

STALEY NEWS

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Now It Gives Chemlins Too

You've read by now of the gremlins that jam machine guns, make noises like a motor conking out, play see-saw on the artificial horizons and otherwise keep life from being too boring to bear for R.A.F. pilots.

You've doubtless read too of the various other pixies, leprechauns and elves under a dozen trade names that ply their trade on the sea, in the cameras of well-intentioned amateurs and various other places where they aren't wanted.

But it remained for a guy who signs himself Johnny Keen to discover the chemlin. Johnny is, for some reason unknown to your editor, employed by the Monsanto Chemical Company and he reported his findings in the Monsanto Company's employees' publication which is the one that the Staley News wishes it was as good as.

Johnny discovered chemlins by keeping Gwa O'Rourke, who is one, from falling into a beaker of acid he was messing with in the course of ruining one of Johnny's experiments and he describes him as being about four inches tall, dressed in tight dark colored trousers and wearing a white shirt with the Monsanto trademark on it. His specialties include plugging up air lines, "freezing" valves, jumping up and down on delicate analytical balance scales and stuffing up sieves that would clog or slow a process.

Well, having read Johnny's article, your editor got on the phone and, after describing Gwa O'Rourke's activities, asked some folks around here if we had any in our plant. To a man they almost jumped through the phone. "Who did you think it was," they shouted, "that hid that broken conveyor flight four or five shut-downs ago until after the grind was on for two hours and then we had to shut down again?" "Who do you suppose put a four-inch glass bottle in the elbow of that new six-inch pipe line five weeks ago and damn near convinced us that water would-

(Continued on page 3)

For You — A New Safety Code

You are all familiar with the little booklet entitled "The Staley Safety Code" which gives the rules governing safe working in our plant. So when we decided to revise the book we kept the same green cover. The only difference you'll notice on it is that the words "Staley Safety" are set in the familiar logotype that you see on any Staley product.

In the past few years experience has indicated that the book might be improved by making some changes. Some of the rules seemed to need more explanation while in others it seemed desirable to change the wording or leave out a part. Also, a few more rules were needed applying to things which were not covered before.

Soon you will be given a new Safety Code. It has four more pages and is printed on a whiter paper with a new kind of type which will, we hope, be more readable. We have kept some of the old pictures and added others, some of which are photographs taken here in the plant. Don't be disturbed if you see a picture of one of your friends doing something wrong. He was just posing for the photographer and really knows better.

Five new rules have been added and many changes have been made in the old ones. However, most of the basic rules are the same. We're not going to point those changes out to you here. We'd like you to find them by reading the book carefully when it appears and . . . we hope you like it.

Mylo Roberts,
Director of Safety.

If you have already used your shoe stamp and need a pair of Safety Shoes (and you do if you don't have a pair) the Ration Board can issue a special certificate in many cases. Come up to the Safety Office and see about it.

Mr. Average Speaks A Piece

Mr. John Average read the last issue of the Staley News (Ed.'s note—this is amazing. I didn't know that anyone but the printer and me really read it) and after he'd thought over the story on the cost of pensions he decided he could do a better job of explaining it himself so he mounted a soap box, stuck his dukes in his back pockets and let go.

"Now I'm 65 and I'm going to retire the first of May and do you know what the Staley Company is going to do about that?"

"Well, first, I'm going to see Bob Boyer, our new Assistant Treasurer, and he'll help me file my application for Social Security benefits and then, when the amount I'll receive from there is determined, he'll have to look up and see how much money I've earned since January 1, 1937, and then figure how much the Staley Company will have to add to my Social Security to pay me the monthly income the retirement plan entitles me to.

"Since I am Average the amount they'll have to add to my Social Security payments will be \$28.00 per month for the rest of my life.

\$4,264.40 For \$28.00

"So they'll have to go to their insurance company and buy me an annuity policy that will pay that amount. The premium they'll have to pay for it will be \$4,264.40 and they'll be getting a bargain at that because the figures show that, now that I'm 65, I'll live 14 years and 5 months longer. If the company just set that \$4,264.40 aside and started paying me out of it, it would only last 12 years and 8 months.

