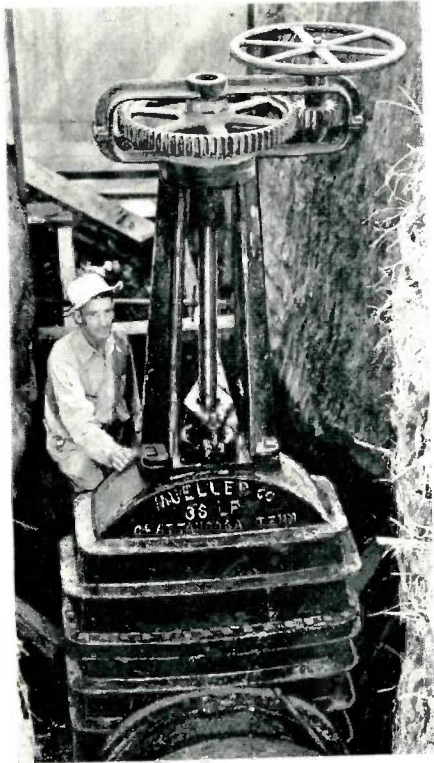
Neither of them had known each other in Decatur, but they both had many mutual acquaintances, including the transfer house, and their meeting was a real touch of home for both. The crew came back O. K. after leaving their trade mark on the target. Taylor is now back in Decatur, and Ed is expected home when the two air men will renew their acquaintance. Both men have completed 50 bombing missions.

Since recording the above we are convinced that they are not only unusual, but prove that the world is a small place after all. Now comes the cap-sheaf of

(Continued on Page 23)

DECATUR'S BIG VALVE

Made in Our Chattanooga Plant to Meet Demand for Increased Water Supply



This big 36" valve was recently installed in the Decatur water works, an important necessity as a portion of the installation of additional large water mains. These mains in turn became a necessity to meet the demand for ample water supply by enlarged manufacturing enterprises.

The appealing part of this all around necessity to us is the fact that the valve was designed, cast and machined in our Columbian Plant at Chattanooga, Tenn. In its design and mechanical superiority it complies with the specifications of the American Water Works Association. Water works men will be interested in knowing the following points of superiority of these Mueller Gate Valves as follows:

All cast parts are made throughout the process of manufacture with modern equipment to secure uniformity and interchange ability of all parts. A very

accurate gauging procedure is used in making this possible.

Each valve is tested under 300 pounds pressure.

No Binding of Stem: Ball joint between bronze gland and follower prevents angular strains.

Non-rusting Packing Bolts and Nuts: Bolts cadmium plated . . . Bronze nuts.

Easy to Re-pack: Re-packed in either open or closed positions.

No Scraping of Discs Across Seats: Discs automatically contracted before rising.

Pressure on Discs and Seat Rings Evenly Distributed: Four-point contact principle assures this.

No Leakage: Seat rings machine-finished and ground. Faces are absolutely parallel.

No Sprung Discs: Wedging pressure is applied at outer edges of discs . . . not at center.

No Incrustations: Small, precise clearance between discs and seats shears off all incrustation.

Gate Assembly Does Not Fall Apart: Heavy lugs and bronze pins hold them together.

No Side Strains on Stem: Opposed cams keep stem in straight line.

■ ■ ■

(Continued From Page 22)

it all. Lieut. Keil was preparing for a trip home for a long delayed furlough. It is evident he is on the way home. Mr. Keil received a letter advising him that Lieut. Donald Ammann had reported to replace Lieut. Keil. The letter stated that Lieut. Ammann was from Decatur and strangely enough he would occupy the quarters vacated by Lieut. Keil.

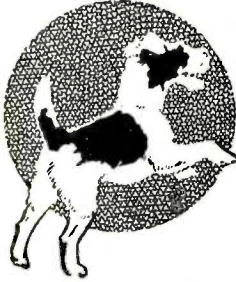


And this is not all. Lieut. Ammann is not only a resident of Decatur but was a member of Mueller organization when he was drafted. Referring to our files we find that he was sworn into the service December 12th, 1942.

Animals In The News

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

● Pistol Head, a cocker spaniel, was returned from Marshall Islands to Mrs. Eileen Wilson, Brooklyn. He lost heart and interest when his master, Lt. Col. S. T. Willis, flew against the Japs but never came back. Pistol Head had 48 combat missions against the Japs. In addition he was credited with knowing the difference between the sound of Japanese and American planes, and always barked an alarm when the former approached.



