

# STALEY NEWS

Vol. 7—Page 1

December 1, 1944

## For the Contest-Wise

### 1945 Safety Contest Announced

If you're one of those puzzlers who like to figure out the "What's Wrong With This Picture?" sort of thing, the 1945 Safety Contest just announced by Mylo Roberts is right up your alley. And even if you're not, the monthly five dollar prize about to be offered will probably bring you into the ranks. And make you a safer worker, we'd bet.

#### Calendar And Prize

Mylo's story and your chance begin with the 1945 calendars just sent out by the National Safety Council which will be distributed through December from the Safety Office. You've seen 'em before, and liked them. This time something new has been added; on the black of the calendar for each month appears a very, very screwy picture—at least to the safe-minded. And National Safety

Council asks "What's wrong?", giving a prize of \$100 each month for the best list of unsafe practices and a twenty-five word comment.

They're running the contest on a national basis, of course. But it gave Mylo the idea for us. Each month a five dollar prize will be awarded at Staley's to the fellow or girl who sees and writes down the longest list of "what's wrong". The prize will be in cash, and the twenty-five word sentence important only in case of ties.

#### Come and Get

You don't *have* to have a calendar to enter the contest; if we run out of them (and we probably will) you can go next door and look at Joe's and write up your list. But since it's better to have your own, and since we've only 750 for some 2,000

employees . . . . listen: this year you must go to the Safety Office *in person* to get your calendar. And just your own; no more picking up an extra one for Pete who can't get up there. He'll have to take the walk himself.

#### We Suggest

The contest begins in January, and once you've your calendar you can start that first-of-the-year list. You'll find a special box at the Clock House into which you can drop it, or bring it directly to the Safety Office. No more than one list per person can be accepted in one month; however, you can make the try every month of the year if you want to. The list may be sent in any time between the first and the last day of the month.

The committee of judges will be appointed soon and be ready to start with your lists on January 1 if you like. So sharpen up your pencils, walk over to Safety and get your calendar and win.

## FIGURES THAT TALK

### Bean Harvest Reckonings

That grain rush tale we spun last month with its picture of our worries about buying, shipping, and unloading the necessary grain has still another angle, which showed up this month in our financial reckonings in a big way.

#### September to October

Back on September 30, 1944, the good old balance sheet listed us with some ten million in cash on hand, with no notes payable, and a low third-quarter-of-the year inventory of only six million dollars. Within the next thirty-one days we really went out and bought. For on October 31, 1944 our inventory (stuff on hand) had gone up to over twenty million, and by the middle of November our cash was down to four million, and we'd borrowed some sixteen million to work for us the next few months.

Of that inventory, over nineteen million went into soybeans. It had to. Speculation's out of the bean market now, so farmers aren't storing them for future sale. Last year a large quantity of the bean crop was sold to southern and Pacific coast mills which made it hard for us to buy a full year's supply.

#### Really Beans on Hand

So this year we bought the greatest quantity of beans ever purchased at harvest time which gives us hope for a reasonably full operation. We paid out, but fast, for what we could get. Our heaviest "paying" day was October 21 when we made checks for \$1,602,448 worth of raw materials. Over a million of that went for beans to Decatur, \$197,095 for Painesville beans, and the rest for corn. Corn, of course, is a constant buying item since it is stored and

can be bought at need. On October 24, we paid out \$1,426,174.81 for raw materials, and \$1,048,000 on October 31. Days like that during buying season are all in the run of the mill for the Financial Department.

#### Cash and Notes

Remember we've needed about four million in our cash item (during our rush period only) to keep our deposits active in the twelve banks we do business with and to nicely cover these large drafts we've had to issue. Now that the rush is nearly over, we'll use some of our bank balances to pay off a few notes and clear the rest as we sell meal and oil. It's an up-and-down process that's really safe and sane business.

Sales are high, but costs are high and we'll wait for the year-end facts to tell us how soundly we've planned.

## As We Know Them . .

We continue with our Fellowship Club Board of Directors in this issue of As We Know Them. Before we go merrily along our way, may we pause a moment to make an apology to Gil Hoft, and son.

