

NEWS

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ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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REMOVING SNOW FROM RESERVE COAL PILE, AMBROSE STREET
(See story inside)



A New Year is Always Beginning

The year ends, and crows spread their black wings and echo their black cries over the naked woodland. Jays jeer in the winter sun and the sweet chitter of the chickadee is scarcely heard. Time runs out on the calendar. Winter is upon us, ice on the stream, frost in the earth.

But even as time runs out, it begins again. The cycle continues, unbroken. Another year, another span of winter and then the change, the spring that greens the earth and warms the heart again.

There is no end to it, but only change and the markers by which we tell the time. The change comes with every sunrise, every moonset; and the continuity is always there, the continuity of the stars and the tides and the flowing streams.

Man must draw a tally-line somewhere and tot up a balance. Year's end calls for appraisals. They are not too pleasant to face, just now. But they are not the final totals or the ultimate balance; they belong with the tottings of all the years that came before, all the years to follow. They must be put into perspective if one would see them whole. This much has happened up to now; this much has been done, and this remains to do. Now another year begins.

Since jays were first hatched they have been jeering through the winter woodland, puffed to twice their actual size. When the leaves have greened again the jays will shrink to their proper place in the scheme of things. And crows have been crying havoc for untold years. In a few more months their voices will be lost in the chorus of other, sweeter voices.

For year's end is also year's beginning.

Gas and Electric

Volume 24 No. 1 - 2



JAN. - FEB. 1945

A Monthly Publication for the Employees of the Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation
89 East Avenue, Rochester, N. Y.

Winter Puts Plants and Personnel To Severe Test

WINTER, with its snow, sleet, cold and its winds is seldom friendly to our business. This winter is especially venomous, it seems. Mr. Yawger believes the recent storms set a record for bringing troublesome situations. Many others agree with him. He is thankful, as we all are, that our

Company had foresight, years ago, to plan for so large a proportion of underground electric lines. Steam and gas mains, also, are underground and are free from many problems which, for instance, bother the gas department, and electric plants which have to assure themselves of fifty carloads



It was a toss-up whether the Company or the snowstorm would win. In picture are Louis Contas, Bruce McCahan and Patsy Sgaballone—three men mobilized against the snow which threatened to bury the tracks at Ambrose Street.

of coal per day to keep industry, war plants and homes supplied. And that is but one major problem. Overhead electric lines, especially rural lines and those feeding outlying war industries were plagued with conditions which tested the mettle of seasoned personnel.

Traffic a Major Difficulty

Traffic was all but blocked. Some Employes walked miles to get to work. Others were quite marooned, at least for short periods and the load had to be carried by curtailed manpower. Linemen, underground operators, troublemen and other groups depending upon trucks for transportation had to shovel snow first, then perform their jobs in trying conditions of wind and snow. Skis and snowshoes were called into service in some instances; makeshift equipment was thought up to perform seeming miracles of operation, but at no time was the war effort here held up for lack of power, heat or light.

A Big Shoveling Job

At East Station snow fell so fast upon the gas holders there that gangs of men worked way up there on top of them in blinding snow, with a fair gale blowing, to remove the snow that at times seemed to be getting the best of it. Special "pushers" are used to do this work.

We figured it out. The snow holding capacity of our gas holders amounts to what would be one continuous sidewalk extending for a distance of two and one-half miles in length. That was quite some snow removal job.

All's Well That Ends Well

We would like to say just that "All's well that ends well." At least it is all well up to the minute we go to press. And if another

blinding snowstorm comes raging along to impede our service potentials, we like to believe that it, too, will be defeated in the battle of wits which ensues. Yes, it was a swell fight, but everyone who participated in it is darn glad for a "breather." Let's see, just when is the first day of spring?

Other Districts Suffer

Out of town districts also had their problems the same as we here in Rochester. In some of the rural communities the snow was even worse in its intensity and demanded the same type of loyalty from the personnel. In the Wolcott-Sodus section linemen Kauwell and Warren covered their entire route on snow-shoes.

Loyalty to Company Saves the Day

To mention the individuals who formed this loyal army would be to lengthen our story beyond the limits of our space. Suffice it to say that what had to be done was done. As one man put it: "It was a case of the team first." And the "team" won its battle.

The R. G. and E. Hotel

Many Employes within easier reach of our plants came in, like Minutemen, when they saw how things looked. Others, who had completed one day's work stayed on and did another, and then some. They had to be fed and housed as our plants literally became hotels and restaurants. The service may not have been perfect, but it sufficed.

Coal—The Black Diamonds of Operation

Without coal our plants would not be able to run, war plants would stop their operations. Here, the traffic department and the railroads working with us did a swell job. Cars of coal were traced to see what chance there was to keep

operating without dipping into the 70,000 ton supply of reserve coal at Ambrose Street. Some of this was used, but for the most part we operated as usual with our daily intake of fresh coal from the track. One big job at Ambrose Street yards was to remove literally thousands of tons of snow from those mountains of coal parked there, just in case it had to be called upon to "pinch hit" for normal supply. Our pictures will show some of the hard work which had to be done there.

The railroads and those contractors who are called upon to do some of our heavy work for us come in for their share of the thanks. They worked like trojans.

Front Street a Beehive of Activity

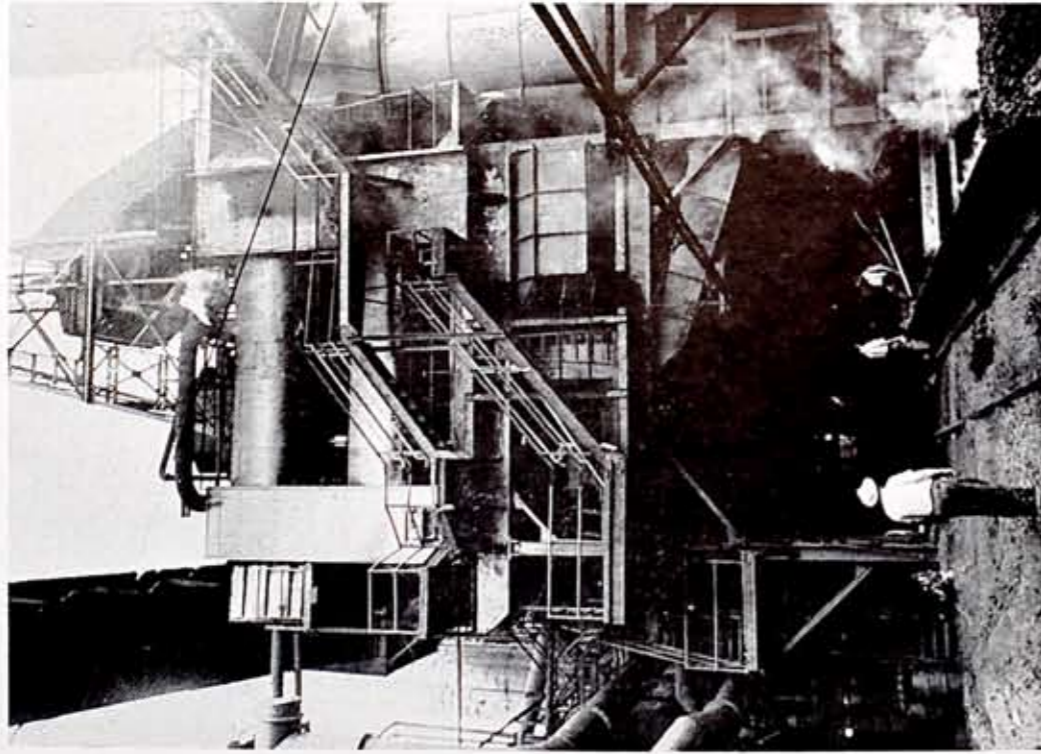
All Company plants and stations had their own peculiar problems