● After an absence of five years "Jerome," a tortoise came back to the home of his boyhood again.

Twenty-two years ago, N. J. Kurtz, near Sedalia, Mo., discovered "Jerome." He carved his name and date on the reptile's back. At intervals Kurtz would meet up with "Jerome" somewhere on the farm at least once a year. Then "Jerome" disappeared and for five years was not encountered until a few weeks ago when Kurtz unexpectedly came across him—same old Jerome.

● The Missouri Farmers Association wants a longer open season on trapping foxes. They charge their losses of nearly \$4,000,000 a year to foxes itemizing as follows:

The Federal-State Crop Reporting Service has informed the Missouri Farmers' Association that Missouri foxes killed 2,824,629 chickens valued at \$2,319,215 and 103,170 turkeys valued at \$286,674 during 1943, and that the live stock loss included 14,520 lambs valued at \$145,200 and 52,480 pigs valued at \$1,086,336 for an overall loss of \$3,857,425.

● Neighbor: "She seems to think more of that dog than she does of her own son."

Mrs. Cat: "Well, my dear, after all the dog has a pedigree."

■ ■ ■

Said the Indian to the tourist: "I am Brave Eagle. This is my son Fighting Hawk, and my grandson Low Wing Bomber."

BOMBING GUAM

The men and women in U. S. ordnance plants which produce for the Navy may take pride in the vital role played by naval gunfire in the "softening up" process preceding the landings on Guam. The all-out plastering given the Japs before our boys took to the landing craft and sped in for a hand-to-hand struggle for the island was the most sustained surface and aerial assault upon any enemy bastion in the entire Pacific war, and a pattern for the coming invasions of Japan's island empire.

From the morning of July 8, until the historic moment at 8:28 a.m., thirteen days later, when U. S. Marines started warring across the island's beaches to start the recapture of Guam and the liberation of its 20,000-odd civilian population over 11,000 tons of explosives had ripped asunder vital military targets for miles on all land sides of the designated beachhead areas.

A formidable array of battleships, cruisers, destroyers and other Naval craft steamed arrogantly and defiantly into the coastal waters, and, within distances measured in yards, gave the Japanese powerful proof of the might of the Navy they had once claimed to have wiped out.

■ ■ ■

MAKING ENDS MEET

Customer: "The sausages you sent to me were meat at one end and bread crumbs at the other."

Butcher: "Quite so, madam. In these hard times it is very difficult to make both ends meat."

■ ■ ■



"I think somebody said he used to be a witch doctor somewhere in Africa."

THE BANANA LEADS

An Interesting Story of the Most Popular of Tropical Fruits

*"Yes, we have no bananas,
We have no bananas today."*

And thereby hangs a tale—one that reads like romance. It required centuries to bring this tropical fruit to present perfection and world wide popularity. This cost millions of dollars and the sacrifice of thousands of lives. The story is so thrilling, so fascinating that it is worthy of reproduction, but this publication is far too small for that.

In normal times the banana is never out of season and is harvested every day in the year. In our markets it stands with the native apple in popularity. Have you with others bemoaned the fact that they are sometimes green when you buy them and wish that you might have picked them from the tree in their tempting yellow jackets. Well, it can't be done. They are picked green where they grow and put aside until they ripen.

It is not altogether the distance from our markets which compels the green harvest, but the strange ways of the banana itself. If it is "tree-ripened", the fruit tends to lose its aroma, to become dry and tasteless, and its skin, a natural germ-proof, super-cellophane wrapper, usually splits, admitting insects to prey on the fruit. The fruit must be harvested fully developed, but green enough to make the journey to its destination—anywhere from five to eighteen days—before turning yellow with brownish flecks.

African Origin

The name is of African origin, taken from a negro dialect current along the Guinea coast. The fruit originated botanically in the humid, tropical lowlands of India. Portuguese reaching Africa in 1482 recognized its food value and carried the plant, name and all, to the Canary Islands. From there it came to America shortly after Columbus' discovery by a Spanish missionary priest, Father Tomas de Berlanga.

Other missionaries followed his example. These bananas were immediately planted to insure a food supply. The

cultural processes are many and somewhat involved.

