

STALEY NEWS

Vol. 5—Page 1

April 1, 1942

Production Goes On Up

We Must Make A New Record Every Month

We told you last month, in the story on our January and February grinds, that **MORE** is the only word we understand now. Evidence that we really do understand it is coming in.

For example, you already know that in January we broke our all time record for one month's grind and that we did a bigger grinding job in February's first fifteen days than we had in the first half of January, but did you know:

(1) that the average grind (figured in Standard Bushels of No. 2 corn) per grind-day during February increased 1.02% over the daily average for January and,

(2) that the first half of March showed an average increase of 1.98% per grind-day over the first half of February and,

(3) that with any kind of a break we will hold the daily increase for the entire month of March and (this *will* be tough) stretch it out a little further in April and,

(4) that our present schedule calls for one eight hour shut-down each *three* weeks rather than eight hours each *two* weeks?

At this time of the year, if you look only at the total grind figures for the amount of commercial corn (at varying moistures) that went through our mills, the figures look even better than we have indicated above. We are changing our thinking on this, however, and only the number of Standard Bushels ground means anything to us now because we are finally interested not in how much corn we grind but in how much product we produce.

Brains, Strength and Guts

Last month we said that every one of us could take a bow on our performance so far this year, and that is worth saying again. The job of regularly breaking grind records can only be done by a good team with a good captain and good coaches. We have all three. The production battle as well as the military battle takes brains and strength and guts. We can *and will* supply them.

We will protect our plant against the dangers that come with total war. We will put up with annoyances that wouldn't be present ordinarily. We will work harder and we'll put the rumor merchant in his place by shutting him up and refusing to peddle his hot news. We will start

(Continued on page 2)



These boys are fighting their hearts out to save our homes, our country, our way of life.

They aren't asking a thing from us except that we do our jobs better than we know how, that we produce every last ounce of material that can be crammed through our plant, that we spend a few of our dollars for defense bonds to buy the guns in their hands, the cartridges in their belts, the very shoes on their feet.

You'd give a dollar to the person who returned a lost pocketbook with all your money in it. What will you do for the men who are about to make you a present of your life?

paid, *and quickly*, it won't matter how much money you owe or to whom, because we'll have bigger things to worry about—such as where the next meal is coming from. Your creditors would never miss a dollar a month or maybe, just maybe, you could give up some little luxury that you are now spending a dollar a month on.

So there really is only one valid excuse for not buying bonds and that is that you don't care whether we win this war or not. If that is true—

The Brighter Side.

But here is a cheasier side. Ten departments accounted for our increased total percentage during the month and the swellest job of all was done by the Extra Board. Those boys, most of whom are eligible for military service in the near future, have increased their percentage figure from 17% to 89% and that is **GOOD**. Then there is the Feed Elevator. They jumped off to 100% in the middle of February but, just before the last News went to press, four new men who hadn't signed up for bonds were transferred into the department, and they were

(Continued on page 2)

IT IS JUST BARELY POSSIBLE that you are getting a little tired of seeing an article every month on the progress of our Defense Bond selling campaign. If that is the case you have the writer's sympathy, because he is just a little tired of writing such articles and, frankly, he may quit it. Apparently words aren't going to do the job—but we'll give them one more try.

As of January 1st 19% of all Staley employees were buying bonds.

As of February 1st 36.5% were buying.

As of March 1st 77.5% of us had enlisted our money in the war.

As of April 1st the percentage figured has crawled (and been dragged) up to 84.2% which, to put it mildly, is not good. It is not good because it says that 15.8% of us, four months after Pearl Harbor, are not doing our part to help finance the war. It is not good because that number of people are still finding excuses for their failure to buy bonds.

Let's look at some of these excuses.

"Im going to buy some later but not right now." If the delayer can get Hitler and Co. to put off the war until he gets ready to buy bonds this will be a swell excuse but not otherwise.

"I've got some bills to pay and when they are paid I'll start buying bonds." Brother, if *this* bill isn't

MORE ABOUT PRODUCTION

(Continued from page 1)

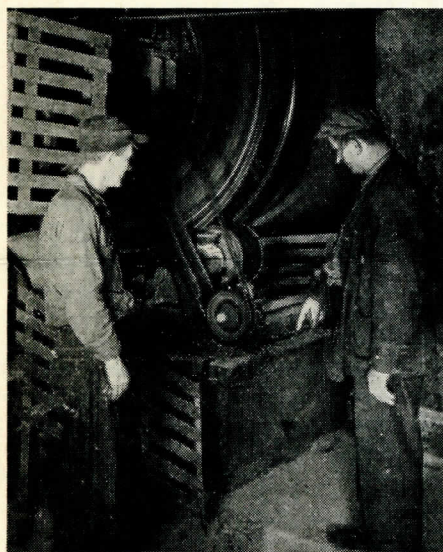
thinking about which jobs in our plant can be handled by women because an increasing amount of American man-power is being used for the most important job of all, the military, and even more will be so used before the war is won. In short, we will do a bigger job with fewer materials, poorer tools and less man-power.

