

PORTSMOUTH PLANT NEWS

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PORTSMOUTH, OHIO—AUGUST 1943

NUMBER 10



EMPLOYEES NOW IN THE ARMED SERVICES OF OUR COUNTRY

ABRAMS, HOMER
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 ALLEN, EDGAR A.
 ALLEN, JAMES R.
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 WILSON, HOWARD
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 WYMER, MARVIN C.
 YOUNG, HARRY
 ZEEK, JACK

PORTSMOUTH



PLANT NEWS

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DEBT...

A debt is what someone owes to someone else. There are debts of money, honor, gratitude, cancelled debts, bad debts, gambling debts, national debts and many other kinds.

Debt is easy to get into and hard to get out of. A debt is the direct result of a loan and very often results in a loss. If you make the loan you frequently lose both the friend and the money you loan him.

Some men get the habit worse than Solomon got the habit of matrimony, and once they have the habit they have no more chance of getting out than Solly had of becoming a bachelor again.

The habit usually started with the words: "Say old man, lend me a quarter until payday, will yuh!" or "I guess we can afford it. It's only a dollar down."

If you are in debt to a banker, that is a sign that you are a very successful man, and your debt is called a financial obligation.

A good way to save is to allot a certain portion of your pay for

the purchase of War Bonds. Make arrangements to do this regularly through the pay roll deduction plan.

to put aside this portion of your income in some reliable bank.

This won't make a multi-millionaire of you, but if you keep it up with a fair amount of regularity, you'll have the laugh on everyone else when the plant burns down, or when you're too old to hold down your job, or when you figure it's time you retired.

Safety Honor - Roll

This Record includes the days between the last Lost Time Accident in your department and August 1, 1943

Table with 3 columns: DEPARTMENT, SUPERVISOR, Days Worked Without a Lost Time Accident. Lists various departments like Coke By-Product, Nail Galvanizing, etc., and their respective supervisors and accident-free days.

Summary table showing Lost Time Accidents for July 1943 (3), July 1942 (5), Total for First Seven Months of 1943 (31), and Total for First Seven Months of 1942 (22).

IN MEMORIAM

We extend our sympathy to the following employees and families in recent deaths:

To the family of William Henry of the Coke Plant, who died August 11.

To the family of Charles Pendleton of the Yard Department, who died August 7.

To the family of Norman Gilmore of the Tie Plate Department, who died August 9.

To the family of Shirley Tumbleson, helper in the Nail Mill, who died July 19.

To the family of Lewellyn Charles, weighman in the Yard Department who died July 29.

To Fred Malott of the Open Hearth and Bert Malott of the Yard Department, whose brother died July 6.

To James R. Cooper of Department 17, whose son died July 5.

To Moses McClinton of the Foundry, whose wife died July 13.

To William Hogan of the Coke Mechanical Department, whose sister died June 27.

To John Thurman of the Brick Mason Department, whose mother died July 12.

To Carl Haywood of the Range Boiler Department, whose sister died July 18.

To Herbert Fyffe of the Nail Mill Department, whose father died July 2.

To Walter Loper of the Yard Department, whose half brother died July 16.

To Vernon Bradley of the Yard Department, whose brother died August 1.

To Harold Ramey of the Barrel Department, whose father died August 7.

To Jason Craft of the Coke Plant, whose son died August 11.



Cpl. and Mrs. William Maple and son Billy, 4 months, Mrs. Florine Watts and son Roy, 3 months and Norman Messer. Mrs. Maple and Mrs. Watts are daughters of Elvin Messer crane operator at the Rod Mill. Cpl. Maple is now serving overseas with the Army Air Corps.

Nine More Employees Answer Uncle Sam's Call

The number of employees from Portsmouth Works now in active service with our armed forces reached the three hundred mark during July with the departure of nine additional young men during the month.

Three of those departing during the month enlisted with the Army Engineers. They were:

Roy T. Hiles, loader at the 18" Bar Mill.

Louie Perkins, head billet un-loader at the Rod Mill.

Robert J. Stebick, mason in the Brick Mason Department.

Floyd Edminsten, operator at the 18" and 24" Bar Mills was accepted for service with the navy.

The other five who began their military training during the month were:

Walter C. Bailey, laborer in the Yard Department.

Ellis Collier, machine helper in the Nail Mill.

Homer D. Kennedy, machine operator in the Nail Mill.

Homer C. Rice, laborer in Department 17.

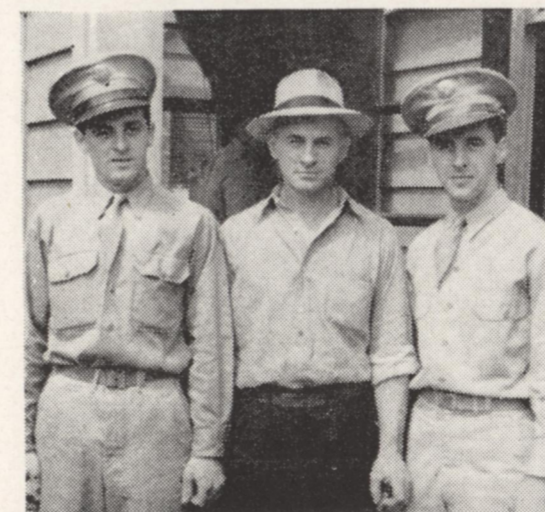
Horace J. Walden, loader in the Rod and Wire Shipping Department.