Since the edible varieties are sterile, instead of a seed, a "bit" of rootstock, called a rhizome, is planted; it weighs about three or four pounds, has "eyes" similar to a potato's and has been selected from adjacent vigorous cultivations. The rhizome must have a minimum of at least one good eye, and it is placed in a hole about twelve inches deep, eye down, and covered with earth.

Not a Tree

The growing banana tree isn't a tree at all, and it hasn't a trunk. It is probably the largest terrestrial plant not having a woody stem above ground; it has neither woody roots nor a taproot. Its pseudo-trunk is actually a compact mass of overlapping leaf-sheaths which, a year after planting, is nine to sixteen inches in diameter, and fifteen to thirty feet tall.

The gigantic leaves 8 feet long by 2 feet wide protect the growing fruit from the sun's heat. When the fruit is ripened it is taken by rail to the seaports and railroads.

A man closely identified with the development of the great banana business of today was Minor C. Keith, a 23-year-old surveyor of New York who went to Costa Rica to join his uncle and brothers who had taken up banana growing. Keith was a railroad builder and clung to his profession, but dabbled in bananas. Building necessary railroads across Costa Rica he recruited 700 laborers the majority of whom died almost immediately from tropical fever. Keith recruited another 1500 workers from other states all of whom died in the hot swamp lands.

Four Miles in One Year

During the first year of tropical railroad-building the Keiths completed four miles in the Puerto Limon area. The rainfall that year was 250 inches, enough to keep the fever-ridden port under water most of the time. During the following two years about twenty miles of track were laid. Those first two dozen miles cost 4,000 lives, including those of Minor Keith's three brothers. Except for forty-six miles of the Isthmus of Panama line, this costly bit of Costa Rican mileage was the only

(Continued on page 32)



Christmas



"And numerous indeed are the hearts to which Christmas brings a brief season of happiness and enjoyment. How many families whose members have been dispersed and scattered far and wide, in the restless struggle of life, are then reunited, and meet once again in that happy state of companionship and mutual good will, which is a source of such pure and unalloyed delight, and one so incompatible with the cares and sorrows of the world, that the religious belief of the most civilized nations, and the rude traditions of the roughest savages, alike number it among the first days of a future state of existence, provided for the blest and happy! How many old recollections, Christmas time awakens!

We write these words now, many miles distant from the spot at which, year after year, we met on that day, a merry and joyous circle. Many of the hearts, that throbbed so gaily then, have ceased to beat; many of the looks that shone so brightly then, ceased to glow; the hands we grasped, have grown cold; the eyes we sought, have hid their luster in the grave; and yet the old house, the room, the merry voices and smiling faces, the jest, the laugh, the most minute and trivial circumstances connected with those happy meetings, crowd upon our mind at each recurrence of the season, as if the last assemblage had been but yesterday. Happy, happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days, recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the traveler back to his own fireside and quiet home."—Charles Dickens.

Facts and Traditions

Here are a number of facts about Christmas which are not generally known and will therefore probably be "news" to Record readers:

December 25 is not the birthday of Christ. The exact date is unknown.

During the fourth century both December 25 and January 6 were celebrated as Christmas Day.

During the fifth century December 25 was definitely chosen because it was already a festive day set aside for worship of the Sun-God Mithra.

The Yule log idea started in England; and that if the Christmas log failed to burn all night it was an omen of bad luck.

The English added the plum pudding and mince pie to the official Christmas menu—for which most Americans are grateful.

The Christmas tree has its origin in the ceremonial use of the palm tree in the worship of the Egyptian Goddess Isis. The fir-tree was a necessary substitute for the northern climes.

The Italians gave us the Christmas stocking idea. The good fairy Belfana was supposed to fill the stockings of good children with presents and the stockings of bad children with ashes—until such a time as Santa Claus took over the contract.

Christmas carols originated in Germany.

The United States during the last half of the nineteenth century added Christmas cards to the festive plans.

—The Safe Worker.



**A Merry Christmas to
All of Our Readers.**

Best Things in Life

Christmas is composed of the best things in life. Let's spell it out—

- C—children
- H—home
- R—religion
- I—idealism
- S—sentiment
- T—thoughtfulness
- M—merriment
- A—affection
- S—selflessness

Christmas is composed of much more, of course, but the above are sufficient to make Christmas the "Day of Days" for countless millions of people.

