# GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS



HANK GOD every morning when you get up that you have something to do which must be done whether you like it or not.

Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance, self-control, diligence, strength of will, content and a hundred virtues which the idle will never know.—

Kingsley.

JUNE, 1912

Published monthly by the RCHESTER RAILWAY AND LIGHT CO.

ROCHESTER, N.Y.

For the Information of Its Employees

## GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

By the Rochester Railway & Light Company, for the information of its employees. Free to all Employees.

All news for publication should be addressed to the EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
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Vol. 1

JUNE, 1912

No. 2

VICTOR T. NOONAN,

# The Growth of the Rochester Railway and Light Company

By THOMAS H. YAWGER



The Rochester Railway & Light Company was incorporated in New York, May 26, 1904, and is a consolidation of the Rochester Gas & Electric Company and the

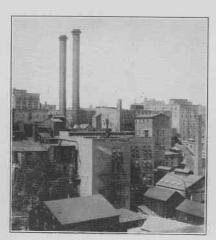
Rochester Light & Power Company. Included in the present Company are the following old gas and electric companies: Rochester Gas Com-



NO. 15 STATION.

pany, Citizens' Gas Company, Municipal Gas Company, Rochester Electric Light Company, Brush Electric

Light Company, Edison Electric Light Company and the Citizens' Light & Power Company. The his-

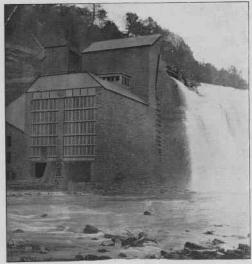


SMOKESTACKS OF NO. 3 STATION.

tory of electric lighting in Rochester since the formation of this Company is interesting. In 1880 the Rochester Electric Light Company was organized, Mr. L. P. Ross being its president. The Company started business in a room in the Bee Hive Building, later moving to the Whitney property on the Upper Falls, where it remained until it was con-

solidated with the Rochester Gas & Electric Company.

The Brush Electric Light Company was organized in 1881, starting



NO. 5 STATION.

business with two machines, at the corner of Water and River Streets.

That Company afterward moved to the Lower Falls on the west side of the river, having purchased a portion of the water power rights. A few vears later the Company acquired all the water power rights of the Lower Falls and built a large stone building on the east side of the river. It was merged with the Rochester Gas & Electric Company in 1900. The Edison Electric Light Company was formed in 1886, and began business with a steam-driven plant on Edison Street, soon after purchasing several water-power rights at Brown's Race and erecting a

small stone building at that point. This company was merged with the Rochester Electric Light Company in 1891.

The first arc lamps placed in service brought \$1 per lamp per night, the charge gradually diminishing to 75 cents, then to 50 cents and finally

to 25 cents per night. The rate for electrical energy was, at first, 20 cents per kw-hour, and afterward 14 cents per kw-hour, but about four-fifths of the business was conducted on flat rates. Its equipment at that time consisted of Brush, Thompson-Houston, Wood and Western Electric arc machines; T. H. alternators, and Edison bi-polar and short generators. At the time of the first consolidation, in 1891, Mr. J. Lee Judson was president of the company.

The Citizens' Light & Power Company commenced operation in 1892, and built a plant on Brown's Race in 1893. Brown's Race is an artificial waterway 30 feet wide by 7 feet deep, run-

ning from the Genesee River at Central Avenue to Brown Street, where



NO. 6 STATION.

the overflow returns to the river. The Citizens' Light & Power Company built its plant on the river bank below the race, where a head of 93

feet was available. The original plans called for a building eight stories high, but this was finally modified and a building three stories high with a wheel pit was erected.

The generating stations at present operated by our Company and their locations and character are as follows:

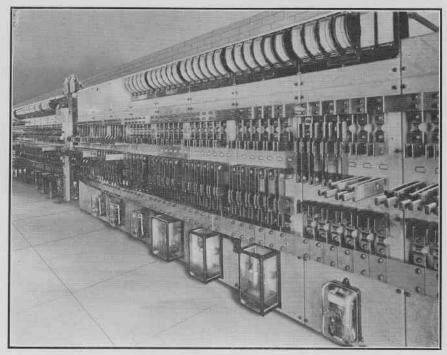
No. 1—Mill and Commercial Sts., steam power.

No. 33—Elmwood Ave. sub-station, Niagara power.

No. 34—Smith and Freeman Sts., steam and transforming apparatus.

No. 35—Litchheld St., steam and transforming apparatus.

From the above, it is evident that the chief source of power is the Genesee River, although steam-driven generators are used, and electrical energy is also transmitted from the Niagara Falls plant of the Niagara,



MODERN SWITCHBOARD AT NO. 4 STATION. DESIGNED BY ENGINEER I. E. POWELL,

No. 2—Brown's Race and Furnace St., Steam and water power.

No. 3—Mill Street, opposite Factory St., steam and water power and transforming apparatus.

No. 4—Central Ave. and No. Water St., Water power and transforming apparatus.

No. 5—Driving Park Ave. and St. Paul St., water power and transforming apparatus.

No. 6—So. Water St. and Aqueduct, water power and transforming apparatus.

No. 15—Middle Falls, water power. No. 26—Graves Street, water power. Lockport and Ontario Power Company. During certain portions of the year the water power furnished by the Genesee River is all that can be desired, but during dry weather the river is so low that it is necessary to use steam to carry the load. The New York State Water Commission's report gives the following interesting description of the river:

"The Genesee River rises in Potter County, Pennsylvania, 15 miles

south of the New York State line. At Genesee Forks, Cryder Creek, East Branch, Middle Branch and West Branch unite. The total catchment area of these streams below the mouth of the creek is 143 square miles. The streams have a fall of about 47 feet per mile. The valleys are narrow and there is little opportunity for storage upon them. From the state line to Wellsville, a distance of about ten miles, the average fall is about 31 feet per mile. A short distance above Wellsville broad flats begin, which continue with little interruption to Portage, where the river falls 330 feet in three From the foot of Portage Falls to Mount Morris the average fall is at the rate of 10.6 feet per mile. From Mount Morris to Rochester, above the feeder dam, the distance is about 46 miles, and the average fall per mile is 1.2 feet. The flats along this portion of the river are the great storage ground. From above the feeder dam at Rochester to above the Upper Falls, at Central Avenue, the distance is two miles and the average fall in the river is 13.5 feet per mile. From above the Upper Falls to the foot of the Lower Falls there is a total drop of about 231 feet, an average of 115.5 feet per mile. From the Lower Falls to Lake Ontario there is only a fall of about 2 feet. In the foregoing description no account has been taken of the several dams across the river, the description applying to the river in its natural state. The distance measured along the meander is taken at approximately 145 miles, and the catchment area is 108 miles measured in a straight line. The average width of the catchment is about 22 miles."

. To be continued.

We can only be valued as we make ourselves valuable.—Emerson.

