

**Suggest  
A Name**

??

**And Win  
\$25.00**

Published by and for Employees of Mueller Co.

DECATUR, ILLINOIS

FEBRUARY, 1954



I GOT HIM WITH THIS ONE, O. E. Woolley, Mueller Co. guard at Plant 4, tells his family who gathered around him after learning that he personally foiled the holdup efforts of two robbers in a Decatur market. Woolley, an ex-deputy sheriff, holds up a badly bruised fist he used to discourage two armed men in a robbery attempt. Mrs. Woolley is seated at the left. Their son, Dale, and daughter, Margaret Jean, are at his right. Standing is their son-in-law, John Towbridge.

**Firm Studies  
New Employee  
Insurance Plan**

For several months, the company has been making a study of our group insurance program in an effort to purchase the greatest benefits at the least cost. Recently such a plan was found and is offered by the Continental Assurance Company of Chicago.

We are pleased to announce that Mueller Co. is giving us the opportunity to participate in a new and approved plan of Group Insurance. The Company pays one-half of the actual cost of the plan for employees' coverage and also dependents' coverage, and as we are confident that you will appreciate the value of this program. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to provide this protection for yourselves and your families.

For a detailed explanation of the new plan, you may consult the Personnel Department.

**Stopping Holdups Old Stuff  
For Ex-Deputy O. E. Woolley**

"Just a couple of punks who didn't get the job done."

That's the way O. E. Woolley, Mueller Co. guard at Plant 4 and a former Macon County deputy sheriff, summed up his opinion of two would-be holdup men who made the mistake of practicing their "trade" while he was around.

Woolley personally out-matched two robbers who attempted to hold up a Decatur food market. He just happened to be on hand when the incident occurred.

One of the men entered the store, his face covered by a mask and his gun drawn. He ordered the merchant to turn over his money. While the would-be victim opened the cash drawer, Woolley charged the robber and mixed in a scuffle. The second

robber entered the store and joined in the fight.

Woolley, although 58, gave the two younger men a thorough going over and the fight soon got a little rough for them. One fled through the door. The second followed, but had difficulty getting the door open. At this point, the merchant threw a meat cleaver at the stranded robber.

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**Cal McQuality Is Praised  
For Action in Plant 2 Fire**

A Plant 2 foreman whose quick thinking brought the City of Decatur's fire fighting equipment to the scene within minutes after a blaze was discovered has been praised by Safety Director Cecil Coffin.

Mr. Coffin, who heads the Decatur plant's Personnel Department, said the fact that Cal McQuality kept his wits about him and immediately turned in the alarm saved the plant from additional losses.

President Albert G. Webber, Jr., estimated damage at about \$50,000. Mr. Webber also com-

mended McQuality and praised the fire department for its quick arrival and efficient action.

The loss includes damage to the building, patterns, machinery, and stored materials.

Mr. Coffin said that although the origin of this fire was unknown, it is a stern reminder of what can happen at any time. He called on every employee to take on added care in an effort to prevent fire losses, and if one is discovered, to do as Mr. McQuality did—keep a cool head and turn in the alarm.

**Wayne Heyer Named to Chattanooga Post**

Wayne M. Heyer, assistant plant controller at Decatur since 1951 and a member of Mueller Co. since 1948, has been named plant controller at Chattanooga. He will begin his new duties about March 1.

Mr. Heyer assumes the posi-

tion made vacant by the promotion of J. H. Wall to plant manager. Mr. Wall formerly served as plant controller and assistant to the vice president in charge of the Chattanooga plant.

Before he was named assistant plant controller, Mr. Heyer

served as cost accountant in Decatur. He came to Mueller Co. in that capacity.

He has distinguished himself by designing the new cost system now being put into effect. The system will be supervised by Bill Mueller who, as cost supervisor, will handle the cost department under the supervision of Augie Werdes, plant controller. The general accounting statistics for sales and inventory transfers will be under the supervision of Victor C. Klitzing who has been employed as accounting supervisor. He also will be under the supervision of Mr. Werdes.

The general accounting procedures have been revised largely to incorporate semi-mechanized methods that will greatly reduce costs of accounting procedures.

Prior to joining Mueller Co., Mr. Heyer spent twelve years in the field of factory and cost analysis and system work. He attended the University of Illi-

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VICTOR C. KLITZING



WAYNE M. HEYER

# 3 Decatur Employees Retire

Three Mueller Co. employees with a combined total of 101 years with our Decatur plant recently retired.

They are Mrs. Niema Cochran, who was with the company 37 years, Paul H. Jeschawitz, with 34 years' company service, and Leroy Stout, a 29-year employee.

Mrs. Cochran spent most of her employment in our Purchasing Department. She saw service with three purchasing agents, the first being the late W. R. Gustin. Mrs. Cochran also worked with O. J. Hawkins, who retired last year, and with the present purchasing agent, Ray Kileen.

She began with the company as a filing clerk on November 5, 1917, and was appointed to the Purchasing department on May 18, 1926.

In 1947 she was promoted to chief purchasing clerk and held that position until her retirement on January 8.

Mrs. Cochran's position has been filled by Mrs. Eilene Gogerty, 659 W. William St., Decatur.

Mr. Stout came to work in our foundry on March 12, 1925. He first worked as helper to the machine molder for one and one-half years. He then began to mold on the machine molder, a position he held for ten years. In 1941, he was called to the company's "war" plant where he worked for two months. He was recalled to the brass foundry where he began to mold on the hand bench. He did that type of work until he retired on December 31.

Mr. Jeschawitz is a general machinist, a trade he has practiced for 50 years on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. He is proud of the fact that, in his homeland of East Germany, he had read of the great work done by Hieronymus Mueller who, half a century earlier, came from Germany to the United States. He came with his parents to America in 1904 "along with hundreds of other Europeans of all nationalities who had heard of the great future offered in this country."

He first went to work for Mueller Co. in 1905 in the compression department. In 1909, when labor trouble arose in the company, he left the firm and held jobs in Chicago and again in Decatur as a railroad man. Then, almost twenty years later, he returned to Mueller Co., on June 10, 1924, as a general machinist.

"I'm happy to say that I have been here ever since," he says. Mr. Jeschawitz said that it had been an honor to work with the men and women in this great organization. "But when a man is in harness better than fifty years across the water and this side of the water, it is better for him to retire and make room for younger men. This is my principle, and I upheld it to the time that I retired."

He said he wished to thank all employees who donated to the beautiful watch and chain they presented to him.

He said he some day hoped to visit his birthplace in Germany. He has never had an opportunity to return to his former home since coming to the United States fifty years ago.

During the past year, national income reached \$309 billion, a rise of over \$21 billion, of which employees got \$18.5 billion.