TOAD VALUABLE AID

Friend To All Gardeners and Harmless If Homely

The common toad (*bufo Vulgris* in Europe and *bufo Americanus* in this country, but in both cases still a toad) like many insects and reptiles is greatly maligned and misunderstood. Whatever virtues the toad may possess, beauty is not eligible to listing. The fact that the toad hops along the ground does not give any opportunity to associate with and make friends of those higher up who gossip and peddle false stories concerning the toad's urinogenous methods of defense.

Makes No Warts

One of these is the omission of a fluid which causes warts on the hands of those indulging in too great familiarity. This ancient belief is stamped as false by naturalists. It is in the class of the Shakesperian fable, which tells us:

"Sweet are the uses of adversity;
Which like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head."

Shakespeare is twice in error, and once right. The toad is not venomous, neither does he make a pawn-broker out of his head by carrying precious jewels therein—but he is ugly.

Contrary to popular belief the toad is incapable of squirting its ill smelling fluid, which comes from through holes in the body skin and is exuded only under pressure. The dogs seem to know this and are therefore unwilling to take toads up in their mouths.

Friend of Gardener

The toad is an invaluable friend of man, especially gardeners, as they feed on bugs, insects, slugs, and worms.

In England it has long been a custom for gardeners to purchase toads to put in their gardens. Perhaps with our millions of Victory Gardens we shall more generally appreciate his value. Meanwhile, he goes about his business, friendly but self-sufficient, unobtrusive yet always on hand to help the gardener. *Bufo* wouldn't want a medal or pennant for his faithful service, but absenteeism or slow-down are not in his vocabulary.

The toad is widely scattered over the world. In the heat of the summer day

they burrow into the cool soil beneath leaves and shrubs, but when the sun sets they come forth for a night of feeding.

The Department of Agriculture has conservatively estimated his cash value at 20 dollars for the help he gives in controlling cutworms.

Homing Instinct

Strange tales have been recounted of his homing instinct. After a winter of hibernation in the soil beneath a log, stone, or hummock, he awakens from his long sleep and reputedly heads for the pond or brook where he was hatched.

There are many varieties, some of which vary widely from the toad we know in this country. Among these is the mid-wife, *alytes obstetricus*. In this branch the male wraps the spawn round his hind legs and takes care of it till the eggs hatch. Then there is the fire toad which has conspicuous red patches on the under surface of the body. Both of these varieties occur on the continent of Europe.

■ ■ ■
"Give me a pound of those grapes. My husband is fond of them. Do you know if they have been sprayed with any kind of poison?"

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

■ ■ ■
"Do you know who was the first spare part man?"

"No. Who?"

"Adam, he furnished a spare part for the first loud speaker."

THE MISS AND MOUSE



THE GLORIES OF AUTUMN

To Many Lovers of Nature it is Most
Welcome of All Seasons

The year is on the wane. Brilliant autumn has come with her yellow, mellow, ripened days. Autumn is the third act in the eternal drama of the years and to many minds the prettiest, most restful, soothing and satisfying of all four seasons, each of which has its own distinct appeal. Spring, summer and winter bring their own charm and seasonal beauty, but all lack that soft, dreamy, soothing influence of a perfect autumn day if the mind is attuned to nature and responsive to her call. What is more glorious than autumn, arrayed in all the colors of the kaleidoscope, her splendor changing with every ray of sunshine and the whispering breeze. There is no sadness in nature. This rests only with those of melancholy temperament, seeing nothing but sadness and gloom in everything. They forever seek to fit nature to their personal moods rather than fit their thoughts and moods to nature. It is a most unhappy mental condition and those thus afflicted are to be pitied.

Those who love the autumn and its glory will doubtless enjoy the following poem, "Autumn", by Bliss Carman. It may set your "Gypsy blood astir."

AUTUMN

There is something in the Autumn
That is native to my blood,
Touch of manner, hint of mood;
And my heart is like a rhyme,
With the yellow and the purple
and the crimson keeping time.

The scarlet of the maples can shake
me like a cry
Of bugles going by.
And my lonely spirit thrills
To see the frosty asters like smoke
upon the hills.

There is something in October sets
the gypsy blood astir;
We must follow her,
When from every hill aflame,
She calls and calls each vagabond
by name.