## Fine Compliment from Oregon for Messrs. Searle and Parker

That the work of Messrs. Searle and Parker is attracting attention and praise even in distant Oregon, is evident from a very complimentary letter which has just been received by Mr. Parker. The letter is such a well deserved boost for two officials of our Company, that we take much pleasure in publishing it, extending at the same time our congratulations to the two gentlemen concerned. The letter is as follows:

Portland Railway, Light & Power Co., Portland, Oreg., May 8, 1912.

My Dear Mr. Parker:

I had the pleasure last evening of presenting a paper before the local branch of the National Electric Light Association on "Industrial Engineering."

During the discussion one fact was brought out, and I would like to pass it on

to you

Two men—rather prominent in this section of the country—brought out very forcibly the fact that the work that has been done by your department in Rochester has gained recognition throughout the country. These men voted full praise for you and Mr. Searle, and for the organization that you have devised and perfected.

It made me feel mighty good to hear these remarks and I am handing them to you, as you are the one primarily responsible for results that have been secured in

Rochester.

Give my kind regards to all the men in the department.

Very truly yours, W. H. LINES.

We are pleased to announce that Mr. Searle is expected home from the Pacific coast the first or second week in June, Mr. Hutchings having had work to that effect. On behalf of all our fellow workers we extend to Mr. Searle a warm welcome back to Rochester.

If you are in doubt as to whether you have religion or not, ask your wife; she knows.

## The New Superheaters for Station 3

By R. D. DEWOLF



The Company recently placed a contract for installing superheaters in four of our 600-horsepower boilers at Station 3, to be used in connection with the new 10,000

horsepower horizontal turbine which will be installed there this summer. The contract was placed only after a careful analysis of our operating conditions to determine the value of this apparatus to us. Briefly outlined, the method followed in working out this problem was as follows:

The purpose of the superheater is to increase the temperature of the steam above the temperature corresponding to the pressure at which it is generated. This is accomplished by passing the steam through a series of pipes generally located between the first and second passes of the boiler where the flue gas temperatures are between 1,000 and 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, thereby raising the temperature of the steam after passing through these pipes 125 to 150 degrees above the temperature at which it entered them. Steam of this higher temperature is of considerably more value in the turbine than steam at the lower temperature, due to the peculiar properties of a turbine in which the steam is expanded to a greater degree than in reciprocating engines, the superheat enabling the turbine to save more of the energy of the steam than would otherwise be possible. Expressed in practical figures, this means that the turbine will use fewer pounds of steam to generate one horsepower than when using the lower temperature orsaturated steam.

The method of determining the value of the superheated steam is

simple. It consists, essentially, of determining the amount of steam required to operate the turbine under the assumed load conditions for a year when using superheated steam at a high temperature and saturated steam at a low temperature. The difference represents the amount of steam saved per year by the use of the superheater, and this saving indicates the amount of money which may be profitably invested in the superheater. Under our existing load conditions we found that the saving through the use of the superheaters would give a very good return upon the capital invested.

Superheaters are of two types, known as protected and unprotected superheaters. The protected type is that which we have adopted for Station 3, and consists of cold-drawn seamless steel tubes over which cast iron rings are shrunk. cast iron rings protect the steel tubes from the flue gases, and greatly increase the metal area exposed to those gases for the purpose of extracting the heat therefrom. type of superheater possesses the practical advantage of not requiring a flooding connection; that is, it is not necessary to fill the superheater with water when the boiler is banked, or when it is being fired up, thus decreasing the amount of attention required in handling the superheater and making it absolutely automatic under all operating conditions.

#### Notis

Trespaser will be persekuted to the full exten of 2 mean mungrel dogs wich aint never been overly soshibil with strangers and 1 dubbelp barl shot gun wich aint loaded with no sofy pillars dam if I aint tire of this hel-raisin on my property.

Cy Fleming.

## Sixty-Four Years of Gas Making in Rochester

BY HERMAN RUSSELL



The first Gas Company to supply the City of Rochester, known as the "Rochester Gas Light Company," was organized March 24, 1848, and began manufacture

December 13th of the same year on Mumford Street, or what is now Andrews Street, close to the river where the present distribution offices of the Company are located. Company was capitalized at \$100,-000.00, of which total only a small amount was subscribed in this city. The builders, Batten, Duncan & Company of Philadelphia, stated they desired only enough stock taken by residents to show an interest in the project. The first officers were: President, Louis Brooks; secretary and treasurer, Levi A. Ward; superintendent, George W. Parsons.

At the time the gas company was organized Rochester had been incorporated as a city fourteen years and had a population of 35,000. Joseph Field was mayor, and the city was divided into nine wards. The telegraph was just coming into use, Rochester receiving its first message in 1846. Railroading was also in its infancy, there being at that time but two small railroads operating out of Rochester; one to Auburn and the Tonawanda. other to Anthracite coal was first used here in the year 1847. The city had no waterworks system, and relied for fire protection principally on water taken from the Rochester was then Erie Canal. known as the "Flour City" due to extensive milling interests which had located along the river, attracted by the cheap water power. There was a large grain elevator in the city at that time which was the first in America.

The price of gas was fixed at \$4.00 per thousand with five per cent discount for prompt payment. Bills were rendered quarterly. The first consumer on record was C. A. Jones who resided on Franklin Street. The first gas works consisted of five benches of three retorts each, the retorts being made of cast iron and holding a charge of about one and a third bushels of coal. The gas manufactured was of coarse coal gas. The life of these cast iron retorts averaged about three months. Company started with about 150 consumers and the average daily consumption during the first six months was about six thousand cubic feet per day. The first year the Company had a contract with the city for twelve street lamps (the old open burner type) at a price of \$25.00 per lamp per year. These lamps were operated on a moonlight schedule; that is, on nights when the moon was supposed to shine, the lamps were not lighted.

Coal for the works was obtained by canal boat from Buffalo and cost \$4.50 per ton. Lime was used for purification and cost 42c per bushel. The cost for purifying alone was about 12½c per thousand cubic feet. It is interesting to know that the masons who set the fire brick received 14½c per hour and worked twelve hours. Their helpers received 6½ to 7½c per hour. Common labor was paid at the rate of 6c per hour.

The following interesting memoranda were made by the Superintendent, Mr. G. W. Parsons, during the first year's operation:

"June 12th, 1849—Twenty-three ladies visited the Works to-day en masse." "June 23rd, 1849—Seven o'clock A. M.—Temperature 80 degrees. For three days last past the thermometer has ranged from 92 to 96 degrees at

thermometer has ranged from 92 to 96 degrees at two P. M."

"Dec. 13th, 1849—The New Year of the Company opens well, though not entirely without complaining on the part of consumers that the bills of the last quarter were so large. Complaints, however, were of short duration when it was considered that the actual lighting time of the third quarter was twice and a half to three times that of the two preceding quarters. From inquiry and observation the Superintendent is enabled to record the very gratifying fact that as to the quality of the gas and the general terms and regulations of the Company the public appear well satisfied."

