

THE WHITIN
Spindle
FEBRUARY 1948



A Letter to You from Our President

ESTABLISHED IN 1831
WHITIN MACHINE WORKS
WHITINSVILLE, MASS.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you the new edition of the Whitin Spindle.

All of us have many interests in common as employees of the Whitin Machine Works. The Whitin Spindle will bring us news of these common interests and will help us to become better acquainted. Through these pages we hope to share our experiences in the Shop, in our homes and in our various communities.

Our paper will take us on tours of the factory and show us how our Whitin Machines come into being. It will take us also into other factories and places and show us how the Whitin machines we make add daily to the convenience, happiness and life of our fellow Americans and of our friends abroad. In these columns we shall learn from each other how we can work more safely and more efficiently and how we can get along together harmoniously.

In short, the Whitin Spindle is a paper for and about us, the employees of the Whitin Machine Works. It is also a paper by the Whitin employees. Therefore, let us all take part in our new undertaking and make an outstanding success of it. Our editors, particularly, want our help, our suggestions and our criticisms. If all of us co-operate in every way, we can make our Whitin Spindle an outstandingly good shop paper. It all depends upon our mutual effort.

I hope that you will read and enjoy the Whitin Spindle and that it may bring our great family closer together.

J. Hugh Bolton
President

February 9, 1948



Reminiscing with the Editor

Remember the old SPINDLE that was published a number of years ago—the shop paper with its many laughs, good stories, photographs of shop employees, and interesting shop happenings?

Many of you older employees will remember the SPINDLE, but to members of the younger generation and newcomers to the plant, the SPINDLE, as it makes its re-appearance with this issue, is something new.

It was after World War I, when the SPINDLE was first published. During the first World War, and more so in World War II, there was a great turnover of labor here in the plant as well as in other industries. Many men were called to war duty, many moved to other places of employment, their work here in the Shop being carried on by people from all walks of life and from all parts of the country.

When the war ended and men returned to the Whitin Machine Works, they found many new faces, people they did not know. After a short span of years they felt like strangers in the plant to which they returned.

Through the new SPINDLE, which will be published once a month, we plan to renew old friendships, become acquainted with new employees and familiarize all with the general workings of the plant and with the Company's products.

The present staff hopes to make this new edition as interesting as the old SPINDLE back in the twenties.



KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

Volume I Number 1

NORMAN WRIGHT Editor
 LAWRENCE KEELER Associate Editor
 G. F. McROBERTS Contributing Editor
 MALCOLM PEARSON Photographic Editor
 HAROLD CASE Sports Editor
 DARRELL BURROUGHS }
 ARMAND COURNOYER } Cartoonists

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SPINNING DEPARTMENT

by

Francis J. Horan

Members of this department are in one accord on the re-issue of the SPINDLE. Everyone from O. Bonoyer, D. Bailey, and H. Ebbeling, the three oldest in point of service, to the newest men in the department, is pleased that once again he can watch for and read this paper that the employees can call their own. Years ago when it was printed every family certainly enjoyed its news and photos. At this time I would like to ask anyone who has any item of interest in our department not to hesitate to bring it to the column's attention.

Attention, by the way, was drawn to a traffic congestion on Douglas Road a few days ago by—well, we hope that L. Messier (Chet Greenwood's first assistant) has by this time availed himself of a little cylinder tape to prevent his battery from dropping onto the road.

The boys in the Woolen and Worsted Division (E. Marshall's) were pleased and amazed at Mario Colabello's rapid recovery after his accident in Milford. Who said an adjuster even with the right book cannot straighten out a lot of cases.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Harley Buna and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Valis on the births of sons, and Mr. and Mrs. L. Tanfani on the birth of a daughter.

We were glad to see some of the road men renewing acquaintances around the holidays. Among those we saw were R. Ferguson, F. Strom, F. Bazinet, E. Wallace, J. O'Brien, R. Chipman, O. Williams, S. Gustavson, L. Mooradian, and E. Racine. Hope these and other road men will forward news items and photos to the SPINDLE.

W. Oolovigian (Dillinger) hasn't got over his scare in New York yet, where he was held up and relieved of his cash. He met his sister, Louise, on the cellar stairs the other night when she was carrying a few sheets to the kitchen. With her arms well loaded, Walter thought he had just about entered the land of promise, and almost fainted away. Her quick call saved the front door from being torn off the hinges on his way out.

L. Paul Gamelin, down now to a mere shadow, will probably be glad when the big trip to the altar will be made this spring. Those 300-mile jaunts on a week-end are rough on anyone, Paul.

The Blue Eagle Inn has a new customer, the pride of Southbridge—not Bill Swiaki of Columbia fame, but K. Hutchinson who pays good money to live at the Blue Eagle, but manages to get to Connecticut twice a week. It looks as though Hutch is about ready to join the benedictists.