Your company is making a contribution to the war effort with "SWEETOSE" to help relieve the sugar shortage, starches for paper and textiles, oils for food, paint and soap. Our president has been drafted by Washington and others of us will go to the army or to jobs in war industries. Space in our office building (which we refused to rent in normal times) is being allotted to the companies building war plants in or near Decatur, and you may be sure that we will not knowingly miss a single turn that will help.

Know Your

Staley Safety

C O D E



5. IT IS THE DUTY OF THE FOREMAN AND EACH EMPLOYEE TO CAUTION THE NEW MAN ABOUT THE HAZARDS HE WILL ENCOUNTER ON HIS JOB.

● Didn't someone point out the dangers to you when you started?

● Didn't it help?

MORE ABOUT BONDS

(Continued from page 1)

knocked down to the 83% which we had to report. But they didn't quit. The four new men are now signed up and the Feed Elevator is the first department in the plant to reach 100% twice. The Office Janitors had much the same luck. They reached 100% all right, but have just gotten a new man and are knocked back down to 95%. Other departments that increased their bond buying percentages during the month were the Engine Room, the Mill House, the Table House, the Feed House, the Packing House, the Millwrights, the Boilermakers and the Grain Inspectors.

When Do We Get Them?

Several people have called the Financial Department two or three days after their payroll deductions had accumulated to the point where they equalled the purchase price of a bond to ask, "When do I get my bond?" Here is the answer. Because of the large number of people in the bond buying program it takes several days for the deductions to be recorded and the orders for bonds to be made out and checked. After this is done we order the bonds from the bank and they need several days to issue them. But when they do—the bonds are mailed directly to the registered owner at his registered home address, so watch for that mailman. If he doesn't arrive within two weeks after the pay day on which you completed payment for a bond, call Eugene Rhodes (Staley phone 240) and ask him how come.

In The Meantime

If the fellow next to you hasn't bought a bond either outside or through the plant's deduction plan—he's one of the reasons your department isn't 100% yet and you might mention it to him. If you haven't bought one yet—but you surely have or you wouldn't have read this far.

Another Mechanical Training Class Started

Another group will be started in the Staley Mechanical Trades Training Course on April 8, 1942. You are invited to apply for enrollment if (1) you are between 21 and 35; (2) you have had six years of common school education; (3) if you are not a man designated by the company as a mechanic. The course will meet two hours twice a week for two years. If you are interested see Gerry Horton for an application blank and return it to him at once.



This is Bulletin No. 7 of the Emergency Safety Campaign which the National Safety Council has undertaken at the direction of President Roosevelt. We are passing it along to you because it contains some sound thinking.

"War has a terrific impact on the emotions of a nation. Actions and ideas these days often are dictated by the heart rather than the mind. An example is safety.

"A few persons are asking, 'Why safety in wartime? Such a humanitarian ideal is laudable in peacetime, but the ruthless necessities of war leave little room for ideals. Peace is one of our ideals, but it is gone. Individual rights is another, but it is curtailed. Safety, too, is a casualty of war.'

"When you penetrate such high-sounding generalities and get down to specific cases, the argument against safety appears to be two-fold: (1) We need speed in production. There's no time for safety. Workers must take emergency risks the same as fighting men; (2) It's ironical to talk of safety when men are risking their lives every day on the battle field.

"The fallacy in such reasoning is apparent:

"1. Speed in production is not possible without safety. Forget the humanitarian and emotional aspects altogether, and it's still a matter of cold, hard efficiency. A costly but nevertheless effective object lesson that should convince all doubters is the loss of the Normandie, rechristened the troopship Lafayette.

"2. It is true that our fighting men must risk their lives with no thought of personal safety. But their sacrifice is for a purpose. Accidents bring only needless waste. Even on the fighting front, any commander worthy of his rank takes every precaution that lives and weapons will not be needlessly wasted. And through all the blood and tears, America must cling to certain ideals. Otherwise, our fight is in vain. A nation believing in man's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness can never accept the theory that life is cheap!"

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By The Personnel Department
For The Employees of

THE A. E. STALEY MANUFACTURING COMPANY DECATUR, ILLINOIS

W. G. Reynolds, Manager of Personnel
Roy Rollins, Editor

Rings On Her (or His) Fingers

This squib was intended for the safety column, but our printer misplaced his type squeezer and, anyhow, this probably deserves a special place in your attention.