It is interesting to note that even at this early date in the history of the corporation the satisfaction of the consumer and the quality of service appear to be the first consideration.

"Dec. 25th, 1849—Christmas night about forty meters were frozen, including many which were not touched with frost last winter. The day has been exceptionally cold and windy, the thermometer ranging from 8 degrees to 10 degrees."

In the following year—1850—the entry below is of interest:

"Nov. 9th, 1850—William II. Murray commenced work in the office with a view of remaining permanently at the rate of \$2.00 a week for the first year, or \$104.00."

It is evident that office salaries were not high in those days. The plant was operated continuously up to July 18, 1893, with various changes and improvements and additions from time to time.

## Learn to Read—Then Read to Learn

Some three years ago the management decided to assist employees who might be desirous of having certain technical papers on their home table. It was arranged to purchase all of the magazines and papers desired, getting club rates wherever possible, so that all our employees should have the privilege of subscribing to any of the publications in question, on a basis of one-half the actual cost of the subscription, the Company to pay the other half. The following periodicals and technical papers are available to any employee under the above plan:

American Forestry. American Gas Light Journal.

American Machinist.

Cassier's Magazine. Cold Storage and Ice Trade Journal.

Data.

Electric Journal. Electric Railway Journal.

Electrical Age.

Western Electrician and Electrical Re-

Electrical World.

Industrial Engineer and Engineering Digest.

Engineering News.

Engineering Magazine.

Engineering Record.

English Journal Gas Lighting.

Gas Industry.

General Electrical Review. Heating and Ventilating. Ice and Refrigeration.

Irrigation Age. Irrigation Age with Primer. Isolated Plant. Popular Electricity. Popular Mechanics. Power and The Engineer. Practical Engineer. Progressive Age. Scientific American.

Illuminating Engineer.

Scientific American and Supplement. Selling Electricity.

Southern Engineer. Southern Machinery. Technical World.

Water and Gas Review.

Employees desiring to subscribe under these conditions should communicate with Mr. R. J. Kehoe, at

the Clinton Street office. We would like to see many of our fellow employees profit by this opportunity to secure reading matter that will be of benefit to them in their work. In particular we would like to encourage our young men to get acquainted with some of these excellent magazines and periodicals. The most successful men in every human avocation have all been readers, and no young man to-day who wishes to succeed in life will neglect such reading as will deepen his knowledge, broaden his experience, and fit him when the time comes for a place higher up in the rung of life's ladder.

## How 66,000 Bills Are Made Out Each Month

By WM. T. NOLAN



Previous to 1904 our customers' bills were addressed by hand. At that time there were about 25,000 gas accounts, and less than 3,000 electric accounts. In June, 1904, a crude

addressing machine was purchased, which required a lead plate for each name and address. The plates which were ordered from a linotype factory were slow in delivery, and numerous errors in making them could be corrected only by substituting new plates. The machine into which the plates were fed was heavy and cumbersome, and an output of 3,000 bills was considered a good record for one day's work. It was operated by foot power, and remained in service until 1906, when an "Addressograph" was purchased.

The "Addressograph" soon proved to be a great improvement on the old machine. The plates consisted of a metal form, into which rubber type letters were inserted for the name and address. About 125 name plates could be set up each day, and corrections were made without difficulty. Like the old machine, the "Addressograph" was operated by foot power, and between seven and eight thousand bills were printed on it each day. That outfit remained in use until August, 1911, when the Company purchased a "Montague Mailing Machine Outfit," which consists of three different machines, -namely, the typograph, automatic press, and hand addressor or listing machine.

The typograph machine, which is driven by an electric motor, is used for setting up consumers' names and addresses on metal plates, which are kept in fireproof metal cabinets holding about 16,000 plates each. this machine there is a keyboard, similar to that on a typewriter, on which the operator can easily set up six to eight hundred plates in an

eight hour day.

The automatic press is also driven by an electric motor, automatically feeding the plates through a channel, over which the bills are automatically fed and held in place until the names and addresses are printed thereon without any assistance whatever from the operator. All that the operator has to do is to see that the machine is kept in proper working order and replenished with plates and bills at the proper time. With this machine about 3,000 bills per hour, or an average of 25,000 per day, are printed.

The hand addressor is also driven by an electric motor, and is used to print lists of customers' names and for special work which cannot be done on the automatic machine. This new outfit is a timely relief, for at present we have about 10,000 electric accounts and nearly 56,000 gas accounts with a continuous increase

every month.

## F . . . . H . . . .

Friendly to everyone, great or small, Ready to help you, one and all; Always wears a pleasant smile, Never frowns, or frets awhile: Kind-hearted, noble and true.

Handles his men like a father his

Every man loyal, making things hum:

Large in body, stalwart and tall, Like all good men, he's admired by

Energetic in all work he has to do, Never feels angry, never feels blue.

## How the Power of Niagara is Used in Rochester

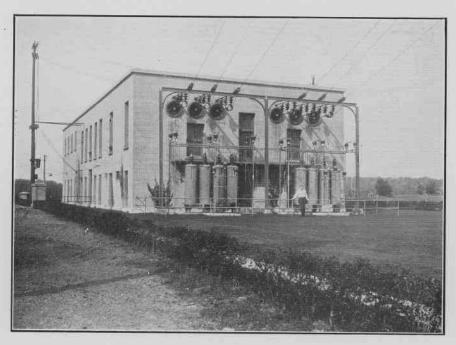
By B. W. BAILEY, Foreman No. 33 Station



Silently and unobtrusively more than 12,000 horse power is transmitted each day from the Niagara, Lockport and Ontario Power Company's main line at Mortimer

through No. 33 Station at Elmwood Avenue and the Lehigh Valley Rail60,000 volts of Niagara power into 11,000 volts for use in Rochester.

The reason for making the transformation at this particular point is that it is impracticable to convey 60,000 volts either underground or overhead through a populated center like a large city. In the process of transformation there is a loss of power, as in any conversion, there is less energy taken out than is put



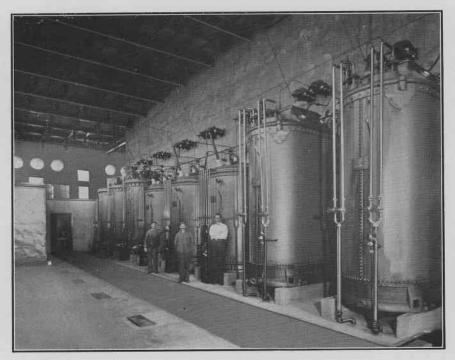
No. 33 STATION AND ITS POWERFUL LIGHTNING ARRESTORS.

road. Unlike others of the Company's stations there is no whirling machinery, buzzing dynamos, or other evidence of the tremendous electrical force passing through this station. All that can be seen in the way of machinery are the nine giant transformers that noiselessly perform their daily work of changing

in. This loss of energy would amount in terms of horse power at the time of full load to approximately 500 horse power, and is manifested entirely by heat; in other words, it is the same as though we had furnaces inside the station consuming an amount of coal equal to 500 horse power per hour.