Orville Sprague, Open Hearth, Everett Stewart, Rod Mill and Frank Dodd, Yard Department have returned to work at the plant after receiving their honorable discharges.

Once again we make the request that anyone who has the address of any employees serving with our armed forces furnish us with this address so that all the boys will receive their copy of the Plant News each month.



Richard Reutinger, Lowell Monk and Arthur Bagby, Jr., snapped at St. Petersburg, Florida where they are in training for duty with the Army Air Force. Richard is the son of Harold "Count" Reutinger of the Open Hearth, and Young Bagby is the son of Art Bagby, conductor in the Yard Department.



Frank Keyser, machinist at the Main Machine Shop and his twin sons age 22. Robert at the left is training in anti-aircraft gunnery at Camp Haun, California and Ralph is a sergeant in the Medical Corps, at Brigham City, Utah.

Range Boiler Welding Flashes

—by Walt Dressler

Tom Stroth, welder, recently received a letter from Edward "Red" Malone formerly a welder in the shop but now a corporal with our armed forces somewhere in North Africa. Red says he has been receiving the Plant News each month; I knew that sooner or later this paper would be read all over the world. He also says that he got a little sea sick crossing the pond, but is O. K. He asked about all the boys in the shop.

Well, Red, with but a few exceptions about all the same old gang are still here. They say hello and good luck to you and hope you will be back in the welding crew again real soon.

* * *

Beryl Parks is back from his vacation which he spent picking blackberries, killing jiggers and soliciting twelve free dinners.

* * *

Homer Cole and George Barry operate the Range Boiler welding "job shop". They can repair anything from a gold plated razor to a freight train.

* * *

Gordon "Buzz" Flinders has a large truck and for a price he will haul anything from chickens to houses with a history.

* * *

Foreman Milford Conley thought he heard the 11:45 P. M. whistle blow. He made ready for a bath and then sit in the locker room waiting for the midnight whistle. After so long he stepped into the shop which was dark and vacant. Sheepishly he



Linda Ann Beloit daughter of Wesley E. (Bill) Beloit who worked in the Coke Mechanical gang before enlisting in the Navy. Grandfather Albert Ray is also an employee of the Mechanical Department.

entered the clock room and punched out at 2:00 A. M. It was the midnight whistle he had heard in the first place. Elmer Crain and John McCorkle vouch for this story.

Willoughby White has a side line selling fresh poultry dressed or in the rough. Won't it be nice when times get good enough so the chicken dealers can put out a fried chicken sandwich to advertise their wares.

Another rumor says Earl Newell is now married. We think Selby Godfrey was best man at the wedding. More cigars, boys.

It is rumored Pearl Jones was recently married. May all your troubles be little ones, Pearl.

Shop Notes: George Channel and his long cigar. John Crabtree duded up ready to go home. James Louis, "whassat". Ollie Hilt, "well you see, here's how it is". Just found out Lafe Jordan is Ed Foster's uncle. Brownie talking with hand motions. Gus Collins, the human jeep, takes you any place you want to go. Charlie Ratliff with the daily war news. Leon Bell back from his vacation and looking mighty pert. Elwood Himes shuffling a bunch of blueprints and Hugh McCorkle glad the day's work is done.

In Memoriam: Pete Yeager had a shoat pig choke to death recently. We sympathize with you Pete for we know those hams would be mighty good this winter.

* * *

There was a recent new arrival at the home of Jim Pigg. Getting to be quite a pappy, ain't you, Jim?

* * *

Ab Rose is so choicy about a seat at the plant restaurant he climbs over chairs and tables and musses your hair hunting a secluded spot. This has happened so often that now when he enters for lunch all the patrons rise to their feet until Ab has become seated.

* * *

Johnny Thornton and Harry Hunt always have to give a few wise cracks before you can get a business interview.

* * *

Jim Grandison, watchman at the Grace Street gate, keeps pretty busy now days checking photos and helping trace misplaced time cards in the rack and Jim always has a smile for everyone.

* * *

The head press operator who last month was publicity shy sends us word that his name is Charles Beasley and by the way Charles also sent in a picture of three of his boys for the September paper. Watch for it.

* * *

You keep on the right track when you keep on buying more War Bonds.



Donald Burke Lawson fireman in the U. S. Navy is stationed at Washington, D. C. He is the son of Charles Lawson of the Barrel Shop.



Pvt. Wade Donohue, Jr. is on active duty with our fighting forces overseas. His father is employed as a patrolman in the Police Department.