Department members wish to extend their sympathy to B. Kelliher and W. Leclair on the loss of brothers.

W. Willette is back to work after suffering from a bad fall and we hear that J. Graham is on the road to recovery from his recent illness.

L. Valle has resigned to take up the art of housework. Good luck, Lucy.

The medical journals claim that if you have avoided the current epidemics so far, you are either immune or your wife has taken over. It is called "Shovelitis."

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TOOL JOB

by

Shirley Oby

Tom Postma is having a month's vacation, meeting a lot of interesting people and being educated at the same time. Tom is serving on jury duty.

Position, style and technique add greatly to build up bowling scores, so they say. Did you ever watch Fred Cowburn roll 'em down the alley??

Darrell Burroughs who has amused us many times with his drawings and cartoons is now a member of THE WHITIN SPINDLE staff. We'll watch for your work, Darrell. Good luck.

Congratulations, Bill Moran, former Tool and Cutter man, on the birth of a 7-pound daughter born January 23.

Next time there's a fire the boys are going to send Walter Lawton a postcard. Seems that he missed the last one by two hours.

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CARDS & CARPENTER SHOPS

by Henry Mathurin

Joe Burns, Jr., of Department 440, is making plans to re-enter the Navy. Joe served three years in the Navy during the war as a gunner and participated in several major battles.

CONTRIBUTIONS

This first issue of the new SPINDLE may not be all-sweeping in its scope of shop doings, but the following issues should give greater coverage with your help. A publication of this type, in order to be interesting, requires the coöperation of each of us. For instance, if you have news items, stories, ideas, notes, hobbies, photographs, old or new, of yourself, your family or fellow workers, let us know about them.

We ought to have so many good news items that it will be just a matter of selection to present the most vital and interesting things that are happening daily right here in the shop.

We have on our staff, photographers, cartoonists and contributing editors as well as twenty reporters located throughout the plant. As you read through the SPINDLE, why not acquaint yourself with the reporter in your section and turn over to him or her, as the case may be, any lively, interesting news you may have.

FRONT COVER: The weather vane is believed to have been erected when belfry was built in 1852. The weather vane, six feet long and twenty inches high, is a replica of one of the first pickers built by John C. Whitin, founder of the Whitin Machine Works.

BACK COVER: Our record snowfall this year has been back-breaking to many. However, Jean Feddema and Eleanor Dorsey of the Personnel Department, find beauty in this snow-covered Magnolia tree located at the top of Forest Street. Photograph by Walter Departie.

SCREW & GRINDER JOBS

by Joe Martin

They say the boys in the Tool Crib are looking for a new job classification. They have a new rating as the "Plaster Pot Boys."

The department is going to give Harry Remillard a helper so that he won't get his other arm banged up. We will need him for the softball team.

Our deepest sympathy to William and Lewis Smith on the death of their father, Warren Smith, a former member of this department.

Where would the "get up and go" spirit of the Bonnie Brook basketball team be if it were not for the powerful lungs of that rabid fan, Pat McCudden.

Laurels to Tim Andrews who is going to give lessons on how to get the assistance of a certain farmer when your car gets stuck in the snow in Rockdale.

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GEAR JOB

by Jennie Ozog

Members of the Gear Job wish to extend best wishes for a speedy and thorough recovery to their foreman and everybody's friend, George S. Dyer, who is at his home recuperating from an operation performed a few weeks ago. The whole department misses George a lot and are all looking forward to having him back with us again soon.

Best wishes to Russell Rosborough on his engagement to Ann Kusiak of Uxbridge.

The only wedding of the month for Department 420 was that of Gerald DeJong to Charlotte Vincent of North Uxbridge, which took place at the Vincent home on January 17. The reception was also held at their home.

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AROUND THE PLANT

by Sally Jones

We sure are having some winter and I think all of us have had our fill of shoveling. If any of the town folks would like to hire some good men, I can recommend three good ones—Roy Drinkwater, Milton Philbrook and Bernard Shaw—they sure did a good job recently, digging out the fire truck when it skidded into a snow bank.

Peter Youngsma, of the Gear Job, came into the parking lot Monday, January 5, and parked his car in his regular stall. As he was leaving, he noticed that one of his neighbors had gone away and left his car lights on and as Peter is a good Boy Scout, he went over and switched off his friend's lights. Having done his good deed for the day, he went on his merry way. Now comes the \$64 question—who turned Peter's lights out????

Gerrit Ebbeling, the genial foreman of the Core Room, had some lockers painted recently. As Ebbie is a thoughtful sort of a chap and does not want anyone to get messed up, he put up a sign that read "Wet Paint"—now, it seems, the old boy does not believe in signs for he was the only one to get into it.

MILLING & CHUCK JOBS

by Joe Roche

Jerry St. Germain of the Milling Job and the Mrs. are receiving congratulations on the birth of a baby boy—7 lb. 7 oz.—at Woonsocket Hospital, Wednesday, January 14.