To dissipate the above heat, the transformers are oil insulated and water cooled; that is, the transformers are filled with oil and the water pipe coil inside immersed therein, water flowing through this pipe assisting in the work of cooling the oil. The water for cooling purposes is supplied to the station from the Company's little artistic concrete

and Lincoln Park on the west. There is one line, leading through an auto-transformer, which makes a rurther change from 11,000 volts to 16,000, to Pittsford, at which point a branch leaves for Fairport and Barge Canal work; from Pittsford this line extends on to Canandaigua and Geneva with various sub-stations on the way for supplying direct



INTERIOR OF NO. 33 STATION SHOWING BIG TRANSFORMERS FOR NIAGARA CURRENT.

pumping plant located on the river bank in the park at Elmwood Avenue.

After the transformation of the 60,000 volts to 11,000 there are a series of overhead and underground power lines radiating from this station. To Canandaigua and Sodus on the east; Charlotte on the north;

current to the Rochester & Eastern Railway Company.

Another line runs underground to Elmwood Avenue and Genesee Street, thence to an overhead pole line to Lincoln Park for the Symington Company's service. A branch from this line at about one-third of the way is now supplying Lane Bros.

## Some of Our Veteran Workers



MARTIN STONE, Who has Worked Continously in the Gas Shop for 43 years.



ARTHUR LOVE,
Of No. 3 Station—20 years of Service.



MAURICE O'CONNELL, 21 years at No. 1 Station.



PATRICK J. CASEY, Of Gas Works—24 years of Service

## Some of Our Veteran Workers



WILLIAM L VINCENT, The Blacksmith—24 years of Service



PATRICK DRUMM, Of No. 3 Station—22 years of Service.



PATRICK WELCH,
Night Janitor at Offices—36 years of
Service.



W. JULIAN,
Popular Foreman of No. 5 Station—
32 years of Service.



To the men whose lives are hidden in the editorial room of any publication, whether it be a country newspaper, a great metropolitan daily, or an influential magazine, there is no greater reward for days of toil than to know they have found a way to reach the hearts of their readers. What matter the wearisome labor, and the many little obstacles and discouragements, if the men whose lives are hidden in the editorial room know that they are surrounded by a happy united family of readers.

Such has been our happy encouragement since the first issue of this magazine reached our fellow employees. From every department we have heard pleasing compliments about the first number of Gas and ELECTRIC NEWS. Heads of departments and the foremen in the various stations, gas shop, gas works, and on street work have all reported that the magazine was the subject of much favorable comment from the men. Our first number was particularly well received by hundreds of our brother workers in the busy power stations and gas works; also by other workers engaged in extending electric lines, gas mains, services, etc.

BROTHER WORKERS THIS MAGAZINE IS FOR YOU. It is intended to bring about the family spirit among the employees of every department. But more than that, it is intended to instruct, to keep you informed of the great and small things that the Company is doing in our splendid and progressive city. IT IS THE COMPANY'S DE-SIRE, AND OUR LAUDABLE AMBITION, THAT THIS MAG-AZINE WILL PROVE TO BE AN INSPIRATION TO EACH AND EVERY EMPLOYEE EN-GAGED IN THE COMPANY'S SERVICE. As we go along from month to month, we shall try to give you an optimistic message. We shall plan how we may benefit you, and how we may bring about greater zeal, ambition and loyalty in the hearts of all our fellow workers.

If these noble things can be accomplished through the medium of this magazine, then "the pioneers" of Gas and Electric News will have earned their reward, and the magazine will have served its purpose.

Our aim is to make this publication the best of its kind in the country. In order to do this WE MUST HAVE THE CO-OPERATION OF EVERY MAN AND WOMAN WHO WORKS FOR OUR COMPANY. That co-operation may be given to us in contributed articles and news; it can also be shown to us in friendly and helpful suggestions; finally it can be shown in that spirit of loyalty which we should all show in the work of our Company, of which we are all so proud.

For the kindly and warm reception given the first issue of this mag-

azine the editors are sincerely grateful. Such appreciation makes our task worth while and fills our hearts with the hope of greater and better things to come.

We should like to receive letters from any of our fellow workers, telling us how they like this magazine. The magazine is open at all times to employees who wish to contribute articles, or news. Special articles regarding your own line of work are always particularly welcome.

## Co-operation Will Win

If general spontaneous approval be the criterion by which success may be correctly measured, Gas and ELECTRIC NEWS bids fair to fulfill its mission among our fellow workers. In reaching this conclusion we have not permitted the many favorable, not to say flattering, comments of men not of our organization to influence us in the slightest degree, although we may with perfect propriety admit their comments were grateful to our ear. We appreciate them more than we can say, but, the fact is, no matter how favorable the impression created without, the success of this publication depends absolutely upon its capacity for creating favorable and lasting impressions upon the hearts of the men and women within our organization. How, indeed, could the magazine bear the good fruit expected of it, if its message is not received with favor by those whom it is intended to benefit? It has been stated that: "The high standard of the first number of Gas and Electric News will be difficult to maintain." Our answer to that remark was this: "The earnest co-operation of our fellow employees from the management down, made possible the high standard attained." That our firm faith in your loyal co-operation was justified is evidenced by this, the second number of Gas and Electric News. We are confident that self same earnest co-operation will not only maintain the high standard of this magazine, but will constantly tend to push it higher still.

There are two sorts of content: one is connected with exertion, the other with habits of indolence; the first is a virtue, the other a vice.

#### Dig In Your Back Yard

A man of South Africa wandered for several years, prospecting over veldt and kopje in search of a diamond mine. Discouraged by repeated failures, he finally settled down to live in a house. One day while digging in his back yard he came across a find, which on development resulted in the discovery of a rich mine of diamonds.

Have you a backyard, a little plot of garden, or a stretch of green lawn in the front of your home? Are you digging, planting, or beautifying that bit of God's earth that you call your own?

If not, why not?

If your back yard is a dumping place for all kinds of refuse and rubbish, clean it up and give it a chance. Change it from a liability to an asset. Teach your children to help you. Show them where to plant a rose instead of a thorn.

A few cents expended for profuse blooms like sweet peas and a variety of climbing vines will do much to hide ugly surroundings and transform your back yard or lawn into a bower of beauty.

We should like to see this little thought of ours strike home and take root. Later we should like to hear from some of the Company's employees who have little gardens that they take pride in.

Dig in your back yard. There's wealth and joy and beauty in it.

I don't think much of a man who is not wiser to-day than he was yesterday.—Abraham Lincoln.

#### The Great Policeman

The New York Evening World in an editorial tribute to electric light on March 9th quotes Dr. James Walsh, the noted lecturer, who declared recently that electric light has done much to banish spooks and crooks, thugs and night prowlers.