It was an error on our part to say that Gil does not have any children. He has one son, 17 years of age. We are very sorry to have made such an error.

This time we're going to tell you about the Business Manager and the Board of Directors of the Club.

One thing that we would like to point out—that the years of service with the company of the officers and board total 219 years. So it's people who are familiar with the plant and office who are serving you.

**Lester Ruthrauff**, Business Manager: Leck came to us 12 years ago, starting on the Extra Board. He has worked in the Boiler House, as a watchman, as a guard, and in December, 1942—10 years after starting here—became Business Manager of Fellowship. Leck is married and has one daughter. He is quiet, patient and conscientious in all his contacts with Club members. He's pretty proud of the organization, and its standing among similar organizations in other companies and does his best to keep its standing high. You'll find him at his desk outside the Personnel Office ready to answer any of your questions. (Phone 229.)

**Russell Dash**—Russ started with us 17 years ago the 23rd of this month as a messenger boy and is now Divisional Supervisor of Package Sales Department. Russ has two children, a daughter five and a boy four. Serving his first term as a member of the board of governors, last year Russ was chairman of the Athletic committee and a member of the social committee his first year on the board. This year he is manager of the basketball team and a member of the Athletic committee and is very much interested in that activity. He is a level headed fellow, very much interested in Fellowship and that it be a real service to all Staley employees. Phone 305.

**Edmond Daniel Moore**—Skeeter Moore, now an instrument mechanic in M & L, started as a clamshell helper in May 1923. Later he trans-

ferred to the feed house, then to table house, and finally to his present job. Skeeter, has a son and daughter. Serving his second term on the Board of Governors. He is a member of the social committee. For three years previously he was chairman of the relief committee.

Well known throughout the plant, he is popular with all the workers, who know that he has their interests and welfare at heart and will do a good job of representing them. Phone 349.

**Washington Irving Smith**—starting with the Extra Board in May 1923, is now a supply truck driver. Irv has two sons, and a daughter, to whom he is teaching his love of athletics contests. Serving his first term on the Board of Governors, Irv is a member of the Athletic committee. He is most interested in soft ball and base ball and has played on Staley teams. When we had a bowling team, Irv was a member of that too.

Irv is well liked by all the people in the plant. He is easy to talk to, interested in what is happening among his fellow workers, and anxious that Fellowship Club serve the members in every way possible. He gets a great deal of pleasure out of his work with the club. Phone 238.

**Jesse William Fisher**. Jesse is an advanced helper in the Millwright shop. He started here in May 1933 and worked in the yard department and garage before going to his present job. Jesse has a daughter and two sons. A member of the social and athletic committee, serving his second term on the board, Jesse like the others, derives a great deal of personal satisfaction from his work in Fellowship. He is quiet, but has a ready smile, and good natured manner. Phone 408.

**Marion Edith Trow**—Marion is the first woman to serve on the Board of Governors for the Fellowship Club. She started in the Personnel Department ten years ago, and is now Supervisor of Placement. Marion's knowledge of the plant and office, her understanding of people and their problems makes her an excellent person for the board. The very fact of her election to the board attests her popularity with plant and office people alike.

This is Marion's first term with Fellowship and she is a member of the entertainment committee. She brings a lot of enthusiasm and interest to her work in the board—and what is especially valuable—she brings a woman's viewpoint. Phone 360.

**Edgar Paul Ecklund**—Scotty Ecklund with the exception of time with M & L has spent most of his 21 years here at the Feed House. He has two children, a son in the Navy, and a daughter, a senior in high school. Scotty is a friendly, cheerful person who gladly gives much extra time to Fellowship activity. Serving his first term, he is chairman of the Boy Scout Committee. At the time we had a handicraft club, he was president of the club for two years.

Knowing the value of Boy Scout troops, Scotty is vitally interested in the two troops and does all he can to see that they are successfully cared for. Phone 386.

### THE TRADING POST—

Have you heard of a five or six room unfurnished house for rent? Three adults—no pets, no children. If you know of one such house, will you call Evelyn Tueth? Cost Accounting Department, phone 370.

Maybe you don't need them, but we would like the guy who left his glasses in the Personnel Department to call for them. You may have same by describing the case they are in.