Open Hearth Department News

—by Raison and Frantz



Roger Dillow, 3, son of Carl Dillow employee of the Wire Mill Cleaning House.

from the restaurant by the way of the bomb shop and Old Jobbing Mill tossed away an empty peanut sack as he hit the Open Hearth floor. What we do know to be the truth is that Whig emphatically forbade Raison the privilege of even peeking into Eb Scherer's bucket.

* * *

Bad-eye Taulbee's unwise prank with a tub of water has made him the orphan of Fred Wheeler's Pit crew.

* * *

Perk Allen, former weighman helper, is now somewhere in the Pacific theater of war. Perk writes back that thus far the eats have been fine and inquires as to the latest news of the plant.

* * *

The first several days of the six day week was just one surprise after another. As one fellow remarked: One always sees a different face than that which he expected. Though he didn't explain his remark we assumed he meant, that the shifting of the men brought new faces to his turn.

* * *

Among the often repeated remarks in Lennis Haney's greeting to an observer. "Two if it 'ain't", one if it is."

* * *

With the Coffee Rationing at end it is our belief that the buckets will once more resume their place in Open Hearth Tradition.

* * *

Red Cottle agrees with the remark that he is now lost in the wilderness.

* * *

July is past and still no news of any outstanding catches of the pres-

Two events—happenings of the same day—have caused much wonderment among the Open Hearth crews. Just what betrayed Elbert Dix of the stock shed and what provoked George Anderson, Open Hearth Welder, to wash his personal belongings in the Little Scioto. Those are the two events that have left the boys agog.

* * *

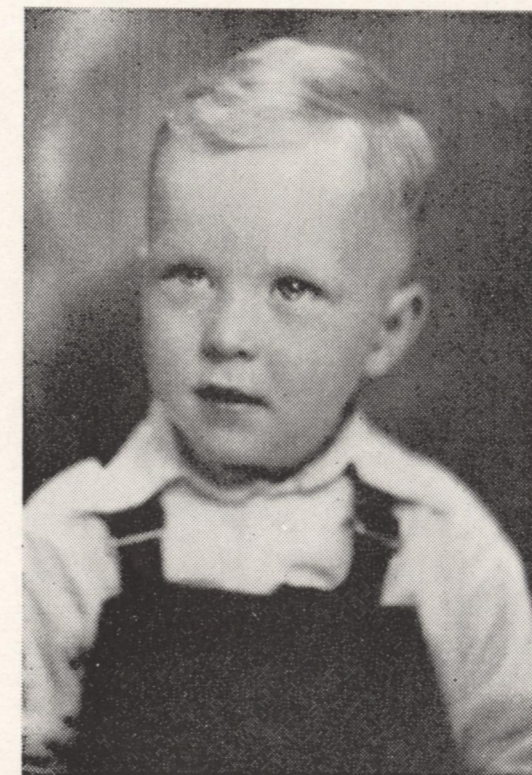
Charley Newman, of coffee brew fame, decided to take a week away from it all. Charley is on a fishing jaunt and is making Homer Phillip's Scioto River camp his headquarters. Much speculation is being made as to whether Charley will ever return in the same well being as when he last worked. One of the chaps who should know states that when Charley makes coffee it can be spun about a spoon like taffy. All of Charley's overtures to Myron Reed as a companion were politely rejected. What has happened to other fishing companions of Charley shouldn't happen to a dog.

* * *

Another happening of note occurred the same day as the news broke confirming Mussolini's downfall. When "Yeller-britches" was seen running one of the chaps in the weigh office remarked that the Italian news would have to take second place. Still no definite report as to why Yeller broke that traditional stride. Perhaps we should have said saunter.

* * *

We don't vouch for the truthfulness of the following but only report that which Whig Davis claims to have witnessed. Paul Raison returning



James William Branham, grandson of John O'Hara, Coke Plant.

ent fishing season.

* * *

Getting back to fishing. One of the strangest things of this season is the lack of tales from Captain Moore. Perhaps when the Captain learns how many are interested in his formula for making Sunfish capsules he will once more become garrulous. The Captain's tales not only astound but bewilder the listener. So says Brady Patton.

* * *

Any person with a good tubular steel casting rod for sale should contact Okie Doke Sprague. Sprague recently returned after several months service with the army and is in need of a good stick to replace old standby that gave out during the last Jack Salmon season.

* * *

Some familiar household terms in use about the Open Hearth: Kettle, pot, stove, stool, spoon, ladle, soup, bed and pan. How many more can you think of?

* * *

Midget McClelland says we have eleven furnaces. Ten, nine, eight, seven, six and five are eleven. And we are supposed to be "grown ups."

* * *

Emory "Hap" Miller surprised A. J. Hoch as Albert was reclining in a lawn chair. Albert had during the past few months talked of great length about his garden. Hap says that when he drove up Albert was taking it easy while Mrs. Hoch was weeding the garden and Jackie was mowing the lawn. The next morning Hap was presented with several cigars. Could it have been a bribe for silence?