"Ghosts have disappeared just in proportion as our means of lighting have increased," said the doctor, and he went on to point out that, "until 1825 people used mainly candles, which so far from lighting up, made shadows and dark corners all the blacker. Moreover, in the old days of draughty corridors and creaking staircases, people lay in bed in the dark, listening to noises and imagining spirits. Now we turn on the electric light and that is the end of them.

"We owe much to the electric light. It has cleared up the slums of our cities. It has gone into the fearsome byways and alleys and flooded them with safety and purity. It has routed thugs, prowlers, and many other powers of darkness. Perhaps nothing has ever done more to lesson crime and depravity than the street lighting, made possible by the use of electricity in cities.

"The arc light is the best policeman on earth. It is the sworn foe of crooks. If it is clearing out the spooks as well, the more credit to it."

When writing a note for someone, it's a good plan to write your name and date on it, so that the person for whom it is intended will be able to trace it up.

#### Courtesy

Courtesy broadens one and opens the ear to the other man's view of the case. It means patience with our co-workers, respect for our superiors, and charity for those who may be employed in subordinate positions. It is a magnet to secure the favorable attention of the public. It holds customers and increases business. The young man who has a good moral character, who is a hustler, and who has a pleasant, happy, courteous disposition, is possessed of those faculties which will most surely win recognition and a successful career, whether in the employ of this Company, or in charge of his own affairs.

"An Electric Eye" is the latest invention by a Russian professor. Among the reported attributes of this wonderful "goo-goo" is that it will enable the boss or foreman to sit in any part of the plant and see all of his employees with more ease than he can now speak to them over the 'phone.

What about that baseball team? Shall we have to get Charlie Chapin to round up the boys for us? Get busy, boys. Somebody call a meeting, and let's have a Gas and Electric team. Why not?

All matter for publication, such as contributed articles, etc., should be sent to us typewritten whenever possible. The observance of this request will facilitate the editor's work.

## Till Nightfall

To-day's burdens will last only through to-day. They may be removed before to-morrow; but if they to-morrow, should be renewed strength to bear them will also be renewed. To-day is all that we need to think about during to-day, and one day is not very long. Here is a message of rare comfort that someone has spoken: "Anyone can carry his burden, however heavy, until nightfall. Anyone can do his work, however hard, for one day. Anyone can live sweetly, patiently, till the sun goes down. And this is all that life ever really means." But it means one thing more, that even between now and nightfall we do not have to bear the burden alone.

## Hats off To The Dreamer

Hats off to the dreamer who works at his dreams,

Who follows the fantasy through, Who seizes the vision and figures and schemes

At making the dream come true. But the dreamer who lives for his visions alone

Throw him out—he's a drone!

The dreamers-and-doers have builded the earth

And are ever making it new, And 'spite of the cynics who greet

them with mirth
They're making the dream come
true.

But the dreamer whose fancies are lightly wind-blown,

Throw him out-he's a drone!

So here's to the dreamer who also can do,

For he's making the dream come true.

But the dreamer who lives for the dream alone,

Throw him out—he's a drone!

## The Development of the Electric Sign

By L. W. LAYMAN



It would be difficult to say when or where the first illuminated sign was used. It might have been introduced centuries ago by some progressive Roman inn-keeper.

who hung a candle-lantern over the sign on his door, to guide the late traveler to his place. In the course of time the illuminated sign has undergone many wonderful changes. When the kerosene lamp superceded the candle-lantern, a box with glass sides was built around it; and when lettering on the box was used, the first patent was applied for and secured. Kerosene lamps were later replaced by electric lamps, and from this humble beginning the electric sign art has grown in attractiveness and attention compelling force, until to-day it is a power in advertising second only to the daily newspaper.

A few years ago this Company took its first active part in promoting the use of the electric sign for business purposes. One of the first obstacles to overcome was a prohibitive City ordinance. Up to that time few cities had sign ordinances. The local ordinance was drawn up so that it was restrictive but not prohibitive, and this was accomplished by permitting signs to extend four feet over the sidewalk, provided plans and specifications therefor had the approval of the Fire Marshall.

As time went on there was a marked increase in the number of signs on our city streets. In the year 1910, Mr. Wallace, who had devoted much time to electric sign business, left the service of the Company, and from the first of January, 1911, up to the present time the writer has devoted his services to this

special line of work. The connected load at that time was about 525 kilowatts in signs, outlines, etc., the 20-watt, 4 candle power lamp being the standard unit. Mazda sign lamps, 5-watt, have replaced carbon lamps in many old signs, and nearly all of our new signs have been made up with Mazda lamps. Since January, 1911, the load has been increased to 700 kilowatts. This increase is due to the sale of 137 additional electric signs, outlines and reflectors.

The selling of signs is only a part of the work of the electric sign salesman. Nearly all signs are turned on and off by means of a time switch set to operate at a certain hour. If, for any reason, it fails to operate at the specified time there is a 'phone call, or an explanation asked for by This is also true of the owner. flasher failures, as they of course require a certain amount of attention, and the sign salesman, by noting the trouble and its cause, from time to time, has been able to eliminate several of the most serious difficulties in their operation, which means a saving of labor and repair parts, and makes for satisfied customers.

Of the troubles we have experienced in operating electric signs, one of the most serious has been the blowing of fuses, due to water following the lamp into the socket, thereby grounding the circuit. We are now using rubber rings that fit around the lamp up to the socket, thus preventing water from entering. By this method we have been enabled to overcome most of the difficulties which have arisen from the above source.

Lamps and methods of wiring have been given serious consideration for some time. The Mazda sign lamp, which we have been using, is made for 12 volts or 13 volts. These lamps are made satisfactory on alternating current by the use of sign transformers; but, on direct current series, and multiple series, wiring is necessary. In such cases the burning out of a lamp puts the sign at least partially out of commission.

To overcome this difficulty the sign manufacturer had to show that it was absolutely necessary to make a full voltage Mazda lamp for electric signs. This the lamp manufacturers have accomplished, and many electric signs are possible now that otherwise would be impossible.

#### Mr. Collector

Do you know where in the books to find your accounts?

Do you know where to go to settle a controversy in regard to a service, range, or other account?

Do you ever try and follow up a consumer through his dead contracts.

Do you ever compare signatures upon contracts before making a call upon the account?

Do you ever consult an old directory to find a brother, sister, or other relative of like name, who may have been at the same address as that at which the old final account was contracted?

Do you ever make notice as to whether your current delinquents are carried upon deposits or guarantees or as old consumers.

Do you give each account the same personal attention you would were it your own money you were after?

In short, are you fully informed before you tackle the collection?

#### How Much Had She?

One of the girls found a \$2 bill the other day. She then had five times as much as she would have had, had she lost \$2 instead. What was the exact amount of money in her pocketbook after she found the \$2 bill? Can you tell?