The above two photos were taken just at the climax of the careers of two long-time Mueller Co. employees. In the upper photo, Leroy Stout who spent twenty-nine years in the brass foundry, accepts a wrist watch from Roy Woods, brass foundry production control manager, on behalf of fellow employees. Looking on are Clarence C. Roarick, vice president in charge of Decatur factories, Leland Hartwick, brass foundry foreman, and members of the foundry who worked with Mr. Stout. The bottom photo shows Paul H. Jeschawitz proudly receiving a Hamilton pocket watch from Pete Kelley, Department 37 Steward. August Rauschek, foreman of Machine Repair, Mr. Roarick and members of Machine Repair Department look on.



MRS. NIEMA COCHRAN

## Riggin Honored

Fifty years ago, a young man began his business career as an \$8 a week stenographer for Mueller Co. in Decatur. He was 18 years old.

Today, that young man—now 68-year-old Fred L. Riggin—is president of the Mueller Brass Company at Port Huron, Michigan. He has just begun his 50th year in business.

Mr. Riggin was guest of honor at a dinner attended by company officials and civic leaders in Port Huron. At the dinner, Mr. Riggin was given an especially prepared book of his life.

He came to Decatur when a child with his family and attended Decatur schools and Brown's Business College. After serving in various secretarial capacities in our company, he and Oscar Mueller were named to establish a new plant at Sarnia. He made a rapid rise in the new plant, and during World War I, at the request of the Canadian government, he helped establish a new metals company (Mueller Metals Co.) at Port Huron.

In 1927 Oscar Mueller bought the shares of his four brothers in the Port Huron plant and sold them his shares in the Decatur plant. Since that time the Mueller Brass Company has operated as a separate company. Mr. Riggin was executive vice-president from 1927 to 1936 and, since June 1936, he has been general manager and president of the company.

## Decatur Credit Union Elects

Two new officers and three new directors were elected to the Credit Union at Decatur in the annual meeting December 18.

New officers are Frank Ridgeway, vice president, and Edward F. Cave Jr., secretary.

New directors are Mr. Cave, Orville Spencer Jr. and George Turner.

The Credit Union reported total assets of \$666,559.67 at the end of 1953, an increase of \$86,195 over 1952.

Membership increased from 800 to 885, and average shares per member from \$703.45 to \$723.95. A dividend of 3½ per cent was paid to members.

Loans during 1953 totaled \$716,353.19, compared with \$593,647.29 in 1952.

Otin B. Fears Jr., president, and Harold Munsterman, treasurer, were re-elected as were four directors:

Frank Ridgeway  
Harold Taylor  
Albert Spitzer  
Pershing Griffith

## Wayne Heyer

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nois and has taken additional courses in accounting by correspondence.

The family will join him in Chattanooga in June after school is out. Mr. and Mrs. Heyer have four children, Lorene, 14, Phyllis, 13, Karen, 10, and Edwin, 7.

Mr. Klitzing, who is assuming part of the duties formerly held by Mr. Heyer, joined Mueller Co. January 4. A graduate of the University of Illinois College of Commerce, he has had considerable experience in accounting.

His positions have included that of senior accountant at the University of Illinois business office, an accountant in the iron foundry plant of the engine and foundry division of the Ford Motor Company at Detroit, and a member of the accounting de-

## If You Want To Get Ahead, You Have To Push!

"What are the chances for advancement?" employees sometimes ask department heads of industry.

The chances are excellent, if you push hard enough on the man ahead of you. People advance by pushing other people upwards.

Industry is looking for potential executives. There are far too few of them. Most people don't realize that everybody doesn't want to advance. They all would be glad to have more money and authority, but they mostly have a limit as to what they will do to get it.

Quite a few people will always be common laborers, clerks, and typists because they don't want the responsibility which would go along with advancement to a higher step. Some people will stop at the next level, and so on. When you get up to the top levels, you'll find less and less people in your way and it won't only be a matter of ability that's weeded out the others who started at the bottom.

You push the man ahead of you as far as he wants to go. You'll go along with him. If you're pushing him, he'll need you. When he hits his spot, he'll step aside and you go on ahead. Pushing isn't a "treading on the coat-tails" proposition. It means helping the person over you to do a good job. You do your work well, cooperate with him, and everyone benefits—the company, you, and the person you are helping. If he doesn't want to go any farther, he recommends the person he thinks is going to be the most capable and that is going to be the person who's helped him the most.

Advancement comes to those who push—the cooperators, the developers, the suggesters, the helpful.

partment at the Illinois Power Company in Decatur.

He is married and has three daughters, Christine Louise, 3, Debra Jane, 19 months, and Rebecca Ann, born January 14. Mr. and Mrs. Klitzing and family are living at 1115½ Cottage Hill in Decatur.

## Eddie Nalefski Leads Bowlers

Eddie Nalefski, mainstay of the Ground Key Division bowling team at our Decatur plant, rolled to a neat 180 average to lead all company bowlers as the second round came to a close recently. His lead was anything but safe, however, as Dale Reidelberger of the Regulator Division was second with a 179 average and Robert Leake of the Pattern Shop team was third with 178.

Teamwise, the Specialty Division and Experimental Division were tied for first place as the second round ended in a topsy-turvy race that has seen the top five teams change places all season.

Team standings through the second round were:

	W.	L.
Specialty Division	31	23
Experimental Shop	31	23
Ground Key	30	24
Works Manager	29	25
Regulator Division	29	25
Pattern Shop	27½	26½
Brass Finishers	26	28
Tool Engineers	24½	29½
Product Engineers	21	33
Plant 2	21	33

The ten high bowlers are:

	Ave.	H.G.
Eddie Nalefski	180	221
Dale Reidelberger	179	245
Robert Leake	178	213
Al Degand	175	245
Lefty Adams	174	210
Jack Bain	173	225
Henry Stratman	172	246
Buddy Grossman	172	227
William Leake	169	209
Marvin Riewski	169	207

## O. E. Woolley

(Continued from page 1)

The cleaver missed its mark, and then proved an aid to the men in their escape. The robber picked up the cleaver and used it to hold Woolley back while he opened the door.

"I would have worked him over a little more if it hadn't been for the cleaver," Woolley said. "I knew their type. They were afraid to use their guns, but they might resort to use of the cleaver if they got in too tight a jam."

## Family Has Five Generations



These five persons represent five generations of one family, a somewhat rare occurrence in the world today. Seated left to right are: Ronald Moyer, 1015 N. Union Street, Decatur, father of the baby and a former employee of Mueller Co. Next to Mr. Moyer is Mrs. William H. Binstead, 836 N. College Street, Decatur, great grandmother of the baby and grandmother of Mr. Moyer.

The baby, held by Mrs. Binstead, is Christine Ann, four-month-old daughter of Mr. and

Mrs. Robert Moyer. The great great grandmother, seated next to Mrs. Binstead (her daughter) is Mrs. Dora Shanafelt of Salem, Illinois. Mrs. Shanafelt will observe her 83rd birthday in May.

