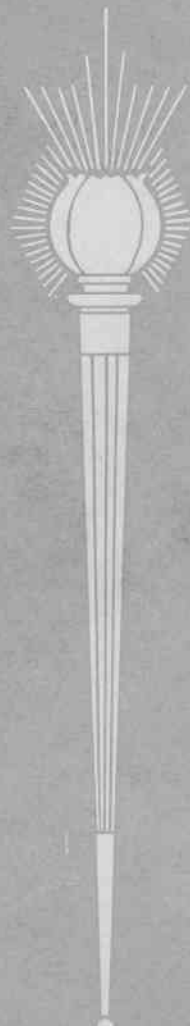
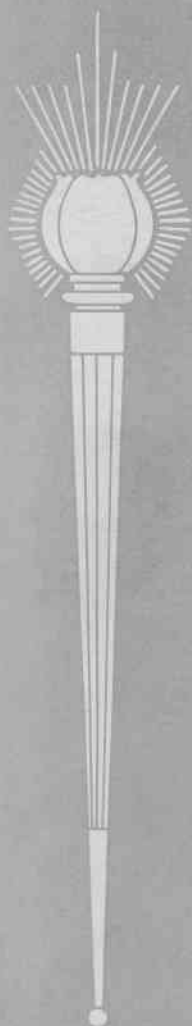


GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS



The Heart's Prayer

GIVE me the courage
today to go through
these twenty-four hours of
joys and sorrows with a
smile. Help me to make
one more friend and to
keep the friends I have.
Carry me through this day
an optimist, working—
helping and cheering my
fellow toilers.

AUGUST, 1912

Published monthly by the
ROCHESTER RAILWAY AND LIGHT CO.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

For the Information of Its Employees

GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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Vol. 1

AUGUST, 1912

No. 4

Rochester's First Underground System

By C. N. PRATT



The first underground system of electric distribution installed in Rochester was the Edison three wire, Edison tube being used. It was laid August, 1886, and the current turned on for the first time October 9, 1886. The installation consisted of seven feeders to the following points: Main and Clinton; Main and St. Paul, two; Main and Front; Main and Exchange; W. Main and Irving Place; and State opposite Church Street. The tubes varied in size from 168,000 CM. to 450,000 CM. The Edison main system, fed from the above tubes on each side of the street, extended from North Street on the east to Fitzhugh Street on the west; from St. Paul and Main Streets to the New Osburn House; from State and Main Streets to Church Street on the east side of the street; from Aqueduct and Main Streets to the Erie Canal; and from Irving Place and Main Street to the canal. The mains varied in size from 27,000 CM. to 168,000 CM.; and eight tube junction boxes practically constituted the initial installation.

The construction of the Edison tube consists of an iron pipe 20 feet long, and three copper conductors 20 feet 5 inches long; each conductor is spirally wrapped with hemp rope. The three conductors are then wrapped together with rope which has been previously dried, so as to extract all of the moisture to increase its insulating qualities. This rope acts in two capacities, as a separator and an insulator. After the three conductors have gone through the wrapping process, they are drawn into the iron pipe, the ends projecting two and one-half inches. A cap is then screwed on each end. One has a petcock to allow the air to escape, and the other a connection that can be coupled to a pump line. The tube is stood on an incline, the pump connected with a tank of hot compound. The hot compound is then pumped in at the bottom of the tube, the petcock being open allows the air to escape, until the compound reaches the top. The pump is then stopped, allowing the compound to cool. When cold a hard rubber plug is pressed in the end of the pipe, allowing the conductors to project two and one-half inches. The tubes are laid in trenches. The ends are

then connected with flexible cable. After this is done the conductors and joints must be wiped thoroughly. Then an iron box is bolted on ready to receive the insulating compound which is poured in hot and allowed to cool, then refilled and the top put on, after which the trench is ready to fill.

The feeder tubes are constructed in the same way as the mains, with the exception that three pressure wires are inserted in the tube of 14 B. & S. insulated wire. These are connected together in the jointing box the same as the feeder conductors, making six wires from the station to the feeding point. The feeders and mains are connected together in what are known as junction boxes. The junction box is built with three rings inside it; each insulated from the main and feeder tubes. These are connected to stubs on the box with terminals that reach near the top of the box on the same plane as the lugs, or the three insulated rings. These terminals and rings are so spaced that a fuse may be inserted from the terminals and rings of the same polarity, connecting them all together, so that the current from the switchboard is delivered to this

point and thence through the system of mains to the services.

The pressure wires spoken of in the feeder tubes are connected to the main junction boxes through a fuse, thus carrying the current back to the switchboard, where they are connected again to voltmeters and differential galvanometers telling when the voltage is high or low at the point they came from, allowing the station operator to raise or lower the voltage as the case may be.

All of the work of installing our present underground system had to be done with the greatest of care, considering that it was installed in the very early history of incandescent lighting.

A few weeks ago the manhole at South Avenue and Court Street took fire, caused by a short circuit in some of the cables, causing six feeders of the New York State Railways to be shut down at a very critical time of peak load. The blaze also burned a number of this Company's cables, among them some of the 11,000 volt lines from No. 33 Station, 4,100 volt distributing lines, Edison mains and trunk cables for the arc system. This work was taken care of admirably by the co-operation of our men, for which we wish to thank them.

It is better not to have an accident than to pay for it afterwards.

Do not take a chance to save time; the Company prefers to pay for your time while at work, not while in bed.

The list of contributing Editors contains the name of every Department head. They are busy men but they realize the possibilities of GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS and are willing to give of their time and talents to help it along. We appreciate your generous support, gentlemen.

Be the man you want the world to think you are.

Every employee should take seriously to heart the absolute necessity for taking the greatest possible care in safeguarding against fires in all our plants and offices. Be particularly careful in the use of matches.

It cost this Company \$13,000 in 1910 for injuries to employees. Most of the above sum could have been saved by being careful, not to speak of the suffering which could have been avoided.

What is a Kilowatt?

By J. O. MONTIGNANI



In one of the recent monthly magazines a story is told of a lady, who, bustling up indignantly to the information counter of a certain electric lighting company, demand-

ed an explanation of the fact that she had been charged for fourteen kilowatts, when she didn't have a kilowatt in the house, only some Mazda lamps and an electric flat-iron. Not until considerable time had been spent by a representative of the company in careful and patient explanation did the lady go away satisfied that she had not been asked to pay for something which had not been actually delivered to her. There are many people who, like this lady, not knowing the true significance of the terms used in stating their bills for electrical energy, are inclined to feel suspicious that at times the lighting company is taking advantage of their ignorance by sending them bills far in excess of value received.