"On the face of it, it looks like the insurance company'd make some extra money off of Staley's if I shouldn't happen to last 14 years and 5 months and they would too because their contract with the company don't call for them to pay any of the premium back in any case but, if those mortality tables are right, and they're

(Continued on page 4)

Loan Applications Afternoons Only

The girls in the Staley Credit Union office would like to again call your attention to the fact that they take applications for loans in the afternoons only. Come over between 1:00 p. m. and 5:00 p. m. Monday through Friday.

It isn't that they want to put unreasonable restrictions on anyone but they have so much work to do on the records that they can't keep up unless they have their mornings free.

Know Your

Staley Safety

C O D E



21. UNSAFE CLOTHING AND SHOES ARE NOT TO BE WORN ON THE JOB.

- Neckties can wrap around a shaft; flapping sleeves, loose trouser cuffs and shirts can catch in gears.
- Finger rings can catch and take off a finger easier than they can decorate it.
- Wearing of Safety Shoes is not mandatory, but soft toed shoes will not protect your feet and Safety Shoes will.

Badge Repairs For Free

Uncle Joe White, our Guard Chief, begs to announce that he and his loyal little band of co-workers are able and willing at all times to repair *without charge* any Staley badge that has been bent, broken, stepped on, sat on, scratched, soaked in water or oil or is just plain good and dirty. The only requirement is that the owners' picture be recognizable (no wisecracks, please, from those who claim that their pictures never were recognizable).

If spring housecleaning is going on at your house, you'll make the good woman very happy by having your badge spiffed up—no doubt.

Personnel Changes

Personnel changes and additions were numerous during the last month.

Ruth Pownall Casey came back to our Traffic Department and Jack Stephenson, Warren Wood and Ed Kelley went to work in the western division of the Package Sales Department. Helen Crouch, Virginia Adamson, Kathryn Craig, Erika Jordan, and Cecil Eoff went to work as messengers.

At the March Stockholders' Meeting, Mr. Eakin, who has been vice-president and comptroller, was made vice-president in charge of finance and given the special duty of supervising all post-war planning. Mr. Scherer, who has served as secretary and Assistant Treasurer, was made secretary and comptroller and Bob Boyer, who has long been Mr. Bass' right-hand man, was made assistant treasurer. The Credit Department, which has been under Mr. Eakin's supervision, will now report to Mr. Bass who remains treasurer and assistant secretary. Kenny Higdon, who has been in charge of the Planning Department, was appointed assistant comptroller and Harry Robinson of the Planning Department will step up to Kenney's job in the Planning Department.

Tony Lents was transferred from the Oils Division to the position of assistant manager of the Special Products Division.

Alice Murray and Roy Rollins were transferred from the Messenger and Manufacturing Departments, respectively, to the Personnel Department

(Continued on page 3)



By MYLO ROBERTS

Director of Safety

Safety is *big* business. State and national organizations are working constantly in an endeavor to make everyone safety conscious and reduce the number of accidents. The government has set up agencies and furnished them with millions of dollars for this purpose. There are a number of large companies devoted to the manufacture and maintenance of safety equipment. Special courses are being taught and safety is being included as a necessary part of other courses.

Because Safety is *good* business. Not just for these organizations, but for you and me and the fellow next door. We're the ones who really get the dividends out of safety. When you stop to think that an accident which might cause us to be off work a week or a month or maybe forever can be prevented by just using good judgment and being careful, it is easy to see that we are the ones who are really collecting. Not merely in the amount of money which we don't lose, but also in not having to suffer the pain and worry which always go with an injury.

Most important—Safety is *everybody's* business. In a plant as large and varied as ours, things are constantly changing. Safe practices and conditions must change with them. That's not a job for one safety director but for 1800 of them. If your job is changed by the addition of a new machine or a change in the process, examine it to see if any new hazards exist. If there are any, see your foreman. He is as anxious as you are to keep you from being hurt.

If you see a way to remove a hazard, old or new, mention it. Perhaps no one else has seen the solution to that particular problem. Remember, Safety is your business as well as mine.

