

# STALEY NEWS

Vol. 5—Page 1

March 1, 1942

## Staley's at Work in 1941

### Four Thousand People Worked Together

Four thousand people joined hands to finance, manufacture and distribute Staley products during 1941.

Half of them furnished the time, energy and thought which the job required.

The other half furnished \$14,306,064.85 of their savings to buy the buildings, tools and materials without which the job could not have been started.

### The Work They Did

The war greatly increased the demand for Staley products during 1941 and the Staley group responded with:

A corn grind 33% above our average for 1938, '39 and '40.

A soybean grind equal to our largest previous year even in the face of strong competition from imported linseed meal early in the year and a shortage of soybeans at the beginning of the harvest season.

Greatly increased production of corn syrups and "Sweetose" to help relieve the nation's sugar shortage. Licensing of our competitors to make "Sweetose" for the same purpose.

New products and a better job of processing the old ones than ever before.

New facilities which will allow us to further increase product quantity and quality in 1942.

Increased efficiency of plant and personnel.

Determination that our plant shall run at top capacity so that our country's war effort shall not lack for the things that we can supply.

### Details of the Job

We increased our plant's efficiency during the year by engineering changes which decreased the amount of time and machinery needed to process a bushel of corn or soybeans.

In the soybean plant that meant heavier expellers with more power to increase both capacity and oil recovery.

(Continued on page 2)

## Hospital Service Plan Reopened

### New Members Will Be Taken In From March 2 Thru March 14

On Monday, March 2nd, the Hospital Service Plan will be opened again for new members from the Staley employee group. You may secure application cards and information at the Credit Union office or in the Personnel Department.

No applications will be taken after 12:00 noon on March 14th.

More than 790 Staley employees are now members of the Plan which assures them and their families hospital care for 21 days each year at a moderate cost for monthly dues.

W. G. Reynolds, *President*  
The Decatur Hospital Service Corporation.

## To 77.5% Of You

The bond sales story is not quite so painful to write this month. Our total subscription has risen from 19% (January 1st) to 36.5% (February 1st) to 77.5% on March 1st. And it is still going. As a matter of fact the 77.5% figure is probably too low because subscriptions were still coming in when the News had to go to press and a number of salesmen have not yet been heard from. One hundred per cent doesn't look nearly so impossible as it did a month ago.

The departmental list which follows pretty well explains itself, but several things should be kept in mind while reading it.

We have counted as contributors everyone who is buying bonds through the company and everyone who said that he was buying bonds outside.

We have counted as non-contributors everyone who did not accept the opportunity of buying through the company and who is not buying bonds outside.

We have not included men who have already been notified that they are to be called to military service at once or those who are off sick.

(Continued on page 3)

## Staley's at Work in 1942

### We Are Fighting the Production War

Across the page there is an account of the work we did last year. That was good enough for a year in which we were preparing for war, but not good enough now that we are actually at war.

So . . . during January we broke all the old grind records in both corn and soybean plants and produced more product in a month's time than any of us would have believed possible a year ago.

The January corn grind was at a pace which, if continued for the year, will put through our mills 25% more corn than we ground in record-breaking 1941 and—the grind total was higher during the first half of February than it was in January's first half.

The soybean grind for the first fifteen days of February was about 1% below January's first half because we had one eight hour shutdown for repairs in February and also had to cut the grind for a few days because of lack of generating capacity due to boiler trouble. The trouble has now been ironed out but if and when we get into trouble again because of lack of power we'll have to sacrifice bean grind to corn grind as the lesser of evils.

Everyone of us can take a bow on our performance so far this year. It's true, of course, that increased output has been due to crowding every piece of equipment in the plant with every pound it will handle but—when you crowd equipment you must increase vigilance in watching it and you must increase maintenance. Our process and service departments have done a swell job of keeping the product going through and our mechanical gangs have done an equally good job of keeping the machines in shape to run. A swell job—but it has to be better.

