

# STALEY NEWS

Vol. 4—Page 5

September 16, 1940

## FIRST NOTES FROM THE BAND

### Recital and Concert Planned For January

Registration for free instruction on band instruments got started when Walter Meinert, Jr., signed up. About the next fellow along was Gerry Horton, Jr., who was lucky enough to draw a new cornet for his birthday. George Truebe made the first wholesale entry when he signed up his daughter Mary for the Trombonium, a new instrument which plays Trombone and Baritone parts, his daughter Geneva for Drums and his son, George, Jr., for the Fluegel Horn. Pat Dunne, Charles Weatherford and Bob McGeehon also registered for cornet, Billy Colbert for Marimba and Bob Colbert for Saxophone, making a total of ten registered for the Junior Band.

Classes for Juniors will be held at 2:00 P. M. on Saturdays beginning September 14th.

The Senior Band Class will meet Tuesdays at 6:30 P. M. beginning September 10th. Thus far Thomas Casley, Kenneth Bergandine, Homer Shaw, Joe Grossman and Oral Banton, all clarinetists, have registered. The last two need only practice before stepping into the band.

Don Ginder called and said he was going to bring his Sousaphone to practice and Ken Buechler, John Anderson, Glen Bowman and some others are right on the verge of making up their minds.

Two things impressed the people in charge of registrations. First, there are a number of folks in our group who have been waiting for an opportunity like this and are going to profit from it. Second, some were interested enough in the education of their boys and girls to come up with them and get them properly started.

New students may register any time in September.

## Beni

Until eleven days ago Beni Marchisello was one of the reasons you were glad you worked at Staley's. To say that he hadn't any enemy is putting it mildly but it gives you an idea. His cheery Italian greeting and grin made you feel better and after you'd seen him you walked on wearing a grin of your own. The grin lasted even longer if you had listened to one of his stories.

Beni came up to First Aid just eleven days ago and took a treatment for a foot that had caused him trouble for a long time. It was getting along pretty well at last and both Beni and Mrs. May felt better about it when he left. He walked on down to the scale house in the west yard, picked up his broom and oil can and started out to sweep and oil a switch over near the south fence.

Beni must have been thinking about something as he walked along—something so absorbing that he forgot his usual caution and walked out onto a track without looking. Beni was thinking hard and he didn't hear the switchman's frantic yell.

A string of cars pushed by an engine, too far back for Beni to notice in the noise of a switch yard, came sliding down that track and threw him to his death.

Beni won't be back any more to tell tall stories in an Italian accent you were glad he never lost. The heavy wheels took that part of him away. But you can make him live again if you'll remember and remember and remember the thing that Beni forgot for just a minute. I think he'd like it if you did.

## WHY WE JOINED THE HOSPITAL SERVICE CORPORATION

### Fellowship Club Members Get Extra Benefits

A number of Staley people who belong both to the Fellowship Club and to the Decatur Hospital Service Corporation have raised the question of just how and what they will be paid in case they are sick enough to be confined to a hospital. Here is the answer.

Any male member of the Fellowship Club who gets sick or suffers a non-occupational accident through no objectionable act of his own and is, therefore, unable to work receives \$15.00 per week sickness benefits from the Club to a total of thirteen weeks in any calendar year provided: that he reports his illness to the Secretary of the Club within forty-eight hours and that he furnishes a medical certificate stating the cause of his illness. Women, who are subject to the same rules, pay smaller dues and receive \$7.50 per week.

In case it becomes necessary for a member (man or woman) to be confined in a hospital the member shall be allowed an additional \$3.00 per day for hospital expenses to a total of \$100.00 in any calendar year.

When the hospitalization plan came along the Board of Governors of the Club, feeling that it was a sound idea, discussed means of making it available to Staley employees without penalizing them for their membership in the Club. It was decided that Club members who were thrifty enough to join the hospitalization plan and who were confined to a hospital should receive their \$3.00 per day hospitalization benefits from the Club in cash.

### For Example

It works out this way. Supposing that you were confined to a hospital for twenty-one days, that you had no X-rays or other

(Continued on Page 6)



**YOUR HEALTH . . . . .  
AND . . . . .  
YOU**

By L. May, R.N., Plant Nurse

"Dog Days" got that name because people used to hold the quaint superstition that the hot summer months was the time when dogs usually became rabid and that danger of hydrophobia from dog bites was greater at that time than at any other.