The grandmother of the baby and mother of Mr. Moyer is Mrs. L. F. Simpson, Rural Route 8, Decatur. The grandfather and great grandfather of the little girl are employees of Mueller Co. They are Herman (Jack) Chepan, whose daughter is Martha Jane Moyer, mother of the baby, and William H. Binstead, the baby's great grandfather.

# 108 Decatur Employees Get Awards



Decatur employees who have served thirty years with Mueller Co. posed for this photo shortly after receiving their thirty-year service emblems during December. Front row, from the left, they are: Hazel Allen, Orvil F. Spencer, Fred Nash, Shirl Tish, Truey Hoy, and Otis R. Curry. Back row, left to right: Ralph Wood, Albert Flaughter, Archie Sefton, Earl Lowe, Oris Whitacre, Virgil R. Athey, and Carl Blankenburg.



Forty-five year service emblems were awarded to Harry Koontz, left, and Lester J. Skelley, center, by President Albert G. Webber, Jr., during December. Of 108 employees at Decatur receiving pins, Koontz and Skelley were honored as having had the most service.



Twenty-two Decatur employees rounded out twenty-five years service with Mueller Co. during 1953. They are, front row, from the left: Irvin Keller, R. K. Duncan, Sam Jolly, George Sulwer, Wera Colglazier, Leo Masterson and Warren Hall. Second row, left to right, are: Wallace Gould, Ray Kileen, Clarence C. Roarick, George S. Anderson, Edgar Stark, Carl Reynolds and Robert Walley. Third row, left to right, are: Albert Rokash, Ernest Wittke, Lloyd Walton, August Rauschek, Dean Butler, Henry Stratton and Lee Ellington. Two other twenty-five year employees whose photos appear elsewhere in this newspaper are O. E. Walker and George Knipe. Mr. Knipe is with the New York office. Mr. Walker was not present when the photo was made.



These oldtimers have been with Mueller Co. at Decatur for the past thirty-five years. Seated, left to right, are: Albert May, Ethel Thompson and Elmer Miller. Standing, left to right, are: Charles Morenz, Clinton Wright, and Lewis A. Bland.

## Skelley, Koontz Here 45 Years

One hundred and eight employees of the Decatur Main Office and factories were awarded service pins during December. That near-record-breaking group included more twenty-five year employees than any other age division.

Twenty-two persons rounded out twenty-five years service with the company. Two men, Lester J. Skelley and Harry Koontz, received the top longevity service emblem, each having served the company for the past forty-five years.

Service emblems were presented by President Albert G. Webber, Jr.

Awards were presented to five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, thirty, thirty-five, forty and forty-five year groups.

The following employees received service pins:

- Five Years**
- Wilson Augustine
- Wayne Heyer
- Floyd Isome
- Wilma J. Poe
- William Kaigley
- James Edwards
- Darrell Hartwig
- Fred H. Landgrebe
- George E. Wilson
- George Grandon
- Henry Burcham
- Charles Wade
- Wilbur C. Ross
- Robert McQuality
- Corey Simpson
- John L. Bolsen
- John W. Hall
- Maxine Griffith
- Richard Armstrong

- Ten Years**
- Betty J. Walker
- Alberta Biiler
- Homer Hooker
- George F. Sims
- Jesse J. Patterson
- Royal Skelly
- Elmer Schmidt
- James Freeman
- Earl Brock
- Henry Luka
- Vera Tippitt
- Ruth McKown
- Olive L. Dailey
- Margaret Carter
- Marie West
- John Enlow
- Helen C. Wall
- Iris Baum
- Adah S. Wood
- Ruth M. Miller
- Dale Bolen
- Paul Dazey

- Fifteen Years**
- Addie Hambleton
- Carl W. Schuman
- Cecil W. Wilson
- Louis E. Ross
- Robert L. Rhodes
- Joe Fleckenstein
- John Harrell
- Emil J. Bork
- O. Clyde Porter
- Delmar J. Baum
- Wilbur Sternes
- Robert F. Armstrong
- Roy Harrell

- Twenty Years**
- Clara B. Frederick
- Raymond Larus
- John W. Sexson
- Marvin Baum
- Walter F. Salefski
- Galen W. Hutchens

- Twenty-five Years**
- George Knipe
- Clarence C. Roarick
- R. C. Kileen
- Leo Masterson
- Wera Colglasier
- Ernest A. Wittke
- A. Dean Butler
- Albert Rokash
- R. K. Duncan
- Robert Walley
- August Rauschek
- Lee A. Ellington
- Wallace Gould
- Irvin E. Keller
- George S. Anderson
- Floyd Walton
- Samuel Jolly
- Warren Hall
- Edgar Stark
- George Sulwer
- Henry Stratman
- Carl Reynolds
- O. E. Walker

- Thirty Years**
- Gerald J. Yonkers
- Archie Sefton
- Hazel Allen
- Virgil R. Athey
- Earl Lowe
- Albert Flaughter
- Karl Blankenburg
- Orville F. Spencer
- Shirl Tich



Five Decatur employees received their twenty-year service emblems at the close of 1953. Left to right, they are: Walter Salefski, John Warren Sexson, Marvin Baum, Ray Larus, and Galen Hutchens.

- Truey Hoy
- Otis R. Curry
- Oris Whitacre
- Ralph Wood
- Fred Nash
- Thirty-five Years**
- Robert Whitehead
- Marjorie Tatham
- Ethel Thomason
- Elmer Miller
- Clinton Wright
- Charles T. Morenz
- Lewis A. Bland
- Albert May
- Forty Years**
- Charles W. Taylor
- Forty-five Years**
- Lester J. Skelley
- Harry Koontz



Charles W. Taylor can look back on 40 years of service with Mueller Co. This long-time employee was awarded his 40-year service pin by President Albert G. Webber, Jr., during December.

During the year ending last June 30, Americans paid a total tax bill—federal, state and local—of \$2,034 per family, or more than was spent for food and clothing in that year by the average family.

# 74 Receive Awards At Chattanooga

## Van Vleet, Eckman Are Cited For Long Service

Emblems representing five, ten, fifteen, twenty and thirty years of service were awarded to seventy-four Chattanooga plant employees during ceremonies in December. Top longevity awards went to Homer J. Van Vleet and J. Marion Eckman. Each received their thirty-year pins.

Mr. Van Vleet came to Chattanooga from Decatur in September, 1935, and is our production manager.

Mr. Eckman, who is chief engineer, came to Chattanooga from Decatur in January, 1934.

Although O. E. Walker, Sr., now works manager vice president in Decatur, is no longer with us in Chattanooga, we still consider him one of us in Chattanooga. This past December, he completed twenty-five years service with Mueller Co. and was awarded his twenty-five year pin at Chattanooga. It was nice having him in Chattanooga during the holiday season. Our employees always look forward to his visits.