Wanda Jean Warner, 8, niece of Jack Warner, millwright at the Rod Mill.

Rod Mill Cobbles

—by Henry Waring

Doc Saunders has announced that he will be a contender for the Rod Mill trophy in the new dance campaign.

Leonadis Peed and Henry Waring, both products of Lewis County, Kentucky, will not say they can't lie, but declare that they in now way compare with Beecher Phipps and are ready to hand him the button as the world's greatest prevaricator.

We have been informed that the title of "Straight-edge" belongs to Howard Pherson of the Electrical Department and our informant was very insistent that we hang this handle on him.

Who is the wire drawer that persisted in blowing his automobile horn while passing his boarding house until the land-lady declared him a public nuisance.

Spot Wheeler went all out for tomatoes and peanuts this year. He brought Dudit a sample tomato recently.

Harry Middaugh says he knows someone only four feet high and five and a half feet wide.

Louie Perkins, stocker on the Rod Mill, recently joined up with our armed forces. Louie enlisted with the Army Engineers. We wish you loads of good luck, Louie and want you to hurry back.



Howard Messer, son of Oakley Messer, melter foreman at the Open Hearth was recently home on a furlough from the navy.

Mechanical Musings

—by V. Warnock

Raymond Scharf, who recently enlisted in the navy and George Widig, who is serving with the Army Engineers at Camp Swift, Texas were home on furloughs recently.

J. C. Lyons, night foreman at the Machine Shop, is enjoying his vacation, we hope, unless there is too much grass to cut or corn to hoe or a screen door that needs fixing, etc. etc.

Lieut. Paul Floyd, formerly employed in the Machine Shop, was home for a short visit and stopped in to see all the boys and to tell them the news about Mrs. Floyd. Congratulations were in order.

A key position is very useful in unlocking the door of opportunity.

Harry Heller of the Machine Shop has joined up with the Sea Bees and expects to leave for duty soon. James Abbott also, enlisted in the Merchant Marines service. Good luck fellows and "good fishing".

Tom White is trying to get off night turn. He brought the boss an eleven pound carp. We wonder how much it cost him.

Clay Deemer recently enlisted in the Civil Air Patrol. Boy, is he hot on those right and left flanking maneuvers.

Arthur Fox is now foreman of the Pipe Shop and Carna Duffy is the new millwright foreman. Watch your step gang—they're hard, hard guys to get along with.

Rod & Wire Electrical

—by Howard Pherson

Red Kegley is back in our midst. Kicked out at the Coke Plant, I guess. Red says he now has the Coke Plant going good and came back down to the Rod and Wire to put it back on its feet.

"Off-the-hole" White says a blind man had to take Joe Wetta home the other night. Joe doesn't deny this.

Doc Sanders has a dog that will drink only skimmed milk. The dog was named Hoover.

A smart man is one who hasn't let a woman pin anything on him since he was a baby.

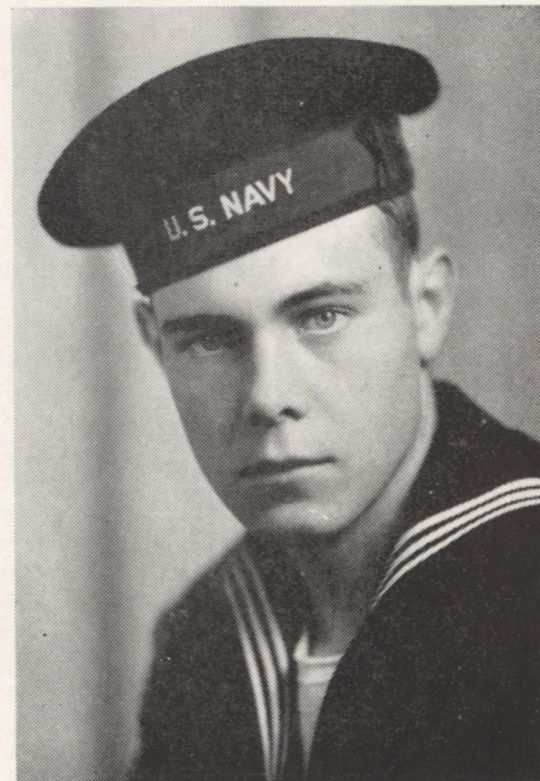
Fred Barrett got a ladder and told Red Kegley to get a hand line and a couple of lamps. After getting these things Red took out after a man carrying a ladder. Upon reaching the old mill buildings the ladder carrier stopped for a rest. It was only then that Red found he was following a Brick Mason helper.

Earl Kennedy has been trying to get Bert Tipton to use ginseng in his daily diet.

