

STALEY NEWS

Vol. 6—Page 1

January 1, 1942

Fifty-Five Staley Men Are Helping To Fight Our War

Through volunteering, through the calling up of National Guardsmen and reserve officers and through the operation of the Selective Service Act fifty-five Staley men are now serving in the armed forces of the United States. Because of the many troop movements since our entrance into the war we won't attempt to give you their addresses but here are their names.

Morris Askins	Kenneth Kruse
John Auer	Lawrence Kuhle
Ivan Bauman	Wilbur Lewis
Clarence Bowman	Walter
Glenn Bowman	Lichtenberger
Robert Burdick	Dick Livers
Maurice	Bruce Mallory
Brumaster	Emil Martina, Jr.
Linden Campbell	Clifford Mast
R. T. Crawford	William
F. J. Crocker	Moorehead
Ernest Dragstrem	William Nation
William Ellis	Jack Nelson
James Farrington	Lester O'Riley
Dale Fisher	Lee Owens
Chase Fitch	Woodrow Pike
Aldon Foley	Lynn Quick
Ted Grabowski	Jack Ray
Dean Greenwood	Raymond Ridlen
Mike Griffin	Charles Rinehart
E. J. Haley, Jr.	James Robbins
Joe Hammel	Harold Sapp
David Hardcastle	Emil Schimanski
Richard Heyl	Charles Stone
Robert Hopkins	John
Carl Jeschawitz	Stoutenborough
James Keating, Jr.	Richard
Horace Kester	Thompson
Burton Klatt	Vernon Van Hook
John Knox	Ralph Vineyard

Besides these men there are, as you know from the Staley Journal, a great many sons and brothers and grandsons of Staley people in the service.

It will be the job of those of us who cannot serve in this manner to do our work so well that our fighting men are equipped with plenty of the best of everything they need, that when the victory is won they will have something to come home to. We'll be owing these men a tremen-

(Continued on page 2)

Looking Toward 1942

The "National Defense" period has ended. Our country is at war and engaged in a life and death struggle with the most formidable group of foes we have ever faced.

Win we will, but to win we must produce more and more of everything needed. Planes, tanks, guns, ships and ammunition are, of course, our primary need and must come first, but other things not so directly connected with the shooting will also be required.

We must have paperboard cases to pack the supplies for our armed forces and those of our allies. Clothing is needed for them and for the civilian populations, and, of course, food must be produced for everyone. To make these things our company's products are essential. If we fail to produce all the starch, corn syrup or glucose and soybean products that are needed, the program will inevitably be affected. Recognizing this, the authorities at Washington have granted us priorities to obtain essential materials or supplies.

While we may have priorities for these needed scarce materials, such as metals, it is essential that we make the best use of them and make them go as far as possible. Waste in war time is an aid to the enemy and a blow to our country.

We do not know how heavy the demand for our products may be, but we are sure that it will be larger than normal. We can feel that we are doing our part in the war by meeting that demand and keeping the wheels turning, even up to the limit of our capacity if that much should be required. Production will win the war, and I know that we are all ready to do our part.

A. E. Staley, Jr.

Have You Started Buying Defense Bonds Yet?

You're The Man Behind The Man Behind the Gun

On November 17th Mr. Staley sent a letter to all members of the Staley organization outlining a plan for the purchase of Defense Bonds by payroll deduction. The sale of bonds in this manner is gathering momentum but—it still hasn't gathered enough.

By December 20th ~~346~~ employees (only about 19% of the total number) had signed up for deductions totaling \$1,821.00 per month. That's good but it isn't good enough. It is hoped that this interest will continue until every Staley employee that can afford even \$1.00 a month will participate. And, for this purpose, who can't afford it?

Interest in this program lagged before December 7th but after the treacherous Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor most of us woke up to the fact that our country is faced with a great and grave danger.

War takes work, money and lives. Although all of us are willing to fight for our nation, we can't all leave our families and join the Army, Navy or Marine Corps and, if we could, that wouldn't be the way to win the war. Tools and food are needed and money is needed to buy them. Everyone of us can loan a part of our earnings to Uncle Sam to strike a blow for freedom and right.

If you have lost the card that was mailed to you, get another from your foreman, from the Plant Superintendent's office, the Time Office or the Financial Department. If it is at all possible (and it is), sign up now and see that your card gets to the Financial Department.

Remember the words of the old song, "You're the man behind the man behind the gun" and . . . BE THERE . . . don't just talk about it.

We'll let you know next month what department was first to sign up 100% and how many have. This is your fight. Get in it.

MORE ABOUT SOLDIERS

dous debt for services rendered very shortly so the News suggests that you keep this list. We'll let you know as names are added to it.