Employees receiving service awards and the number of years service include:

### FIVE YEARS

- Ray Jackson
- Leo Stewart
- James Harbison
- Dorsey White
- Milburn Carroll
- Earl Davis
- Marvin Montgomery
- Theodore Cochran
- Willie Benford, Jr.
- Albert Gurley
- Odie E. Walker, Jr.
- Marilyn Anderson
- Roy Hollingsworth
- James A. Hood
- Autra Fant
- Dewey Honeycutt
- Edgar Bryant, Jr.
- Jep Thornton
- Henry T. Roberts
- Jimmie Readus
- S. B. Crowell
- William C. Adair
- Robert Anderson
- Tommie E. Campbell
- Roy L. Caudle
- Jessie Turner
- Robert Chaney
- Paul C. Mason
- James Hampton
- Romus Rutland
- Julius Bullock
- Junior A. Hicks
- Charles Turner
- Ben Teem
- Ralph Tolbert
- William Richmond
- Frank Hargrove

### TEN YEARS

- Charles G. Bible
- C. N. Pursley
- Richard F. Anderson
- Mary O'Kelley
- Howard Rogers
- Marguerite Barker
- Charlie Boston
- Henry Keller
- Samuel C. Adair
- James Turner
- Duke Hollingsworth
- Seth Fowler
- Billings L. Jones
- Lucius Jones
- Pete Ramsey

### FIFTEEN YEARS

- Hugh Mackey
- Edward Stamper
- Johnnie Watkins

### TWENTY YEARS

- H. C. Churchill
- Sam Foster
- Elmer Hughes

- Lester Woodall
- Arlice Manning
- Rowdy Gann
- Homer Massey
- Oscar Hubble
- J. C. Quentel
- Monroe Hudson
- George Patton
- C. E. Campbell
- Earley Suggs
- Merrell S. Wooden
- Thad Drennan
- W. H. Myers
- Howard Dupree

### THIRTY YEARS

- Homer J. Van Vleet
- J. M. Eckman

## O. E. Walker Gets 25-Year Emblem



O. E. Walker, works manager vice-president, received his twenty-five year service emblem during December. Although now in Decatur, Mr. Walker returned to Chattanooga where he headed that plant for a number of years to visit his son and to receive his pin. "We still think of him as one of us," one Chattanooga employee said. "We wanted him to receive the pin here where so many of his years with Mueller Co. have been spent."

## Chatter From Chattanooga

By Evelyn Wilbanks

The nice voice you hear from the switchboard these days is that of Alice Tribble, our new receptionist and switchboard operator.

Jane Keeton, of the Sales Division, is back at work after recovering from an injury received in an automobile accident in November.

Several employees who are off due to illness or accidents are: Luther O'Neal, Levi Sanders, Mitchell Love, Warren Chappell, Oliver McDuffie and Larry Watson.

Some of our employees who are proud fathers of new arrivals are: Bob Evans, son; Ernest Joe Burke, daughter; Arthur Womble, son; Nolan Keyt, son; John Harp, daughter; Glenn Cook, daughter.

Frank Kellett of Sales is sporting a brand new 1954 Mercury. Two other employees, Stanley Kuhne and Wheeler Cage, are driving good looking new Pontiacs.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of John B. Pinion who died recently. Mr. Pinion was one of our retired employees and prior to his retirement was a plant watchman.

Our sympathy is also extended to George and Charlie Lee Smith in the recent loss of their mother. Both are employees of the Foundry Division.

We wish to express our hearty thanks to the management for the nice Christmas hams which were presented to all employees on Christmas Eve and the sincere wishes expressed on the cards received at the same time.

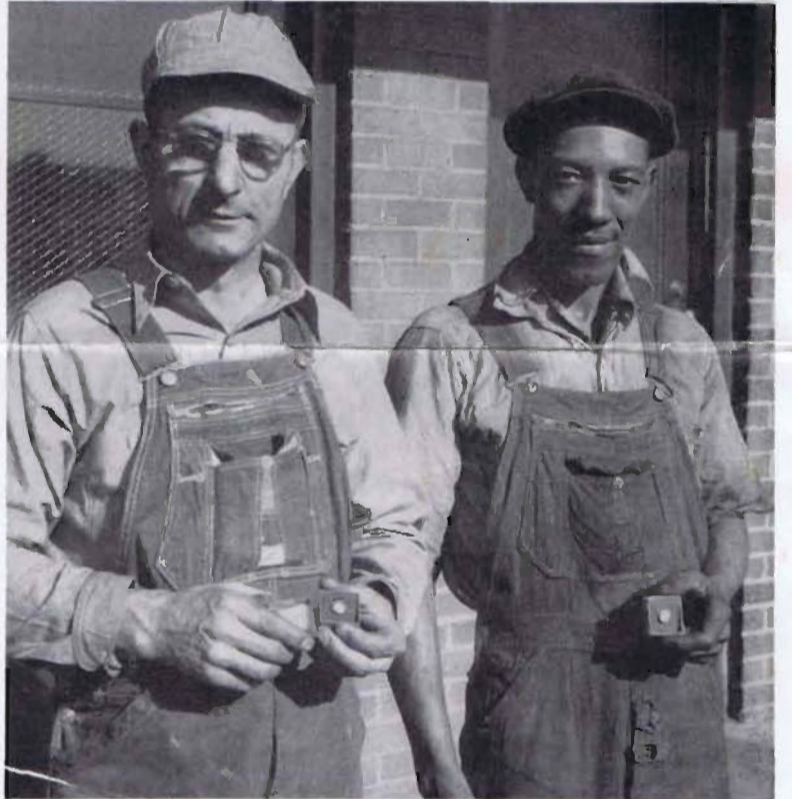
On Christmas Eve we were pleased to see some of our retired employees. It isn't often that we see these men, but during the holiday season they usually drop around for a visit and they are always welcome.

Three of the office girls are wearing pretty sparklers on their third finger, left hand. They are Lois Trotter of the Production Control Department,

Phyllis Hughes and Helen Ramsey, both of the Payroll Department. Seems that wedding bells will be ringing before too long for these gals.



J. H. Wall, manager of the Chattanooga plant, presents thirty-year service pins to Homer J. Van Vleet, center, and to J. Marion Eckman in special ceremonies during December. Mr. Van Vleet and Mr. Eckman are senior members in terms of service among the awards group.