APROPOS TO SCHOOL

Danny, along with many other little lads, started out to school for the first time, and, like other little boys' father, Danny's father asked him how he liked his teacher.

"All right," was the reply.

"Is your teacher smart?" teasingly persisted the questioner.

"Well, she knows more than I do," admitted Danny.

"Where's your pencil, Alf?"

"Ain't got one, teacher.

"How many times have I told you not to say that? Listen: I haven't got one, you haven't got one, we haven't got one, they haven't got one—"

"Well, where are all the pencils?"

The lad was dull at school, you see;

His dad took things to heart.

He took the lad across his knee

And there he made him smart!



A REAL OPTIMIST

The totally bald man walked in to the drug store:

"Have you a hair restorer that really restores?"

Clerk: "Here is a preparation sure to do the trick."

Bald Head: "Alright, I'll take it, and you might as well wrap up a comb and brush."

After the excitement of the campaign just closed it is interesting to learn that: "The declaration that our people are hostile to a government made by themselves, for themselves, and conducted by themselves, is an insult." John Adams said so as far back as 1798.

Betty: "He's just grand,—ruddy Scotch complexion, smiling Irish eyes, Grecian nose, built like a Norse giant,—"

Lou: "And Roman hands,—I know that guy!"

"Can you keep a secret?"

"I sure can."

"Well, I'm in need of five bucks."

"Be at rest, it is as if I'd heard nothing."

"Without a cent in my pockets, I went into a cafe and got a straight shot of whiskey."

"And what did you have for a chaser?"

"The bartender."

Bonds Buy Bombs ★ ★

Don't forget that. The more bombs we can drop on our enemies and the faster we drop them the quicker the war will come to an end. We cannot afford to be wishy-washy about how many of our enemies we maim or kill. The chief business of war is to kill more of the enemy than the enemy can kill of our boys. War is not a namby-pamby game. It's brutal, but when any nation imposes their brute instincts on us there is only one way to meet them, and beat them to the final goal, and this one way is to over-power them by employing their own tactics.

Back of all this is the need of money. Bonds are the only answer. In this sixth drive it behooves every American to loosen his purse strings and buy all the bonds possible within the limits of his financial ability. Don't do it in the spirit of profiting thereby—that you are sure to do finally—but do it in spirit of Patriotism—good old Uncle Sam's American patriotism.

Make your silver be the medium through which the dark clouds of war will be replaced by clouds of peace with a silver lining. When the bells ring, the cannons boom, and fervent prayers of thanks mark that coming day of victory, you will rejoice in the thought that you had a part in its achievement. Now is no time to be a piker—It's the time to be a full-blood American Patriot.

The Sixth Loan

The Sixth War Loan starts officially November 20th and runs through December 16th. The goal is 14 billion dollars. Of this sum 5 billion dollars has been set aside as the quota for individuals and 9 billion dollars as the quota for non-banking investors. The accounting period will run from Nov. 1 through December 31 in order that bonds sold to millions through the pay roll savings plan during this period may be credited to the drive.

Securities to be offered in this drive are:

Series E, F, and G Savings Bonds Series C Savings Notes

2½% Bonds of 1966-71—To be dated December 1, 1944, due March 15, 1971, callable March 15, 1966. To be issued in coupon or registered form at the option of the buyers, in denominations from \$500 to \$1,000,000.

2% Bonds of 1952-54—To be dated December 1, 1944, due December 15, 1954, callable December 15, 1952. To be issued in coupon or registered form at the option of the buyers in denominations of \$500 to \$1,000,000.

1¼% Notes of 1947—To be dated December 1, 1944, due September 15, 1947. To be issued in denominations of \$1,000 to \$1,000,000 and in coupon form only.

7/8% Certificates of Indebtedness—To be dated December 1, 1944, due December 1, 1945. To be issued in denomination of \$1,000 to \$1,000,000 and in coupon form only.

Emphasis will again be placed on individuals.

Under this plan from November 20 to December 1 only sales to individuals will be reported to the treasury.

Why Buy War Bonds?

BECAUSE—Money invested in War Bonds will return a greater rate of interest than can be secured elsewhere. Series "E" Bonds pay 2.9% if held to maturity. For every \$3 invested you will receive \$4 in return.

BECAUSE—Your investment is safe.

BECAUSE—Your Bonds are backed with the same security that is back of your currency.