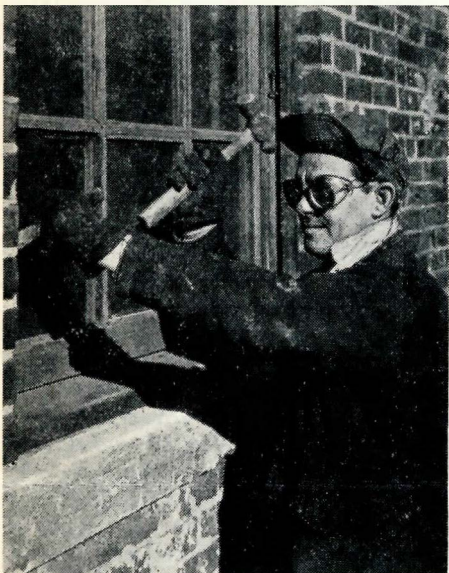
FOR SALE—A blue snow suit, size 10, with knee length coat. It is clean, and in good condition. The price is low. See Roy Collie or call at 2015 E. North.

EXTRA—About those Christmas ties you can't bear and the Christmas shirts that fit like a tent or a tightly stretched rubber band—advertise them in the Trading Post, trade 'em for a peachy fishing rod or a box of shot-gun shells. Put your drugs on the market. The cost of an ad is . . . well, there ain't no charge.

Know Your

Staley Safety

C O D E



4. WEAR GOGGLES WHEN CHIPPING, GRINDING OR DRILLING BRICK, CONCRETE, METAL OR ANY SUBSTANCE LIKELY TO GET INTO YOUR EYES AND WHEN OPERATING A MACHINE WHICH MAY THROW CHIPS. WEAR GOGGLES WHEN HANDLING CHEMICALS.

- Both acids and alkalis burn deep and quickly.
- Plenty of cool water quickly applied is the best treatment for chemicals in the eyes or on the skin. Wash well and go to First Aid at once.
- Take care of your eyes.

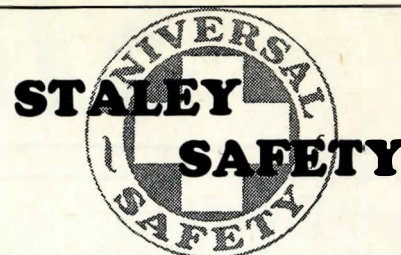
One Change, One Misconception Corrected

Since you have received your letter from Mr. Staley on our plan to purchase retirement annuities for employees now over the age of 65 one change has been made in the plan and a misconception has arisen which should be corrected. You'll remember that the letter said that employees over 65 who wished to work another year might apply for a continuance but that employees over 70 might not. That part of the plan has been changed to allow employees who are at present over 70 one year's continuance if, in the opinion of the company, they are able to continue work.

The misconception is that men who are eligible to retire now on their annuity and do not do so will be barred from receiving the annuity when they do choose to retire. That is *not* the case. Anyone covered by the plan (all employees over 65) who asks for and receives a continuance will receive the annuity whenever he or she retires from work.

Oil Refinery Addition Hits Priority Snag

We are not through having pains on this Oil Refinery job. We had ordered the necessary steel tanks from the local company which usually supplies us and they, in turn, had ordered the steel sheets from the company which usually supplies them. But the steel company wrote to the tank company and said, "Now look. We like you and we'd do anything we could but—The Maritime Commission has just requisitioned 78% of our production through 1943 and—we have so many orders carrying A-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 priority ratings that your A-10 rating looks a good deal less than good. Why don't you ask somebody else?" Well, there's not much use asking anyone else so we've been ransacking the country on the off chance that there might be some warehouse stocks somewhere that we could use. Also we have refigured our requirements for tanks from what we'd want for an efficient plant to what we'd have to have to operate at all. With some redesigning we may be able to get by with some second-hand tanks—if we can find the second-hand tanks. It's still open season, according to our priority hunting license, but boy, the game is scarce.



Today brings us a clean sheet—and we need it. From 1937 through 1940 our accident frequency rate (number of lost time injuries per million man hours worked) declined steadily but in 1941 it went up.

It isn't enough to say that there is a war, that traffic accidents have increased, that industrial accidents have increased even in non-defense industries. It isn't enough to say that our plant has been running at capacity.

The injuries that we suffered during 1941 were not as a result of new and strange work hazards and they were not chargeable to new men. The experience of Extra Board employees was better than during 1940.

A few of them were due to unsafe conditions and equipment. Those conditions and equipment either have been or are being corrected. But most of them were the old familiar back strains, falls, misuse of hand tools, objects dropped on toes unprotected by safety shoes and foreign materials (including acid and caustic) in eyes unprotected by goggles.

Lack of knowledge accounted for very few accidents. Lack of ability or will to apply knowledge already gained accounted for most of them. Let's not use the war as an alibi. Let's pull up our socks and punch out a safety record during 1942 rather than an accident record such as we had in 1941.