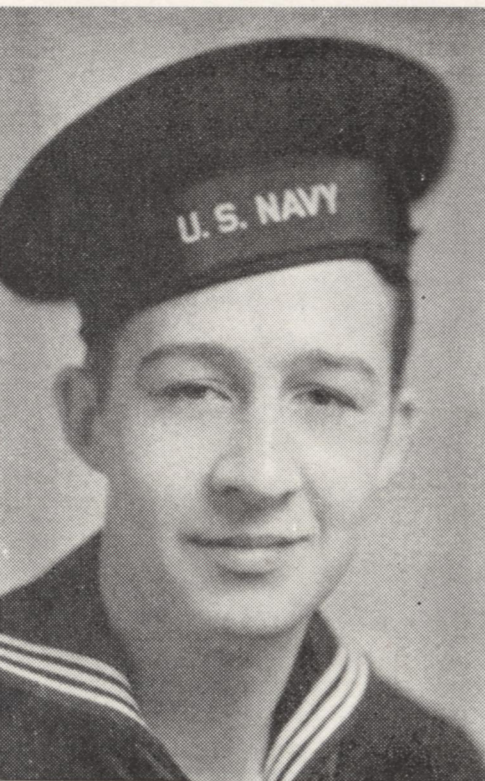
Spider Hamilton reports the missus is improving after a major operation.

Harry Clites is now at home. He says he is getting along O. K. and sends his regards to all.

Come on gang. Give me a hand with the news if you expect this to go on.



William McMahon, son of Fred McMahon Blooming Mill manipulator, is on duty with the fleet in the Atlantic.



Robert Graves, seaman second class on active duty with the fleet, is the son of William H. Graves weighmaster in the Yard Department.

Foundry Castings

—by Willis Kayser

Now we have heard just about everything you can imagine. Can you picture a man forgetting about pay day and finding three pay stubs in his pocket? We think you should set up the shop, Nelson—well anyway, the Core Room.

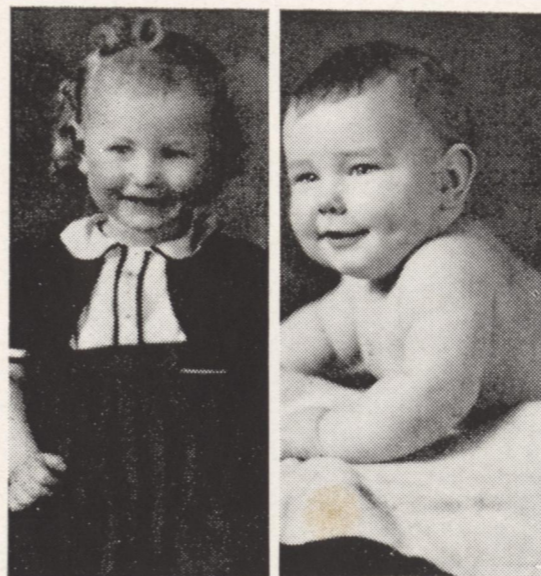
Mr. Ansley Benson received a letter from our old friend T. Gaylord Johnston. I don't know what he said but I can imagine, after Mr. Benson wrote him that since he left I and Huffy, Jr., were the two biggest lairs in the shop now.

Lester Brady came to work the other morning with his trouser legs cut off almost to his knees. When asked what was what, he explained that he had them cut off three times and they were still too short.

Boys, we have hung up an excellent safety record of 36 months or 3 years without a loss time accident. Now let's try to make that three years look small by working safely in the Foundry for another three year period.

Vacationing time has been here now for some weeks and we haven't heard any of the fellows talking about the "big one that got away" and we haven't seen any pictures of those they brought home either. So get busy boys, and get them in so we can have a look at those fish and refreshments you had on that trip.

Buy your quota of War Bonds and pay your taxes.—Keep up your morale and we will lick the Axis.



Carol LaDane, 21 months and Stephen Ben, 6 months, children of Bernard Shumway, Barbed Wire Department, and grandchildren of Roy Shoemaker, Open Hearth Department.

Barrel Shop Bulletins

—by "The Young Man"

"Wildcat" Shelton, famous oiler, has returned to work after a thrilling trip down in Kentucky visiting friends and relatives. Evidently the people down there don't care much about the high price of eggs as they are playing a new game called "Dodging Dozens." One dozen eggs, some fresh and some ripe are placed in bags. Persons taking part in the game stand a few yards apart and then fire the bags at each other. The first one to get soaked on the head or face loses the game.

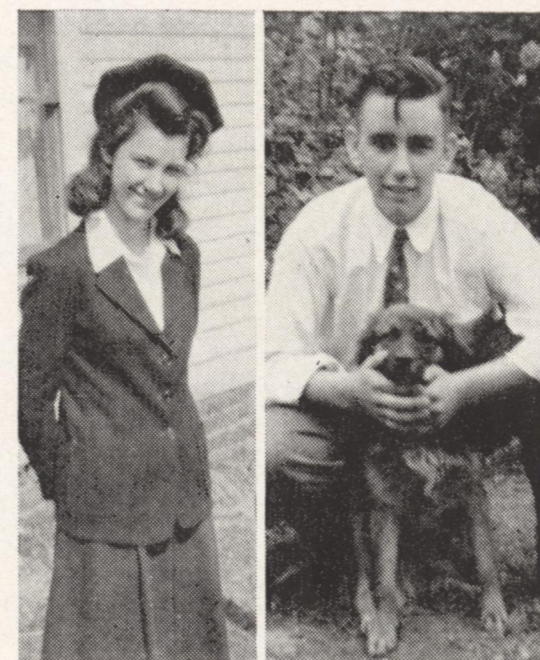
Reports are that "Wildcat" dodged the first three bags all of which were near hits but the fourth one consisting of several overly ripe eggs proved to be a perfect hit smacking him on top of the head and smothering him as he began to yell "Foul".