### Party Time for Kids

The Christmas party for the kids at the Rogers Theater is coming up December 22 for the best time had by all. Not long ago foremen and department heads checked with all employees as to the number of children who would attend and turned in lists to the Fellowship Club for ticket distribution.

If, somehow, your children were missed in the count *be sure* to tell your foreman or supervisor or call Leck, Ruthrauff (extension 229).

The party is for children from ages four to fourteen. Tickets for the two shows will be issued the week before. Don't disappoint that youngster of yours by failing to turn in his name. *Make sure!*

## It Takes a Lot of Checking and Lubricating — and It's the M & L That Can Do It

By Kathryn Wagenseller

M & L, Meters and Lubrication. You know every time we go out to get a story about some department, we are amazed and bewildered at the complexity of a plant like this. And, too, at the way that each department and its duties dovetail with other departments and their functions. Trying to fit them all together is like trying to work a giant jigsaw puzzle. But more and more we see how each seemingly jagged piece fits into the whole.

### Who? How? What?

How does the M & L Department fit into the picture? What are its functions? Who is the head of the Department? Maybe we should have reversed the order of our questions. As to the head of the Department, Leonard Smith is foreman. The functions of the Department? They are many. The filter house and its operation, the pumping station, and of course the supervision and maintenance of meters and the lubrication of all plant machinery, except electrical machines and turbines are under M & L.

How does the Department fit into the whole? Maybe we can best explain that as we go along.

We mentioned the filter house. That is where the raw water is filtered and made ready for use either in processing or in the boilers.

### Treats Water for the Process

All the raw water taken in is treated with lime which is the first step in the treatment. The water is constantly in motion to assure that the lime and water are properly mixed. After the lime has been thoroughly mixed with the water, sodium aluminate is added. This causes the lime and other suspended matter in the water to collect in larger particles.

From these big tanks the water passes slowly through a big underground settling chamber where the lime and other foreign matter settles to the bottom. Next it is diverted to the coal and gravel filters. After filtering through layers of fine anthracite coal and gravel, the water is ready to be used in the processing.

### Softens it For the Boilers

The water to be used in the boilers is treated to remove all hardness—and this treatment is known as the zeolite process. You see if the water is used in its normal state, or even after lime treatment, incrustations just like the scale in the bottom of the teakettle would form in the tubes of the boilers. This would effect the efficiency of the boilers and means that they would have to be taken out of service often to clean out the tubes—which would be one big job. Those incrusting materials, also called hardness, are removed from the water making it what is known as “zero” hardness, by passing the water through zeolite mineral.

### 2½ Tons of Salt Each Month

An interesting foot note on zeolite mineral and the softening of water. Did you know that we use 2½ tons of salt each month? The zeolite collects so much mineral matter from the water that it becomes exhausted or perhaps saturated and loses its effectiveness. So twice each day it is washed with a heavy salt solution, to remove the collection of minerals and other matter taken from the water.

Adequate water, treated, or of zero hardness, is essential to the processing and to boilers. And, it is one of the many functions of M & L to see that these two departments are adequately supplied.

### We Skip to Meters

We're going to skip the pumping station and fire pump. It is, of

course, the duty of M & L to see that they function properly and are maintained in top notch condition at all times. We think that the duties which originally gave the department its name—Meters and Lubrication—is one of the most interesting and fascinating things we have come across in a long time.

Over in the power house, in a long, narrow room, stands a line of 66 meters, like sentries on guard. (And they are just a small proportion of the number of meters installed throughout the plant.)

What kind of meters are there? There are flow meters which record and indicate the flow of live or exhaust steam; process waters, steepwater, sewerage; recording thermometers which record temperatures, say of city water or water used in the processing; there are meters which record pressure and there are meters recording temperature and for pressure controls.

### Chart Faces

The face of each meter is a chart, and everyday it gets a new, clean face. These charts are daily ones for they keep a record of every hour during the twenty-four hour period. A hand, like the minute hand on the clock, has a pen on the end, inked with red ink. At the end of twenty-four hours, each face is smeared with a red line, which may be smooth, and regular, or may resemble an exaggerated roller coaster. How do these meters, with their chart faces, and red tipped hand fit into the picture.