and handled them like the specialists they are. The dispatchers offices at Front Street were busy as bees. On one storm which came after New Years, in a few hours three large sheets of tabulated operation show where all the trouble was, who was sent to repair it and when the work was completed. This is especially serious work, entailing the cutting of circuits, the holding of lines and a knowledge at all times of what the situation is. Again, getting to the job was the hardest part. Mountains of snow had to be shoveled from off manholes, then the covers had literally to be "mined." The Garage and all our coke truck and other drivers did heroic work too in this epic storm. All's well that ends well—temporarily at least.



Men take a brief "breather" but the storm keeps right at it, and did so for hour upon hour. Over 70,000 tons of reserve coal are located at Ambrose Street, which is not used until routine methods of transportation and handling are rendered inadequate.

Big Dry Quencher at West Station Gets Annual Grooming



West Station Dry Quencher. Only part of the quencher tower shows.

THE HUGE STRUCTURE shown at the left is the dry quencher at West Station. It is an austere and rather upstage mass of steel and iron. Its many ramifying ledges and cavernous interior would do justice as a Lon Chaney mystery production prop. Once a year it gets a thorough going over, inside and out, with a final application of acid resisting black paint, but even this doesn't make it look any more cheerful. Perhaps you wouldn't either if you had to keep company with 900 tons of cherry red hot coke per day.

It took a force of about 54 men about ten days, working in shifts almost continuously to do this job. All this speed in the hottest weather we had all of last summer was for a very good reason. The dry quencher provides for use in pumps, blowers and other auxiliary equipment at West Station, 375 pounds of steam for every 1,000 pounds of coke passing through the quencher (about 900 tons per day). This is reclaimed heat and saves time, labor and expense by obviating the burning of coal at Station Three to provide the steam supply mentioned above, using the heat in the hot coke which otherwise would be wasted.

Dry Quenching Makes for Better Quality Coke

This dry quenching process (ours was the first dry quencher constructed in this country) makes a better quality coke, with less moisture content and with less breakage and waste than occurs when the hot coke is quenched with water and instead of air. There is also a considerable saving in water and all these savings are especially worthwhile in wartime.

Bill Dewey and Johnny Baker of the General Maintenance Department are strong in their praise of the men who put this



This picture of the East Station Gas Manufacturing plant picnic was taken last fall at the Chisler's Camp. It was back in those balmy days when there was no thought of winter or snow. What these men, with the men from the West Station Gas Manufacturing plant went through during the recent record winter storms was no picnic. It is the esprit de corps and loyalty of such men, who can play as hard as they can work, that makes our Company equal to whatever nature can bring in her more serious moods.

difficult job across. Bill Hodges and Dell Magin supervised the work of erecting hundreds of feet of plank staging, installing lights for the night shift (Jim Leipe was the lighting man) and Tony Di Tucci and his gang prepared the quencher for painting. The quencher had to be thoroughly cleaned and the scales of West Station corrosion removed, dust and grime blown free by the use of powerful air compressors requiring scores of feet of air lines. A maintenance job was also done, and one of the two towers was re-lined with firebrick.

In spite of wartime shortage of manpower and other incidental handicaps effecting materials and equipment, this important project was completed with minimum of difficulty because everybody did his job well.

Dry Quencher "Devours" Red Hot Coke

The Dry Quencher soon resumed its usual function of literally de-

vouring tons of red hot coke daily and spewing it out cooled in this more efficient way. From the outside it looks spick and span, in a funereal sort of way. When our reporter asked the old quencher how it felt to be nice and clean again, inside and out, and all set for another year's operation, he just groaned and said: "Don't bother me, I'm too hot, and too busy for words. But if I must be quoted, just say this, 'You folks have a chance to clean up every day, take a shower and relax in comfort. Me, I'm hot and dirty all the time; no rest, no fun, just grind hour in and hour out winter as well as summer.'"

"Well," we said in our most comforting tone, "You are making a fine contribution to the war effort and to home comfort by providing R. G. & E. Dry Quenched Coke." "You've got something there," growled the Dry Quencher. And as a carload of red hot coke pulled

up on the little Company railroad he shouted out amid the din of sizzling coke and the clatter of the train's gong, "You get the heck outa here before you get dirty. Me . . . it looks like I'm gonna get hell (literal not profane) for another year."

As a parting shot we shouted as the carload of coke began to catapult down the chutes in its merry zig zag routine: "Brother, you said a mouthful."

Pistol Packing Mama Gets Her — DEER

Pat Mills, wife of Roy Mills, Genesee District appliance serviceman, was bound to get her deer. Her hubby thought the man of the family ought to bring home "the bacon" or the venison for that matter. So, manlike he told Mrs. Mills that her place was in the home, or words to that effect. Then he said he'd go out and perhaps shoot a coupla "bucks" himself.

Mrs. Mills, a true daughter of the Genesee Country, thought otherwise. So, after hubby left home for the woods seeking his first day's deer, she grabbed a worn-out shotgun which seemed to be just waiting to fit into her plans and strode forth.

She actually tracked one deer down. "I was a bit excited" she says; "Guns aren't in my curriculum. But after three unsuccessful attempts to load that old blunderbuss I got her ready for business." "Then" says Mrs. Mills "I let 'er go at that deer."

But why continue this story. Let's come to the climax without further ado. Mrs. Mills got her deer. It was a good neat shot. She returned home somewhat before hubby arrived, and to say that she

was proud to display her trophy (also next day's venison dinner) is putting it mildly.

Our correspondent from Fillmore, Charley Gleason, said never a word about how the other half of the Mills family fared that first deer hunting day. Say, Charley, did Roy shoot a buck too, or did he bring home the "dough." Perhaps, after all, that was just a poker game Roy went to.

A sailor, after placing some flowers on a grave in a cemetery, noticed an old Chinese placing a bowl of rice on a nearby grave, and asked: "What time do you expect your friend to come up to eat the rice?"

The old Chinese answered with a smile: "Same time your friend comes up to smell flowers."