For Sale: Shavin's—by the sack or in car load lots. Useful in many ways. If interested, see Ed Ketter, store room.

Friends of Orvel (Fat) McGarey, well-known wide-awake inspector, report that he has entered the political field and plans to become a big politician. Fat is now running for trustee in Clay Township. Best of luck from all the boys.

Friends of Ray Arn, popular double seamer operator, report that he has been spending all of his spare time for the past few months planning a "one day" vacation he hopes to take after the war.

Alva Walker, car bracer for the past several months, has been busy salvaging a large amount of wheat, oats, corn, barley, chicken-feed and carrots and hopes to be able to soon place it in the market at "below cost" prices.



Mary Inez, 18 and Donald Eugene 17 children of Hiram Lewis switchman in the Yard Department.

Nail Mill Whiskers

—by Nosey, Newsy and Noisy

Some think there's only one of me
Some say we're an unholy three
Too many clues and the secret's out,
It's better to keep you all in doubt.

So guess all you please and have your fun,
Be suspicious of all and accuse each one
And if some dirt gets out on you
Remember it's out on your buddies too.

Freddie King and Ray Seymore are the two charter members of the new "Thumbs Up Club." Even Forrest Plymale, Nail Mill employee until recently, is said to be a member.

Dick Gardner's past is finally giving him away. It seems he was quite a wrestler in his younger days. He even does it by remote control as George Doll will tell you. Skinner Helt's claim of foul was not allowed by the referee.

John "Daniel Boone" Rickey and Joe Harris have become the best of buddies.

If Eugene Atkins would transact his business with Steve Dixon when Steve isn't busy, the Four Penny jobs would be better off. Ask Tom.

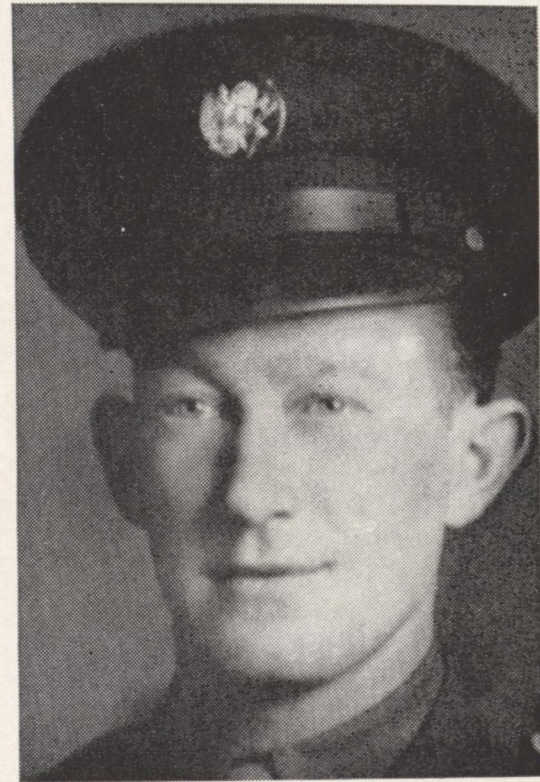
Are Mac McCallister's complaints due to his new job or is it because of his love for "Copper" Johnson?

"Spendthrift" Gerald Crowe claims he was recently held up and robbed by a one-armed bandit.

We all say good-bye and good luck to Homer Kennedy and Ellis Collier, the Nail Mill's latest contribution to the armed forces.



Betty Lou and Sue Ann Fisher grandchildren of Pete Manier, Blooming Mill shearman.



Staff Sergeant Carl E. Johnson is serving with the Army Air Force somewhere in England. He is the son of Cecil Johnson iron worker in the Mechanical Department.



Pvt. Orville R. Southworth is stationed at Kessler Field, Mississippi with the Army Air Force. He is the son of Orville Southworth, weigher in the Nail Mill.