* * *

The civilian defense program is going to increase the need for home and street safety. If we have blackouts we are going to have to learn to drive at night in a way that will make our former safe driving practices look reckless. Even if we don't have blackouts we won't be able to spare the 40,000 people we usually kill with automobiles each year and the 33,000 who are killed while "safe at home". Check over your home for every kind of hazard, especially the chance of accidental fire. Check too on the amount and kind of first aid equipment you have and—why not get in on one of the many Red Cross First Aid courses that are being taught in Decatur.

Published Monthly
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

An American Credo For 1942

I will think—then act.

I will study my country's needs: for soldiers, sailors, industrial specialists, farmers, nurses, Red Cross and other volunteer workers in my own community.

I will determine what contribution my present job makes to my country's war effort.

I will appraise myself; my age, physical condition, training, experience, special capabilities and aptitudes, my means and my responsibilities to my dependents.

On the basis of my study and my appraisal I will offer myself where I believe I can be most useful always keeping several alternatives in mind so that as needs change I can change also.

I will buy as many defense bonds and stamps as I can afford.

I will not be a rumor monger. I will not repeat either favorable or unfavorable stories about the war unless I have good reason to believe they are true.

I will not criticize the military, industrial or civilian prosecution of the war unless I am in possession of *facts*. I will, however, criticize vigorously when I *know* that stupid or dishonest actions are being committed by anyone.

In some way I will make a contribution so that when the victory is won I will have the satisfaction of knowing that I have a share in it, that it is my victory as well as America's; that I have earned the peace and freedom which will follow.

Send 'Em Back

As we told you in our letter dated December 10th, the larger sampling of opinion we get on the Staley News the more reason we'll have to think it is an accurate sample. So, if you haven't sent your questionnaire back yet, we'd still like to have it—especially if you have any sort of criti-

cism. Those are the ones we appreciate most because maybe—it's just possible—we might learn something which will make the News a better paper.

Soy Flour Production Should Start By April First

The need for starch was so great last year that we had to use all of the Soy Flour plant's space and most of its equipment to increase the corn grind. We never really went out of the soy flour business because we have purchased partially processed beans from our competitors and finished them (so that we might control and be responsible for quality). But now the government needs soy flour and has given us A-2 and A-3 priority ratings to build a new plant and warehouse for its manufacture. It won't be a large plant because a portion of the equipment will be next door in #47 building but it will have enough capacity to restore our former volume.

We Got By This One

We burned up the tip of one of the four powdered coal burners on #17 boiler the other day and, because we are using just about all the power that our Boiler Room and Engine Room can make, the loss of power forced us to cut the grind *at once*. Fortunately, we were able to get another tip by airmail and it was installed at Christmas time but—that is the sort of unforeseeable thing we've been worrying about ever since the country went on a wartime basis. The next mishap may not be so easily corrected. We aren't trying to scare you but we are urging you to be careful.

This Is What You Said

On the basis of incomplete returns (answers are still dribbling in at the rate of one or two a day) here are some slants on the questionnaire we sent to you asking what you thought about the Staley News and why.

A total of 333 replies have been received. That adds up to a little more than 18% of the number of questionnaires sent out. Ninety-three percent of those who replied said that they read it, 68% said their families did too and 83% said that, on the whole, they liked the paper.

The most popular feature seemed to be the stories on processing and new equipment with 85% of the repliers (more than liked the paper as a whole) plugging for them and forty-eight people saying that they'd like more stories along that line.

The Sports Grits column turned out to be the least popular feature with a favorable vote of 57%, an unfavorable vote of 23% and 20% who were too little interested in it to mark it either for or against.

We had fun reading your comments and more fun noting that half of those who sent their questionnaires back made some sort of a comment. Comments ranged from the 25 who said, substantially, that the paper was O.K. as it was or that it should be larger and appear oftener to the five who said it was a waste of paper or money or both. The one that most warmed your old editor's heart was the one that said, "I am only a Staley man's wife and think it a grand little paper." The one that most chilled his blood read, "Usually the sales articles and new equipment articles are quite uninterestingly told. Fewer articles of better quality would suit me better."

We'll give you a final report and our attempt to analyze it next month.



In an average year we will ship more than a million cartons of package starch and syrup to our customers.

It's a long road that has no Burma-Shave.

Standards are so high for No. 1 corn and soybeans that few cars grading that high move in ordinary commercial channels.

We Took A Tip From The Gold Miners

Once upon a time there were three bright young mining engineers named Oliver, Merrill and Dorr. They all had the same problem and the Staley company makes corn products better and more economically because each solved it in a different way.

Which sounds improbable enough to be (and it is) a chapter in the true romance of American industry.