Canandaigua Office Waxes Poetic

The Canandaigua office Christmas party developed plenty of fun. The gifts were emblematic of the hobby or pastime of the recipient. For instance, Ray Wells (hunter) received an ash tray in the form of a deer, together with the following descriptive poem:

Ray Wells, a mighty hunter is he
Hunting in Fillmore
He got behind a tree,
The deer passed by,
Took a glance at Ray,
And said: "Why the Heck
Don't you get out the way?"

Len Geyer received an appropriate gift (Len is a poultryman extraordinary) with a poem extolling his ability to "extract" plentiful eggs from his biddies. John Johnson, meter reader, received some tackle with a verse reading:

Johnny Johnson's a sportsman true,
From boats and fishermen he takes his
cue,
As he shovels drifts to the meter's door,
This boat and fish will help even the score.

Manager Phil Thomas (a very good egg himself) received an egg timer. His poem read:

R. G. and E. Service Honor Roll



Elizabeth Wiethorn

Pvt. Franklin Saunders

Pvt. Robert Loewke

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY R. G. & E. men and women have to date been inducted into the service of their country. This includes the three Employees shown above who recently left to join their buddies in the ranks. This number includes SPAR Dorothy F. Bess, Pay Roll department and SPAR Natalie M. Freitaf, Tabulating department, whose photographs will appear in this space next month.

DO YOUR SHARE—WRITE A SOLDIER A LETTER TODAY!

Keep this jigger close beside you
When at your desk you sit
Then, no matter what you're doing,
You'll gauge your time by it.

Kept the Pot Boiling At West Station

The poem of Charles Cowan, office cashier and Beau Brummel read:

Charlie is a slicker
And always looks just fine
When talking to the ladies
He surely has a line,
He went to see a barber,
And said: "Please cut my hair."
The barber took a look at Chas.
And said: "Please tell me WHERE"

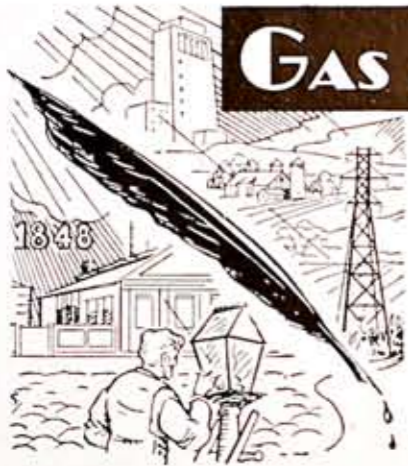
It seems there are budding poets in the Canandaigua district and they had quite a good work-out this Christmas season.

Lady clerk: "Where do you want me to work?"

Floorwalker: "Since so many men clerks have been drafted, we'll have to put you on the main floor in men's underwear."

Mrs. Whitney and Virginia Wolverton (Virginia is our correspondent at West Station) were angels in disguise during one of the terrific snow and wind storms which taxed west station's reduced manpower recently. They volunteered for service, made themselves more than useful and were marooned there overnight. In the morning they got breakfast for the thirty or more men, who were ready about that time to eat—anything, but didn't anticipate the treat which the resourcefulness of these women provided as kitchen experts.

GAS & ELECTRIC NEWS



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R. G. & E. Helped Rochester War Plants Make Records

(This article will appear in the annual War Production Number of Rochester Commerce.)

UTILITY workers have adopted the same code that the Greek historian, Herodotus ascribed to the ancient couriers and which is engraved across the facade of the New York city postoffice. It reads: "Neither snow nor rain, nor gloom of night, stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." The Employees of Rochester Gas and Electric would add "wind and sleet" to the elements cited by the historian and in the recent December storms they lived up to the best traditions of the industry by maintaining service to war plants and homes in the face of obstacles that demoralized and disrupted much of Rochester's industrial and commercial activities.

A Gigantic Responsibility

The Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation has had the gigantic responsibility of anticipating and supplying vastly increased amounts of electric power and gas

for practically all of the war industries of this area. During the last four years the local utility has nearly doubled its supply of gas to war plants and has more than doubled deliveries of electric power to the same group of industries.

One of the achievements of which the R. G. & E. is proud is the fact that supplies of gas and electricity to the war plants of this area have never been too little nor too late. There has never been any shortage of either, despite pessimistic predictions of federal power officials at the outbreak of the war. In addition to meeting all demands of war industries the R. G. & E. maintained service and met all the needs of commercial and residential customers. It also increased substantially its output of steam service for industrial and commercial heating.

President Herman Russell gives much of the credit for the company's production achievements to

the Employees, who have met every emergency with loyal and patriotic response.

Many of the company's plants are operating with undermanned staffs, due to the transfer of men to the armed forces but they have increased production by working longer hours. Outside of two fires, which cut off parts of the city for a few hours, there has been no real interruption in electric service since Pearl Harbor.

Increased War Loads

A tabulation showing the quantities of gas and electricity consumed by Rochester industry over a four-year period will give an indication of the huge increase in the loads which the R. G. & E. has had to supply to keep Rochester's war machinery moving. Here are the comparative tables:

ELECTRICITY (Kilowatt Hours)			
1940	1941	1942	1943
145,000,000	190,000,000	225,000,000	310,000,000
GAS (Cubic Feet)			
850,000,000	1,150,000,000	1,500,000,000	1,650,000,000

Rochester Gas and Electric was one of the leaders in the campaign for the conservation of gas and electricity in order to save coal and oil. President Russell served as a member of the National Committee on Conservation of Electricity which formulated suggestions for a voluntary conservation program, which suggestions were adopted and patriotically carried out by local commercial establishments.

Help To Local Industries

R. G. & E. engineers have helped Rochester industries solve many problems that have arisen since the beginning of the war. Others have been "lend-leased" to war plants, hard-pressed for engineering aid and still others have taught special classes at the University and in technical schools.

An idea of the immensity of the company's operations may be gained from the fact that it used 3,000,000 gallons of oil last year and approximately 900,000 tons of coal, or nearly 2,500 tons every day.



This Company is an essential war plant which provides other war plants with their power, heat, light and steam, without which they could not operate. Shown in picture, Company Guard Bill Magee at West Station Gate.

Collecting Beautiful Lustre Ware An Interesting Hobby

LILLIAN WARD, *Purchasing department*

There is scarcely a china collector who does not number among her possessions at least one piece of lustre ware which forms a group of its own in English pottery.

Lustre may be divided into three classes—copper, silver and gold. The process of making this ware was simple enough, consisting in dissolving the metals employed by chemicals, which form a solution which could either be applied by dipping or with a brush. The body of lustre ware is generally of a reddish color, although some potteries use a dead white porcelain; after the piece is baked the solution mentioned above is applied and then baked on.

The older specimens have a deep-seated lustre. The reproductions,

which have come on the market during the last few years, are more superficial being applied directly on to the surface. These have a more metallic appearance than the old ware.