Yard Department Yarns

—by Cecil Literal

Frank Dodd is back from the army and has returned to his old job in the Yard Department. We welcome you back, Frank, and we are sure you are glad to be with the old gang again. * * *

John Wilking, yard switchman who enlisted in the Navy in February is now stationed at New Caledonia Island, just off Australia. * * *

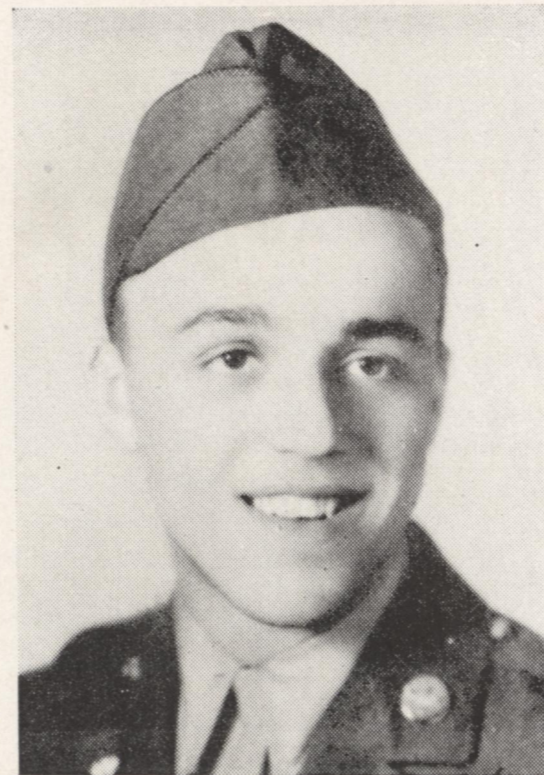
Floyd Smittle, former hostler helper, is now a lieutenant in the Army Air Corps. He recently paid us and Portsmouth a visit by flying his plane very low over the plant and the city and we got quite a thrill out of it. Good luck, Floyd. * * *

We of the Yard Department send our sincere sympathy to the family of Lewellyn Charles, weighman in the Yard Office, who died recently. * * *

Our superintendent, E. B. Campbell, has been vacationing recently. * * *

Food rationing hasn't been so tough here of late as most of us have lots of fresh corn and vegetables from our Victory Gardens. I hope everyone preserves some of it for winter use, so don't forget to fill those cans as it's better to save it now than to do without next winter. * * *

The entire Yard Department is now working 48 hours per week. Keep your chin up and your belt tight and let's all be good soldiers on the home front. * * *



Pfc. Howard Robert Hansgen is with the Army Air Force at Santa Maria, California. He is the son of Howard Hansgen millwright at the Blast Furnace.

Blooming and Bar Mill Ingot Splashes

—by K. Cronin

Little "Whopper" McDaniel nearly beat himself to death recently while attempting to remove what he thought was a gopher bug clinging to the back of his neck. His efforts really had to be seen to be appreciated. * * *

George Allen has been steadily losing weight ever since the beginning of the six day week. Overwork is definitely not the reason. Maybe he misses Ed's full dinner pail and those good pies. * * *

Paul Kenyon's story about picking blackberries has failed to find a believer. Everybody contends that a guy scratched up like he was surely met up with something wilder than a blackberry. * * *

Charles Thompson was seen doing his own laundry at his home one recent Sunday morning. Has he suddenly become helpful around the house, or was there a better reason. * * *

"Mac" McLaughlin has gone into the business of raising sheep and is getting plenty of advice on the proper way to care for them. Some of it good and some bad. * * *

At the latest report Cliff Chinn is still mourning the loss of that turn. * * *

In an effort to defend his laurels as a cucumber raiser, Holcomb is trying to insinuate that the 23 inch one being displayed by Newt Howard is

a gourd. But we have to give Newt the nod as he has the longest cucumber we ever saw, and if anyone ever raised a bigger one its probably a lie. * * *

John Shoemaker recently made an unsuccessful attempt to get away with two choice tomatoes. Forty acres of tomatoes and he had to pick the two Ault was saving for seed. * * *

It is disappointing to read that a neighbor of Claude Johnson's has so far produced the largest tomato of the season. The way Claude has talked we were led to believe that the ones he raises usually weigh more than 31 ounces before the blossom drops off of them. Evidently he has been handling the truth a little recklessly. * * *

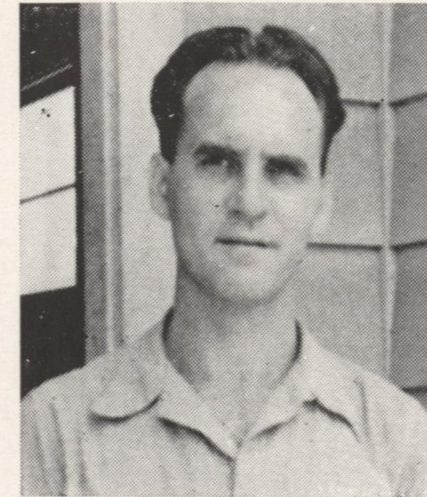
We bet Slim gets clear out of his car the next time he lights a cigarette while driving home. * * *

Cookie has been in again and out again. * * *

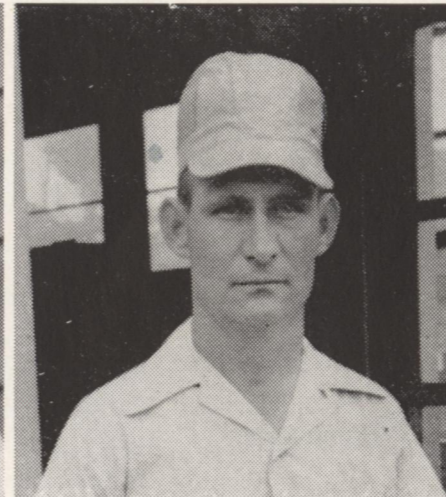
Some of the fellows we know think they have been misled when they were taught to believe that a man grows older as the years roll by. * * *

Much doubt has been expressed by many people over the amount of berries Wes Moore claims to have lost through theft while down in Adams County. We tried practically the same story last year, Wes, and couldn't make it stand up.