These same people place absolute confidence in their judgment as to whether or not they have received good measure in the pound of butter or gallon of oil that is delivered by their grocer, and have scales and measures as auxiliaries to hand and eye. There is no reason why a similar careful observation of their electrical energy consuming devices should not indicate to them pretty closely what size of a bill to expect, and the recording wattmeter on their service is a check on their judgment far more accurate and reliable than most household measuring devices.

There are few of us to whom the question is not put from time to time by some customer seeking en-

lightenment, "Just what is a kilowatt hour?" and it is in the hope of suggesting a suitable answer to that question that this article is written.

When a current of electricity is passed through a wire a certain amount of work is done, exactly as a certain amount of work is done when a quantity of water is caused to flow upwards through a pipe by means of a pump. In the case of the water the work done is measured by foot pounds. A foot pound means an amount of work that is done when a force equal to one pound weight has caused a body to move through a distance of one foot. If one lifts a pound of sugar or other material through a vertical distance of one foot he has caused the movement by the exertion of a force equivalent to one pound's weight and has therefore done one foot pound of work. Work is work whether done mechanically or electrically and could in either case be expressed by the same unit term, but for convenience in differentiating between these forms of energy the foot pound is used as the unit of mechanical work, while a unit known as the "Joule," named after Joule, the noted British scientist, is the analogue of the foot pound in expressing electrical work. The Joule is equal to .738 foot pounds.

The rate at which work is done, or the amount done in a given time, such as a minute, is called "power;" mechanical power is usually divided into units called "horse-power;" a horse-power is equal to 33,000 foot pounds of work done per minute.

Electrical power is measured in terms of a unit known as the Watt (named after the celebrated Scottish engineer who invented the modern steam engine). A watt is work done

at the rate of one joule per second, and equals $1/746$ horse-power. For large amounts of power, the kilowatt, equal to 1,000 watts, is the unit commonly used. The kilowatt equals approximately $1\frac{1}{3}$ horse-power. When we speak, therefore,

of a kilowatt-hour, we mean that an amount of work equal to a power of one kilowatt exerted for one hour has been done. Similarly one horse-power exerted for one hour would represent a horse-power hour of work or .746 kilowatt hours.

The Company's Mailing System

By MISS AMELIA HERALD



Like all large corporations the Rochester Railway & Light Company has a special mailing department. The name is suggestive of the duties involved. Care of incoming and outgoing mail, and a messenger delivery service, are some of its main features. Its employees number three, with whose faces undoubtedly most readers of this magazine are familiar. The regular incoming mail averages anywhere from two to five hundred letters a day, but on discount days, such as the fifteenth and sixteenth of each month several thousand letters are received.

The letters are carefully sorted, personal missives being separated from the Company's mail, and delivered to the proper parties by the boy in charge. In case your mail is mislaid or is not delivered, kindly notify this department at once and care will be taken to prevent a repetition of the annoyance.

Undoubtedly many of our fellow workers have seen the electric letter opener which not only saves time in opening the letters, but enables the departments to receive their mail possibly an hour sooner than they ordinarily would. After the mail is opened, each enclosure is taken from the envelope, carefully read and sent to the proper department.

A great deal of time and inconvenience would be saved in this and other departments if those writing business letters would instruct the person replying to refer to the sender's initials or department. For instance, a stamp bearing the inscription, "In reply please refer to C. O. H."

The outgoing mail leaves the office at 12:30 and 5:30. This mail is taken direct to the postoffice, avoiding the delay of collection at the mail box. Oftentimes persons wishing their letters delivered in a greater hurry can make better connections by bringing same to department where they can be given to the mailman who makes his trips as follows: 8:00, 10:00, 12:15, 2:00 and 5:15.

In each office receptacles termed "out baskets" are in use for the outgoing mail. The mail is collected from these baskets every hour and promptly distributed to the different departments. The mail for the Front Street office is carried to and from the office by a messenger, who makes one trip each hour on the hour. Another messenger is employed to take the mail to the Stations. He makes but two trips a day, one leaving the department at 8:30 and the other at 1:00 o'clock.

In this department we experience few complaints, our work runs along smoothly, everybody is good to us, and accordingly we take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to all who kindly co-operate with us in the work of caring for the company's mail.

Making Power in the Heart of the City

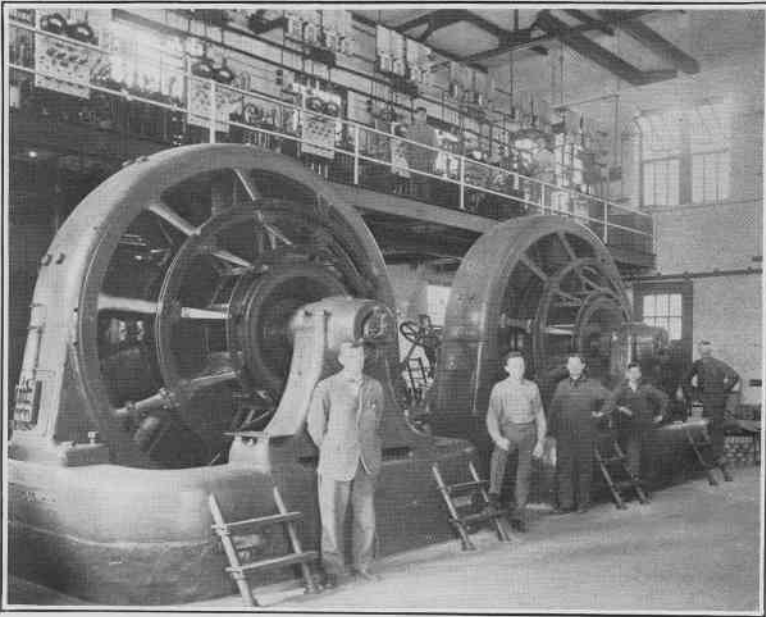
By B. E. NOYES, Foreman No. 6 Station



Located in South Water Street, close to the Canal Aqueduct, and right in the very heart of the city, stands the Company's main transforming and distributing plant, known as No. 6 Station. This station has at present a total transforming and generating capacity of about 6,500 K. W., which will be further increased this summer by the addi-

used for the manufacture of flour, and was known as the Ely Mill. The first installation consisted of a few fifty K. W. Edison bipolar generators, belt-driven by a water wheel and a steam engine. The next installation was a 500 K. W. motor generator set, the motor of which was operated by 2,300 volt, 60 cycle, two phase alternating current, the generators developing 275 volts direct current.