Published Monthly
 By The Personnel Department
 For The Employees of
**THE A. E. STALEY
 MANUFACTURING COMPANY**
 DECATUR, ILLINOIS
 Manager of Personnel
 ROY ROLLINS

Gluten Meal Plant Fights Back

A heckler who signs himself "Gluten Meal Plant" pops up out of the bush the other day and goes on something like this:

He says, "Now to get to the subject of moisture we can tell you the moisture content of a sample of Gluten Meal or Feed in a fraction of a minute and be able to check our results within 1/2 of 1%.

"Now we don't want to brag (much) about this magic box but we think it is the last word in moisture determination when you want speed and accuracy combined.

"Here is where I let you in on the secret; it is a black 'Box of Magic' and is connected to an ordinary light socket and all you have to do is pour in your sample, take her temperature and push a button and the results are flashed upon a score board similar to the one on the Millikin football field.

"It is called the 'Steinlite' and is the result of years of hard study by one Fred Stein of the broad state of Kansas.

"Yours for a short war,"

Your editor, being a fellow who is practically innocent of any scientific knowledge, sent the heckle to Bill Bishop who has some kind of a job in the laboratory and who has served this publication in the past as associate heckler, pest friend and severest critic.

Bill pointed out that limitations of space in the last issue had prevented a full discussion of all of the indirect methods of moisture determination and that electrical capacitance and resistance testers (the "Steinlite" uses the capacitance principle) are quite widely used and quite acceptable. Bill looks down his scientific nose, however, at any testing device that will determine moisture no closer than 1/2 of 1%.

So there, Mr. Gluten Meal Plant,

is some sort of an answer to your heckle. If you have any stock in the company that makes "Steinlite" moisture testers don't sell out. We like 'em too but—as yet—they have some limitations.

MORE ABOUT PERSONNEL

(Continued from page 2)

to fill positions as clerk (left open by Catharine Schmidt's promotion) and manager of personnel (left open by the resignation of Mr. W. G. Reynolds, who left the company to accept a position with the Caterpillar Military Engine Company of this city.)

Ruth Kennedy was transferred from the General Sales Department to the Oil Sales Department and Doris Morford went from Accounting to General Sales to fill Ruth's old position.

Dorothy Yeoman was transferred from the Messenger Department to the Order Department to fill the position of Jane Blackwell who resigned.

MORE ABOUT CHEMLINS

(Continued from page 1)

n't run down hill?" "What makes a fan go out of balance a week after it has been perfectly balanced in the shop?" "Why do we sometimes have lots of foaming in the process and when the chemical engineers start out to find out what's causing it, it quits?" "Who puts bolts and nuts in conveyors so they'll get into Williams mills and tear out all the hammers?"

After running on that way for a while the man at the other end of the line would start babbling something that couldn't quite be understood and then there'd be a noise like somebody tearing the phone out by the roots and then it would be real quiet and when we said, "Hello" there wasn't even an echo.

So we thought it over a while and then said, "Chemlins, huh, yeah, we got 'um" and went out for coffee and a cigarette.



If you'd like to rent a modern furnished 5 or 6 room house in excellent condition at 1170 West Forest, write to E. L. Morrow at Paxton, Illinois. References required.

Call 2-7047 if you'll buy a woman's black wool cloth coat, size 20, or a 9 x 10 or 14 x 16 twist weave rug or several small rugs.

You Can't Spell
V I C T O R Y
 with an absent T



Word of the month turned up in the Feed Division's "News from the News" where the quartermaster corps reported that soybean products submitted to their laboratories early in the game were *organoleptically undesirable*. After considerable research we are able to report to you that that means they didn't taste good. And, anyhow, it's no longer true.

Last year the Staley Company handled 45% of all the cars of revenue freight in and out of Decatur and our freight bill was over a million dollars higher in 1942 than in '41. In February of this year we loaded out 414 less cars than in the same month of '42 although our tonnage exceeded the 1942 figure by several million pounds.

Which indicates that you guys that are loading our cars are doing a swell job of conserving railroad equipment at a time when it is badly needed.

MORE ABOUT PENSIONS

(Continued from page 1)

probably pretty close, they stand just as much chance of losing it on the next guy because he may live to be a hundred.