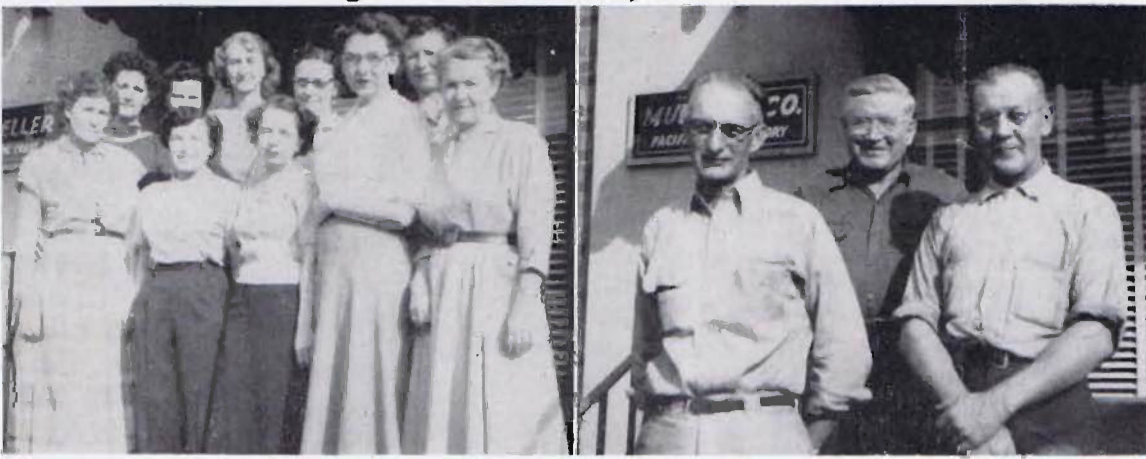
Two fifteen-year service award recipients display their fifteen-year pins a short time after receiving them at Chattanooga during December. They are Hugh Mackey, left, and Johnnie Watkins. A third Mueller Co. employee at Chattanooga who received his thirty-year service award is Edward Stamper. He was not present when the picture was made.



Twenty-year service awards went to the above group in special ceremonies at Chattanooga during December. They are, first row, left to right: Elmer Hughes, Sam Foster, Lester (Bob) Woodall, Oscar Hubble, Rowdy Gann, John Quentel, Homer Massey and Thad Drennan.

Second row, left to right, are: George Patton, Arlice Manning, Howard Dupree, Monroe Hudson, W. H. Myers, Mertell S. Wooden, Earley Suggs, H. C. Churchill and C. E. Campbell.

## Long and Faithful Service



Ten and twenty-year service emblems were awarded to the above groups at our Los Angeles plant. In the photo at right, all ten-year service people, are front row from the left: Bramlette Johnson, Vickey Montoya, Hattie Zylitz, Kathryn Thompson and Fay Purinton. Back row, left to right: Lillian Alfano, Hazel Rice, Velma Porte, Johnnie Livingston and Dolores Thompson. The photo at right shows employees who received their twenty-year pins. They are, left to right: William Jacob, Val Stach and Cliff Branum.



Mueller Co. employees of our Los Angeles plant pose for the photographer after receiving service emblems from Earl Bright, plant superintendent. The group at left was awarded five-year pins. They are, left to right: Fred Lorendo, Dudley Banks and Cruz Jacques. At right are fifteen-year award winners. They are, front row from the left: Glenn McCoun, Robert Hamlin, and Ralph Korte. Back row from the left: William Baker, Lawrence Fantuzzi and Leonard Johnson.

# 23 Los Angeles Employees Get Service Awards

Twenty-three Mueller Co. employees at our Los Angeles plant received service emblems in special ceremonies during December. Pins were awarded by our genial plant superintendent, Earl Bright, to groups of five, ten, fifteen, twenty and twenty-five years' service.

The top longevity award went to Herman Dash, the only West Coast employee to receive a twenty-five year pin.

Mr. Dash began his Mueller Co. career as a messenger boy at the age of 17 and has been with the organization ever since. He is a graduate of Decatur High School and while employed as a messenger boy, he took an extension course in accounting at Millikin University in Decatur.

In 1935, he married Elsie Roarick of Decatur. He was transferred to Los Angeles in January, 1935. His studies in accounting were continued on the West Coast where he took extension courses in business law at U.C.L.A., and at E.L.A. Junior College.

Early studies paid off for Mr. Dash, who is now the cost accountant for the West Coast plant.

His hobby is youth organization work. At the present time, he is the board manager of the Y.M.C.A. at Eagle Rock, his home town in California, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Y.M.C.A. in the Los Angeles area. He has two children, Arlene, 17, and David, 12. He is also superintendent of Sunday Schools in Eagle Rock.

His parents live in Decatur at 305 E. Condit Street.

Los Angeles employees who received pins are:

- Twenty-five Years**  
Herman Dash



HERMAN DASH

- Twenty Years**  
William Jacob  
Val Stach  
Cliff Branum

- Fifteen Years**  
Glenn McCoun  
Robert Hamlin  
Ralph Korte  
William Baker  
Lawrence Fantuzzi  
Leonard Johnson

- Ten Years**  
Bramlette Johnson  
Vickey Montoya  
Hattie Zylitz  
Kathryn Thompson  
Fay Purinton  
Lillian Alfano  
Hazel Rice  
Velma Porte  
Johnnie Livingston  
Dolores Thompson

- Five Years**  
Fred Lorendo  
Dudley Banks  
Cruz Jacques

## Production, Specialties Lead Bowlers

The bowling league has settled into real close competition. The Production Department, headed by Bruce Stotler, and the Specialties, with Bob Lugo in charge, are tied for 1st with 29 games won and 19 losses.

The Forging Department is in 3rd place with a 27-21 record; however, the remaining teams are all in contention with only seven games separating top and bottom.

With eight more weeks to go, most anything can happen. Bill Young, foreman of the Aircraft Machine Shop has returned to spark his team. Bill had an argument with one of the automatics and was minus a small part of his bowling finger. This kept him on the sidelines for most of the season. Bill is leading the league with a 173 average. We are all glad to see him return, especially Bruce Stotler.

Seems that these two have a small wager each bowling night and Bruce's youngsters claim they haven't had as much spending money as usual this year. This, however, was remedied as soon as Bill came back. Bill has to spot Bruce the difference in averages.

### Standings

	Won	Lost
Production	29	19
Specialties	29	19
Forge	27	21
Assemblers	26½	21½
Timekeepers	24	24
Shipping Dept.	24	24
Tool & Die	23	25
Aircraft	21½	26½
High Ladies' Series—Helen Staley 506.		
High Ladies' Game—Patty Anderson 197.		
High Series, Men—George Knudsen 607.		
High Men's Game—George Knudsen 245.		

## Around the Plant . . .

By George Knudsen

### Pistol Packing Foreman

Lacey Mayfield was presented with a .22 calibre long pistol by the employees in his department for Christmas. Lacey is foreman of the Brass Machine Shop. We understand that Lacey's son wanted to swap his rifle for the pistol but Lacey said no deal. The boys and girls in Lacey's department are really on the ball with production plus, (we have not checked on this) but we understand that Lacey has the .22 strapped to his belt and has a scowl on his face and looks and acts like complete master of his department. No casualties to report to date.

### New Equipment

A new Goss & DeLeeuw 1-2-3 Automatic Machine that really does a job has been added to the Brass Department. When this machine is fed a piece of

### AT LOS ANGELES

brass it reams, drills, and threads all 3 ends at once, a wonderful addition to the plant. The operator of this little dandy is Mike Budziszewski.

### Condolences

We wish a speedy recovery to Helen Hale.