During the past twelve years the



4150 VOLT SWITCH BOARD AND ROTARY CONVERTERS AT NO. 6 STATION.
FOREMAN NOYES AND ASSISTANTS IN FOREGROUND.

tion of a third 1,500 K. W. rotary converter. Considerable power is also transmitted from the station without first having been transformed.

No. 6 Station was first put into operation about six years ago. Before that time, the building had been

station has undergone many alterations, until at present it has five 500 K. W. motor generator sets, two 1,500 K. W. rotary converters, the latter transforming Niagara power for street railway use. There are also twelve direct current magnetite, and nine alternating arc circuits, be-

sides an 8,000 ampere hour storage battery with two charging sets. All the above equipment and devices are of the most modern type.

No. 6 Station may not look very attractive from the outside, but visitors will find the interior worth more than a passing inspection. Considerable power is sent out from this station for light power and street railway service.

A Creditable Publication

"The Gas and Electric News" is the name of a new magazine "published monthly by the Rochester Railway and Light Company at Rochester, N. Y., for the information of its employees." Victor T. Noonan, former editor of The Sun, is its editor, and the publication editorially and typographically is highly creditable to its makers. Both the May and June numbers have reached our table, and been read with interest. Both contain numerous cuts of employees and of departments of the plant and among the former is found the genial face of the editor.—Waverly N. Y. Sun.

The Get-There Man

These are the days of progression and aggression; profession and confession; invention and convention. To play the game hard and continuously; to love one's work mightily; to put one's self, heart and soul into the task before him; to laugh at Fate when things go wrong and work the harder for it; to fight for the right because he loves the right rather than because he hates the wrong; to have pity on his enemies; to share his knowledge with a knowledge-hungry world—this demands a man of faith in himself, his work, his city, and his country—a man of broad vision and open mind—an optimist.

Honesty needs no press agent.

An Electrically Operated Typewriter

The Underwood Typewriter operator is the latest electrically driven masterpiece of mechanical ingenuity. It is designed to automatically operate the Underwood Standard Typewriter. It requires about as much floor space as an ordinary typewriter cabinet, is noiseless in action, and is positive in its movements. It produces real typewritten letters at the rate of six thousand words per hour, inserts a new name and address in each and changes prices, discounts, etc., in the body of the letter when desired; in short, it writes personal form letters and delivers them complete for signature. This wonderful and ingenious invention is operated by electricity (either direct or alternating current) and works pneumatically. The motor may be attached to any regular electric light circuit by means of cord and plug in as simple a manner as the connection is made for an electric fan. The cost of current consumption amounts to about fifteen cents per day of ten hours. It is said to be one of the mechanical marvels of the century.

Long vs. Short

A tall Western girl, named Short, long loved a certain big Mr. Little, while Little; little thinking of Short, loved a lass named Long. To make a long story short, Little proposed to Long and Short longed to be even with Little's shortcomings. So Short meeting Long, threatened to marry Little before long, which caused Little in a short time to marry Long! Query: Did tall Short love big Little less because Little loved Long?

When you refuse to do a mean act your enemies think you can't.

Some Interesting Rate History

By C. S. JENNINGS



At the time the Rochester Railway & Light Company was organized in 1904, there were on the books many different rates for residence, office and business lighting, and at that time the management adopted the present sliding rate, which, with a few modifications, is still in effect. This covered the larger installations, and as it was in most cases a pronounced reduction from the previous rates charged, the Company had no trouble in changing the contracts of consumers using that class of service. The new rate was based on the number of hours the lights were in use per day, and took care of business lighting—all new consumers signing contracts on that schedule.

With the residence and office lighting the situation was different. At that time the maximum rate charged for such service was fourteen cents per kilowatt hour. Some consumers paid a guarantee, or minimum charge, of one dollar per month; others paid a yearly guarantee, while many paid no guarantee, simply paying for the actual amount of current used.

On June 6, 1906, a letter was issued by the management calling attention to a reduction in rates from twelve and fourteen cents to ten cents per kilowatt hour. This letter also stated that the new rates included a uniform minimum monthly guarantee of one, two or three dollars, depending on the number of lamps installed. A prompt response was received from the consumers, who were paying guarantees, but with the others it was different. At the fourteen cent rate many offices

were using our service for only three or four months of the year, and, as they were paying considerably less than one dollar per month, the work of securing their signatures to minimum charge contracts was rather difficult of accomplishment.

During the month of July, 1906, the matter of rates charged in this city was further taken up by the State Gas and Electric Commission, and, after a thorough investigation of the property and the submission of the Commission's report, it was agreed to make another reduction in the rate. Accordingly on October 1, 1907, the present rate of eight cents net per kilowatt hour went into effect. At the time the matter of the guarantee charge was very thoroughly discussed; also the fact that the extensive user of electric current should not be made to pay for maintaining and insuring the service of the intermittent user. It was contended by the Company that the cost of maintaining meter and service, including operating expenses, interest and depreciation, value of current, loss in meter and, on the alternating system, also current loss in transformers should be considered in determining the rate. The Commission, as well as the Mayor and Corporation Counsel, considered the contention a reasonable one and promptly agreed to it. As the question of the validity of the guarantee charge had previously been passed upon favorably by the Supreme Court of the State of New York it will be readily seen that points which were fruitful sources of irritation were settled by the representatives of the people themselves, thereby leaving no just ground for complaint of arbitrary rate establishment by the Company.

To further carry out the policy of equitable charges, a provision was made in our application blanks for service that no guarantee charge shall be made if the consumer gives the Company two days' notice in writing to discontinue said service for a period of not less than thirty days, this giving the Company the use of the meter for the period, besides eliminating the expense of reading the meter and rendering bill. It is also provided for in the present rate that if an account is not paid by the fifteenth of the month following that during which current was used, an additional ten per cent shall be added to cover the cost of delinquent collections. The present rates charged for electricity in the City of Rochester are as low as in any city of the United States.

A Periodical Library

There will be placed on the table in the Directors' Room, second floor, 34 Clinton Avenue North, magazines, booklets and catalogues of much value. These will remain not over ten days, and will be renewed as fresh supplies come in. All company employees are invited and urged to examine the supply at frequent intervals, taking for their permanent possession such copies as seem to them to be most interesting. This is a magnificent opportunity to get some very valuable engineering literature absolutely without cost to the individual. Look it over.