Bill Baszner, Sr., of the Milling Job, left for Miami, Fla., Saturday, January 24, for a six weeks' vacation. Accompanying Bill was his wife and daughter, Mary Phyllis, also his granddaughter, Linda Baszner, daughter of Bill Baszner, Jr., of the Planer Job. Here's wishing them a very pleasant trip.

Bob Gardner of the Chuck Job was a very puzzled boy the other night. It seems he was all set to go home and he looked around and everybody was laughing at him. He couldn't figure it out until he put his coat on, and then he found a sign hung on his back announcing his coming marriage on Saturday, January 24, to Hilda Johnson of Blackstone. They were married in Woonsocket, R. I. Here's wishing Bob and Hilda the best of luck.

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RING JOB

by Ted Bisson

Arnold Patella had a close call Friday morning, January 23, while on his way to work. As he was coming down Hill Street, a trailer truck forced him off the road. Arnold's car turned over, not once, not twice, but three times. We're all glad to see that you were not injured.

Louis Paul, our former time clerk, has left our ranks for the Army Air Corps. He reported for duty at San Antonio, Texas.

Our bowling league began its second half on Friday, January 2. Due to Parriscaw's expert bowling on Friday, January 23, the "Five B's" are now leading the second half by one point. The Teamsters, who took the first half, are right on their heels.

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PICKERS & ROVING ERECTING

by

Sidney Meidema

Mr. Joseph Charles LeClair died January 22, 1948, at the age of forty-four years, after several weeks of illness at Milford Hospital. He was employed at the Whittin Machine Works for twenty-five years, worked on Department 421A Card Flats and was last employed at Department 421. He leaves his widow and one daughter, both of North Uxbridge. We express our heartfelt sympathy to his family.



SPINDLE JOB

by

Joe Hickey

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bill Petrin upon the death of his four-year-old son, Edward.

Best wishes to Jennie Konvent, who became the bride of Frank Chosta of Northbridge in St. Patrick's Rectory, January 12. They are honeymooning at Miami Beach, Fla., for three weeks.

Department 439 extends wishes for a speedy recovery to Marion Larson who is confined to her home with rheumatic fever.

The Spindle Job Bowling League is enjoying a good season. Competition within the league has been very keen, resulting in many close matches. The first half was won by the Sacred Cows, who by the way, are leading the second half by a wide margin with 10 games won and 6 lost, and the Silver Clippers are close on their heels with 9 games won and 7 games lost.

While shoveling snow on Sunday, January 18, Martin Gahan suffered a heart attack and at present is resting comfortably at his home on Pine Street. We extend our best wishes for a fast recovery.

Joe Pelletier was playing cards during the noon hour recently. On a certain play Joe got excited and reached for a cigarette to soothe his nerves. A moment later his blood pressure went up again, one of the shop guards handed him a ticket for smoking.

Members of the Spindle Job are looking forward to moving to their new location above the Wood Pattern Job.

A freak accident occurred outside of the Spindle Job on Wednesday, January 21. A huge icicle hanging from the roof over the Small Packing Job came loose from its moorings and plunged earthwards, taking in its wake three windows. The heavy ice just crushed the windows in, one window on each floor. Fortunately no one was injured. The damage was taken care of within a few hours.

Sonny Adams had battery trouble with his car. Being a mechanic, he took the battery out, put it on the front seat and fixed it. After the battery had been put back into place, Sonny forgot to throw away the piece of cloth he had underneath it on the seat, which, by the way, was covered with acid from the battery. A few hours later as Sonny was going about his work, he felt a sudden draft in the rear of his pants. Looking around he discovered that he had a large hole in his pants and getting larger as the acid ate the cloth away. Sonny went home—

(Continued on page 6)

Keeping Up with the News

(Continued from page 5)



FOUNDRY

by

Varkis Arakelian

Joseph Duquette, president of the A.F.L. Union in the foundry, has been out ill for nine months. Joe is in the Worcester County Sanitarium and is doing nicely. Joe is one of the old-timers in the foundry and we all wish him a speedy recovery. Armand Houle has been voted in as acting president of the A.F.L. until Joe has fully recovered to take over his duties.

Albert Johnson recently returned from Oakham, England, where he visited his parents. Albert hadn't seen his parents for twenty-four years and it was really quite a reunion. Albert liked England and says they are reconstructing the bombed area there quite rapidly. "It was great to be with the folks," Albert said, "and the people were swell to me, but still there's no place like the good old U.S.A."

Frank Shugrue has been appointed supervisor of the Squeezer Unit Pourers, Weight Shifters and Bench Pourers. His job is to improve casting quality by reducing misruns and duty castings. Frank was assistant foreman of the Bench Molders.