That simply is not true. There are just as many cases of Rabies in cold weather as in "dog days" and if you should be bitten by a dog (any dog or any day) there are two things that you *must* do at once for your own protection. Number One, go to your physician at once for treatment. Number Two, have the dog placed in the city dog pound where it will be under supervision of the board of health and see that he is kept there for at least twelve days. If you wait any time at all to see your doctor you may be too late. Nothing can be done after Rabies has developed in the human body.

There are several symptoms of Rabies in dogs. A partial paralysis in his hind quarters will give him a waddling gait or cause him to drag his hind legs. His bark will have an unnatural sound. He will seek water and try to drink but a paralysis of the throat will render him unable to drink.

Don't wait for symptoms though and don't depend on the lack of them. If you are bitten by a dog (any dog or any day) see your doctor and have the dog put under observation at once.

**HOSPITAL SERVICE**

(Continued from 1st Page)

services not covered by the plan and that you left at the end of that time. You would receive from the Hospital Service Corporation a bill marked "Paid" and you would receive \$63.00 in cash from the Fellowship Club.

**Hospital**

Let's suppose a little further. If you *had* required X-ray or other services not covered by the hospitalization plan or if you stayed longer than twenty-one days the hospital would present you with a bill for the extras. The Club pays this bill, if it comes within the total allowed you at the rate of \$3.00 a day, and gives you the balance, if any, in cash.

There are two advantages then for Fellowship Club members who also belong to the Decatur Hospital Service Corporation. In case of long illness they have added twenty-one days of prepaid hospitalization to the thirty-three to which Fellowship Club membership entitles them. In case of a stay at the hospital of less than fifty-four days they have something to help pay for extra services and to make up for lost earnings.

This isn't a sales talk because membership in the Hospital Service Corporation has been closed to the Staley group for an indefinite period. It is merely a bit of expounding on the size and kind of bargain you got when you stepped up to the Hospital Corporation window and said, "I'll take one."



The last two weeks in August provided us with seven lost-time accidents, the most we have had in that short a time since July, 1936, when we had eight in thirteen days. Four of them happened in the last three days.

A real tragedy, the death of Beni Marchisello, came on September 4th. Beni was the first Staley man to lose his life on the job in over nine years and all of us are hoping that he will be the last one ever.

What has happened to us? Why are we falling down on a Safety job we've been improving for the last four years?

There are a lot of quick answers that can be given. Automobile accidents in the nation and in Illinois are on the upgrade again and some experts are saying that we are all getting the jitters because of the war. That is too easy an answer and it won't fit all the circumstances that have surrounded our recent accidents. To tell the truth there doesn't seem to be a common factor in them and no one answer seems to fit. They weren't all caused by inattention or jitters. Three of them were muscle strains that occurred when, as far as could be determined, the men involved were doing normal jobs in a normal manner. Two could have been prevented by Safety Shoes and both of the injured men owned Safety Shoes but *just didn't happen to be wearing them that day.* One was caused by a man stepping backward without looking and falling down a chute and another by a defective box car door which fell off and struck the man who was trying to close it. With the exception of the back strains, which are mysterious at best and hard to account for, and the box car door, they seem to indicate that we haven't learned our Safety lessons well enough, haven't had their necessity driven home to us hard enough, haven't had the burned fingers that bring fear of fire.

**Invitation to a Picnic**



"C'mon fellows. That guy from the Extra Board just got a splinter in his hand and didn't go to First Aid."



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**THE A. E. STALEY  
MANUFACTURING COMPANY**  
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**What Do You Mean,**

**"WE CAN'T AFFORD IT?"**

Now that our two one-week repair shut downs are over we can go back and get an idea of how much it costs to keep this plant in a mechanical condition which will allow us to produce goods. Roughly, the shut downs cost us \$35,000.00 each. That total includes material and labor necessary to make the repairs and a portion of the overhead expenses that keep on going whether we are producing or not.

Seventy thousand dollars seems high until you remember that the new fire drier shell cost about \$12,000.00 installed and a new screen for the Proctor-Schwartz drier came to around \$6000.00 by the time it was in place and ready to go.