Company employees receiving special publications, catalogues of value, and proceedings of the various technical organizations which they do not propose keeping, are requested to send them while they are fresh to the Directors' table.

R. M. SEARLE,
Vice President

Electric Drying Case for Printers

Mr. A. T. MacDonald, General Sales Manager of the Louisville (Ky.) Lighting Company, has discovered a new application for electric heat. In the print shop where that company's house organ, "Chained Lightning," is printed, they suffered, as all printers do, from "offsetting" where rush jobs were held up by damp weather preventing the ink from drying as it should. Mr. MacDonald suggested a drying cabinet to lay the sheets in, where the saving of time is the dominant factor. They have built up a heater in a case five feet deep and three feet wide and with many shelves composed of light wood slate. The heater is in the bottom and it is found that drying processes that usually consume 24 hours can now be accomplished in from 30 to 60 minutes. On rush jobs the sheets are lifted from the press and slid into the heater, 25 sheets or less on a rack, and the printer is establishing a record for quick delivery that is bringing him many new customers.

Personality

Personality is something which has generally been considered a characteristic possible only in the individual; that fact has perhaps been responsible for the "soul-less corporation" idea—the widely held theory among the uninformed that a public service company is essentially machine-like and inflexible in its attitude toward the community.—Philadelphia Electric Bulletin.

When a hard working man remains poor his wife says he is too conscientious.

The Company can pay your wages and doctors' bills during illness, but cannot replace a hand or foot or bring back human life.

The Complaint Department

By F. T. HOULIHAN



Of all the Company's departments which come in close contact with the public there is none perhaps more interesting than the Complaint Department, otherwise known as the "Information Counter." As its name implies, the purpose of this department is to receive the complaints of our customers, have them investigated, remedy same, and otherwise do all that is possible to secure the most efficient satisfying service. The work of the department is in charge of four men who have all been in the Company's employ five years or more.

All applications for both gas and electric meters are received at the "Information Counter," from which they are turned over to the Credit Department to be investigated and filed. Arrangements are then made with the consumer when to start service at the new address and when to discontinue same at the old address. This is done so that our men will find the house open where meters, etc., are to be installed. It also prevents a customer's meter being shut off before he has moved out of his old residence.

Frequently a customer will come to us late in the afternoon and request that his meter be turned on that night. Under the impression that it will be necessary to see the general manager to have this simple service performed, he will ask to see our managing executive. On being told that he won't have to see the general manager, but merely fill an application form at the counter, have his house open and his meter will be turned on as requested. We find that such customers go away favorably impressed with the Company's service.

All complaints of poor service both gas and electric, also gas leaks, ranges and water heaters, etc., out of order,

are taken care of at the Information Counter, where such complaints are entered on complaint slips, which are then sent for further investigation to the gas shop or line department. When the complaints have been properly taken care of, the complaint slips together with inspectors' reports thereon are filed at the main office for future reference.

Complaints on "high bills" are probably the most difficult problem of this department. They are difficult in one respect because they come from all classes and nationalities, and it is a common experience to be called upon to adjust complaints presented by people absolutely unfamiliar with the language of the country. As an example: One man comes to us with a bill say for 40 days, the daily average of which is about the same as his former bills have been running. Suppose his former bill for 30 days was \$3, the bill he brings to us is \$4 for 40 days. It is the dollar difference that he doesn't understand. The customer's difficulty has arisen from the fact that he has not noticed the dates of readings on the bill, that his former bill covered only 30 days, while his last bill was for 40 days. When this is made clear to him he generally goes away satisfied. Another man complains that his meter is out of order, and consequently the cause of a "high bill." He demands a new meter. Usually we find on investigation that the meters of such customers are registering correctly, and the real cause is an extra consumption of gas. During the summer months complaints on "high bills" average about 250 per month, whereas in winter when days are shorter our complaints on such bills are just about double. At the present time complaints on "high bills" are not any more than they were five years ago when the Company had

about half the number of gas and electric meters installed as at the present time. This is due in large measure to the Company's wise policy of advertising its desire that consumers should learn to read and understand their own meters. It is gratifying to know that most of our customers are able to read their gas and electric meters, and from these consumers we experience the least trouble in regard to "high bills."

A man's wife can always find some excuse for him, if she wants to.

One thing the average man doesn't like to hear is the truth about himself.

Time Told by Shadows

Among recent clock novelties is the shadow boudoir clock. With it there is no need of getting up to strike a match or turn a switch. All that is necessary is to touch a button and the time is flashed on the wall, after the same fashion that signs are flashed on the sidewalk. When the owner of the clock retires he turns a night dial to the ceiling and when he presses a bulb the electric light reflects from the dial through the lens and appears, giving the time in shadow on the ceiling.

Carl Johnson, of the order department, caught one hundred fish at Braddock's Bay recently. Where did you buy those fish, Carl?

For Healthier Children

One of the most beneficent movements ever organized in this city in the cause of a healthier community is the coming big "Field Day." Planned by the Rochester Public Health Association for the benefit of a Children's Free Dispensary, the event will take place at Baseball Park next Saturday, August 10. For months past the Public Health Association, aided by a number of influential committees and the Chamber of Commerce, has been busy in the noble work of attracting the attention of our citizens to the crying need of support for the Children's Free Dispensary. That their efforts have been rewarded with success is evident from the widespread attention which the coming "Field Day" is receiving from the public at large, and also from the press of the city.

Mr. Searle, aided by Mr. MacSweeney, are two of the most enthusiastic workers; in fact our genial Vice-President is chairman of the Advertising Committee. Mr. MacSweeney, besides assisting in the

work of a number of committees, coined the catchy and appropriate "Field Day" slogan:

"Children Healthy, City Wealthy,
Started Right They'll Win the
Fight."

Complying with Mr. Searle's order, this slogan will be printed this month on 60,000 of the Company's gas and electric bills. It will also be flashed on all the Company's electric signs, while streamers bearing the same message will be carried on all the trucks and delivery wagons.

GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS in its own humble way is proud of this great public movement for the betterment of the city's childhood and takes this opportunity of encouraging every man and woman who reads this magazine to do his and her share towards making "Field Day" a large success. In buying a ticket for the "Field Day" you will be contributing your mite to a splendid and charitable cause.