The well-known Wedgewood used a red clay base and it is one of these pitchers which formed the nucleus of the writer's collection, having been brought from England by my grandmother.

Who first invented or rather applied this method of metallic coating to English pottery is not known, but it is claimed that Wedgewood first used gold lustre as early as 1776. Some authorities give the merit for the discovery to John Hancock, while employed by Spode to whom he was apprenticed.



Just a few of the fine copper lustre pieces which Lillian Ward has in her collection of china. Copper Lustre technique was first used on Wedgewood china in the Revolutionary War period.



Alexander M. Beebee, Vice President in charge of all Gas Activities of the Company.



Edgar R. Crofts, Vice President responsible for the Company's Electric operations.



Robert E. Ginna, Vice President in charge of Rates and all Regulatory Matters.

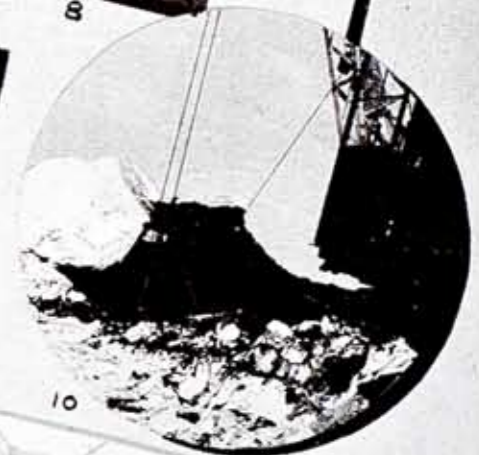
Three New Vice Presidents

The R. G. & E. Board of Directors created three new vice presidencies at the December meeting and Messrs. Alexander M. Beebee, Edgar R. Crofts and Robert E. Ginna were immediately appointed to the new posts. Mr. Beebee has been with the company since 1919 and for many years has been general superintendent of the Gas department. He now becomes vice president in charge of all gas activities. Mr. Crofts entered R. G. & E. employ one month later than Mr. Beebee and has been assistant to Vice-President Joseph P. Haftenkamp. He now becomes vice president in charge of all electric activities of the company. Mr. Ginna did special work for the company before being engaged as manager of the Rate and Contract department in 1934. For several years he has been assistant to President Herman Russell and now becomes vice president in charge of rates and all regulatory matters.

R.G. & E. Workers Set New Records In 6th U. S. War Loan

The R. G. & E. again went over the top in the Sixth U. S. War Loan, achieving the impressive total of 120.42 per cent of quota. The last campaign was the third time that our boys and girls have done more than was asked of them. In the 4th Loan the quota was \$164,000 and we bought \$174,350 for 106.31 per cent. The Fifth Loan

had a quota for us of \$188,000 and we purchased \$194,850 for 103.64 per cent. In the Sixth Loan the quota was \$160,000 and our Employees made a real Christmas rush for the bonds, buying a total of \$192,675. That's a fine record, folks, and it will certainly be appreciated by our own R. G. & E. boys in service. And it's a swell investment for you, too, because there is nothing in this world so sound as a United States bond.



R.G.E. FIGHTS SNOWSTORM • WINTER 1944-1945

A WINTER TO REMEMBER—R. G. and E. Employees fought back when Old Man Winter challenged them. 1—Section of tracks, Ambrose Street yards. Beautiful, yes, but—tough going. 2—Jim Stahl on jitterbug caterpillar snowplow keeps Ambrose Street open as Tony Di Tucci directs operations. 3—Walt Boughton replaces two lamps atop a street lighting pole, a tough, cold job. 4—Walt Boughton, left, Charles Cook and Bill Haggerty working at a frigid "foxhole" on St. Paul. They had to shovel and cut their way through to the manhole. 5—Joe Attridge, foreman in Line Operating department, dons snowshoes to reach a job on North Greece Road. 6—Contractor's truck, crane and shovel keep pecking away at the snow. 7—Loco-

motive crane eats its way through to cope with the ever-falling snow. 8—Avery Andrews in cab of locomotive crane. 9—Line Maintenance crew find their parkas help lick the zero weather. Left to right are: Louis Smith, Joseph Kay, Melvin Bruman, George Sanders, foreman, and George Lumley. 10—Even the calm-shell scoop looks tired and discouraged and ready for a "breather." 11—Mountains of reserve coal ready for emergency use, but the snow was very unnecessary "frosting." 12—Jack Marcella kept this snowplow truck going hour after hour.

Son of Charles O'Brien Awarded Posthumous Purple Heart

Charles O'Brien, Station Three, in a communication from the War Department during November, received the information that his son, Staff Sergeant Charles M. O'Brien, by direction of President Roosevelt, had been posthumously awarded the Air Medal and one Oak-leaf Cluster. This was in recognition of exceptionally meritorious achievement, while participating in ten separate bomber combat missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe.

The communication further stated that: "The courage, coolness and skill displayed by Staff Sergeant O'Brien upon these occasions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States."

GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY



Corporal Rayfield C. Ames, who died in France while serving his country in the medical corps. He was a former Employee of the Mailing and Tabulating departments, and was killed while on special assignment.

Lieutenant Bert Lewis Jr. Writes From Baby Flat-top

Exciting action off the shore of Leyte in which the Jap sure got slammed from pillar to post is the theme of an interesting letter written home recently by Lieutenant Bert Lewis Jr. to his Dad, Bert Lewis Sr. of Andrews and Front Streets.

Lieutenant Lewis tells of the fine "luck" his buddies in Navy fighter planes had, and how he and other torpedo plane pilots despaired of getting their chance to do likewise, till one morning off Leyte, the Japs attacked the Baby Flat-top.

"In the ready room," Lieutenant Lewis relates, "we learned the news and soon after loading torpedoes, bombs and rockets, were off, heading east to get behind the Japs. It was our day and we had to be good—or else, at this job we had waited so long for." They were



Lt. Wm. L. Davis, formerly of the General Maintenance department. He had five missions over Germany and had been missing for some time until his death was officially confirmed.



Lt. Bert Lewis, Jr., reading a letter from home while "residing" on a Baby Flat-top somewhere off Leyte. He's wearing his "May West"—just in case.

good, as even we learned from our newspapers.

"To make a long story short" says Bert, "We of the Baby Flat-Tops gave the Imperial Jap fleet a great many calling cards they won't forget for some time." Bert in his Gruman Avenger plane, which is called the "Tinker Tin" was given a "probable" on the way back from the above encounter, when he and a buddy in another plane attacked two Jap twin float planes, one being definitely exploded in the air, also three sticks straddling a Jap battleship between the bridge and stack.

The baby flat top on which Lieutenant Lewis makes his "home" out there in the Pacific had already received credit for a fine mess of Jap planes and ships. The bridge of their ship has painted thereon: 28 Jap planes, 2 battleships, 2 cruisers and 1 destroyer; that was for three days of fighting.