Happy to see the return to work of Lillian Espey, Gunard Nelson, Dudley Banks, Roy Estrop, Gladys Fredricks, and Lillian Alfano after the long illnesses.

### Belated Vacation

Doc Olgelsby, foreman of the Foundry, took a belated vacation over the holidays and visited Decatur. Said he was treated royally, but did remark about the cold weather. California at that time was giving forth with the thermometer in the high 80's, Decatur had it 2 below.

## MUELLER'S M.G. CLUB



From left to right we present the proud owners of this small economical but powerful foreign made M.G. They are Bill Baker, Pat Prewett, Bob Hughes, and Ralph Korte. No parking problems with these cars which are ideal for California weather. You can return from any party without fear, for, if you are unable to drive 'em, you can pick 'em up and carry 'em!

## Good Year for L.A. Credit Union

The annual meeting of the Los Angeles Credit Union was held January 13. Those elected to serve on various committees for the ensuing year were:

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Charles Portee, president
- Jerome Alt, vice president
- Cy Wolfe, treasurer
- Paul Packer
- Clayton Travis

### CREDIT COMMITTEE

- Paul Packer, chairman
- Alfred Hembree
- Ed Vogel
- John Hesselback (alt.)

### SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

- Herman Dash, chairman
- James Musso
- William Young

We wish to congratulate the directors and committee on the fine work they have done in this organization. We are now in the \$60,000 bracket. No BD's (Bad Debts) were reported for 1953, and as Cy Wolfe, our treasurer reports, "Let us say we were just lucky." However, let's give credit where credit is due. The committee just did a real good job.

Mr. Wolfe was presented with a \$50.00 bonus for his fine work. Cy will now be able to buy that added fishing tackle, with no comment from the head of the family. That, of course, means the "Mamma".

The members will receive a 6% dividend for the year of 1953. Congratulations and good luck for the coming year.

## 85 Degrees at L. A. Xmas Party

The Christmas party at our Los Angeles plant was held Sunday, December 13, in Storey Park, Alhambra. Although the temperature was around 85, a good Christmas spirit prevailed and a majority attended. Santa Claus gave gifts to all the children. The trees and trimmings gave the Christmas atmosphere.

There was a very good buffet dinner followed by movies, Christmas carols, and many remained to dance after the children had been taken home to their beds. Everyone reported they had a good time.

Santa Claus had promised to bring a photographer. However, the photographer was unable to get there or supply a replacement in time so we did not get pictures of this happy and successful affair. Congratulations to the Christmas committee: Carol Payette, Eli Lockard, Ralph Korte, and George Knudsen. You did a swell job. We also appreciated such a wonderful turn-out.

Suggest a Name

??

Win \$25

Published quarterly at Decatur, Ill., by, for and about employees of the Mueller Co., manufacturers of water and gas distribution and service products.

WALTER H. DYER.....Editor

Factories

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Sarnia, Ont., Canada Los Angeles, Calif.

Sales-Offices

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Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

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A Year of Opportunity

The new year will be a good year for business with great opportunities to build new markets, according to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

True, defense spending will continue to decline as it has since the end of the Korean war, but tax reductions and tax eliminations will pump new money into business. Taxes on personal income dropped an average of 10 per cent on December 31, and the so-called excess profits tax expired. During the year beginning next July, tax changes will add about \$7.5 billion to the nation's buying power.

Another \$200 billion is already on tap, tucked away in savings accounts. Consumers will spend some of it—IF they like what they see in the market place. In a word, the customer will be king in 1954. He can pick and choose.

That means business opportunities. Opportunities to make better products, and new products with plenty of sales appeal. These new products will create new markets, jobs and income.

Another opportunity for increasing business next year is the household fix-up market, for King Customer is ready to spend a lot of money on his castle. The fix-up market, now around \$6.6 billion annually, can be pushed up 30 to 50 per cent, according to estimates in the construction industry. A University of Michigan survey shows that interest in home repair is growing steadily in comparison with interest in spending for other important items.

The President's Advisory Committee on Government Housing Policies and Programs recognized the importance of the fix-up market. It proposed several methods of easing credit for household repairs, in a recent report to President Eisenhower.

Of course the opportunities for new markets do not mean that present markets are exhausted. Auto makers say there are 12 million pre-war cars still on the highways, and 17 million families who do not own even an old car. Only a little better than half of the American families own television sets.

There is a backlog of needed public works, not make-work projects, but projects such as new schools and new and improved streets and highways. At the recent National Conference on Highway Financing, sponsored by the Chamber, several speakers pointed out that we need between \$40 billion and \$50 billion to put our streets and highways in shape.

All of these factors, the Chamber is convinced, mean that 1954 will be a year of opportunity. Business men can be expected to bring out new, useful products at reasonable prices, and to bring these products to the attention of buyers through advertising and all the other methods of marketing that are available.

Juvenile Delinquency

Juvenile delinquency and disdain for the American form of government spring from the same sources and require the same remedy, the writer, Felix Morley, says in the current issue of the magazine Nation's Business.

"Much more than our periodic elections the future of constitutional government in the United States depends upon the home, the school, the church environment," Morley writes.

"If children are brought up to esteem the old-fashioned virtues they will naturally esteem our form of government, based on the assumption that men must learn how to govern themselves before they can successfully govern others.

"If, on the other hand, constant excitement and shoddy entertainment is the domestic diet, and if the educational emphasis is all on rights at the expense of responsibilities, then inferior citizenship as well as juvenile delinquency may be expected. And in that case the eventual preference will certainly not be for the American form of government, which can return to the people only what they themselves voluntarily give to it."

The Mueller Record, one of the oldest company publications in the United States, was founded on November 1, 1910, under the editorship of the late C. N. Wagenseller.

After 16 years of social security, 60 per cent of the aged still cannot get old-age and survivors' insurance, according to data reaching the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.



It takes a lot of ham and bacon to go around at Christmas time as the top photo testifies, but Mueller Co. has repeated this scene every Christmas for a great many years. The bottom photo shows the first of some 900 Decatur employees who passed through here to receive their annual Christmas gift. Mighty nice gift, too, but a little heavy according to the look on a few faces.

Samuel Yonker, Retired, Dies

Samuel Melvin Yonker, 82, an employee of Mueller Co. for 43 years when he retired in 1943, died January 12 in St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur. He had been in failing health for two years.

A son of George and Sarah Yonker, he was born August 7, 1871, and came to Decatur 51 years ago from Blue Mound. His home was at 1115 N. Edward St. He was a member of the St. Thomas Catholic Church, and at the time of his retirement he was a foreman with the company.

Last November 15, he and Mrs. Yonker, the former Anna Boll, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married in Chicago in 1893.

He leaves his wife; two daughters, Mrs. Eleanor Ross and Mrs. Marie Crabb; three sons, Anthony, Carl and Gerald, all of Decatur; two sisters, Mrs. Carrie Galiher of Assumption, Illinois, and Mrs. Nellie Pierce of Grove City; three brothers, John of Blue Mound, Charles of Edinburg, and Elmer of Mt. Auburn; 18 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren.