Joseph Deneault has entered the hospital for the removal of his appendix. Joe will be out of the foundry about six to eight weeks.

Armand Gagnon at this time of the season has only one interest after working hours. His main interest now is trying to get his bowling average up high enough so he can take honors at Worcester Telegram Bowling Tournament. Last year Armand did very well; he came in second in the first round with a score of 1,121 for ten strings. But competition was great and this score didn't take any prize. His average is now 106, but he's trying to do better. We wish you luck, Armand, and I know you'll have plenty of your friends there rooting for you.

Daniel Kazerian is out sick and it will be good to have him back on the job as soon as he gets well.

Pete DeBoer is taking a three months' leave of absence to visit Worku, Holland. The ship he's leaving on is the "Vee Nean" of the Holland American Lines which leaves from Hoboken, N. J., May 7, 1948. Pete is going to visit his two brothers whom he hasn't seen for twenty-five years.

Rouke Delang was operated on Monday, January 5, for appendicitis, and is well on the road to recovery.

ROLL JOB

by Harold O'Connell

We extend heartfelt sympathy to Harold Tatro upon the death of his mother, Mrs. Cecilia Tatro, Saturday, January 3.

Chester Flinton, Edward Ebbeling, Herman DeVries, Andrew McKaig, John Baker, and John Onanian attended a hockey game between the Boston Bruins and Detroit Red Wings, Wednesday evening, January 14, at the Boston Garden.

Best wishes to: Janet Wenclauik whose engagement to Raymond Stefancyk of Department 429 has been announced; Virginia Pelton who was married to Julius Senkarik of Department 437, December 6, 1947 in Boston—they are making their home in Whitinsville; Victoria Gelinis who was married to Leonard Miskiawick, Foundry, Saturday, September 10, 1947 in Woonsocket, R. I.

Wilfred Reneau has returned to work after an absence of five months due to illness. . . . The night shift boys miss the services of Wilfred Morin who resigned to manage his filling station in Linwood.

COMBER JOB

by Hector Chase

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Valente of Free Street, Milford, will celebrate their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, February 15, 1948. Members of the Comber Job wish Mr. and Mrs. Valente the best of health and may they live to celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

The Comber Job Benefit Club had its annual elections and the following were elected: Hector W. Chase, president; Oliver Benoit, vice-president; Franklin Greene, treasurer; Edward Jones, secretary; and Patrick Kelley, member-at-large.

BOLT & PLANER DEPTS.

by Ray Woodcome

Many happy returns to Doris Rankin who celebrated her birthday January 9. A party was held in the Bolt Job crib during the noon hour. Girls from Department 412 attended.

Many happy returns also to Ray Young, assistant foreman of Department 412, who also had a birthday January 9.

Veronica Mahoney of Department 412 attended the "Ice Capades" in Boston with the Thursday night bowling group. She reported that the show was very good this year. This report coming from Veronica should be tops, as she takes in all the New York shows.

COTTON MILL

by Wm. Smith

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. William Benjamin who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on December 15, 1947. Mr. Benjamin is the popular watchman at the mill; also to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Tebeau on their twenty-sixth wedding anniversary to be celebrated on the twenty-seventh of February.

Congratulations are in order to Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Ledoux on their recent addition to the family, an 8-lb. 11-oz. boy, born at the Whitinsville Hospital on Saturday, January 17.

This department boasts of an unparalleled combination. They have working with them two morticians. They are Lawrence Volpe, Sr., and Lawrence Volpe, Jr., father and son, of Milford.

Alan Blizzard complained to me of a strange malady. He said it was termed "dogitis." Seems he was the cook at the last Foremen's Club Meeting.

BOLSTER JOB

by Bizar Hagopian

Congratulations and best of luck to Harold Emond of Department 438 and Clara VanBrug of Department 439 who were married in the Methodist parsonage on Friday, December 26, 1947.

In the past fifteen weeks, Thys Baker has won the weekly bowling prize at the Pythian Alleys for high three strings fourteen times. Thys, one of the leading bowlers in town, holds the high three records of 420 at the Sparetime Alleys and 434 at the Pythian Alleys.



Jock Davidson

Jock is going to work in Jacob DeJong's office. We will surely miss Jock as he has been working in Department 438 for fifteen years. He was presented a pen and pencil set by his friends. Dominic O'Gara is now working as stock clerk in the Bolster Job office, taking Jock Davidson's place.

Bill Gouin, on the night shift, is a proud parent of a baby girl. Bill also broke his thumb recently but says it's healing fast and it won't be long before he'll be back working on the automatics again.

ROVING SMALL PARTS

by Betty McCudden

Arthur Litke recently bought a 12-gallon tank equipped with thermostat, for his family of twenty-four tropical fish. Late the other

night, upon returning from a visit with Harold Litke, Art found the fish floating on the top of the water in a semiconscious state. A checkup found the thermostat had stuck and the water was 110 degrees. As town water contains chlorine, and the fish cannot live in it, Art made a hasty trip to the pond, chopped a hole in the ice, brought a couple of pails home on the double and saved the fish. On last report the fish were expected to recover.