Lieutenant Lewis explains that this is the first time censorship

R. G. and E. Male Chorus Revises Chorus By-Laws

The by-laws of the R. G. and E. Male Chorus were recently revised by a committee composed of the following members: DeWitt Pike, chairman; Clete Kress, Elmer Smith, James Yost and Cal Brown. One of the changes made in the by-laws applies to the re-election of officers. Where it had been permissible in the past for an officer to be re-elected for another year or more, the by-laws now read that: officers, "shall hold office for one year and shall not be eligible for re-election in the subsequent year."

Another change applies to attendance and now reads: Regular attendance at all rehearsals and concerts by the membership of the Chorus is expected. Any member who is absent more than three times from rehearsal or concerts during any one season without a reasonable excuse, acceptable to the executive committee, shall be subject to dismissal.

All of the changes were passed upon by the membership and the new by-laws were unanimously adopted by acclamation.

At a recent chorus rehearsal, Walter McKie was elected to be concert manager for the coming year, and a music committee was also elected comprising the following: DeWitt Pike, Howard Brown, Schuyler Baldwin, Harry Taillie, and director Frank Houston, who is chairman.

has been relaxed sufficiently so that a serviceman can send home details such as the above, of the fighting in the Philippines and Leyte area. Previous to this fighting, Bert says things were very dull, but those three days off Leyte made up for it.



Harold E. Peper was married to Elsie Schmitt on November tenth last. The ceremony took place at Baltimore, Maryland. The newlyweds spent a few days seeing the interesting places of Washington and vicinity after which they returned to Rochester, where they are now at home to their friends at 174 North Goodman Street. Harold is employed at station 34.

Florence Richter, credit department, spent a week's vacation in New York before the holidays. She is happy to say that she saw and heard "The Voice" and still had the self control to keep from swooning.

Jean DeRuyscher Sorg, unit department, left some time ago for Los Angeles, to join her husband there for a brief few weeks before he went across. Jean is now back.

Vera Buzard, formerly of the tabulating department, on November 8 became the bride of Ensign Alan Fishbaugh, at Spencer Ripley Church. Mrs. Phylis Deal, tabulating department, was the matron of honor at the ceremony.

Marjorie Wagner recently entertained the girls of the second floor

tabulating department at her home, where a wonderful evening of fun and pleasure was enjoyed.

Sixth Floor Yule Party

The Sixth Floor Stores Records, Purchasing and Traffic departments held a very nice Christmas party at Bengel's Inn, Summerville, on Thursday evening, December twenty-first. Val Weining was chairman of arrangements and was assisted by a committee comprising Doris Fink, Margaret McCurn, Betty Simpson and Charles McIntosh.

There was a very interesting grab-bag, filled with original ten-cent gifts, one for each person present. Dancing to Ken Lyons' scintillating orchestra was a big feature and there was even a door prize, \$2.50 in War Stamps, which was won by Virginia Diem.

The dancing acted as an appetizer for the wonderful turkey dinner which was served, and the party was a huge success from every angle, over one hundred attending.

Mrs. Macon, mother of Lt. Jeanette Macon, prepared the table decorations. They consisted of red and white flowers for the candle holders and little Christmas trees in colors to match. A large center piece for the head table was made

of pine boughs, with holly intermixed, all tied together with red ribbons.

The guest of honor on this happy evening was G.M. 3/c Kenneth Simpson, brother of Betty Simpson who had returned to Rochester the previous day from the fighting in the South Pacific, who enjoyed this bit of "peace on earth."

Hedy Garis and husband visited among their friends and relatives in New York City and vicinity during December. They caught up on some of the good new shows and were royally entertained at a few nice dinners.

George T. Bowles, AOM 2/c and Mrs. Bowles (Vivian Bowles, Contract department) spent an enjoyable Christmas at their home on Terrace Park. The occasion was especially delightful as it was the very first Christmas celebration for their little son, David Edward, who was born last August 30. David was very happy with his miniature tree and the many interesting and attractive gifts of toys, dolls and other things dear to the heart of a very small boy. Our best wishes to the continued happiness of this nice little family.

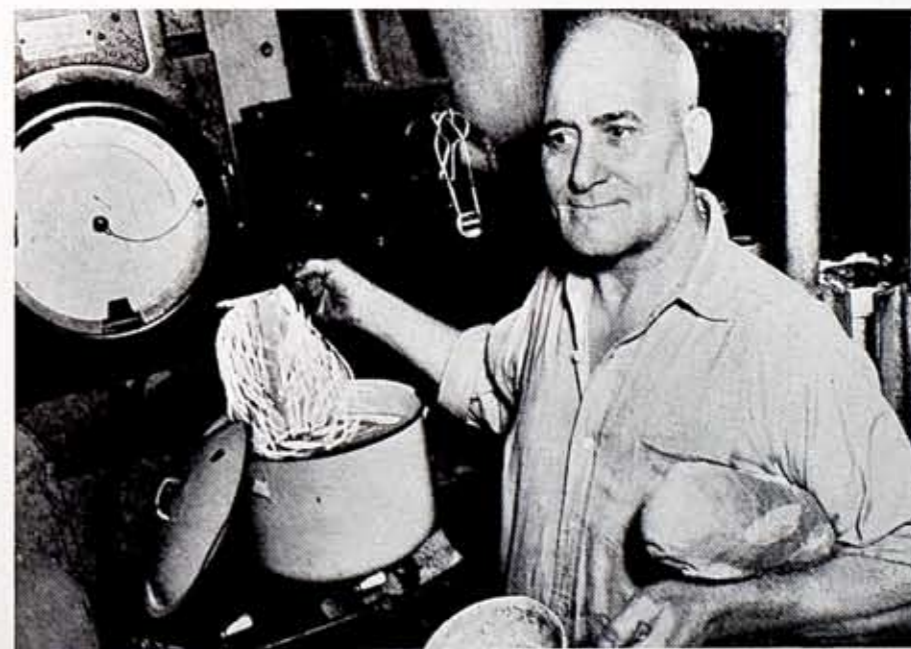
Mrs. Anna Weber, Collection department, spent the Christmas holidays in New York. Of all the things she saw, the one that impressed her most was a huge Statue of Liberty at Time's Square. Towering above the crowds, the lighted face and torch were visible from every direction, and one could only think of the boys who are fighting to preserve the principles for which she stands.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Harold Gilbert of West Station, and Mrs. Gilbert, whose son, Henry C. Gilbert was killed in action, early in November, in the South Pacific.

Mr. William Hegeman of West Station, spent a part of the month of November in Rapid City, in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Announcement was made recently of the engagement of Miss Ella May Rollinson to Dr. Robert Campbell. As yet, no definite date has been set for the wedding. Miss Rollinson is the charming and attractive nurse who came to West Station early in the autumn. Please accept our best wishes, Ella May!

Anthony (Tony) Pennello, the champion chef of Station 3, with whom we "broke spaghetti" on recent Saturday noon. Tony cooks a batch of this quite often, by the request of his buddies at Station Three.