BECAUSE—Your money invested in Bonds is not frozen. You can, for any reason, redeem your Bonds after owning same for 60 days and secure your money on short notice. You never get back less than you paid in.

BECAUSE—Your War Bonds are registered and will be replaced if lost, destroyed or stolen.

BECAUSE—Money invested in War Bonds builds a financial reserve for you and helps win the war at the same time.

■ ■ ■

Doctor: "You must avoid all form of excitement."

Bill: "Can I look at them on the street?"

PLUMBING IN ENGLAND

Is Likely to Follow American Ideas and Customs in Rebuilding

Plumbing in England has always been something to laugh at by those who read about it, or see and use it on occasional visits to the Kingdom. A lot of Americans there now on account of the war, have by reason of their long stay, found plenty of spare time to make comparisons and in true American style have voiced their opinions on English plumbing in language needing no interpreter.

We are reminded of this by reading "The Outpost," published by Americans in England. This paper recently carried an article on plumbing, interesting to the trade and public as well.

A writer signing his article "WB" makes some interesting observations.

"It is still possible" says W.B. "for an American in Britain to give some brand-new twist to the old joke about English plumbing; but that is only because our resources of mockery are illimitable. We are expected to be merry on the subject. I know one eminent American who is egged-on by his innumerable English friends to give his impressions of a certain domestic engine as found in the English house:

"... with a chain on it strong enough to hold a St. Bernard dog . . . and you talk about needing scrap metal!"

Speaking of the half-million pre-fabricated dwellings which the planners expect to erect in post-war Britain, the writer says:

Experimenting

"Already the Ministry of Works Experimental Planning division has, I hear, over a hundred experimental projects in the testing stage in actual houses. Fruits of American researches during the past fifteen years have proved highly valuable. What will be most new and significant about the English effort will be the immense scale on which it will have to be worked out, and the special focusing on the problems of the "working class." We in America are sometimes too apt to ignore the fact that among our own urban dwellings, between 15 and 20 per cent lack running water.

There will be no chance, in post-war England, for anybody to ignore any statistic that has to do with the slum-dweller."

Lack of Standardization

One stumbling block is a lack of standardization. The English are jealous of their local laws, rights and customs as well as authority and freedom to do as they please in their own little communities. Speaking of this phase, "W.B." continues:

But there is this to be remembered about these English communities:

"They did learn during this war the unforgettable lesson of what happens to your homes when the fire-hoses rushed in from another town can't be used on your mains because your Town Council has been too scornful of all that "standardization" talk. That lesson bit deep, and those who pondered it will have a new attitude toward standardized plumbing and pooled building research. The kind of laissez-faire freedom that has kept English plumbing "backward"—the freedom of Local Authority to obstruct national plans made for the greatest good of the greatest number—will not have to be snatched away by force. It will be offered up spontaneously, I think, in memory of nights when "standard equipment" became a symbol of the sort of world in which one city can rush help to another in the certainty that the equipment sent can be used."

■ ■ ■

GO TO IT MOSES

During his first few days in camp the recruit was the victim of so many practical jokes that he doubted all men and their motives. One night, while he was on guard, the tall figure of one of the officers loomed up in the darkness.

"Who goes there?" challenged the sentry.

"Major Moses," replied the officer.

The recruit scented a new joke.

"Glad to meet you, Moses," he said. "Advance and give the Ten Commandments."

Colonel (after reviewing troops): "Hang it all! What's the idea of parading all the big men in front of the little men?"

Lieutenant: "It's the sergeant's fault. He used to run a fruit store."

DIVORCES



- "He plugs his ears whenever I start to tell him anything."
- "He keeps carbon copies of his letters to other women, frames them and hangs them in the living room."
- "She keeps gold fish in the bath tub and mice in the breadbox."
- "She collects moths in the summer and puts them in my winter clothes closet."
- "He said on one occasion she took a shot at him with a rifle, next time with a revolver and then chased him out of the house with a butcher knife."
- "He said she sniffed his clothing for foreign perfume, kept him from going to bed, and tossed all of his clothing on the lawn when he came in late from a movie."
- "He calls me by telephone and asks: 'Is this you Elsie?' My name is Maud. The name of his office girl is Elsie."
- "She said he never seemed to go to bed, knocked her down once and grew angry when she refused to drink champagne for breakfast."
- "She said he yelled at her, berated her and quarreled when he came home because she was not there."