\$1200.00 went to provide new drives for the fire driers. \$1,100.00 got us two Sweetland filters for No. 21 Building.

A new lower steep in the Steep House came to around \$3200.00 and it took \$900.00 to repair a turbine in the Power House. Another \$900.00 replaced the conveyor in front of the green feed driers in the Feed House. There were plenty of two and three hundred dollar jobs. One of them, which merely read, "Repair filter back wash line at the Filter House" on the job ticket, came to over \$500.00.

It takes the profit from thousands of bags of starch and feed and soybean meal and hundreds of cars of syrup to pay bills like those. \$70,000.00 is the bill for only two weeks out of fifty-two and, while it is higher than the repair cost for any other two weeks out of the year, it is still but a fraction of the total. Its size alone though makes you realize what is in the boss' mind when he says, "No. It's a nice idea and \$100.00 doesn't seem like a lot of

money but we can't spend it on that job. There are too many other things that *must* be done. We can't afford it."

**HOW TO MAKE \$95.15 OUT  
OF A DIME**

What did you do with that bolt with the battered threads and the eight inch piece of 2" x 4" that had to be cut off and the seven extra washers that you got from the Storeroom just to be sure you had enough? If you put the bolt and the 2" x 4" scrap in the nearest scrap box and took the extra washers back to the Storeroom that's good enough and the argument is over. If you didn't I'll tell you what happened to them.

The bolt was kicked over near the door and a fellow came in, stepped on it, cursed it, picked it up and threw it over into a pile of feed. When the clean up man came along he didn't see the bolt but shovelled it, together with the feed, into a conveyor. It dropped into the elevator, was carried up to the second floor, fell into the mill and raised merry hell. The 2" x 4" wasn't so easily hidden but it was just right to fall over after it had jammed between a column and a pump and someone had taken out the light bulb. The First Aid report on the next passerby

read, "Tripped on piece of wood, fell, twisted right knee." The extra washers just laid there and rusted. They hadn't cost a whole lot in the first place and there were plenty more and all you had to do to get them was go to the Storeroom and ask so—.

Just a ruined bolt and a useless scrap of wood and a few cut washers. You couldn't get a dime for the lot from any scrap dealer in his right mind but we paid \$85.00 for the mill repair job and \$10.00 for medical attention for the injured man and 15c for more washers. It might have been worthwhile to pick them up. What's your guess?



Richard Ryan, well-known Macon County statesman, has a lovely Argus candid camera and you can get it away from him cheap on account he also has now a much better camera too and he wants his dough out of this one so as he can invest in some enlarging equipment and things. Only three rolls of film have been shot on this camera and the lense is hardly worn at all.

Theral Pritts, Tool Room or Tohill Addition, will sell you a 5 burner Prosperity Kerosense Range with oven for \$15.00. Less than two years old, does an excellent frying job on chicken if Staley Cooking Oil is used.



June is the traditional month for brides but actually there are almost as many people married in February, the shortest month and the least traditional.

\* \* \*

Staley man-hours have increased about 150,000 in each of the last three years.

\* \* \*

A filing cabinet is a hiding place for correspondence.

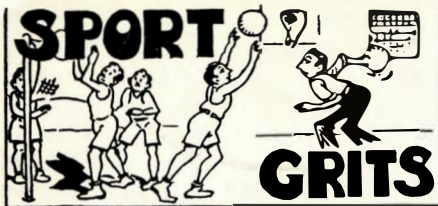
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Reports from 7,000 Illinois factories show that July payrolls and employment were about 1% ahead of June's. This is important because in the last seven years July has averaged 2% behind June.

\* \* \*

In 1934 Illinois produced 167,808,000 bushels of corn, its poorest yield, and three years later it produced 449,616,000, its best.





By Tony Romano

Please note: our account of the game with the Brady Colts in the last issue was in error. It should have read that Staley's beat the Colts 8 to 7 rather than the other way around. We robbed Joe Hilberling of the credit for a hard won ball game in which he struck out nine and walked only two and we hereby give it back. Sorry.