#### IN MEMORIAM

Richard Gardiner, brother of Robert Gardiner, of the commercial department, died very suddenly on May 10. The decedant, who was the Monroe County Purchasing Agent, was one of the best known and popular men in Rochester.

Miss Helen Prindeville, sister of Miss Mary Prindeville, of Mr. Nolan's department, died after a long illness on May 21.

We regret also to announce the death of Mr. Richard Baker, father of Miss Alice Baker, of Mr. Nolan's department, who died suddenly on May 27.

To Mr. Robert Gardiner, Miss Prindeville and Miss Baker, as well as to their families, we extend our sincere sympathy.

When you show your teeth, show them in a smile—not a snarl.

You'll never know your ability until you give it a tryout. Hard work furnishes a good test.

## Rotary Converter for Moerlbach Brewery

By I. LUNDGAARD



When the Moerlbach Brewing Company's plant was built a few years ago, electric power was adopted to operate all machinery in the establishment, including

two 75-ton refrigerating machines, each requiring a 150-horsepower motor; also all auxiliaries throughout the plant. As variable speed is required for the operation of the refrigerating machines, direct current was necessary. Accordingly a steam generating plant equipped with one 100-horsepower and one 165-horsepower direct-connected Skinner unit was installed to furnish the power.

Purchased electric power was considered at the time the plant was being built, but our Company was not in a position then to offer as low a rate as the present Constant

Demand Schedule provides; but last summer an agreement was entered into with the Brewing Company whereby it agreed to purchase a rotary converter of 200-kilowatts capacity, and to take power during the summer months from our 60-cycle lines. Temporary service from a belted motor generator set was furnished all last summer, and now the converter is on the job.

It is believed that this is the only brewery in the United States where such an installation has been made, and very satisfactory results are expected. Extensive tests will be made to determine to just what extent the Brewing Company should generate its own power, and to what extent it should purchase power. In the winter time, the exhaust steam from the generating plant has a certain value, which can be determined only by test.

#### Our Visitors

John Stillwell, formerly connected with this Company, but now with the Consolidated Gas Company of New York City, was here inspecting the transportation department on May 27. Mr. Stillwell while in the city met a number of his old friends who gave him the hand of welcome.

A. B. Wainwright, General Manager of the Central New York Gas & Electric Company, and S. Piek, Assistant General Manager of the Niagara, Lockport & Ontario Power Company, Buffalo, were here May 27 in conference with Mr. Parker.

Mr. Warren L. Secord, General Superintendent of Meters for the Westchester Lighting Company, was among those who paid us a visit during the past month. Mr. Second came to Rochester to get some ideas from the gas shop, for the purpose of establishing a meter repair shop at the Westchester plant.

David Basch and Ernest Jacobs, of the General Electric Company, Schenectady, were here May 23 to show Mr. Yawger the operation of pilot wire relays for the protection of tie lines.

Mr. Basch paid our Company the following pretty compliment: "You have a great lighting system in Rochester. Considering that it is about the most complicated system that we have seen, we find that the Rochester Railway & Light Company contains all the characteristics of an ideal lighting company."

## East Avenue Will Be Beautifully Illuminated

East Avenue will be one of the most beautifully illuminated residence thoroughfares in the country, according to plans for a new lighting system which have just been completed. For more than a year Mr. Yawger and his assistants have been studying how to better the lighting of East Avenue. Various types of electric lamps were tried during the year for the purpose of finding out a suitable light, among these being the Mazda 60 watt placed on a level-arm post, and the flaming arc. A number of meetings were also held in which the property holders interested were consulted. Finally the matter was placed in the hands of a committee of property owners, consisting of the following: Messrs. E. J. Miner, J. G. Cutler and George Eastman.

Recently this committee reached a decision, and the Company has now received an order for the placing of 82 inverted magnetite luminous (6.6 amperes) are lamps. Beginning at Main Street East the new lights will be spaced about 200 feet apart, and will extend as far as the city line. At both entrances to East Avenue, that is on Main Street and the city line, there will be two posts, forming a gateway as it were. Cast iron posts of 6-inch diameter will be used, the base diameter being about 18 inches. The height of the post will be such that the center of the arc lamp will be about 14 feet 6 inches from the ground line.

Messrs. Miner, Cutler and Eastman are to be congratulated on the selection, which the Company heartily indorses as being the most efficient and modern method of illuminating a thoroughfare of the character of East Avenue. Excepting New Haven, Conn., which has adopted the same system for its principal business street, Rochester will be the first city in the country to use the above scheme for the illumination of a residence thoroughfare.

#### These Girls Had a Good Time

Twelve girls of the electric ledger department had a pleasant May walk to Maplewood on Saturday afternoon, May 18. Following an enjoyable dinner, the young ladies enjoyed dancing, music, singing and various games, such as "Postoffice," "A Ring Around a Posy," "Tag," and "Blind Man's Buff." Among the girls present were: Gabrielle E. Gay, Teresa Murphy, Minnie Howe, Elizabeth Blodgett, Pearl Ludwig, Katherine Sullivan, Mary McCleary, Amelia Herald, Mildred Berg, Eleanor Connor, Alice Baker, and Reah Teller.

Too bad the young engineers were not invited, Maggie.

#### Off To Seattle

Messrs. Yawger, Scobell, Dewolf, Eaton, Lundgaard, Colgate, Montignani and MacSweeney are now en route to Seattle, Washington, where they will attend the national convention of the National Electric Light Association, which will be held in that city June 9 to 14. We wish our delegates an enjoyable and profitable time at the convention, and a safe return home.

Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns. I am thankful that thorns have roses.

—Alphonse Karr.



A new electric truck has been put in operation at the East Rochester Station. Andrew Lindner is the chauffeur.

Mr. Beckwith informs us that a number of new customers have been added to the books of the East Rochester Station.

A set of transformers and a rotary converter have just been installed by our engineers for the Rochester and Lake Ontario Water Company.

The cottagers along the Manitou line are very much pleased that this Company has been extending its electric service lines along that particular territory.

Mr. Montignani informs us that a number of the latest type of aluminum electrolyte lightning arrestors have been installed along the different distribution lines. Improved lightning arrestors mean fewer accidents in the lightning season.

The Company has just completed the installation of a tap from the Niagara power line, extending from Lake Avenue to the Rochester and Lake Ontario Water Company's pumping plant; thence west along the Manitou Beach Railroad to half a mile west of the Manitou Beach Hotel. At the pumping station a transformer will be installed for changing the voltage from 11,000 to 2,400 volts, which will be used on the Manitou extension.

The Company has signed a contract with the Town Board of Gates for the illumination of that village. The installation, which will be completed by November 1, consists approximately of 80 arc lamps, 500 poles and about 50 miles of wiring. The territory to benefit by the new lighting will be as follows: 100 feet south of Brooks Avenue on the south, city line on the east, Emerson Street on the north, and Field Street and Buell Avenue on the west.