Should've Tried Rivets

Sonny: "Ma says she could have soled her shoes with this steak I brought back."

Butcher (sarcastically): "Why didn't she?"

Sonny: "'Cause she couldn't get the nails through it."

FACTS AT RANDOM

According to the weather bureau, Puerto Rico is the sunniest spot in the West Indies. It has not had one day in two and one-half years when the sun failed to shine. For the past 42 years, it has never had a temperature below 62 nor above 92 degrees.

All hurricanes in the Northern Hemisphere move counter-clockwise; all south of the equator move clockwise.

The University of North Carolina, which opened its doors in 1795, was the first state university established.

Twenty-three Negroes have served in Congress thus far, 21 in the House and 2 in the Senate.

An average-sized ocean tanker carries as much oil as 280 railroad tank cars.

All U. S. soldiers requesting them from chaplains are issued free copies of the Bible.

While "billion" and "million" are similar in sound, their ratio is the same as that of a ten-dollar bill and a penny.

Approximately one-third of all the automobile drivers in the country are women.

In some cities they are burying steel trolley rails under street resurfacing, while rationing razor blades to conserve steel.

The sugar rationing program has called for more than 700,000,000 forms, cards, and booklets, and about 12,000,000 pounds of paper.

Only 10.4 cents of the railroad dollars come from passenger traffic.

Tests at experimental stations have shown that beef from the right side is significantly more tender than that from the left. There is no explanation of this phenomenon.

There are 556,000 kernels of average size in a bushel of wheat.

Until the rationing, the average passenger car owner drove his car 8,196 miles a year.

A radio announcer says that 97 million Americans do not get balanced meals. Phooey!

According to a survey, six out of every ten women wear glasses.

Holland has replaced all tulip fields with grain and potatoes.

Enough rubber to make 17,000 tires goes into a battleship. Anon.

■ ■ ■

Woman (in a crowded car, to her friend): "I wish that good-looking man would give me his seat."

Five men got up.

■ ■ ■

When Noah sailed the ocean blue, he had his troubles, same as you. For days and days he drove the ark before he found a place to park.

(Continued from page 25)

railroad within the American tropics.

Keith had to have something like freight to haul on his railroad which did not reach the coffee growing districts so he turned to bananas. They were not grown commercially in Costa Rica but this did not deter Keith. He got banana rootstalks and started plantations on the north coast of Costa Rica, and thereby eventually became an exporter.

Although Keith extended the plantings to Nicaragua, his primary passion was building jungle railroads. Railroad builders continued to die of tropical fevers. The funeral train was a regular daily service of the Costa Rican Railway during the late seventies, Keith himself came down with fevers again and again, but he disregarded both doctors and medicines and lived. He cleaned up the new port of Limon, built a sea wall, installed one of the first sewerage systems in Middle America, filled in swamps and acquired a water plant. The railroad was finally completed in 1896.

Curiosity at Centennial

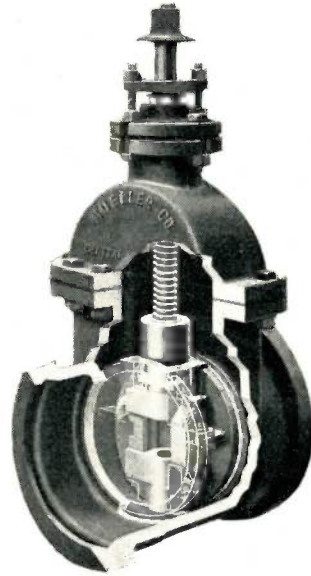
As late as 1876 when the Centennial Exposition was held in Philadelphia, bananas were still largely unknown to us and were a curiosity. Our authority tells us: "At the Centennial of 1876 bananas became the "rage". They sold for 10 cents a piece and were taken home as souvenirs and curiosities by thousands."

Among the results of the banana development are the United Fruit company with its big fleet of ships bringing the cargos to the U. S. and the big freight business for the railroads. In the places where the fruit is grown there are hundreds of banana-subsidized schools for workers and workers' families on plantations from Guatemala to Colombia. Further, banana plantations have brought with them jungle drainage, hospitals, wholesale vaccination and medication of native citizens, and playgrounds, recreation centers and clubs.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLE PICTURES

Here are the answers to the puzzle pictures appearing on Page 5 of this issue:

- Upper left: Transit.
- Lower left: Triangle.
- Upper center: W. C. Fields.
- Lower center: Salerno.
- Upper right: Jodhpurs
- Lower right: Link Trainet.