★ ★ ★

The hardball team had a tough time with the Peabody Coalers at Staley Field on August 25th and were sucked under 10 to 3 in spite of the fact that they played errorless ball and collected eight hits. The game was played in the rain and the Peabody team got seven runs away from Craig before he was relieved by Hilberling.

★ ★ ★

On September 1st the hardballers took on the Brady Colts of Mattoon again at Staley field and smacked them 6 to 2. Hilberling won again by scattering seven hits and striking out eight while Artze, Schultz and Hall were getting seven of ten solid Staley hits.

★ ★ ★

Four ball games (two won and two lost) have kept the Softball team busy. The J. S. & S. Shoe Co. team of Vandalia showed up at Staley field on August 23rd and were beaten 13 to 2 by the Staleys. Sapp was the pitcher and Smith, Helm and Artze were the batters who got seven of the eleven Staley hits. Koshinski knows how Babe Ruth used to feel now; he walked three times out of four.

★ ★ ★

The other three games were with the Hershey Blues who made 6 runs out of 5 hits and 4 errors while our gang was making 2 out of 7: with J. S. & S. Shoe Co. at Vandalia where the shoemakers made 12 runs out of 8 hits and 4 errors while the home boys were turning 9 hits and 5 errors into only 11 runs: with the Arnett Grocers of Pekin who went under 6 to 3 before a 10 hit onslaught. Everybody looked good in that game and almost everybody got a hit.

## That Fellow with the Oil Can

When the caveman dragged home a log he became aware of friction, the resistance to motion between surfaces in contact. When he found that rolling the log was easier than dragging it he took the first step toward reducing friction. He used that knowledge to construct wheels and carried his wood home on a cart. When the cart squeaked and pulled hard he remembered the slippery feel of animal fat and smeared some on the axle to lubricate it.

We know more about friction than the caveman did but we attack it the same way. We change sliding friction into rolling friction and we lubricate. The performance of every machine in our plant depends upon our ability to do both of those jobs well.

Sliding friction is caused by moving one surface across another. The log dragged across the ground is an example and so is a shaft revolving in a bronze or babbitt bearing. If the weight, which increases friction, or the speed, which intensifies it, are excessive, we'll probably have to remember the caveman's first lesson and change sliding friction to rolling friction by installing a ball or roller bearing. But anti-friction bearings are expensive and we use babbitt wherever we can.

The surface of the shaft and bearing, regardless of their polish, show rough under a microscope. When brought together they grip each other and the resulting friction wastes power and causes heat and wear. So we put a cushion between them; a cushion of mineral oil or grease. We use oil, rather than water or glucose or some other liquid, because it has some very special properties.

Like every other substance, oil consists of millions of molecules. They tend to grip each other and the surface of metals. When we put oil into a bearing some of it sticks to the shaft, some to the bearing and some to other particles of oil. We have several layers of oil, each one molecule thick, between the bearing and the shaft.

The job of our lubrication department is to keep an oil film of

proper thickness between shaft and bearing in every one of the thousands of bearings in our plant. That sounds easy but isn't. Almost every one of those shafts revolve at a different speed, carry a different load, operate in a higher or lower temperature, is set at a different angle, has to contend with varying degrees of moisture or dust or corrosion. All those things have to be taken into account.

Grease with a soda base is used to lubricate the axles of kiln cars because it withstands heat. That grease would ruin the bearings of a water pump because water would combine with the soda and thin the grease. It takes a line base grease for that job. A high speed bearing carrying small weight needs light oil. If the speed is low and the weight great the oil must be heavy. All of the varying prescriptions go back to the fundamental purpose of lubrication: keeping metal surfaces separated by a film of oil.

Molecules of oil are like little balloons. Normally they are round but when you squeeze them they flatten out. If you squeeze too hard they break. When that happens metal comes in contact with metal and that old devil friction gets a larger portion of our repair bill than he should. The remedy is a lubricant that has molecules strong enough for the job and weak enough that they won't set up a friction of their own and someone to replace them when they break or leak out.

That fellow with the oil can is doing a job for us. You'd realize that fact better if he ever quit coming around because all our machines would stop and we'd go home.

We have had fewer late reports to First Aid every month for the last four months. Don't be the fellow that starts us on the up-grade again. Every injury, no matter how small, must be reported to First Aid.