Mary Hugley recently bought a new electric refrigerator. After a few days, Mary noticed that the refrigerator was stopping for no apparent cause, then starting again. She complained to the merchant that the refrigerator was defective. However, before the repair man came, Mary found that in some way it was hooked up to the bathroom light switch and when anyone put the light on or off, it affected the refrigerator.

FREIGHT HOUSE

by J. Harold Baszner

We are glad to say that after weeks of illness Levi Rascoe, supervisor of the Loading gangs, has returned to work and is looking fit once again.

The month of December, 1947, brought wedding bells closer to one of the members of the freight house office—Clarence Bisson, by name. I understand a few of the boys he works with are proceeding to give him a good talking to on how to be a good husband. Anyway he certainly has picked a lovely girl to walk down life's path with—Miss Janet Britten.

Thurston K. Brown, assistant traffic manager, became the proud daddy of his second son, Sunday, January 18. His wife, the former Madeline Gorman, and baby are doing fine. Congratulations.

James H. Metcalf, who is working in the freight office, soon leaves to go back into radio work. Starting February 1 he will announce the station breaks at WAAB, Worcester. We all wish him the best of luck.

The packing job lost one of its old members Monday, January 19, in the passing of Moosck Bedigian, formerly of the foundry. We extend our sympathy to his family.

OFFICE NEWS

by Florence Pielecki

With this our initial edition of the SPINDLE we have two or three reporters in practically every office with their ears, eyes and noses pitched on high frequency catching everything that might be termed as news. We aim to please and as time goes on, I promise you, our aim will get better.

Alice Ferguson and Gene Kennedy report from the Main Office that George Broadhurst was operated on Tuesday, January 13, at City Hospital, Worcester. The latest word from George is that he is getting alone fine.

Dick Dunn left Tuesday, January 13, and is going to work in the Sales Department of the Charlotte Office. He was formerly in

the Export Sales Department here in the plant.

News from the Engineering Department was handled by Barbara Brown and Flora Frieswyk, to wit: We welcome to the Drafting Room, James C. Hobbs, from Oil City, Pa. Hobbs is our new welding engineer and we hope his stay with us will be a long and happy one. We also welcome to our department, Charles R. Drabem, of Franklin, Mass. He is an amateur magician and a very good one.

The Drafting Room takes pleasure in announcing the engagements of three of their girls. Betty Connors received a ring from Henry Bianchi of Milford, Muriel Dupre from Henry Gaulin of Woonsocket and Barbara Brown from William Pendergast of Whitinsville. The favorite song in the Drafting Room at this point is "I'll Dance at Your Wedding."

Mame Britton, Janet Pielecki and Herbert Lighbown collaborated on the Repair Department news and they roll out the "welcome mat" to three newcomers, Reggie Rascoe, Ruth Cormier and Chet Walker.

Marion Gonlag McCooley, S. R. Mason's former secretary, and Captain Jim, of the Occupational Army, are in Germany. Marion writes, "the war has done much damage to the old Germany, but the people seem somehow to struggle on." Marion and Jim plan a vacation in Switzerland and hope to see the Winter Olympics. We hope we'll hear about the dazzling event from them. It may interest you all to know that Marion has a German voice teacher and is progressing nicely with her singing lessons.

Ollie Walker, who accepted a position with a Southern concern as a salesman, was feted at a farewell party during the Christmas season. Sidney Mason presented Ollie a portfolio in behalf of the office force. Ollie's duties commenced January 1—beginning the New Year—NEW.

Charlie Pearson and wife left by car for a month's lull in the warm sands of Miami. They were accompanied by the Leon Houghtons, now of Andover. Remember Sally formerly with the Cafeteria staff, and Leon from P. B. Walker's office? Leon and Sally plan to stay in Hollywood, Fla., for their vacation.

Tad Wallace, Maurice Murray and Hugh Currie were approached at the very last minute to be reporters. They gave me the eagle eye and came across with the following. Congratulations are in order for Eileen Mary Kane, who was married February 7 in St. Patrick's Church to John D. Sawtelle of Blackstone. John is employed in the post office in Blackstone, and upon returning from their wedding trip they will take up residence in that town. Three other young ladies who will soon be wedded from the Production Department are Betty Lafrancois of Fisherville, Simone Labrecque of Linwood, and Patricia Murray of Whitinsville. Betty is engaged to Frederic Baker of Castle Hill Road and no date has been set for the wedding. Simone will wed Jack Gilchrist of this department June 19 in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Linwood. "Pat" Murray

Fifty Years Plus —



James R. Ferry

It would not seem fitting and proper if in this first edition of the SPINDLE, we did not give a thought to these two young men. James Ferry, now at the age of 87 years, has worked 69 of those years here in the plant. Albert Brown, age 81 years, has been employed at Whitin for 65 years. Both of these men are working every day—an admirable and fine record.