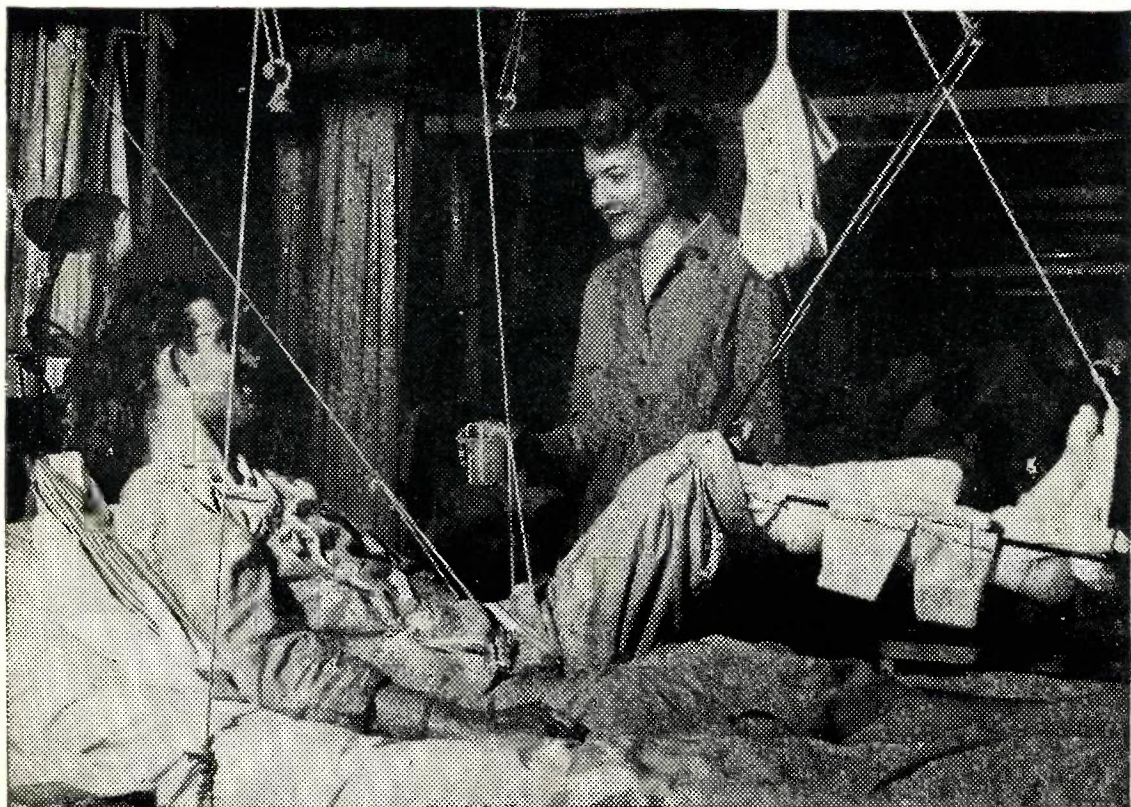


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Name _____	Please answer "yes" or "no" to each of the following questions:
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City _____	Have you any children under 14? _____
State _____	Are you a high school graduate? _____
Phone No. _____	

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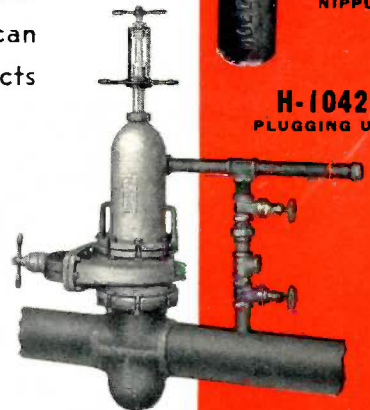
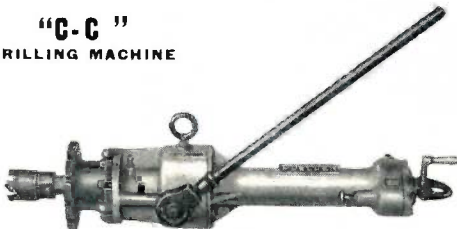
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