Two sons have been associated with Mueller Co. for many years. Anthony (Toni) is assistant sales manager, water division, and Gerald is now on leave of absence from the company. One grandson, Joseph, is employed in our Receiving Department.

Requiem high mass was in St. Thomas Church with burial in the Calvary Cemetery in Decatur.

Behind The Scenes

After three weeks of being seen in a topcoat belonging to an unknown owner, Engineer WALTER BOWAN is wearing his own again. The chain of events began during the Holiday Season when BOWAN mistakenly wore the wrong coat home from a cafe. It took him three weeks to track down the owner who fortunately was wearing BOWAN'S coat. His only clue—a slip of paper (found two weeks after he first wore the coat) in the pocket bearing the owner's last name . . . ERIC BLANKENBURG of Experimental Engineering Shop has a new TV set, reportedly to keep the kids at home. It works too . . . MARILYN EGGERDING has resigned her position as personnel clerk and has moved with her husband to St. Louis . . . Brace up fellows. Newcomer to the department is SUE CRAIG who recently moved to Decatur . . . Newlyweds around our Decatur plants include JOHN MOMA, assistant record clerk in Department 34, to ELEANOR ROSBOROUGH on December 19 at the Methodist Church parsonage in Blue Mound, Illinois . . . Also wedded was LAVERNE CLAUS, mail room assistant and relief switchboard operator, to WADE FIEDLER, automobile salesman, on November 7 at St. Patrick's Church in Decatur . . . CECIL BAKER of the Brass Foundry is a new father. MR. AND MRS. BAKER have a new daughter, PAMELA ANN BAKER, born December 15. She weighed eight pounds, ten ounces. The BAKERS live in Assumption, Illinois . . . New accounting supervisor VICTOR C. KLITZING and the STORK lost a race this year with the income tax man in a "return" match. KLITZING had emerged victorious a year earlier when his wife gave birth to a daughter in late December. VIC got a twelve-months' return on an income tax exemption for 1952. This year (1953) the race came down to the finish line. VIC kept one eye on the calendar and the other on the STORK. He lost the race, however, as REBECCA ANN was born January 14. . . . Another couple losing out to time was MARJORIE AND HOMER BESS. They have a new daughter, SUE ELLEN, born January 2. MARJORIE is former mail clerk in Decatur. . . . After being presented a new watch by his Brass Foundry buddies, LEROY STOUT said this the day of his retirement: "No need for you fellows to have done this. I'm not going anyplace, so I won't need to know what time it is . . ." OPAL JACKSON is in favor of putting reversible HIM and HER signs on the door of the old Foundry shower room. OPAL'S department, mostly women, must make a number of trips per day to the shower room for supplies now that the space is being utilized as storage . . . Only trouble is that it still is used as a shower room . . . Famous words of O. E. WOOLEY, Mueller Co. guard and former deputy sheriff who personally foiled the holdup efforts of two men at a Decatur store: "Just a couple of punks who didn't get the job done."

# Milton Miners Gets 45-Year Award

## 35 Sarnia Employees Receive Service Awards

By Almeda Reeve

Milton Miners, long-time employee of Department 9, Mueller Limited, was the senior Canadian member of the Mueller family in years of service to receive a service emblem during December. Miners proudly accepted the pin from George W. Parker, president and treasurer of the Sarnia plant. He was one of 35 Mueller Limited employees to receive service awards. Pins were presented to those who had served five, ten, thirty and forty years service. No employee was eligible to receive a fifteen, twenty or twenty-five year pin during 1953.

Employees receiving service emblems include the following:

**FORTY YEAR PIN**

Milton Miners  
**THIRTY YEAR PIN**

Robert Barnes  
Charles Hardy  
George Hayward  
Lawrence Payne  
R. James Skippon  
Charles Teskey

**TEN YEAR PIN**

Walter Ash  
Earl S. Brown  
Thomas Brydges

Grace Campbell  
John Chudik  
Milton Ellenor  
Charles Jay  
Lila P. McDougall  
Doris E. McLaughlin  
William J. Payne  
Frank Petronski  
Jean Reynolds  
Phillip J. Riley  
William G. Ryan  
Dorothy Smith  
Charles Stevens  
Keith Stirling  
John Stott  
Harold Taylor

**FIVE YEAR PIN**

Alice Andrews  
Alexander Bogaart  
Raymond J. Caudle  
Violet E. Henderson  
Allan McDougall  
Jane Racz  
Maurice Simard  
Druval W. Westcott  
Alma Wilson

## 30 Years of Service



These recipients of thirty-year service emblems at Sarnia pose for the photographer shortly after receiving their pins in special ceremonies during December. Left to right, they are: Robert C. Barnes, Department 7; George Hayward, foreman of the Core Room; Charles Teskey, Department 9; R. James Skippon, vice-president and factory manager; W. Lorne Payne, Department 2; and Charles Hardy, Department 6.

## Gordon Callum, Sarnia Foreman Dies Suddenly

Gordon D. Callum, foreman in the Mueller Limited Foundry and an employee of the Sarnia plant since 1915, collapsed in his car recently as he prepared to drive a way from the Athletic Park at Sarnia, and was dead on arrival at St. Joseph's Hospital.



Mr. Callum, an ardent sports fan, had been attending the Sarnia Imperial-Balmy Beach rugby football game.

He was born in Moore Township about ten miles from Sarnia and received his education in the local schools. He later served his apprenticeship as a moulder at the Doherty Foundry. In 1915, he came to Mueller Limited and for sometime he was employed as a moulder.

Through the years, Mr. Callum served in several capacities, having been foreman in the Core Room and foreman in the Foundry, his position at the time of his death.

He was a veteran of World War I and also served his country during the early years of World War II by acting in an advisory capacity when his services were loaned to the Metal Controller of Canada.

He was keenly interested in all sports, having served as manager of the Girls Softball Association. He took part in the inter-plant softball activities for many years, but in recent times his interest was confined to that of spectator.

Survivors include his wife, Kathleen, and two daughters, Mrs. Nicolas (Betty) Rapaich and Mrs. Gary (Helen) Kilbreath.

Almost three out of five Americans are protected against hospital expenses through voluntary insurance. The total exceeded 91 million at the end of 1952, an increase of more than 5.5 million over the previous year.

Mueller Co., founded at Decatur, Illinois, in 1857, will observe the 100th anniversary of the firm during the year 1957.