"Best Picnic Ever"

The annual picnic held Thursday, July 18, at Manitou, was without doubt the most successful and enjoyable event of its kind in the history of our organization. More than seven hundred employees took part in the fun and merriment provided for them by the various committees headed by Vincent Hoddick, who was assisted by L. W. Layman, "Tom" Kewin, George Ernst, and J. B. Eaton, all expert entertainers. The weather was delightful, and Manitou and its beautiful surroundings never looked more attractive. Everybody was there, and "everybody was doing it, doing what?" Why, taking in the picnic.

During the day a fine program of sports was pulled off, which included a baseball game, running races, jumping contests, and various other contests. In the intervals Hebing's Band led some lively choruses in which the picnickers joined. Promptly at noon a chicken dinner was served in the spacious dining rooms of the Odenbach Hotel. In the afternoon the band furnished music for dancing in which all the girls and boys, and many of the older folks took part.

The star circus act of the day, however, was the special fat men's race between James B. Eaton and Joseph W. Morphy, the trot being from the beach to the end of the new Odenbach dock. "Jimmie" took the lead, and poor "Joe," who was far behind, finally rolled home, giving as his excuse that he couldn't run without his eyeglasses, which doesn't speak well for "Joe" when he's in a hurry.

The ball game was played between the "Gas Men" and the "Electricians," who were defeated by a score of 13 to 1. "Pusty" Graham captained the electric team, while

Billy Spears led the gas men to victory. Mr. Yawger acted as umpire and saved the field from bloodshed. After that ball game, no reason why we shouldn't have a permanent team.

In the athletic events Messrs. Gay, Schwab, Binder, Wright, Flannigan, Donolin, Casey, Drew, Dosey and Harrington, the Misses Cole, Ragan, Aspenleiter and Connell and Mrs. Hoagman and Mrs. Slee were winners.

Transportation Committee—T. H. Christie, chairman; J. J. Maddocks, M. J. Quinn, Patrick Martin.

Athletic and Games Committee—Walter Drew, chairman; Chauncey Alcott, Carl Johnson, William Skuse and Harold Essex Hoagland.

Entertainment Committee—I. Lundgaard, chairman; William Julian, J. P. MacSweeney, Bert Noyes and R. D. DeWolf.

When you are hurt you do the suffering; the other fellow is sorry.

The greatest things in the world are accomplished by individual men. It has been said that if Noah's ark had to be built by a company, they would not have laid the keel yet.

Courtesy is something the public has a right to expect. It is doing and saying the right thing at the right time, in the right way.

Being agreeable means agreeing with people, regardless of your own opinions.

Just because all flesh is grass, you are not justified in calling everybody a hayseed.

The more you do for some people the angrier they get with you for not doing more.

Some of Our Veteran Workers



W. EVERETT.

Underground Dept.—28 years' service.



JOSEPH McMULLEN.

Gas Works—25 years' service.



GEORGE MABEE.

Gas Works—25 years' service.



GEORGE B. NEWMAN.

Operator No. 5 Station—22 years' service.

Some of Our Veteran Workers



JOHN McDONALD.
Gas Works—21 years' service.



GLENN KNIGHT.
No. 3 Station—21 years' service.



JERRY HURLEY.
No. 3 Station—20 years' service.



WILLIAM ENOS.
No. 3 Station—20 years' service.



TO MINISTER UNTO THE SICK

For the benefit of the sick poor confined in poorly ventilated rooms, the Company decided last month to give such invalids the cooling and refreshing benefit of electric fans. The service is furnished on the sick person's verbal or written request made through a physician, providing of course that there is an electric line convenient to the house. Under this generous and kindly plan the fans are to be rented, the cost being slight, while the Company furnishes electricity free.

To an invalid confined these hot summer days in a small stuffy room, with no sight perhaps of the flowers, the trees or the green grass, there

can be given no greater physical comfort than an electric fan. If it does nothing more than cool the fevered brow during the warm day, or lull the sick one to sleep at night, it shall have served a ministering service that will make many a poor suffering heart not only glad but grateful. No news item in this number of GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS has given us so much pleasure in recording than this little story of our Company's desire to comfort those whose lives are spent in the shadow of suffering and sickness. It is the latest interpretation of the Man of Galilee's message to visit, to comfort and to minister unto the sick.

Vacation and Rest

With the vacation season here we are reminded of that ancient ideal of health, "a sane mind in a sound body." To realize this ideal condition of health, rest from the usual activities of life is necessary. Sleep and food are not the only sources for wearied minds and tired bodies. Our activities must occasionally be turned into new channels to give rest and renewed vigor to both brain and muscle.

New scenes, peaceful tramps in the woods, or by the shore of a quiet lake, some respite from the toil of every day life are absolutely necessary if we are to return to our work with snap and vim, and play our parts in life with success and energy. To those who are going on vacation we would say, enjoy every moment of it. Play and romp and read and walk. Cast worries aside, and laugh and become young again. Get

away from the old haunts and the old habits. If you cannot visit distant lakes, mountains and streams, go and wander amid the nearby fields. Nature is beautiful everywhere, but particularly beautiful in and around our own delightful city. We can travel far and wide and not find lovelier scenes than are to be found near to our own City of the

Flowers.

To one and all our fellow workers who are planning for vacation we extend wishes for an enjoyable and profitable time of rest. May all come back with renewed energy and ambition for the work each one has to do, grateful for the vacation that is past, and glad to meet the duties that are to come.

A Story with an Inspiration

From one of the New York papers recently we gleaned a story about a young Russian who came to America, and before leaving home told his widowed mother and his brothers and sisters that he would send for them. The ambitious young man got work in a grocery store where his principal duties were wheeling a truck. In his spare time he studied the language of the country, endeavoring to fit himself for higher things to come. He secured a better job and soon was earning eighteen dollars a week. By small amounts his

savings grew to \$1,200, and then he sent for the waiting ones in his distant Russian home. Such are the bare facts of this young man's story. One can readily imagine the hidden struggles and sacrifices that made it possible for him to do what he did in five years. To other young men who are striving to win in the battle of life, or who are trying to gladden the heart of an aged mother or father, there is an inspiring lesson in the story of that young Russian's determined ambition, thrift and success.

Are You a Contributor?

Once more we wish to impress upon our readers the necessity of sending us news. If something happens in your particular department that is of interest to your fellow-workers, by all means let us have it. "But what is news" you may ask. Read our "Personals" from month to month and you will find in that particular department of our magazine a variety of personal happenings that are of the greatest interest, not only

to you, and to those who work with you, but also to the folks at home. When you have an item of news, a personal, an account of a picnic, a party, an outing or vacation, or some other interesting little story, put it in an envelope and mail it to the editor. If you cannot do this, then take the matter up with us on the telephone and we shall do the rest.