Connie Corea and Mrs. Florence Rose, able assistants of Jack Tobin at East Rochester, recently spent a day at Main Office familiarizing themselves with service, credit and collections. They thought it a real treat to meet face to face many of the folks with whom they do so much telephone business day in and day out. Those at 89 East Avenue say this feeling is mutual and the hope these down-easters will try it again soon.

Howard Hill hasn't changed his political affiliations. This notwithstanding the fact that he was apparently campaigning for the "wrong party" in the recent hot election. It all happened when someone switched campaign buttons on Howard's coat lapel and he didn't notice it till he had given a full noon's campaigning to "the enemy."

Chief WO Ray Black enjoyed a recent week at his home here. He visited his friends at Main Office and Andrews Street. Ray said he recently had a nice visit with Lt. Commander Pete Barry, somewhere in the Pacific.

"Yes, We Remember"

(poem dedicated to Bobby Geck by the men of Station Three)

Do we remember the smiling lad,
That we all called the kid;
The boy that said he could work with men,
The boy who really did?

Do we remember two years ago,
How he laughed, when he said goodbye,
As he answered the call of his Country,
And went away to learn to fly?

Do we remember the cheerful letters,
That he wrote when'ere he could,
How he worked so hard to make the grade,
How he promised us that he would?

Do we remember his first trip home,
How he looked in officer's dress,
How thrilled we were by the shiny wings,
He wore upon his breast?

Do we remember his description,
Of flying up in the blue,
How he said it seemed that God and Heaven
Were constantly with you?

Do we remember how with heavy hearts,
We read of his last mission,
How we hoped each day, and prayed each night
He was safely in some prison?

Do we remember in our prayers,
How we said, Thy Will Be Done,
Then question not the judgment,
Of the Almighty One?

Of course we all remember,
How could we ever forget,
We bow our heads, and offer a prayer,
For our Buddy, BOBBY GECK.

—Wilbur E. Mitchell.

Corporal Milton J. Klick was home on a furlough from camp in Georgia. Milt didn't seem to like all the snow he found piled up all over town.



Echoes from the "Good Old Summer time"—President Russell, at East Station picnic, starts telling about the big fish he caught. Then Lynn Bowman, center, and James Ryan go him one better. They developed some mighty big catches (in their stories).

John Johnson, Canandaigua Meter Reader, tried reading meters, after the heavy snowfall, with skis. John said it worked very well until he broke one of the straps on his skis, from then on it wasn't so good.

Stuart (Stu) Moore, Canandaigua Line department, apparently didn't get his deer this year. After firing better than twenty times he concluded that he could have shot a deer if he could have gotten more ammunition.

Roy Arnold, Canandaigua Line department, went deer hunting too. When asked why he didn't shoot a deer, Roy responded with "Shooting is too easy, I prefer to run them down" so our correspondent assumed that Roy tried chasing rather than shooting the deer.

A great deal of credit is due Mrs. Lemabel Parry, Canandaigua Home Service Director for the beautifully decorated Christmas window at our Chapin Street Office. There is a trainload of Christmas cookies including the engine. A beautiful cookie Christmas tree, snowball candle holders, fruit cakes and many other pastry items representing the Christmas season. The theme of the Christmas window is to show the homemaker how she can use things from her own kitchen for entertaining or for gifts at Christmas time.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Eilers have a brand new little baby daughter, the third to brighten their home. Although her name is Mary Margaret, Mark says they seriously thought of calling her Alice. The pronunciation was to have been with the broad "A" as in the phrase "Das is alles."



Eddie Schipper says the cigarette shortage is so acute that he and some friends rigged up this contraption. It gives everybody a "drag" and completely eliminates cigarette "butts."

Recent visitors to New York City are the following from the second floor: Helen Jakeman, Norma Ockenden and Mary Kirkpatrick.

Ormond Keemer took the last week of his vacation recently during the heavy snowstorm. He claims that he shoveled snow the whole time, although his new home is on Wendhurst Drive, Greece, where Gordon Howe and his Grecians do such a fine job keeping roads clear.

General Construction Machine Shop sent five men, who are usually mechanics, to do emergency labor work unloading coal at Station Nine, out near General Railway Signal's plant. They were: Hank DeRoller, Harry Heggie, George Bartholomay, John Houd and Orm Keemer. They could get no farther with their truck than the round house at Chili Avenue and the Buffalo Road and had to shovel a path for their truck the rest of the quarter-mile or more. They were all warmed up to shovel that coal when they finally arrived at their destination.

Mrs. Iva Ford has joined her husband, S1/c Leonard A. Ford, at Corpus Christi, Texas. Iva was secretary of the R. G. and E. Women's Bowling League, a volunteer worker at the General Hospital and an officer of the Consumers Accounting Gift Association. The best wishes of her many friends here go with her to her new home.

Employees of the Lake Shore District have contributed 109 pints of blood to the Red Cross blood bank. Granger Green, Harry Morton and Lew Mayeu of Sodus and Ralph Mason of Wolcott have recently become members of the gallon club.

Corp. Ralph Coryell, of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, spent a short furlough in Sodus and Wolcott. Ralph used to be meter tester in the Lake Shore District.

Among the 1944 "Deerslayers" of the Genesee Country are the following Employees: Lew Gayton, Harlen Strahan, "Buck" Aldrich, Norm Thomas, "Bugs" Lafferty, Clyde Ostrum, Clyde Veeder, "Doc" Leet, Marlie Brigham, Rog Mills and Bal Mills.

The monthly linemen's safety meeting held in December in the Genesee District was preceded by a nice venison dinner, held at the Wiscoy Employees' Cabin. The chefs were Hollis Young and Buck Aldrich, who know how to prepare venison to the queen's taste. Forty-one persons were present to enjoy the occasion, among them the following guests from the Rochester District: Messrs. Joseph Haftenkamp, W. E. Hughes, Walter McKie, A. C. Rissberger, Tom Clark and George Hutchinson.

Echoes of the Snow Storm

We received the following in connection with the recent snow storm: "The West Station boys spent their mid-winter vacation at Dick Kruger's hotel, from December 12 to 14. A very enjoyable time was spent lunching, as dinners were served at all hours. Everything but turkey.

West Station was fortunate in having two of our foremost dietitians, Mrs. Whitney and Virginia Wolverton. The meeting and the business was in charge of Fred Pfluke. The speaker of the evening was Dick Kruger. The affair was such a success that it didn't adjourn till Friday A. M."

Henry MacGregor, who is noted for the "music" he gets out of a Scotch bagpipe, has to do no little practicing at home. Mrs. MacGregor is a patient woman but sometimes wonders why her "Mac" didn't take up the Jewsharp or some other milder mannered instrument. One evening recently "Mac," who had just had his shoes "tapped," was strutting about the MacGregor drawing room playing his bagpipe. Mrs. "Mac," getting the children to bed, said "Henry, that's an awful noise you're making." Henry, always courteous, promptly sat down and removed his hard-soled brogans, then resumed his playing. Stout fellow, "Mac"!