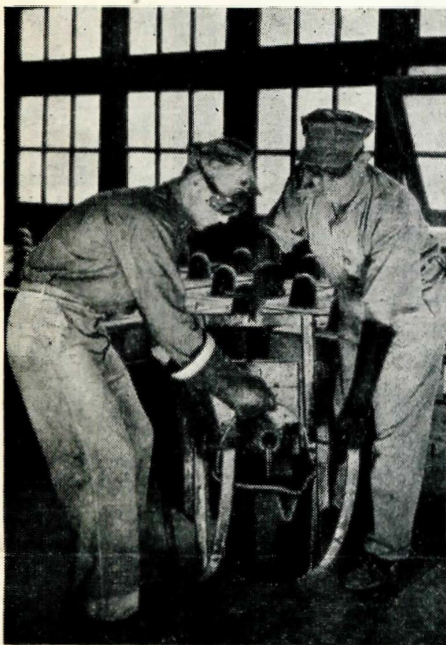
*More* is the only word we understand now.



**MORE ABOUT 1941**  
(Continued from page 1)

In the corn plant it meant breaking bottlenecks in the Feed and Oil Houses by installing more presses, driers and expellers and revamping conveying equipment. It also meant a new gluten thickener, improvements in the operation of gluten settlers and plans for new ones, better corn oil recovery and close checking on the multiple problems imposed by a combination of war time restrictions on material and the simultaneous need for all-out production. In the

**Know Your**  
*Staley Safety*  
**CODE**



**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.

first half of the year the high grind increased processing losses but most of those problems were solved or on the way to solution by year end.

During the year we built a Gluten Meal plant and greatly enlarged our Levulinic Acid plant. We also started work on a new Soyflour plant and an addition to the Oil Refinery which will add 50% to our refining capacity.

In addition to these specific activities we continued our constant study of operations in the plant with a view toward improving them, instituted training programs for both plant and office employees and took a long step toward solving a problem of some year's standing by announcing a plan for retirement of employees presently over sixty-five years of age.

The company's relations with its employees, both individually and through the authorized agents of the I. S. W. U., continued satisfactorily.

**Results of the Job**

Financially, the company's year was a successful one: for the two thousand who supplied time, effort and thought; for our government (which badly needs funds to prosecute our war); and for the two thousand who supplied their savings.

Wages and salaries were raised during the year and again on January 1, 1942. Taxes were almost tripled and the owners of the business received slightly larger dividends.

In money, we received a gross return of \$41,462,437.03 during the year.

It was distributed as follows:

Grain, manufacturing supplies, freight, misc. services .....	\$32,123,559.17	77.5%
To the two thousand who did the work.....	3,935,036.33	9.5%
Retained to provide income for employees eligible to retire.....	190,943.99	.5%
To the government in taxes .....	2,363,636.86	5.7%
To pay for the buildings and tools we are using up .....	871,252.69	2.1%
Added to capital to help us weather the financial storms which lie ahead and thus protect our jobs and investments..	817,849.99	1.9%
To the two thousand who furnished their savings (5% return on their investment) .....	720,158.00	1.7%
To pay back preferred stockholders whose money we no longer need and thus reduce our fixed financial burden .....	440,000.00	1.1%

**Purely Personal**

Mr. Edmund Q. Smith, who is now the proud owner of a shiny new bicycle (the copy cat) wishes us to state that he hereby challenges any and all Staley bicyclists to a race for speed or endurance. It is not Mr. Smith's thought that he will make himself wealthy by wagering on the outcome of such races but merely that he will uphold the racing reputation of his native state of Kentucky.

For Mr. Smith's information (and yours too, if you're thinking about challenging him) the race will have to take place outside the corporate limits of the city of Decatur. Subsection G of section 7 of the Bicycle Ordinance says, in part, "nor shall any person operating a bicycle upon the public highway participate in any race or speed or endurance contest with any other vehicle except under permit from and under the supervision of the Chief of Police."

Of course, Ed *might* be able to get a permit but—we doubt it.

\* \* \*

Bernie Walker wishes to give notice to all and sundry that the Credit Union phone number is now 259 and not 401 and his number is 401 and he wishes people would quit calling 401 when they want to talk to the Credit Union office on account that rings his phone and he has to explain the whole business all over again and he's had about all that he can stand.

So, for Credit Union business call 259.

For Bernie Walker business call 401.

All of us can look back on 1941 with solid satisfaction so far as the activities of our company are concerned. We did a big piece of work. We did it better than in the years that went before. We left our company in the best physical and financial condition it has yet enjoyed. We prepared it to take an even larger place in America's 1942 war economy.