This magazine is a Company undertaking, and we feel that it is the

duty of every man and woman who works for our organization to co-operate in the work of getting out an entertaining and useful publication. In regard to this matter of news we have just one word more to say and that is, that we do not hear from the young women employees as much as we would like. Girls, this magazine is as much yours as it is the men's. Nothing will please us better than to receive contributed articles and news from the young women in the various de-

partments. Such contributions from any of the girls will receive the kindest treatment.

To all our readers we say: Don't be timid about sending us written contributions or news. The editor's duty is not to criticise the contributions he receives, but rather to help, by dressing up the articles, so that the writers will be pleased when they read their own contributions in the pages of our magazine.

Won't you please, therefore send us news?

What Teams Cost

According to the testimony of large eastern business houses, it costs them from \$6 to \$6.50 a day to keep a wagon and team of horses at work, but the motor truck does the work of three such outfits and effects a saving in operation of 33 1-3 per cent. A recent estimate of cost of operating electric trucks showed that the fixed charges on a delivery wagon amount to \$303 a year for interest and depreciation on non-wearing parts, maintenance for maximum service to \$389.50 a year, and garaging, including charging energy, to \$108. This amounts to \$800.50 a year, or \$2.66 per working day, not including drivers' wages. At \$15 a week, wages would bring the total daily cost to \$5.16. On the same basis the total cost of running a light truck is \$5.63 a day and that of running a heavy truck \$6.91 a day. Larger and heavier makes of electric trucks cost from \$7 to \$8 a day to operate.

On File

If an unkind word appears,

File the thing away.

If some novelty in jeers,

File the thing away.

If some clever little bit

Of a sharp and pointed wit,

Carrying a sting with it—

File the thing away.

If some bit of gossip come,

File the thing away.

Scandalously spicy crumb,

File the thing away.

If suspicion comes to you,

That your neighbor isn't true,

Let me tell you what to do—

File the thing away.

Do this for a little while,

Then go out and burn the file.

—John Kendrick Bangs.

Stop a bad account at once.

Don't take new risks to retrieve old losses.

Don't tell what you are going to do until you have done it.



The picnic was a fine success.

Vacation thoughts are uppermost now.

The greatest hindrance to a man is to meet no opposition.

Boost the company's service by always being courteous.

Many a keen man has a dull conscience.

The incendiary makes light of things.

Honesty is good as a policy, but better as a habit.

If you are always self-possessed, you'll never give yourself away.

It is easier to do a thing right than to explain why you did it wrong.

Don't think for a minute that the race track is the right track to success.

If Farmer Jones took a gate, do you think Farmer Smith would take offense?

Lots of men and things seem easy until you try to do them. Have you ever tried?

Reproof is often necessary, but it is most efficacious when we clothe it with a kindly sincere smile.

Make the path smooth for the "stranger" and some day you may draw interest on your investment.

A man is qualified to give good advice, only when he has outworn the capacity to set a bad example.—Elbert Hubbard.

If I had to choose between a lazy man and a dead one, I'd take the dead one coz he'd get just as much done. I wouldn't have to board him and he wouldn't take up so much room.

"Considerin' the long spell a man stays dead, the time he's got here on earth is a right skeerce and valuable commodity. Save it, son, Save it!"

What matters it to the world, whether I, or you, or another, did such a deed, or wrote such a book, so be it such a deed and such a book be well done?—Longfellow.

The rising man must expect to fall occasionally. Knowledge is chiefly gained through elimination. You must always discover the wrong things before you are sure of the right move.

Innumerable men and women have seen the kettle boil, but it occurred to only one that the force which lifted the lid might be confined and made to do human service. The man finds or makes his opportunities and in turn they help him.



Empire State Gas & Electric Association—Quarterly Session

The quarterly meeting of the Empire State Gas and Electric Association was held at the Oak Hill Country Club on Wednesday, July 17. Many prominent men in the lighting industry throughout the state were present. The delegates were addressed at the morning session by Mr. Searle, president of the organization, whose topic was: "Electrical Vehicles for Pleasure and Convenience." Mr. Searle's remarks were followed by an interesting discussion.

Luncheon was served at noon, the dining tables being arranged on the spacious porches of the beautiful club house. In the afternoon some of the delegates enjoyed a game of golf. Afterwards the visitors were taken through the city on electric trucks. Part of this unique trip was made through those thoroughfares where the Company has lately installed new concrete poles and mazzda lamps.

In the evening Messrs. Searle and Hutchings entertained a number of delegates at their homes, while others again were taken care of in hospitable style by Mr. Yawger at the Rochester Club.

The Friday morning meetings have by annual custom been adjourned during July and August. They will be resumed again, beginning promptly at 11 a. m., the first Friday of September.

The N. E. L. A. meetings will be resumed Thursday evening, September 12. Something very interesting is promised for the program, and we hear it whispered that the refreshments are going to be a delightful surprise.

Due to the fact that N. E. L. A. dues for 1911 were sent out so late, bills for 1912 will not be sent to the members until about the first of September. Members should therefore save their pennies and be prepared to pay their annual dues promptly.

The Company was the subject of some very pleasing comments at a meeting of the North Goodman Street Civic Club, held last month, at the residence of Mr. Henry Dake on Clifford Avenue. One of the speakers referred in a complimentary way to the fact that the Company was now publishing a magazine for the benefit of its employees. The discussion then drifted to the Company's attitude in dealing with the public. Alderman Sieler, who was present, said that the Rochester Railway and Light Co. was willing at all times to meet the public more than half way on anything that was reasonable. "That policy," he said, "seemed to be the Company's whole trend."

Did you ever try borrowing money from yourself by reducing your wants?

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT



Welcome!

We wish to welcome amongst us this month, Raymond A. Landers, who has been appointed a member of the industrial engineering staff. Mr. Landers graduated in June from Cornell University, and out of his class of 240 he was one of fifteen elected a member of the honorary engineering society of Cornell. He is a former graduate of West High School.

We also extend a welcome to another new engineer, Royal Parkinson, of Lowell, Mass., who has taken up his duties in Mr. Parker's department.

A new tunnel is being constructed at Station 3, to divert the flow from the Platt Street sewer. The tunnel will also supply the new 10,000 horsepower turbine which is now being installed at Station 3.

E. H. Fisher, of Mr. Parker's engineering staff, is now in charge of a new department, the special purpose of which will be to interest farmers as to the value of electricity for agricultural work. Mr. Fisher is a son of City Engineer E. A. Fisher. We wish him success in his new work.