Why Not Give It To Me?

"Sometimes I get to thinking if the company is going to pay out \$4,264.40 to buy a lifetime income for me why don't they just give me that money instead and let me do the worrying about what happens from then on. I'd like to buy that little place out at the edge of town that I've been looking at for a long time and, anyhow, I may be the guy that won't last 14 years and 5 months longer.

"But then I guess that wouldn't be the best. I've known folks my age before that got hold of some money and it seems like, about nine times out of ten, their kids devil them for it until it winds up with the money gone and everybody mad. If that don't happen you get some kind of a notion of how you're going to invest the money in some scheme that'll double it in three years and then you're stuck. Maybe you won't last 14 years. But maybe, with the money all gone, you'd last twice that long.

"Anyhow, the federal government itself don't do it that way and I guess they know what they are about. So maybe this is once when two birds in a bush is better than one in hand, especially when the bush is one of the biggest insurance companies in the world. And another thing . . ."

But let's duck out on the rest of John's stump speech. (Isn't he a windy old cuss, though?)

When men retire at 65 we pay \$1523 per \$10.00 a month of assured income to provide them with a lifetime pension. When women retire at the same age the pension runs to \$1782 per \$10.00 a month because their life expectancy, at that age, is 3 years and 2 months longer than their husbands' and brothers'. Even if folks don't retire until they are 70, the premiums will run \$1275 for the men and \$1523 for the women.

The "Old Romans" Weren't So Old

These amounts are high and will go higher. We have our doctors to blame (or thank) for that. Scholars who have examined Roman tombstones estimates that the average upperclass Roman citizens (they

were the only ones who could afford tombstones) lived an average of about twenty-five years. As late as 1692, when a German mathematician developed the first mortality tables, the average life expectancy of a new born babe was about thirty-three years. In 1900 the U. S. Census Bureau estimated that a newly born white child had an even chance of living to the age of forty-nine.

The Doctors Ran The Bill Up

But we have made such enormous strides in medicine, public health and sanitation that a white child born in 1940 can expect to live sixty-three years. And that isn't the end. Medical discoveries are still being made and city, county, state and national health departments are functioning better than ever. You'll outlive your parents and your children will outlive you and retirement at 65 with a guaranteed lifetime income will cost more. The \$4,264.40 which takes care of Mr. Average won't be enough for Average Jr.

But the future must answer its own problems. We schemed more years than we like to think about before we doped out an adequate beginning plan and most of our worry was given to the fact that many company retirement plans have had to be abandoned or the pensions reduced because their cost became too great a burden for the company to bear. We have obviated the possibility of pension reduction because we buy retirement annuities outright but the cost, \$1523 for \$10.00 a month, is worth thinking about.



Draft Classifications And What They Mean

From time to time you get to forgetting just what the various numbers and symbols issued by the Selective Service Boards mean and if you think that might ever happen to you again you ought to tear this article out and paste it in your hat or wherever you usually look for things you can't find any place else.

1-A means that the registrant is available for general military service.

1-A-O is applied to registrants who are conscientious objectors but available for noncombatant military service when found acceptable to the land or naval forces.

1-C means registrants who have been inducted into, enlisted in or appointed to the armed forces.

2-A, registrants who are necessary or essential in their civilian activity.

2-B, registrants who are necessary or essential to the war production program, excluding agriculture.

2-C, necessary or essential men in agriculture.

3-A, registrants with dependents, engaged in less essential industry or less essential agriculture.

3-B, registrants with dependents, engaged in an activity necessary to the war production program.

3-C, registrants with dependents engaged in essential agriculture.

4-A, registrants who before induction have become 45 years of age since they registered.

4-B, registrants who are deferred specifically by the law itself.

4-C, registrants who are aliens not acceptable to the armed forces or who waived their rights to become citizens to avoid military service.

4-D, registrants who are ministers of religion or divinity students.

4-E, registrants who are conscientious objectors available only for service in civilian work on national importance.

4-F, registrants who are mentally, morally or physically unacceptable to the armed forces.

4-H, registrants who are 38 to 45 years of age. New class. Registrants in this class are to be reclassified May 1, 1943.