Albert J. Brown

and Henry Rivet of the Drafting Room will be married in St. Patrick's Church come April 17.

(Continued on page 10)



by

Harold Case

Greetings, readers! Before starting this column of sports here and there, I would like to say that I hope you will get some pleasure from it and also any and all contributions will be cheerfully accepted. That goes for any criticisms too! A person once said that he might not be able to improve something but he could always change it—which hardly will hold true on these efforts—improvement will be easy. So let's have them.

The local sports picture is rather bare at this writing. Basketball, of course, is the big excitement and any reader who hasn't been down to the Gym to see at least one night of basketball games is passing up a good bet. One of the "refs" who hails from Worcester told me he was very much surprised at the brand of ball played in the Industrial League. In fact, he insisted that most of the teams could take any team in any league now functioning in Worcester.

Another interesting feature of these games, besides witnessing good ball playing, is that the fans are never too certain who will win every time out. Of course, Bonnie Brook is a perennial winner, but even they have had a few close calls and there is always the "off-night" to worry about. Thursday, December 18, the game of the season was Bonnie Brook versus Belval's Cafe (the latter has been the only team so far to defeat the Brooks). The series was settled evenly when

time was up and most of the spectators went home. It was almost ten o'clock and after all, six a.m. comes early; but by leaving early they missed the best game of the night. The Triple A and the C.I.O. were battling it out for the cellar and from the second quarter on first one was ahead then the other and the C.I.O.'s came out on top by the small margin of two points, thus giving them their first win and it looks like they have the makings for some more victories in the second half of the league. Last year the Gym had a team in the league and, without any trouble at all, they lost nineteen games in a schedule of twenty. The twentieth game was the pay-off as they defeated Belval's, thus forcing them into a tie with the N. V. Cafe for fourth place. The tie-breaking game found the N. V. Cafe getting into the play-offs. Looks like there is fair possibility of the same situation coming up again this year.

First game is six forty-five and the last game starts anywhere around ten o'clock. Bring a lunch if you wish! As several games will have been played between the writing of this column and the time you read it, I don't see much point in giving you figures of the league standings as they may be radically changed almost any day. However, you might like to know that in determining the winner the Shaughnessy system of play-offs will be used. That is, the first four teams will be eligible for these play-offs and at the moment Bonnie Brook is leading with the Plummer A.A. in second spot and the N. V. Cafe and Belval's tied up in third place. So much for basketball.

The only other active indoor sport is bowling. It is interesting to note that the averages of the highest individual three-string scorers, Fred Siefertowski of the Shop League and



Photograph by Walter Departie

Exciting moment in basketball game between Bonnie Brook and Plummer A.A., Thursday night, January 15. Left to right: Harley Buma, Tom Cawley, Mike Kosiak, and John Magill with the ball. Jackie Radcliffe is shown in the left background

Ed Postma of the Tool Job League are about six points apart. Fred has a 100.7 average for 48 strings and Ed has a 94.6 for 45 strings. A match between the two leagues would rate a toss-up as practically all of the

bowlers in both leagues who have rolled around 45 strings are, at the most, less than three points apart in averages. How about someone promoting a best two-out-of-three match at the end of the season for a dinner?



Photograph by Walter Departie

Bob English, captain of the office bowling team, showing the Screw Job team how to roll them. Seated: Herb Park, Francis Fleener, John Baker, and Dave Buma. Standing: Dick Sanderson and Mal Young. Bob's team is leading the league in the second half of the contest

IDEAS MEAN MONEY TO YOU

During the year 1947, \$4,189 was paid to employes for worth-while suggestions.



David Gray, formerly of the Screw Job, now with Methods, received the highest single award, \$435. Dave suggested a better and faster method of slotting screws.

A Quarter of a Century Ago

George W. Rae, of the Electrical Department, attended an alumni dinner at the Wentworth Institute in Boston, Saturday night, February 10.

Oliver Benoit and Nap Guertin went ice fishing in Meadow Pond, and reported a catch of forty-four perch and pickerel.

The Whitinsville Checker Club is planning weekly matches and has arranged a tournament with Clinton and Woonsoeket.

Anthony Campo, pitcher for the Yard Baseball Team, champions of the 1922 season, was married to Louise White, of 8 Border Street, Whitinsville, Mass.

The annual meeting of the Whitinsville Rifle Club was held Friday evening, February 2, in the Employment Department. Plans were made to make the coming season the best in the history of the Rifle Club. It was estimated that the membership would include fifty members.