Some of us have been growing a bit careless lately about wearing rings and other jewelry into the plant. That doesn't mean just the girls, because some men are also guilty.

Your Staley Safety Code says, "Finger rings can catch and take off a finger easier than they can decorate it" and, if you are interested in proof, there's a badly battered ring in the safety office that we had to saw off of a man's finger some time ago after he had caught it in a valve wheel.

Leave your rings, beads, lavallieres and tie chains with your street clothes. They can catch in machinery and pull you in. Save your jewelry and your fingers. You can use them both.



Mr. J. Galembach, well known agrologist, agronomist, horticulturist and scientific truck gardener of No. 17 Building, announces that on or about the 30th of April he will make available to selected customers some plants from his hot beds. Among them are: Hungarian wax peppers, six varieties of tomatoes, several kinds of cabbage, several kinds of red peppers, and sweet potatoes. With Mr. Galembach's plants and Staley's Staymone you can raise a Victory garden that will make the neighbors' eyes pop out. Call 6473 for information and prices.

For Rent: Two nicely furnished sleeping rooms, reasonable. Call 2-6948 or call at 1235 W. Wood St.

Safety Shoe Bargains. In the Safety Office are: one pair of black oxfords, size 11B, which were worn six days only, price \$3.00; one pair of black shoes with a new patented non-skid sole we'd like to have tried out in the plant (at no charge to the wearer). The size of this pair is 11E. If they fit your feet and job they are yours for the asking. First come—.

One 1938 Ford V8 Tudor with Radio and Heater and Good Tires. Call 4569 or at 1405 N. Union.

L. B. Humiston, Refinery or 1815 E. Johns, will trade a superior Winchester 45 caliber Model 86 repeating rifle for a Defense Bond or the price of one.

Call Fred Hale, Refinery or 1945 E. Eldorado; he has a Harley-Davidson Motorcycle, size 80, which is priced right.

A 1937 2-door Studebaker Sedan with overdrive and 3 extra tires (each needing small repairs) can be purchased from Bert Gober, 1279 E. Logan, for \$325.00 cash.



The average corn yield per acre in Illinois has been substantially above the national average for many years. The range has varied from 20% over (1927) to 80% (1941).

* * *

How about spending that tire, gasoline and vacation money on Defense Bonds? One Staley man who was born in an Axis country (but is now an American citizen) has already told his foreman that he will work during his vacation so that he can invest his extra vacation pay check in Uncle Sam's securities.

* * *

Man hours worked in our plant have increased substantially during 1942 over the average monthly rate for 1941.

* * *

Remember that the only thing which the Staley Company has officially claimed for "STAYMONE" as yet is that it stimulates the growth of plants.

* * *

In time to come, people who now honk automobile horns at people who ride bicycles may have to listen to the amazingly irritating sound of bicycle bells as they trudge to work along the hard old sidewalks.

In The Interests of Accuracy

As every good Staleyworker knows, it is the function of our Chemical Engineers to discover and correct any errors in our processing methods. Evidence that their good offices are now being tendered to other Staley activities is to be found in the following excerpts from a letter recently received by your editor.

"—that dogmatic individual, the 'Kernel,' makes another of his inaccurate statements that, 'The only place we introduce fresh water into our corn process is on the filters in No. 21 Building.' We are doubtful about the definition of 'fresh' when used in this connection as even the water introduced on the filters has been stored in Lake Decatur for several months. Aside from that our latest water balance lists five points of introduction of water into our process as follows: (1) Water in corn; (2) Heating steam in process; (3) Water to No. 21 Building; (4) Water to Mill House; (5) Water to No. 16 Building. The water added in No. 21 Building is about 60% of the above so we will give the 'Kernel' credit for being 60% right.

"Maybe the water in the corn isn't fresh—the democrats have stored a lot of it for the last few years—but if there is any fresher water than that which is introduced as condensing steam we are unable to define it.

"This could go on for some time—but anyway, I never did like the 'Kernel' because he makes such definite statements about things he doesn't know much about. I have the same trouble with my wife."

All of which corrects (?) the record about the introduction of fresh water into the process and, at one and the same time, gives you an idea of what a hard working (?) editor has to put up with. The only rebuttal which occurs to us at the moment is to warn the literary chem. engr. that he can be glad we don't have time to check on his mistakes and even gladder that he doesn't have to print his assertions where everyone can read them.

Notes On The Plant

In the process of getting this issue of the News together we ran across several items too small to make a story by themselves, but too interesting to be left out, so we are lumping them all together as just notes worth noting.