During the past month the Company has wired about 15 cottages and 3 hotels along the Manitou extension. Before summer it is probable that all the hotels will be using electric service. Mr. Martin had considerable difficulty in placing the poles for the new extension along the beach on account of the water. He tried to lay the poles first by using old barrels, but finding this method expensive, he devised a collapsible sheet iron cylinder, barrel shaped, which was transferred from place to place as the work progressed. Mr. Martin's clever plan made quite a considerable saving in the construction of the new extension line.



The laboratory is now making a number of coal tests preliminary to awarding the slack coal contracts for the next year.

J. P. Haftenkamp and Mrs. Haftenkamp left on May 16 for a five weeks trip to the Pacific Coast. They will be in Seattle during the N. E. L. A. convention.

An apparatus for burning and reoxidizing spent oxide has recently been operated at the works. The recovered iron is now being tried out in an experimental purifier.

The pride of the gas works is Jake Webber's pansy bed. Jake has beaten all records in amateur gardening. How he grows anything in a soil of coal tar and cinders is a mystery.

During the past month, the Gas Works Machine Shop has assembled another large double drum hoist for the use of Whitmore, Rauber & Vicinus on that company's trunk sewer contract.

Mrs. H. S. Sugden, wife of Foreman Harry Sugden, will leave June 15 for Calgary, Canada, where she will visit her daughters, Mrs. P. A. Stokes and Miss Eunice Sugden. Her son, Thomas, has already gone West, so that Harry will be a lone bachelor until the middle of September.

## New Ventilating System

For the purpose of removing bad air and gas from the gas meter testing room, the engineering department has just completed plans for the installation of an exhaust fan, which will completely change the air in the room eight times an hour. In the Gas Meter Testing Department, which is located in Front Street, old and worn meters are opened, defective parts removed and new parts supplied, after which the meters are tested.

While these operations are going on, a large amount of illuminating gas finds its way into the room. Soldering-iron heaters also do much to increase the quantity of bad air. When the new fan system has been installed, suction hoods will be placed near where the meters are opened and tested, to withdraw the bad air from the room. A pipe line provided with suitable openings will run down each side of the room, connecting the hoods with the exhaust fan. It is believed that the new ventilating system will do much to improve conditions in the gas meter testing room, making the work of the employees there healthier and pleasanter.

William F. Croston, of the gas works department, will leave shortly to accept a position as Superintendent of Gas Department with Watertown Light, Heat & Power Co., Watertown, N. Y. We wish Mr. Croston all kinds of success in his new job.



# What Does It Cost to Maintain a Horse?

"What does it cost to maintain a horse and wagon per day?" Such was the interesting question debated at the Friday morning meeting May 17, in which Messrs. Hellen, Russell and Morphy each expressed their views on the equine boarding problem. The question arose when Mr. Hellen (in charge of transportation department) announced that he wished to discontinue the use of the horse and wagon, kept for delivery purposes, at the store house in Front Street.

Quite a lively argument arose at this point between Mr. Hellen and Mr. Morphy regarding what it cost to keep a horse and wagon, Mr. Hellen estimating the cost at \$5 a day, which included feed for horse, wear and tear and repairs on wagon, also wages of driver.

"Why," said Mr. Morphy, "let me tell you, Mr. Hellen, that I have hired teams at \$5 a day, and I think your figures are a little bit off."

Mr. Russell said that he used a team at the gas works, and he had figured the cost to be about \$3.50 per day.

Mr. Hutchings, who presided, said that if the employees at the stations exercised a little more thought, the horse and wagon might be spared a number of useless trips with materials, and he thought that all such trips might be easily cut in half. If necessary, he said the Company would gladly send a taxicab to any

station when materials were required in an emergency; otherwise he agreed with Mr. Hellen that it would be well to cut down the expense.

The discussion brought out the important fact that employees should not send in orders to the store house as "emergency orders" unless they are strictly so.

Mr. Nolan reported that there had been a considerable falling off in the number of robberies of prepaid meter boxes, due to the vigilence of the police in the different precinct stations, who, he said, were doing all that was possible to co-operate with the Company in putting an end to the thieving.

#### N. E. L. A.

The regular monthly meeting of the National Electric Light Association was held Thursday evening, April 11. The meeting was opened by Vice-President Haftenkamp in the absence of President MacSwee-

Mr. R. DeWolf gave a very instructive talk on "The Construction of the Steam Turbine." His address was illustrated by a number of stereopticon slides, which were kindly loaned for the occasion by the General Electric Company.

On the motion of Mr. Lundgaard, seconded by Mr. Fisher, a rising vote of thanks was extended to Mr. DeWolf, as well as to the General Electric Company for its courtesy in lending the lantern pictures.



Mr. Hutchings made a business trip to New York City May 20.

Mrs. George E. Love, wife of Mr. Love, of No. 3 Station, is recovering from an operation at the General Hospital.

Miss C. B. Atkinson, private secretary to Mr. Searle, has returned from a pleasant visit to her old home in North Carolina.

Mr. McConnel, of No. 2 Station, claims that he has the finest dynamo tender of any man in the station. "It's a boy." Congratulations.

F. C. Alcott, of the underground department, was in New York City week ending May 18, inspecting some new underground cables.

W. H. Earle, of the Gas Works, attended a number of lighting experiments conducted by the State at Amsterdam, N. Y., on May 15.

Miss Lillian Marshall, of the payroll department, has moved into a new flat at 804 Monroe Avenue. We wish her all the comforts of home.

The only crank the genial Pat. Martin trains with is the one attached to his Ford runabout, and, judging from the way Pat handles the crank, a self starter would be more to his liking.

Wahle Burns is kept quite busy teaching twins to say "Papa." Wahle says "It's bad enough with one, but teaching two is like having a class at school."

Frank Hubbard of the meter shop is having a strenuous time wheeling

a go-cart on Genesee Street. Frank is leaving his tracks alright on the concrete sidewalks.

Mr. MacSweeney was a guest at the Geneva Chamber of Commerce banquet on April 11. He came back enthusiastic about the great things which the Geneva organization is accomplishing.

Henry Garnsey, of the line department, has returned to work after three weeks illness, due to a fall from his motorcycle. We are glad you are better "Hen," and look out for the pavements, they're pretty hard.

Robert Gardner has disposed of another house, this time to Frank Houlihan, of the complaint department. The house is located on Kislingbury Street. The floors are hardwood finish, roof shingled, and illuminations electric.

The young women of the commercial department are very curious to know just where the young engineers go walking every Saturday afternoon. Will Mr. Lundgaard kindly inform them where some of these interesting tramps are?

Jerry Cost has just returned from Italy where he spent the winter, and acquired a wife. Jerry arrived in the home country just about in time to go into military service against the Turks. But luckily for him he was taken sick and made unfit for duty. Hence we have Jerry with us again.

James Laney, of the credit department, has been communing with the birds at the Pinnacle Hills recently. Among forty species of feathered warblers which our friend James claims to have seen were the Black Pool Warbler and the Alice Thrush. We would be glad to have Jimmie write us a good bird story.