During the terrible snowstorm we "enjoyed" in early December, Ed Schlueter was marooned temporarily at home. His car wouldn't start because of a frozen line. Irv. Breitung finally got down to Ed's place, but didn't have all the necessary facilities for remedying the situation. Not to be outdone and using fine resourcefulness Irv

solved the problem by taking a clean coffee can and soldering a rubber hose to the bottom of it, than installing it as a reserve gas line to the carburetor. That's just one of the little "tricks" we still hear about in connection with getting our men to work that day.

Corporal Don Bellenger was home for a few days and visited his old friends at Front Street. Don spent about twenty-eight months in the Aleutians, but thought the weather here was horrid. He got a "break" and stayed over an extra night when his train didn't show up, due to weather conditions.

Robert J. Bruman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Bruman, enlisted in the U. S. Army Air Force in April, 1944. He had been a student at West High. He later attended the Truex School, University of Wisconsin, graduated from radio school and was sent to Chanute school, Illinois. After graduating as radio technician he continued with Radar work at Boca Raton, Florida.

Walter Kenyon was recently elected President of the Cornell Club of Rochester, having just finished a year as vice president. Leo Sullivan, main office, was elected to be the club's vice president and Ed Fisher, of Front Street was honored by being elected to the board of governors.

Down at East Station Joe Lacagnina is being respectfully called "Chef." This is in honor of his contribution in cooking for the two score or more who worked overtime hour after hour during our recent intense snowstorms. Blankets were hard to find for every-

one when a lucky rest period came, but Joe succeeded in keeping the "inner man" well warmed up.

Lynn Bowman gave a talk before the Chemical Engineers Society recently. His talk was illustrated with slides relating to the operation of R. G. and E. gas manufacturing plants. It was so interesting to the engineers that with the long question period the session lasted for two and one-half hours.

Bill Mitchell, General Construction Machine Shop, plans ahead; but the well laid plans of mice and men sometimes—go fluey. Bill, anticipating a heavy snowstorm, took pains to shovel the snow off the entire front premises of the garage where he parks his car, just in case he had to go to the plant in a rush during the night. The emergency did come. Bill went for his car and found that the garage man had it parked—behind the eight ball. About a half dozen other cars were ahead of it and Bill, after all his pains, had to walk to work.

Pauline Smith, Gas Distribution, spent a week-end in her old home town, Messina, N. Y., recently, up where they have (good?) old-fashioned winters. She had a nice time, but ran into some fifteen degrees below zero weather. Up there, they thought it was just right. Then Pauline came home here to some of our (nice?) mild weather.

May Darling went visiting to see her daughter and her family at Floral Park, Long Island. In New York, she encountered balmy, snowless weather. She, too, thinks we are going all-out for winter in its more vigorous form.

✦ DEATHS ✦

It is with regret that we announce the following deaths. To the bereaved families we extend the deep sympathy of the officers and employes of our Company.

Private Robert Chaddock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Chaddock, gave his life for his country in France recently. He was in the U. S. Infantry. Besides his parents he leaves his sister, Mrs. Louis Nosco, of this city.

Frank J. Hamell, formerly of the Office Maintenance department, died suddenly, Saturday, January sixth. He had been with this Company since 1927. His wife, Mrs. Zana L. Hamell, two daughters, two sisters and three brothers survive him.

The sympathy of all of us goes to Patrick Nugent, one of the R. G. & E. Pioneers, in the recent death of Mrs. Nugent. Among those surviving is Bernard D. Nugent, who is an Employee at East Station.

Francis (Frank) Popham died suddenly at his home, on January second. Frank was a highly respected Employee of the Gas Distribution department for about eighteen years. He was greatly interested in civic and community activities and gave much of his spare time to the furthering of varied local drives. Mr. Popham leaves his wife and three sons, Sgt. Francis Popham, Sheppard Field, Texas; John (overseas) and William.

Employees in and about Andrews Street as well as other Company plants and stations who worked many overtime hours during recent heavy snowstorms, are very grateful to the Home Service department for their fine work in preparing hot food and drinks to bolster tired bodies working under strain. Coffee, cookies, stews, rolls and other appreciated "eats" just "hit the spot."

BIRTHS

A son, named Terry Remington Foster, to Mr. and Mrs. Remington Foster, born 12-28-44. This is their first child.

A daughter, named Mary Alice Laird, born on 1-2-45, to John Laird, Steam department and Alice, nee Le Tour, Laird, formerly a switchboard operator with our company. This is their second child, the first being a boy.

Electrical Distribution Christmas Party

The Electrical Distribution department had a fine Christmas party at the Pine Tree Inn. A dandy dinner, with steaks or fowl was the main dish, with plenty of delicious holiday trimmings. Dancing was enjoyed and members of the party, including Bertha Hegeman and Jean McLaughlin, rendered solo numbers, with Esther Moore at the piano. Everybody joined in singing popular and old-time songs.

Esther Moore prepared attractive, colored programs made in the shape of a Christmas bell. The women wore attractive, lacy doily pattern head dresses and the men were provided over-sea type caps. These were the handiwork of Esther Moore, who designed and made them. Betty Tiede, Ruth Koehler and Jean McLaughlin aided in typing the songs and pro-

grams, which added color and artistry to the holiday atmosphere with their red, white and blue colors. Corporal Bob Van Ness, formerly of the Subway department, was home in time to be an honored guest. It was a delightful party.

Evelyn Fisher, Dorothy Jordan, Dorothy Dake and Dolly Rogers, recently enjoyed the Ice Follies at Buffalo, N. Y. A good dinner at the Rotisserie was a treat all enjoyed.

The mistletoe must have been working overtime during the Christmas holidays for no fewer than five of the girls on the Second Floor became engaged during that period. If you don't recognize them by their names you can tell them by the ecstatic expressions on their faces. Here's the report from our Cupid department: Lorraine Klem (Unit department) engaged to Robert Weigert. Mary Keenan (Billing department) engaged to Private Vincent Ryan,

now with the Army in Texas. Doris Newman (Billing department) engaged to Ross Amican. Nellie Ghyzel (Tabulating department) engaged to William Buechel MM2/c of the Coast Guard, now stationed in New York. Edna Young (Tabulating department) engaged to Freeman Walters.

George G. Holdridge, utility man at our Bolivar office, was one of the more fortunate deer hunters and brought home a nice buck. The Holdridge's had deer meat on their table for some time.

S 1/c and Mrs. John C. Bigelow of Belmont are the parents of a son, Douglas John, born Dec. 5, 1944. "Junior" weighed in at 8 lbs. 5½ oz. His mother, Betty, is of the Belmont office force.