Mr. Durfee, the genial head of the Electric Meter Department, has been appointed to the office of statesman in the electrical organization known as the Sons of Jove. Under

his new appointment Mr. Durfee will have charge of all festivities in this section of the state. No better man could have been selected.

Plans for a new concrete pole plant to be located in the Pinnacle district are now under consideration. The new plant will be much larger than the present plant on Wolcott Road. In a coming issue of this magazine there will appear an interesting story of the Company's concrete pole department and its work.

The severe electrical storm which caused havoc in and around Rochester early in July caused no damage whatever at any of the Company's power stations. "This is due," Mr. Yawger says, "to the fact that all the Company's stations and many plants of consumers have been equipped with the most up-to-date lightning arrestors."

Tuesday, July 9, the Syracuse Railway Company was crippled as the result of a severe electrical storm which put one of the company's big transformers out of order. Complying with the urgent request of the Syracuse company our Company shipped three transformers to the Salt City, where they will remain until the General Electric Company has repaired the broken transformers. Mr. Yawger, in his usual courteous way, superintended arrangements for the loan of the big transformers.

Engineer John E. Powell and Foreman "Pat" O'Neill and his men did a good job tearing down the old engine at No. 3 Station preparatory to installing the new turbine.

Roger D. Dewolff, of the Engineering Department, was elected President of the National District Heating Association in annual convention at Detroit last month. We extend hearty congratulations to Mr. Dewolff on this new honor.

Thirty-six new mazda lights mounted on ornamental concrete poles have just been installed in beautiful Seneca Parkway. Similar lights have also been installed in Lincoln Park where the residents are greatly delighted with them. GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS will shortly publish a descriptive article on the new ornamental lighting system in the residential sections.

Fans for Sick Poor

The value of an electric fan in a sick room—and more particularly in a room which has not the best of ventilation—is very great. People with money have in the past found this out, and now it is given to the sick poor in Rochester an opportunity to enjoy the electric fan blessing. It is announced that in cases where a person becomes seriously ill the Rochester Railway and Light Company will run into the room an electric line to which a fan can be attached. The service, which will be free, may be obtained by showing a certificate from a physician or by the physician telephoning to the office of the Company. Fans can be rented at low rates and no doubt the circulation of air which they will maintain in sick rooms in Rochester during the heated season, through the generosity of the Company, will assist in saving many lives. It has been said that big companies and corporations have no souls. Such an assertion is refuted by the action taken by the local light company.—*Rochester Union and Advertiser, July 9, 1912.*

No one can hate hard enough to hurt any one but himself.

Practical Encouragement for Our Bachelor Young Men

Irving Huff, of Mr. Nolan's department, was married to Miss Sadie Gosnell, a charming young lady, on July 15. The bride is a 99th cousin of Edward Gosnell, who was one of the guests of honor. The officiating clergyman was ably assisted by "Bill" Skuse, who proved a capable master of ceremonies.

During the wedding feast Mr. Huff was presented with a substantial purse of gold as a token of regard from the boys in Mr. Nolan's office. There are a number of other young men in various departments who have matrimonial thoughts. Mr. Huff's purse of gold ought to act as a stimulating impulse to the boys who contemplate journeying to the "Promised Land."

Mr. and Mrs. Huff spent their honeymoon at Big Moose Lake, N. Y. We extend to the young couple sincere wishes for a happy future, and may that purse of gold never be empty.

A new rotary converter has been installed at No. 6 station.

It is a wise man who stops digging when he has struck oil.

Mary—All the packages that come for my papa are marked "M. D."

Carry—The packages that my papa gets are all marked "D. D."

Larry—Aw, that's nothing! Everything that comes to our house is marked "C. O. D."

Woman (to detective)—Why, it was this way: There came a ring at the door, and there stood two men who said they were from the gas company, inspecting meters. They looked so dishonest, I thought they were, so I let them in!—Puck.



Plans have been completed for the extension of gas mains from Lake Avenue Boulevard to the limits of Charlotte village.

Owing to a typographical error in Mr. Hoddick's article on "Frozen Services" last month his reference to the number of meters in use should have read 52,000 instead of 5,200.

Mr. Russell left last month to visit some of the large cities with a view of getting practical ideas for the enlargement of the Company's gas plant. Mr. Russell is a very practical man himself, and we have confidence that his trip will bring some good results.

Mr. Hellen reports that the new gas mains to Summerville will be ready to furnish service to residents at the lake by August 15. The new gas service will no doubt give great satisfaction to hundreds of the Company's regular customers who are spending the summer at Summerville and Windsor Beach. The laying of the new mains from St. Paul Street to the lake is a splendid indication of the city's growth lake-wards. Mr. Hellen and his men are to be complimented on the rapid manner in which this big job has been accomplished.

Gall will not take the place of get-up-and-go.

Can You Beat This?

A young woman went to the information counter last week and, giving her gas bill to the young man, said: "My husband objects to the amount of this bill (\$1.52) because it is too high."

"What purposes do you consume gas for?" she was asked.

"Oh, we do all our cooking and lighting, and we have four in the family, but husband says he can't afford such high bills."

That husband is some economist. We wish we could accomplish such a feat with a dollar fifty-two cents.

Steward of Rochester Club Likes New Gas Appliances

The Rochester Club,
Rochester, New York.
July 14th, 1912.

Mr. Jos. P. MacSweeney,
c/o Rochester Ry. and L. Co.

Dear Sir—The gas appliances which you installed in our kitchen several months ago have been given a thorough trial and have proven very satisfactory in every way.

I wish to thank you for the personal interest you have shown in the matter and also for the care shown in installing the same.

If at any time I can be of any service to you, will be only too glad to do so.

Yours very truly,

C. E. IHLE,

Steward.

Thomas Noonan

It is with sincere regret that we announce the death, in Newry, Ireland, of Mr. Thomas Noonan, father of our esteemed editor, Victor T. Noonan. It was not our good fortune to have known the late Mr. Noonan personally, therefore we will let his townsman, the editor of the Newry "Frontier Sentinel," tell what manner of man he was:

"Mr. Noonan's knowledge of the law, the conscientious attention which he devoted to his duties, and the facility with which he carried them out, are facts well known to all who had any knowledge of him in his business capacity.

"In other respects he was extremely cultured and widely read, and he was *at heart a perfect gentleman*. He had always a charitable word for those who erred, and a word of encouragement for those who were struggling against difficulties and whose path had been crossed by misfortune.