Our aim, the aim of every one of us, for 1942 and longer, is to help win our war and to contribute to a just, prosperous and lasting peace. Every other consideration, however important, must be secondary to that one.



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

**In the Interests  
of Fairness**

Shortly after our February issue we received a letter. We are printing it because it voices an objection which several people made and because it affords an opportunity for your editor to apologize for an oversight.

Dear Sir:

Your assumption that 63.5% of us don't think our country is worth a dollar or can't be trusted with a loan is a bit unfair. Why don't you investigate a few of those who have been doing their part in this direction and prefer to continue in the way they started. I suggest that you add those in the percentages of the departments in which they work. Let's be fair.

Respectfully,

Adam Grindol.

To which we replied:

Dear Adam:

Thanks for your letter. I confess that I was guilty of an oversight in failing to mention that a number of Staley employees (only 61 as it turned out) were buying defense bonds at local banks before the company started the wage allotment plan.

I hope that you realize that I was not directing my remarks about non-cooperation to you or to any Staley employee who buys bonds outside the company. What I was intent upon, and I am sure you want me to succeed in this, was to wake up those who are not buying defense bonds anywhere.

Very shortly we will send to each foreman a list indicating how many employees in his department are buying bonds through the company and we'll ask him to tell us how many are buying outside. In that way we will correct our percentages.

Allow me to compliment you for the evidence your letter displays of patriotic action on your part. You realize, of course, that if all of us had followed your example it would be unnecessary for the company to encourage us to buy bonds.

Sincerely,

Roy Rollins.

**MORE ABOUT BONDS**

(Continued from page 1)

Departments which are 100% with the exception of people in those two classes have been marked 100% with an asterisk and will be counted 100% until the sick person returns or the men to be called to the service actually go or are rejected.

Plant departments that were 100% when the News went to press were:

Elevator A, No. 16 Bldg., No. 17 Bldg.\*, No. 19 Bldg., Elevator B, Sewing Room, Shipping Inspectors, Laboratory\*, Storeroom, Soyflour & Saucc, Tanners\* and the Civil Engineers. In addition the night janitor group of the Office Janitors and the loading gang and the special starches division of the Packing House are 100%.

Office departments that were 100% were:

Industrial Sales, General Sales, Foreign Sales, Order, Stenographic\*, Mailing and Messenger, Executive, Research; Legal, Financial, Credit, Auditing, Planning, Grain, Personnel, Traffic, Purchasing, Manufacturing, Mechanical and Structural Engineers, Standards and Miscellaneous.

Plant and office departments that were above 77.5% were:

Foremen and assistants 99%, Boiler Room 97%, Nos. 13 and 21 Bldgs. 97%, Refinery 96%, Pipefitters 96%, Watchmen 96%, Yard 96%, Garage 94%, Expeller Room 93%, Tanners 93%, Chemists 89%, Office Janitors

88%, Packing House 86%, Oil House 86%, Electricians 84%, Millwrights 85%, Feed Elevator 83%, Feed Salesmen 82%, M & L Dept. 81%, Electricians 80%, and Soybean Warehouse 79%.

Seventy-seven and five tenths per cent does NOT mean that the job is finished and that we can now relax and wait for the war to be won. But it does mean that we are under way and that it looks like we have a good chance to get to 100%. After that, if the need for money still exists (and it will) we'll probably have to start talking about increased size of subscriptions. In the meantime your dollar a month subscription will at least help to make your department and this plant 100%.



For Sale: A 1935 De Soto Sedan. Tires nearly new. Also one bay mare and some farm implements. See Henry Buckley at 2464 E. Garfield St., or call 2-8416.

For Rent: A room with twin beds to accommodate two men. Call 2-5918 or 1902 E. Main. With or without board, as you choose.

For Sale: A 1928 Model A Ford Tudor, good condition. See Wayne Hyer, 2170 E. Lincoln.

Call 2-7047 for an excellent Hoover Electric Sweeper priced just right.



Says the U. S. Department of Agriculture, "In spite of extensive investigations the work of developing this versatile plant (the soybean) to its fullest extent is still in its infancy."

\* \* \*

The only place that we introduce fresh water into our corn process is on the filters in No. 21 Building.

\* \* \*

"The average lightning stroke carries an electrical wallop of 30 coulombs. This sounds small, but it represents about one billion kilowatts—more than the total generating capacity on earth."—The Westinghouse Engineer.