Levulinic

Early last month we started operating our new Levulinic Acid plant on a three-shift, seven-days-a-week basis. The reason was that we had sold all of the acid we will be able to produce (even at this rate) by the end of April and a quarter of all we can produce by the end of the year. Our new "STAYMONE" will also make substantial inroads on our supply of Levulinic and we are already wondering if we are going to have even nearly enough productive capacity for this most precocious of brain children.

New Well Only Partial Success

The Oil Refinery now uses around a million and a half gallons of water a day and will need much more than that when the new addition starts operations. Because we are now pumping just about all the lake water that our pumping station will handle we drilled a well near the Oil Refinery in an attempt to supplement our water supply. The results were rather disappointing. On a twenty-four hour pumping test we were able to pump 720,000 gallons, but that much drew down the water level in the well at No. 17 Bldg. rather badly, indicating that the water in both wells was coming from the same source and that the source was not a large one. We have a few alternatives (including the re-use of Oil Refinery and Syrup House cooling water in the Feed House vacuum pans) but it seems inevitable that summer will find us in a tough spot for water. The fact that the Glucose Refinery is going full blast also complicates the problem.

New Soyflour Plant Is Going

The new Soyflour Plant started operating on March 1st and from the first has been producing a very satisfactory product. Capacity is just a little bit above that of the old plant, but both the government and our management will probably be around asking that now familiar question about *MORE* pretty soon.

Every mechanic and engineer who cooperated in the design and construction of this plant deserves a special pat on the back. The process being used is not exactly the same as that used in the old plant, and that necessitated a certain amount of mind-making-up and mind-changing before the layout was satisfactory. Remembering that, the fact that the plant started operating on March 1st (as scheduled) indicates that everyone concerned did some fast and careful work.

Sweet Feed Is A War Casualty

Since early in February we have made no sweetened gluten feed and we will probably make no more until after the war. Reason: sweet feed gums up Feed House equipment and slows production. We are not in a mood now to put up with anything that slows production even a little bit, so sweet feed is out. We are a bit regretful about having to abandon this product, because, although it was never particularly profitable, it pulled us out of something of a hole a few years ago when we were having a tough time selling regular gluten feed. Sweet feed was

designed to be sold to the small operator in the feed business who had no facilities for adding molasses to his feeds and, in the past, its sales have accounted for an average of about 20% of our total feed production.

Washing On The Run

During ordinary operation of our plant (five or six days a week) we thoroughly wash reel panels in the Mill House on days when the plant is down. This must be done because the silks get gummed up otherwise and interfere with the separation job that the reels have to do. But—now that we are operating with only eight-hour repair shut-downs every two or three weeks—we haven't time to clean reel panels while the plant is down and, even if we had, the panels must be cleaned more often than that. So we are cleaning them while the plant is running and *without cutting the grind*, and if you don't think that is a pretty neat trick you try it in your own corn plant some time and let us know how you came out. In order to do it without danger to the man doing the cleaning, we must shut down not only the reel which is being cleaned but also its next door neighbors on each side. And there are spots in the Mill House where the shutting down of three reels at one clip *could* cut the grind *right now* if the Mill House foreman and his gang didn't know their business as well as they do. This is another of the things that "couldn't be done" but that is *getting done* in a world at war.

Cans Out — Glass In

As of March 1st the Syrup House began to feel the effects of the War Production Board's orders on tin cans. In a nutshell here's the way the order affects us. We can use tin cans only in five or ten pound sizes. We cannot pack any sizes under five pounds in tin except to use up on-hand stocks of smaller containers. We can pack only as much syrup in tin as we sold in five and ten pound cans during 1940. Any excess over that amount (and all sizes under five pounds) must be packed in something other than tin (glass in our case).

And—the conditions outlined above will obtain only until further orders are issued. At present writing it seems probable that there will be further orders before too long, because most of this country's tin supply *IS* cut off. Fortunately we already have on hands an operating stock of glass and as soon as we get our machines changed over to handle glass and as soon as we get enough labels and tops, we'll be packing those sugar-saving Staley's "SWEETOSE" Syrups in glass.

"SWEETOSE" Production Up

While we are mentioning the impossible jobs that are getting done we can't neglect to mention that "SWEETOSE" production was switched from the small to the large side of the Refinery in a matter of hours rather than the *days* we thought the job would take. Everyone who had a hand in that job deserves your congratulations. To further speed "SWEETOSE" production we are now installing four more tanks on the first floor of the Refinery.

So you see—in the Mill House, Feed House, Soyflour, Refinery and every other department—the job is *getting done*.