★ WITH OUR BOYS IN SERVICE ★



ELLIS COLLIER



WALTER C. BAILEY



MILLARD S. PERRY



FRED E. MOORE



OAKLEY POTTS



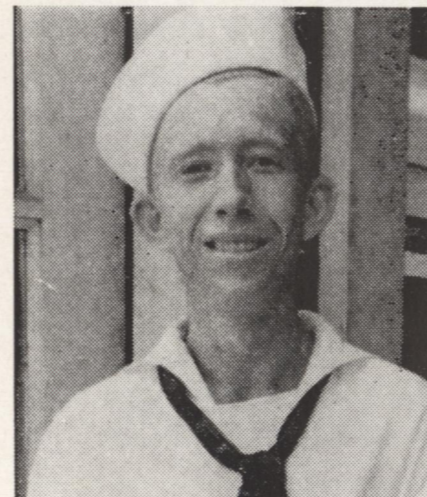
HORACE WALDEN



RAYMOND SADDLER



CLAYTON VAN CUREN



LLOYD POTTS



WINIFRED VAUGHN



FLOYD EDMISTEN



ROY HILES



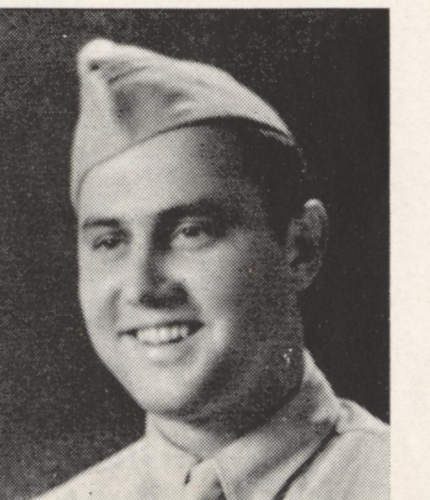
CHAS. A. TAYLOR



JOHN McMAHAN



ROBT. J. STEBICK



CHAS. McLAUGHLIN

ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY CARBON COPY AND ADDRESSED TO

TO INSURE PROMPT ATTENTION
IN REPLYING REFER TO

NO. _____

ATTENTION OF _____

WAR DEPARTMENT
CINCINNATI ORDNANCE DISTRICT
BIG FOUR BUILDING
CINCINNATI, OHIO

9 July 1943

Subject: Production Suggestions

To: Mr. L. B. Heustis, General Manager
Wheeling Steel Company
Portsmouth, Ohio

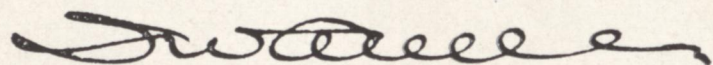
1. With your kind permission the Cincinnati Ordnance District, United States Army, would like to present the following message to the men and women of your plant, either through your house organ or your bulletin board or in any way you see fit.

2. World War II is rightly called a mechanized war and a battle of production lines. As I have watched the industrial and military growth of this country, I can assure you that this war is now a combat between the ingenuity of free American workers and the ingenuity of the Axis slave-workers. And in this battle the free must win out.

3. You men and women of the Wheeling Steel Company have done a splendid job. The deadly General Sherman tanks which swept German troops out of Tunisia; the crushing blows of American bombers that forced a surrender on Pantelleria and Lampedusa; and the destructive power of our mortars in New Guinea that drove the Japs into the sea - all of these weapons have been made on the home front, in the factories and shops of America. And these victories have been achieved because of the courage of our fighting men and the ingenuity of American workers.

4. You of the Wheeling Steel Company are the type of people who started our war machine rolling; and you of the Wheeling Steel Company have made every effort to keep it rolling by your suggestions for improving your war production. Because of this I want to urge you to keep sending in your suggestions. As we get deeper and deeper into this war, we must ever increase our efforts to conserve critical material and also to find better ways of manufacturing war products.

5. Often the daily operations on a machine tool become so mechanical that the operator finds himself working in a routine manner. I suggest and urge, therefore, that you study each operation you perform in order to find quicker and better ways to do the same thing. Such discoveries may save the lives of hundreds of our fighting troops. I also suggest that you continuously search for a way to conserve vital materials. And, finally, that you try to improve the construction and efficiency of your war product itself.



FRED A. McMAHON
Colonel, Ord. Dept.
District Chief