Quick Action Prevents Explosion

Leon Guyette, a welder, with his quick thinking and acting, prevented a fire in the Welding Room from reaching very serious proportions, Wednesday, January 28.

Gene Tatro, another welder, working near Guyette, was busy welding a piece of metal and using the gas from an acetylene tank on a hand truck which also contained an oxygen tank.

Unknown to Gene, while he was welding, the gas from the acetylene tank started to leak around the valve at the top of the tank. Suddenly, as the gas flowed from the leak closer to Gene's torch, there was a blinding flash of light. The escaping gas had been ignited by the flame from the torch.

The intensity of the fire around the tank caused the four safety valves to burst open on the head of the tank, resulting in five flames shooting from the tank at the same time. This started the automatic sprinklers overhead.

Leon Guyette, noticing the blaze, put on his hat, coat, and gloves for protection from the flames, rushed over to the tank and tried to stop the escaping gas. Realizing his efforts were useless, he pulled the oxygen tank away from the flaming acetylene knowing that if the oxygen heated up, it would in all probability explode causing untold damage as well as loss of life.

The Fire Department was called but before the fire could be brought under control, considerable welding material in the vicinity of the fire was destroyed.

VETERANS

All veterans who have volunteered for Honor Guard duty for our returning war dead will be excused from their work for a period of three hours with no loss of time. They will be paid on their day rate basis.

INCOME TAX RETURNS

Just as a reminder, the Massachusetts State Tax returns are due March 1. You must file a return if your gross income was over \$2,000 for the year 1947. The deadline for your return to Uncle Sam is March 15.

Service Men Receive Albums



Sunday, January 11, all veterans who served in World War II from the town of Northbridge, received books containing their pictures and service records. With the cooperation of the people of the town and through the untiring efforts of Lawrence Keeler, editor-in-chief of the "News from Home" and his committee, this presentation was made possible.

Photographs by Kenneth Stanley

Upper left: Several of the boys sat down to check over the book. Earl Blair, Riverdale; Phil Skillen of the Tool Job; Richard Haywood, Riverdale; and Harvey Roy, Spindle Job

Lower left: Lawrence Keeler presenting Dave Buma with one of the first albums

Upper right: Ted Wallace looking over album with four-year-old daughter, Janet. She was as interested in the album as was her father

Lower right: Milkman Joffre Lavallee took time out from the Rockdale Dairy to pick up his album. He is shown with Edward Kilcline, who works on the Metal Pattern Job

Keeping Up with the News

(Continued from page 7)

The recent snow has broken all records this winter, and the Production Department has a singular distinction as far as records go. F. O. Rizer, our production manager, established a record himself when he became the first Texan in the history of the Lone Star State to buy a pair of overshoes and a snow shovel the same day. We know that "F. O." uses the overshoes, but we are not so sure that we can say the same for the shovel.

"Doc" Couliard who has been taken more or less for a continuous ride by "what a gang, Gummy," is in his element. It seems that said "Gummy" recently went up to the Pattern Loft to get the pattern on a steel cam.

Old man weather has given all of us trouble one way or another, but Frank Mullins could use a little of your sympathy. It seems that "Mull" was working until 9 p.m. one night and noticing how bad the weather was, he

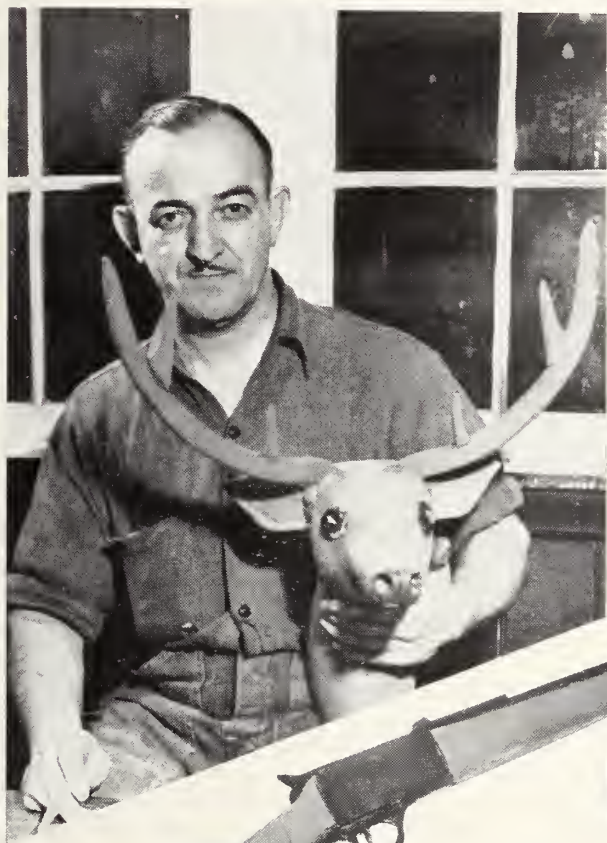
decided to call his wife and tell her he was going to stay at the Blue Eagle Inn. Well it so happened, that at the same time he picked up the phone, the loud speaker gave out with a hot polka. His wife still believes he was phoning from a barroom. (Hmmm, must of been "Rock and Rye Polka.")