### Each Face a Story

Each one tells a detailed and continuous story of operations in various departments. What about the flow of live steam? Is the steam used steadily or are there periods that the use of live steam is heavier than others? Does this building require more steam in operating than another? If there are times when the need of live steam is greater than at other periods, does it come at certain times each day, or is it at irregular intervals. A comparison of

(Continued on page 4)

## Yea Team!

The Staley Basketball Team will play Caterpillar Diesels of Peoria on Friday, December 8, at 8:00 P. M.

It will be in the Johns Hill gym with preliminary game of two girls teams starting at 6:45 P. M.

Come out and back the Staley team!

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daily charts will tell quickly the answer. And of what value is it in knowing? Well, if there is going to be a heavier demand for live steam, boilers will be more heavily fired at that time, but not so heavily at periods when the need is not so great. If the demand is not regular, but comes at unexpected times, then the boilers must always be fired so that plenty of steam is available at any period it is needed. And the way the boilers must be fired means a difference in the consumption of coal. If the use of steam is not regular, can anything be done to make the use more steady—thereby cutting coal consumption and cost?

Maybe that irregular line means that the boilers aren't functioning as they should. A check will be made of the charts for several days. Or perhaps the meter is not working properly. Checks are made to see where the trouble is and the trouble corrected. All of which means savings in maintenance, repairs and replacements.

**And So It Goes**

Maybe the lab is conducting an important experiment. City water

will be used and it must be near a certain temperature. From the M & L they can get the temperature of the city water at any hour during the day. How much water is being pumped to various departments? Meters of the M & L will tell you—how much yesterday, a week ago, a month, year, or several years ago. Is the proper temperature being maintained in the kilns? Is the right pressure being maintained for this particular part of the process?

The automatic heat controls and pressure gauges will tell the story.

**And There's More**

These 66 meters, performing different functions (3 more to be installed) are, as we said before, just a small part of the number of meters

maintained by M & L. There are 375 recording thermometers, 200 pressure gauges, and 8 to 10 flow meters installed throughout the plant. Some of these meters need only occasional checking, others two or three times a week.

**Greasy, Too**

And what it takes to keep us well oiled—about \$2,000 a month of lubricants. With the exception of electric motors and turbines, M & L has the job of lubricating all the equipment in the plant. This job is done by a group of trained oilers, each of whom is held responsible for the lubrication of a certain route or territory.

Not only does M & L have the maintenance of all meters, thermometers, gauges, and the lubrication of nearly all machinery, but they must keep a supply of replacements on hand and a good supply of lubricants.

We neglected to state that M & L also checks and maintains 900 steam traps for the drainage of condensate from steam and heat lines, etc., and also meter most of the waste from the plant. But we're too metered out to go into that now.



**That Mileage Record**

This is it—Boys and Girls. The mileage record sheet you hear so much about when you make application for your B or C gasoline

ration. You got this record sheet with your new A book last September. Remember? Since OPA is returning about 50% of the ap-

plications received because record sheets are not sent in, be sure and bring yours with you as we can't send the application in without it.

OPA FORM (Rev. 5-44) **R-534** **STUB** BUDGET BUREAU NO. 09-R084 APPROVAL EXPIRES MAY 31, 1945  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

**MILEAGE RATIONING RECORD**

DESCRIPTION OF VEHICLE	
VEHICLE LICENSE NO.	YEAR MODEL
STATE OF REGISTRATION	MAKE

This STUB, when approved by a War Price and Rationing Board, becomes a record of the mileage rations issued.	
<b>IT MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE BOARD WITH EACH APPLICATION FOR A GASOLINE RATION.</b>	
DO NOT WRITE IN SPACE WITHIN HEAVY LINES	
SERIAL NO. OF RATION ISSUED	DATE OF ISSUE
BOARD NO.	COUNTY AND STATE
SIGNATURE OF ISSUING OFFICER	

**ADDRESS TO WHICH RATION IS TO BE MAILED:**  
(Print or type.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CITY POSTAL ZONE NO. AND STATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Endorse ALL your coupons as soon as you get them.**

**HELP KILL THE BLACK MARKET!**