## Sarnia Office Girls Hold Annual Christmas Party

These girls forgot the cares of Mueller Limited office duties while attending their annual Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Barbara McGibbon on December 17. The girls, all from the Main Office, Production and Engineering Offices, are, first row, Mabel Harkness, left, and Violet Henderson; second row, left to right, Doris McLaughlin, Marie Atwood and Kathleen Stevens; third row, left to right, Sylvia Shortt, Violet Brown, Phyl Moore, Grace Campbell and Jean Reynolds. Many interesting games were played. A visit from Santa Claus, ably impersonated by Mrs. Violet Henderson, highlighted the gift exchange. One of the high spots of the evening was the delightful smorgasbord. The committee who planned this function included Kathryn Forbes, Joyce Fischer, Joyce Lucas, Margie Connors, Sylvia Shortt, Violet Brown, Eerie Duggan and Marilyn Lea.



**SYMPATHY**

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Maurice Bryan, Department 14, in the death of his father on December 22, and to Albert Labelle, Department 2, in the death of his father on December 14.

**SARNIA MARRIAGES**

Congratulations are extended to Morris Labelle, Department 1, who was married to Evelyn Joan Tigwell on November 14, and to Jane Sayers, stenographic main office, who was married to Edgar Racz on October 17.

**SON FOR McKELLARS**

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McKellar announce the birth of a son, Michael Douglas, on December 28. Mr. McKellar is employed in Department 14.

## 45 Years At Sarnia



Milton Miners, left, Department 9 employee at Sarnia, proudly accepts his forty-year service pin from George W. Parker, president and treasurer of the Canadian plant.

## New Yorkers Enjoy Gay Party



Mueller Co. employees in our New York branch office took time out from their duties to observe the holidays with a Christmas party. The above pictures were taken in our Empire State Building offices. The bottom photo shows George W. Knipe, left, and LeRoy Evans, vice-president in charge of Eastern Sales. Surrounding Mr. Knipe in the center photo, left to right, are Lillian Jarman, Lenore Swersky, Roberta Loftus and Lillian Robar. A view of the Christmas tree and the many handsome gifts that were exchanged is shown in the top photo.



The stage show was pretty good, if the judgment of these kiddies is to be considered a good measuring stick. This audience reaction was typical throughout the more than 1,200 persons who attended the annual Christmas party at Decatur.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jesse and two children were one of the many Mueller Co. families attending the annual Christmas party for children in Decatur. Playing the part of assistant to Santa Claus is Doris Peterson. Standing behind Mrs. Jesse and also giving Santa a hand is Paul Ammann.

# Decatur Holds Annual Party For Children At Christmas

An estimated 1,200 parents and children attended the annual Mueller Co. children's Christmas party at the Masonic Temple in Decatur on Saturday afternoon, December 19.

A program especially designed for the entertainment of children was presented. Santa Claus was on hand to act as master of ceremonies, and after the program, treats were distributed to children as they left the auditorium.

The program included the following:

Special Christmas music with Harry Wheeler at the organ. Mr. Wheeler played a musical interlude prior to the program and was accompanist for the singers.

The arrival of Santa Claus, who was introduced by Cecil Coffin, Personnel Director. Christmas songs led by Harry Bloomquist.

Juggling and magic by Danny Rees.

Dance routines by the Fred Hensley Studio.

Chalk talk by Herman E. Jackson of the Catalog Department.

Music review by the Spicer Music Box (children playing the accordion).

Movie, "The Littlest Angel," shown by Bill Kileen.

Members of the committee in charge of the party were: Cecil Coffin, Archie Sefton, George Binkley, Thomas Harding, Everett Dickey, M. K. Chaney and Harley Himstead.

The following helped in sacking candy, oranges and apples: Ernest Garver, Edgar Hartwig, Roy Woods, Ralph Wyne and Herman Chepan.

The following people helped pass out the gifts: Marilyn Eggerding, Helen Lee, Deloris Peterson, Barbara Ritchie, Nancy James, Mabel Herrick and Paul Ammann.

Harley Himstead, in charge of the ushers, was assisted by the following: Ruth Brownlow, Connie Brumaster, Shirley Curtis, LaVerne Fielder, Betty Domick, Juanita Flaughner, Joann Koshinski, Wilma Poe, Norma Kearney and Irene Tueth.

Jim Cussins assisted in setting up the stage. Santa Claus was impersonated by Mel Boggs.

**RITCHARD-BALL**  
Miss Evelyn Ritchard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Ritchard, 518 N. Stone Street, Decatur, was married to Elmer Ball, son of Mrs. Vernie Ball at Atwood, Illinois, on January 29 at the Methodist Church. He is in Department 64, the cleaning and grinding room.

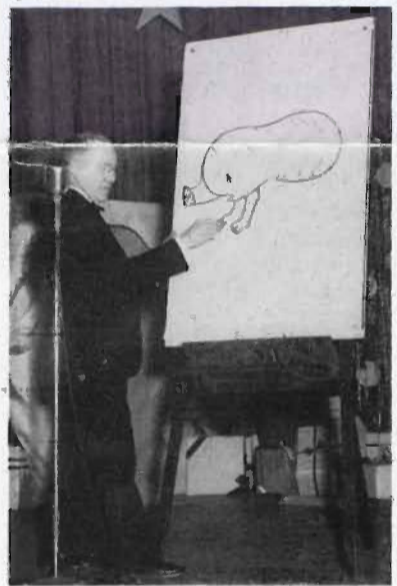
**BELYEU-DRAPER**  
Miss Marjorie Belyeu, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Osborne Belyeu of Birmingham, Alabama, became the bride of William Lloyd Draper, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. Carl Draper, 254 W. Leafland Avenue, Decatur, on November 15.

After a wedding trip to New Orleans, the couple lives in Birmingham, where Mr. Draper is a sales representative for Mueller Co. He attended Millikin University and served for four and one-half years in the Army.

**NAMED TREASURER**  
Cecil E. Coffin, personnel director for our Decatur factories, recently was elected treasurer of the Industrial Relations Club of Decatur.

**JOHNSON-DICKEY**  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Johnson, 2232 E. North Street, Decatur, announce the engagement of their daughter, Rosalyn, and David Dickey, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Dickey, Rural Route 3. The wedding will be in mid-summer.

Miss Johnson is a senior student at Decatur High School. Mr. Dickey is a draftsman at the Mueller Co. His father is office manager at our main office in Decatur.



Herman E. Jackson, well known Decatur artist, gives the children a real treat with his chalk talk during the annual Christmas party for children. Here, we see Herman first draw a potato, then surprise the children by changing it into a pig.



Pull these rings apart, Danny Rees, young Decatur magician, challenges youngsters at the Decatur Christmas party. They failed to separate Danny's trick rings, but for Danny it was easy. This trick was one of many acts of magic performed for the show.



The greeting, Merry Christmas, and the giant Christmas tree on the stage of the Masonic Temple in Decatur were a delight to the eyes of some 600 children who attended our company's annual Christmas party on December 19. Size of the tree is noted in the comparison of height with the lovely young Miss entertaining the audience with a snappy dance routine. More than 1,200 persons attended the party.



Old Santa Claus has a busy time making notes of the many toys requested by children following the Decatur Christmas party. Intending to give Santa a little help Christmas Eve, one father listens intently as his youngster outlines his gift wishes.