Around the turn of the century the supply of free gold in California and other western states was about worked out. First the miners resorted to placer mining and then to even lower grade ores in order to recover the precious metal. But the lower grade ores had to be ground to powder and mixed with vast quantities of water before the gold could be recovered. This method, being new, was wasteful and risky. Sometimes the cost of recovering metal was higher than the price it would bring. One of the meanest problems was to separate the ground up ore from the water. That took much time, tank space and labor.

Oliver worked on the problem and invented a continuous vacuum filter to do the job. It worked so well that he went out of mining and into the equipment business. He soon found that his filter would work in other industrial processes; the starch process, for example. So he . . . but that's another story.

Merrill was more interested in methods than in equipment and did very well by selling his knowledge and services. Somewhere along the line he became interested in a centrifugal separator which might do the separating job. It did very nicely, and one day someone said, "Hey, I'll bet this thing would separate starch from gluten". So they . . . but that's another story.

Dorr, like Oliver, concerned himself with separating ground ore from water. His answer was the first edition of the Dorr thickener. With a few modifications it became the Dorr agitator or the Dorr mixer and by 1920 Dorr equipment was being used not only in mining but in the manufacture of cement, glass, glue, paint and many other products. It also became popular in water treatment and sewage disposal plants.

We Had Our Eyes Open

About 1930 we said, "Hey, I'll bet that thing would separate gluten from excess water". So we (that's this story) decided to give it a try.

A small one was installed near the old settling tanks south of the Feed House. It worked fairly well but didn't seem to promise savings large enough to justify our doing anything with it at the time. So we didn't.

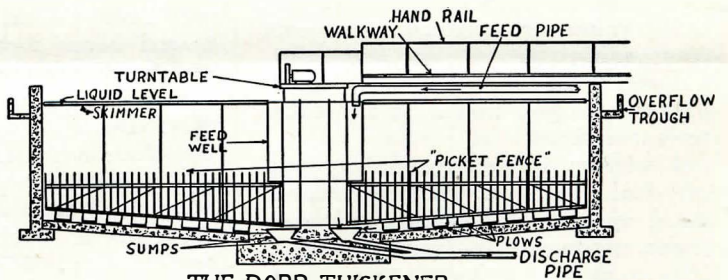
But by 1935 we were short of settler space and the gravity settlers in the Table House were doing too poor a job to make us want more of them. The Dorr people knew our problem better than they had originally and, if their thickener worked, it would do a better job in less space and with lower maintenance. So we installed one in the new Merco building and—it didn't work. While the chemical engineers are trying to find out why, let's see how it should work.

The Dorr's Job

Gluten and starch reach the Table House suspended in water. As the starch settles on the tables the gluten, and most of the water, goes on over. The water has to come out before the gluten is mixed with other feed ingredients and the first portion is removed by settling

the gluten in concrete tanks and draining off the surface water or—by running the mixture through a Dorr thickener.

Our Dorr sets in a 50' concrete tank. The depth is 11' around the edge and slopes to 12' in the center. A center post supports horizontal arms 1' above the bottom and reaching almost to the walls. Attached below them are plows set at an angle to sweep material to the center as the arms revolve. Above them is a "picket fence" 4' tall (which we have found helpful in speeding settling) and a scum skimmer which is the only part of the mechanism visible during the 51 weeks of the year that the tank is full.



Gluten is pumped from the Table House and dumped into a "feed well", an open bottomed cylinder 9' in diameter and extending down 8' from the top. Because the motion of the arms is slow ($3\frac{1}{2}$ revolutions per hour), solids settle to the bottom, are scraped to the sump in the center, pumped out and sent to the Mill House Mercos. There additional starch is removed before the gluten goes to the Feed House. The surplus water, being lighter, rises and overflows continuously into a trough around the edge of the tank.

Ideally, separation should be good enough that thickened gluten contains about 20 ounces of solid material per gallon and the separated water less than 40 grains per gallon. But, as we said, our nice new thickener wasn't doing the job.

The catch was, as we finally discovered, that we were pumping material to the thickener with centrifugal pumps instead of draining it down by gravity as we had in the tests and that the tiny air bubbles which the pumps mixed into the liquid were obstructing the settling process. The remedy which we finally dreamed up was to install a small thickener just ahead of the big one to skim off the air bubbles. We are happy to tell you that the remedy improved the operation of the thickener so much that we now purposely pull air into the pumps. What's more, we've patented the idea.

We Take A Second Helping

Settler and water storage space is again a problem due to our big grind and the fact that the old Table House settlers are badly in need of repairs. We are answering the problem this time by knocking out the west wall of #19 Building and installing two 60' Dorr's. Our present fifty footer can handle a fourth of the grind so the two new ones should be able to handle the other three-fourths. We'll use the old settler tanks for process water storage (thus cutting sewer losses) and there's another problem solved. At least for a month or so.