Ray Bagley worked his way through the snows to Providence with a diamond for Marie Phillips and she's gonna keep it. Joe Platukis has been drawing up house plans which looks like the wedding with the girl friend is not far away. Dick Rau, the cartoonist, of Methods, adds—Priseilla Kane of our department and Harry Osterman exchanged "I do's" January 31 in St. Patrick's Rectory, Whitinsville. They will reside at 26 North Main Street after a wedding trip. Our best to both of you.

Frank Martin, our reporting rate setter, sandwiched in the following—now that the holiday rush is over and we are back on the beam, we find a few new members added to our Time Study Department. Mrs. Paul Marin who arrived here from Nuernberg, Germany, September 16 is now residing in West Upton. Also Mrs. Thomas Cahill from Manchester, England, who came to the States, March 1, 1946. Let's hope they enjoy their work and stay in the Time Study office.

Leonard H. Skerry walked the church aisle with Dorothy Hobart of Whitinsville, on January 31. We all wish them the best of everything. We only noticed one new diamond in the Payroll Computation Department, and that on the hand of Lorraine Gauthier, who pledged her troth to Robert Blair of Riverdale.

HOBBIES — Animals of Sand



Henry LaPlante with his deer head made from baked sand. The main part of the head is made from two cores and pasted into one piece. The eyes, ears, and antlers are also separate cores filed to size and pasted together. The time involved to complete the head was five hours



This automatic rifle and bear's head are fine examples of Henry's ingenuity with a file and pieces of baked sand. The rifle is complete in every detail even to the sights. The bear's head is also complete in detail with teeth and a tongue. Each tooth was filed separately and pasted into the mouth. Both these pieces were painted to make them look even more realistic

Henry LaPlante of the Core Room, with the use of a file, hacksaw, and paste, turns broken cores (baked sand) into lifelike looking animal heads, ducks, fish, or what have you.

Henry lives in Woonsocket, R. I., and is unable to go home for lunch at noon. After eating his lunch in the shop, he found that time was hanging heavy on his hands while waiting for the one o'clock bell to ring.

One day he was wondering how to utilize the noon hour when he noticed several broken cores piled up in one corner of the Core Room. He picked up one of the cores and started filing on it, with the idea in mind of making a reasonable facsimile of a rabbit. After working on the project for thirty minutes, the core had been transformed into a very good likeness

of that fast-moving, four-footed little animal.

Encouraged with the results of his first efforts, he decided to attempt more complicated pieces such as a deer's head or a bear's head. The cores, being small in most cases, he found it was necessary to paste several pieces together in order to start out with a large enough piece of sand to obtain the life-size figures he planned to end up with. After this operation, he used a hacksaw to cut off the surplus sand and the rough and coarse edges. The file was then used for the more intricate details.

To date, Henry has completed quite an array of figures, including a deer's head, bear's head, ducks, rabbits, fish, fishing rod and a rifle.

Alert Co-workers Rescue Employee

John Swart of the Parkerizing Department, was recently saved from instant death by his fellow workers, William Morrisette, Rene Ethier and Clayton Thurber.

Swart and Morrisette were lowering pieces of steel into a hot water bath when the accident occurred. This bath is used to remove excess liquid coating from metals after they have been Parkerized or rust-proofed.

When metal parts are ready for the bath after the Parkerizing operation, they are hung on hooks attached to a 15-foot horizontal bar or rod. The pieces are then lowered by hand into a tank of boiling water 15 feet long, 20 inches wide and 3 feet deep. In order to make it easier when lowering or lifting work from the tank, a 10-inch high wooden step, running parallel with the tank, is used to stand on. Swart standing on this step, started to lower his end of the bar, while Morrisette handled the other end. Somehow, Swart lost his balance, struck his chin against the tank and slid into the hot water.

Morrisette immediately ran to Swart's aid and pulled him out of the tank. In the meantime, Rene Ethier and Clayton Thurber noticing the accident, rushed over to Swart and took off his clothing to prevent him from further scalding. They then rushed him to the Shop Hospital.

The excellent manner in which these men handled a very serious situation is highly commendable.

The shop ambulance crew, as well as the members of the Whitinsville Blood Donors Club, deserve a great deal of credit for the part they also played in this accident case. The ambulance crew, after being called, arrived on the scene within a very short period of time. Already the Blood Donors Club is replacing the Memorial Hospital Blood Bank with 25 pints of blood for Swart. We are happy to report that Swart is receiving excellent care, and there is every prospect for his recovery. Everyone hopes that he will soon be well and with us again.