"Now that he has passed out of this jurisdiction and entered that of the Supreme Court there shall linger behind him here the memory of his many sterling qualities of head and heart. The deceased gentleman is survived by his wife, and an only son, Victor T. Noonan, who has won for himself a place in the ranks of American journalism, and who is now editor of the Rochester Railway & Light Company's magazine, GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS. To mother and son our deepest sympathy goes out.

"By the death of Mr. Noonan it is recognized that a loveable and amiable figure has passed away from the life of Newry, and in all circles the utmost regret is expressed."—*Editorial, Newry "Frontier Sentinel."*

Few, indeed, are they to whom such tributes are paid when they pass beyond, and sorrowful indeed must they be who were privileged to call such a man father and friend.

At such a time as this we know full well that words are vain. They cannot heal the wound nor stem the tide of grief, yet, vain as they are, they are all we have to give and we, therefore, extend our heartfelt sympathy to mother and son in this, their greatest sorrow which even time may only soften but can never heal.

Mrs. Adam Ziegler

Mrs. Adam Ziegler, wife of Adam Ziegler of No. 5 Station, died suddenly, May 17, after a brief illness, at the family home, 1335 Clinton Avenue North. Mrs. Ziegler was a devoted wife and mother, and we extend our sincere sympathy to Mr. Ziegler, who is one of the Company's faithful "veterans."



C. S. Jennings and Mrs. Jennings spent two weeks automobiling through New England last month.

Ned Gosnell is now trying to be a leader of fashion in advancing a new style among the boys, known as the "Dutch Neck."

Miss Adelaide Rice of the Ledger Department has discovered a new way of dressing her hair. It really is becoming as well as artistic.

Abram J. (Charley) Elias, after 25 years of service, succeeded in breaking his little finger last month. Lucky it was only a finger.

Miss F. H. Bayard of the Electric Meter and Arc Lamp Department spent an enjoyable two weeks' vacation last month in parts unknown.

L. M. Keller of the Engineering Department spent a few days at the Standard Brewery recently. ——— No! He was simply making power tests.

"Ed" Austin of No. 6 station spent two weeks in New York City, where he took in all the sights. We won't say another word, "Ed," about what you saw.

It is rumored that Will Higginson, of the Gas Street Department, will soon take unto himself a bride, his decision being reached during a recent week's vacation.

Miss Bridgeman celebrated her fifth anniversary in the electric meter department last month by distributing a box of choice candies. "Bob" Martin came in for a good share.

One of the young women in Mr. Nolan's department is building up her Sunday School class by means of Hershey's milk chocolate. Some of the boys say they are willing to join that class.

Foreman Peter Kavanaugh of the Gas Street Department, has the pleasure of walking the floor these nights with an $8\frac{3}{4}$ pound baby girl, who arrived one day last month. Congratulations, Peter!

W. T. Nolan and Mrs. Nolan, accompanied by F. A. Miller and Mrs. Miller, left July 27th for the Bay of Quinte, Canada, where they will spend two weeks reviewing their honeymoon days. They will also hunt for black bass.

The stork visited the home of W. Vanepps of the Gas Street Department on July 15, leaving a fine, healthy boy. This is the third boy to arrive inside five years. The proud parents are deserving of our warmest congratulations.

Thomas Byrne, of the Gas Street Department, entered the blissful state of matrimony on June 5. "Tom" is receiving congratulations in a Boston flat owned by the bride at 155½ Champlain Street, and to that address we now send our best wishes.

W. S. Wallace, formerly of the Commercial Department, and now with the Atterbury Motor Car Co. of Buffalo, paid the editorial sanctum a visit last week. "Let the boys know that I am still alive." Here-with we're glad to do it, Mr. Wallace. Come again.

"Willie" Spears is still living at Island Cottage, and evidently intends to stick it out until summer is over. The reason is, so "Willie" says, that he likes walking, and ac-

cordingly he hikes along the Manitou tracks every night to Long Pond where "Willie's" tender heart reposes in the loving care of a certain fair damsel.

If you have an ulcerated tooth go down to No. 3 Station. There's an electric germ killer down there that's better than any dentist. Ernest Rooth had such a tooth recently. His fellow workers applied the electric germ destroyer, and they quickly soothed away Ernest's ulceration and by the way his tooth also. It was a wisdom one at that.

Foreman Noyes of No. 6 station spent his vacation on his little farm in Greece, where he raises chickens, and grows peaches, potatoes, tomatoes and other vegetables of which we know little except on the dining table. By the way, Mr. Noyes has a new Cadillac car and we're waiting for an invitation to ride down and see that farm in Greece. Any day will do.

One year ago, alas and alack! "Bill" Skuse of the Gas Street Department was practicing on a new Indian motorcycle. But times have changed, and so has Bill, who is now trying to run a new baby buggy. "Them were the happy days," soliloquises "Bill" as he thinks of his speeding days. Never mind old man, console yourself with that great immortal thought: "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." How about it, "Bill"?

Bryan Killed Sixteen

"Bryan in Thick of Fight
Sixteen Bodies Recovered."

Seven column head from Rochester newspaper.

Some men would accomplish wonders, but for that one word "if."

Fresh Fish Stories

Owen Degnin, of No. 2 Station, was cleaning out the rack two weeks ago, when he pulled in a pickerel weighing nine pounds.

Just a day or two afterwards, Foreman A. D. Rees, of No. 2, hooked a four pound silver eel in the same rack. Mr. Rees says this is better than he has ever done down at the bay.

George Friday, of No. 33 Station, caught a seven inch pickerel inside the check valve of a four inch Hemlock main at the station two weeks ago. It's a mystery how the pickerel found its way through the water meter.

Barney Fegne, of No. 2 Station, has a cottage at the bay, where he and some of the boys spend their half days fishing. Barney tells some great yarns about the fish he has caught, but nobody has ever seen him bring home any. Better try the rack, Barney.

Lafayette Elmer Sanderson and Will Nolan, of the commercial department, accompanied by Frederick Miller, superintendent of the draughting department, went fishing at Mendon Ponds on Saturday afternoon, May 25. After sweating and swearing all afternoon, the trio succeeded in landing 25 minnows and one bullhead. While pulling these into their boat Will Nolan accidentally caught a three pound pickerel. Lafayette claims the honor of hooking the poor bullhead.

Some kind friend ought to show these gentlemen where to catch r-e-a-l f-i-s-h.

A Belleville merchant has this sign on his store door:

"Come in without knocking. Go out the same way."