The Belmont Resident Manager, Lynn M. Mathern of Belmont, has recently been elected General Chairman for the Central Allegany Chapter of the American Red Cross.



These men of the Appliance Service department created a mammoth round-robin letter to send to a former associate, now in the Army, Private Edwin Wolfe. Ed was hospitalized in New York, got a big thrill out of the over-sized missive and has since been home to say "hello" in person. Left to right, front row, are: Eugene Smith, Ed Schaubert, DeForest Colegrove, Bob Pocket (head of department) Harold Hall and Charles Fish. Back row: Gardiner Pratt, Tom Carlyle, Ray Smith, Norm Sailer, Bert Lewis and George Zeller.

The TRADING POST

This column was created to stimulate the exchange of useful things among Company employes, and to keep them in circulation. This service is for employes only and not for friends or relatives. Here is your opportunity to buy, sell or trade. Let's hear from YOU.

FOR SALE: Child's black over-shoes, size 8. Also, child's Buster Brown Oxfords, size 8½. Both in good condition. Phone Genesee 6500-W.

WANTED: Train set, wind up type. Also child's auto. Henry Schum, Charlotte 1561-R.

FOR SALE: Oil burner, Ohio, gun type, with 275-gallon tank, blower etc. Good operating condition. Wm. T. Mackie, call Extension 217 and ask for Mackie or Wentworth.

WANTED: Argus C-3 camera with gun or Kodak 35mm. Extension 343 and ask for Chaddock.

WANTED: Would appreciate getting 2 or 3 empty three-pound vegetable shortening tin cans, with covers, to send cookies to soldiers overseas. Mrs. A. Boscher, Genesee 774-W or A. Boscher, West Station.

WANTED: A drop leaf table, one that will comfortably seat six. Hedy Garis, Extension 286.

WANTED: For essential work, a 38 calibre pistol. Please call M. J. Friga, at extension No. 594.

FOR SALE: One white enameled Iron Roll Rim sink, with 12-inch back, size 20 in. by 36 in. Also have one Perfection Oil Heater to sell. Frederick Miller, 1641 South Avenue, or Extension—572.

FOR SALE: The following articles may be seen on Main Floor, Gas and Electric Building. Ask for Frank Wentworth. **RAZORS:** 1 Twin Remington. 1 Sunbeam and 1 Schick. **RADIO:** 1 Philco console. **TIE PRESSER:** 1 Electric tie presser. **VIBRATOR:** 1 electric vibrator. **ROASTER:** 1 Electric Roaster, a Nesco. All these articles are like new.

FOR SALE: Boy's hockey tube skates, size 5. Would like to buy a pair of tube skates size 7. Margaret George. Extension 277.

WANTED: Child's sled. Please call Florence Richter, Extension 279.

FOR SALE: Electric corn popper, also hand vacuum cleaner in fine condition. Call Herb Ringelstein, Extension 274.

FOR SALE: Golf clubs, 4 irons and one wood, also golf bag. Harry J. Culliton, Extension 377.

LAMPS FOR SALE: Two floor lamps and one reading lamp. New shades. Price reasonable. Call Mona Pratt, Ext. 218.

NOTE: Many war workers need electrical appliances which they can not buy in any store today. If you have any unused appliances you can spare, drop in and see Frank Wentworth, Main Floor, Gas and Electric Building.



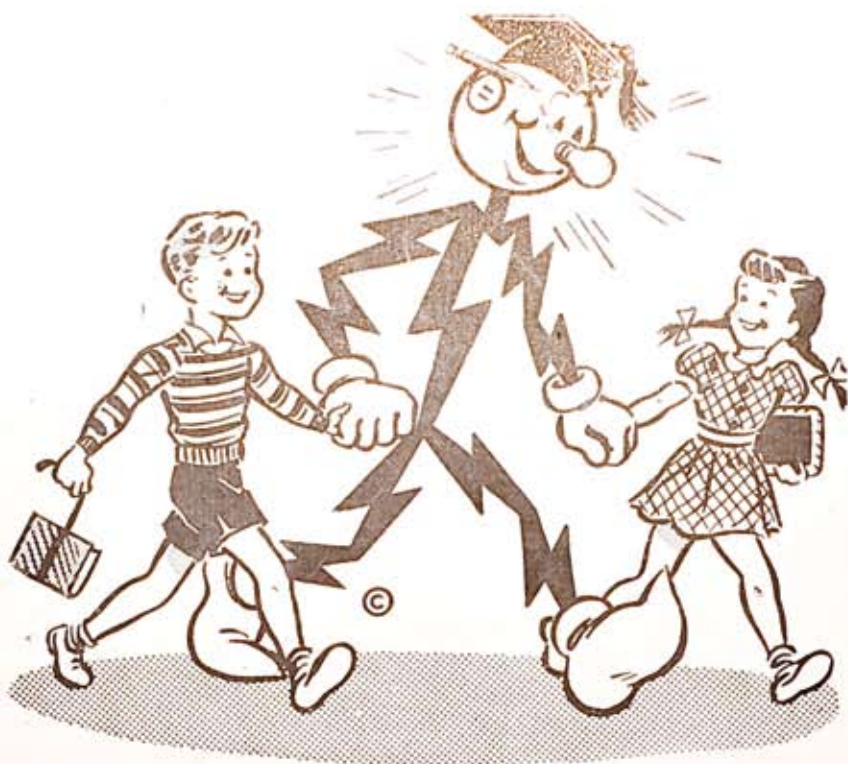
Before and After Photos of Jack Corson, R.T.2-c Jack grew the whiskers in the Aleutians

The following poem was written by a friend of Jack's and was inspired by the "foliage" on Jack's face. Why do they wear beards up there? Well, it's extremely cold and then, who knows, these radio Technicians may use the whiskers for antennae. Jack used to be tenor soloist with the R. G. and E. Men's Chorus.

To Jack

We saw a picture just last week—
Two big black streaks across your cheeks:
It met beneath your handsome chin
Surrounded by a sheepish grin.
If a Jap within a hundred miles
Of where you are upon those Isles,
Can look at you and then not flee,
Surely a tough one he must be.
If your sweetie likes you after this
Your future surely holds much bliss
Your Mother gasped and looked above,
Sighed, "What a strain on a Mother's love!"
Your Dad was knocked completely flat,
Said "Alice dear, did we raise that?"
Oh, tell me that it isn't so;
It's just a nightmare that I know!
If it's G. I. then what a "gyp"
Wearing all that moss upon your lip.
There's one thing though I don't know yet,
Is all that foliage rubber set?
I've shown your face and have their word
Your post-war future is assured.
A company has promised me
Their Fuller brush man you will be!

Uncle Wiggly.



"HOME WORK Can Be FUN!"

--- says Reddy Kilowatt

Poor light not only permanently injures eyesight but makes it difficult to do good school work. Many a child may seem backward in studies when in reality poor light is a major cause. *See to it that the place where your children do their home studying has light that is adequate and free from glare.*