"Lightning releases enough nitrogen annually to produce about 100 million tons of nitrous acid; more than is produced by all the fertilizer plants in the world."—Ibid.

\* \* \*

You begin to get an idea of why we need to save paper when you realize that it takes 15 tons of rag content paper to make the blueprint paper for one battleship and that 10,000 tons will be needed for ammunition containers alone during 1942.



# Soybean Crop Up 614% In Ten Years

The giant soybean crop (a record 106,712,000 bushels) which the United States harvested in 1941 brought other problems in addition to its size.

Illinois and Iowa which, together, produced 62% of the 1941 national total, had a spell of rain, snow and cold at harvest time that threatened to cut deeply into the soybean yield.

Getting the beans out of the field was a harder and slower job for the farmer than it has ever been since modern combines were available. Mud and snow kept him out of the fields while the bean pods broke open and the beans fell to the ground where combines could never recover them. The plants withered and bent over and when the combines did get into the fields they knocked many of them on down to the ground instead of harvesting them. In the meantime the beans were being soaked, frozen, thawed and refrozen.

## Things Looked Bad at Harvest Time

At the time of year when the new crop should have been jamming every railroad siding around Decatur we had to shut our bean plant down for several days because there were no beans available. When we did get going again it was with Indiana beans which had not been much affected by the weather.

Some authorities estimated that the crop was being damaged to the extent of a million bushels a day in Illinois alone and others thought that the national yield would be cut as much as 20%. We never did sign anything quite that pessimistic although we did our share of worrying. But the soybean turned out to be a tougher customer than anyone knew he could be and when the last beans were finally gotten out of the fields (some as late as January) the yield was estimated to be around 95% of what it would have been with decent weather.

But that wasn't quite the end of the story—or of the damage. The beans hadn't dried in the fields and many of them went into the elevators at 17% moisture and above. Which is too high because beans, unlike corn, will not dry at all in the bins. Also, the weather was too warm (sometimes 70° or above) while they were being put into storage. These circumstances, added to the beating the beans had taken in the fields before harvesting, made storage a pretty uncertain business. Inspectors have been run ragged this year checking the condition of stored beans.

No one can tell you with any degree of certainty what maximum percentage of moisture beans can have and still store safely because different varieties of beans, beans from different fields and beans in different crop years all act differently. Some 16% moisture beans keep nicely and

some 12% beans heat in the bins. We do know, however, that outside temperature should not be much above 50° while they are being put away and we'd prefer that the moisture content be below 12%. Aside from the storage angle, our beans must be 12% or below before we can process them.

In any case, if stored beans heat in the bins their oil content is reduced and the amount of fatty acids increases, making processing and refining at once more difficult and more expensive. Damage in the elevators is increasing and that means that the country elevator operator must move his beans to market and that the terminal elevator

operator must watch them closely and turn them or dry them or air cool them whenever they start heating unduly. Our new driers at Elevator C had their first real workout this season and have fully justified their cost.

## Seed Beans Cause Worry Too

It appears too that there is a great deal of worrying about seed beans for the next crop and currently the government, through the Commodity Credit Corporation, is offering \$2.00 a bushel for seed beans that will germinate 85% or better because they fear a shortage of high quality seed. We are not particularly worried because we remember that the same sort of fear arose two years ago and caused farmers need-

lessly to overplant their fields the next spring. It is also true that germination tests at this time of year rarely turn out as well as they will in the spring.

## Soybeans for War

In addition to the 1941 bean crop problems, which are currently a long way from solution, there is another problem for 1942. On this page there is a graph showing the amount of soybeans grown in the United States (and in Illinois) in each of the last ten years and the amount which the Department of Agriculture is demanding be grown in 1942. If this goal is reached (and there is no reason to doubt that it will be) the country will have some 9,000,000 acres in soybeans this year and will produce more beans than can be processed by all the soybean mills together. Which will be a far cry from the days when we had to shut our plant down every summer for lack of soybeans, but which will boost the little yellow bean to a position of greater eminence than it has ever enjoyed in its long life.

Mr. Staley's dream of the day when our plant would grind as many bushels of soybeans as it did of corn comes closer to realization year by year and we wonder if the trend will stop there. At present it seems that it will not.