Mr. Hoddick bought some grass seed at Fahy's market recently. After staying up a dozen of nights to watch it grow, Vincent discovered that he had planted sawdust. Now what do y-o-u think of that?

Talking of May walks, the girls of the arc lamp department are not in favor of May walks or Saturday afternoon tramps. "We get a May walk every morning down to Front Street" said the girls in chorus the other day.

R. DeWolf, preparatory to leaving for the Seattle convention, sent his best suit of clothes to Sibley's cold storage. Really, Mr. DeWolf, you must have been expecting a hot time in Seattle when you sent your clothes to cold storage in advance.

By the way, we just want to pay Miss Bridgeman and the girls of the arc lamp department a compliment. This was the first department from which we promptly received a list of names and employees for use in the distribution of the magazine. Many thanks Miss Bridgeman.

Mr. and Mrs. James McDonnell, of Brooklyn, N. Y., have recently been visiting their uncle, Patrick J. Casey, of 296 Avenue B. The visitors were greatly pleased with Rochester's lighting system, which they declared was superior to that of their home city—Brooklyn.

We have received the following query from Mr. Searle, who is now in Los Angeles:

"What would be the result if a rotten egg was thrown into an electric fan?" Well, if the electric fan distributes the bad things entrusted to it as effectively as it circulates air, we would hate to wear our Sunday clothes in the same room during

the eggsperiment.

#### Cupid Very Busy

We wish to extend our congratulations to Mr. Frederick H. Patterson, assistant to Mr. Scobell, who was united in marriage to Miss Jessie M. La Rue on April 18.

Elmer W. Vianco, of the draughting department, was quietly married to Miss Eunice Lape on April 2. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Vianco a long and happy voyage on life's matrimonial sea.

Cupid certainly has been very busy in the draughting department of late. Henry Gazell has, we understand, become engaged to Miss Ruth Curran, who, by the way, is a charming young lady.

James B. Crowley, of Mr. Nolan's department, was married May 29 to Miss Mae Grace Conway. Mr. and Mrs. Crowley, permit us to offer you our best congratulations. May you always be happy.

## Some Things to Reflect Upon

The failures of life sit around and complain; the gods haven't treated them white; they've lost their umbrellas whenever there's rain; and they haven't their lanterns at night; men tire of the failures who fill with their sighs the air of their own neighborhoods; there's the man who is greeted with love-lighted eyes—He's the Man Who Delivers the Goods.

One fellow is lazy, and watches the clock, and waits for the whistle to blow; one has a hammer, with which he will knock, and one tells the story of woe; and one, if requested to travel a mile, will measure the perches and roods; but one does his stunt with a whistle or smile—He's the Man Who Delivers the Goods.—Walt Mason.



The rich may not all be happy, but all the happy are rich.

When you show your teeth, show them in a smile—not in a snarl.

If you cannot say a good word about your men say nothing at all.

Good fellowship is the foundation upon which all successful organizations are built.

It's the fellow who doesn't attend the N. E. L. A. meetings who finds it hard to pay his dues.

Learn a lesson from the teakettle which sings its most cheerful song when in hot water up to its nose.

If you are fat and seek reduction, try climbing the stairs at No. 5 Station. That stairway is some reducer.

If you find the road to success, don't put out your rear lights. They may be a guide to some other fellow.

Unto those who talk and talk,
This proverb should appeal;
The steam that blows the whistle
Will never turn the wheel.

We know a Scotchman who always opens the window of his office before looking out, so as not to wear out the glass.

If men who are going to the devil would go more promptly, and make less trouble on the way, people would be better satisfied. "Spring is here!" said the innocent young rat as he put his foot on the soft pedal of the steel trap and started on his journey into eternity.

Study the experiences of others through this magazine. It is your own publication. Contribute to its pages your own experiences when they are worth while.

Here's to the man who burns his Gas, and burns his gas alone, For there's many a man who's burning

Another man's gas,
When really he ought to be burning
his own.

Let there be harmony!

Let's work for the good of the department, for the good of other departments, and for the good of the Company. Forget yourself in working for the general success of the whole; and you will be surprised to learn how much better off you will be than if you had put yourself first.

The widowed washerwoman is supplied with gas of the same heating value as that delivered the wife of the banker who employs her and who pays at the same rate; electricity of equal voltage and price is delivered to mansion and cottage; all fares look alike to the street car conductor; the telephone operator responds with equal celerity to the voice of the clergyman or the highwayman.

#### Congratulations

Among a number of telegrams and letters of congratulations received since the publication of our first issue were the following:

> Los Angeles, Cal., May 20, 1912.

Congratulate you first issue of GAS AND ELECTRIC NEWS. It is full of good things, and Mrs. Searle and self enjoyed it very much. With regards to all.

R. M. SEARLE.

Public Service Commission, State of New York,

> Second District, Albany, May 16, 1912.

I want to compliment you and your associates on the artistic typographical appearance of the first issue and the excellence of the editorial work.

JOHN S. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Rochester Business Institute,

Rochester, N. Y., May 29, 1912. I wish to congratulate you on producing a journal that is not only bright and readable from the standpoint of the members of your splendid organization, but is informing and interesting to the average citizen. From reading this number I have received some very valuable information and quite a new and enlarged conception of the work which you are doing for the city of Rochester, and particularly a new conception of the spirit in which this work is done, a spirit which will be fostered and developed by your live little journal.

#### JOHN F. FORBES.

"Double Robbery." Man's Pocket Picked While Paying His Gas Bill." Headline in Rochester evening paper of recent date.

#### Canandaigua

The Canandaigua Gas Light Company and the Ontario Light and Traction Company have ordered a thousand pound electric wagon for use in Canandaigua.

During the past winter a gas kitchen has been installed at Sonnenberg, Mrs. F. F. Thompson's estate. The Canandaigua Gas Light Company has just laid 3,000 feet of 4-inch cast iron main to supply the gas.

Mr. Miller was a member of the committee which so successfully planned the recent Chamber of Commerce banquet, during which a number of compliments were paid to Mr. Miller for the part he took in organizing the affair.

V. A. Miller attended the meeting of the Calorimetry Committee of the Empire State Gas and Electric Association held at the office of the Chuctanunda Gas Light Co., Amsterdam, N. Y., Wednesday, May 15th. Manager Cooper of the Amsterdam Company entertained the representatives of the different companies to a palatable lunch at the Elks' Club.

Alma Schake, the little nine-yearold daughter of C. F. Schake, tells the following story which occurred at No. 19 School:

Not long ago the pupils of 4th B grade were asked by the teacher to write a sentence in which the word knowledge was to be used. One boy wrote: "The people sit on my knowledge."

"Can you sit on my knowledge?"

the teacher asked the boy.

"Yes, ma'am, if you'll let me," he replied.

Alma says one boy laughed so much that he fell out of his seat.