

PLAIN TALKS

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adequate wiring promoted nationally

If you attended the annual meeting in Beaumont earlier this year, you will recall that one of the most interesting and informative talks was that made, and illustrated, by A. E. Beattie. Plain Talks reported the talk, which was on the subject of adequate wiring, in full. Boiled down to a very few words, what Mr. Beattie said was that although the company spends hundreds of thousands of dollars to regulate voltage and make sure that the proper voltage is delivered at the customer's meter, most customers are paying for current that serves no useful purpose simply because the house (or business building) wiring is too small and circuits are too long to take care of present day lighting and appliance loads.

Now, into the picture of the electrical industry, comes the "Adequate Wiring Bureau" to promote on a national scale, the idea of the importance of adequate wiring. We're going to use the backs of bills to promote the idea in our territory and use the bureau's trade-mark in most of our newspaper advertising.

And this is how every electric company employee fits into the picture. If plans work out, it won't be many months before customers may be asking you for further particulars. Well, wire is like a pipe. When the wire is too small, an appliance fails to get the voltage necessary for efficient operation. Current is "burned up", dissipated by the too-small wire which connects the appliance to the

meter. But the meter registers this current because it is actually used (by the wiring) and the customer pays for it because wiring on the premises is his responsibility. Thus over a period of time he will pay far more than the difference in first cost between adequate wiring and inadequate wiring. Not only is that true, but at the same time he will not enjoy full efficiency from his lights and appliances because they are not receiving proper voltage.

The story of adequate wiring is one that advertising can not get over unaided and cooperation of all employees will speed the day when customers will get more for their money and the company will profit in greater user satisfaction through adequate wiring.

Central champ load builders

Central division led the parade of load builders during the first quarter of 1928. Their average consumption per home customer increased 24 during January, February and March. Port Arthur division was second with an increase of 19. Louisiana and Beaumont divisions showed an increase of 17 each and the Navasota figure was 14.

The average increase for the company was 18.

Central division also leads in average annual consumption with 1,182 Kwh per home customer through March. Other divisions are reported by the statistical department as Louisiana, second, with 1,126, Navasota, 1,015, Beaumont, 917, and Port Arthur 897.

The company average for the year ending with March was 990 Kwh per home customer.

batter up!



*Bill Hammond
shown editing "The
Pinch Hitter."*

The Beaumont bunch has gone in for soft ball this year in a big way. In addition to the team which represents the company in the city league, four teams for inter-company play have been organized and a schedule worked out. To stimulate interest in the departmental games, Bill Hammond of the commercial department is publishing "The Pinch-Hitter—official organ of the Reddy Kilo-watt Soft-Ball League" on the mimeograph and urging non-playing employees to come out to the games. The schedule for the first half of the season is as follows:

FIRST-HALF SEASON SCHEDULE

Monday, April 25th
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Counters
Thursday, April 28th
Kilo-Makers vs. Kilo-Senders
Friday, April 29th
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Makers
Monday, May 2nd
Kilo-Senders vs. Kilo-Counters
Wednesday, May 4th
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Senders
Thursday, May 5th
Kilo-Makers vs. Kilo-Counters
Monday, May 9th
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Counters
Wednesday, May 11th
Kilo-Makers vs. Kilo-Senders
Monday, May 16th
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Makers
Tuesday, May 17th
Kilo-Senders vs. Kilo-Counters
Wednesday, May 18th
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Senders
Friday, May 20th
Kilo-Makers vs. Kilo-Counters
Monday, May 23rd
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Counters
Wednesday, May 25th
Kilo-Makers vs. Kilo-Senders
Friday, May 27th
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Makers
Open Date
Kilo-Senders vs. Kilo-Counters
Open Date
Kilo-Peddlers vs. Kilo-Senders
Open Date
Kilo-Makers vs. Kilo-Counters

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golf tournament one of the best yet

Well, the umpteenth annual golf tournament came off as scheduled at the muny links in Beaumont the afternoons of April 19, 20 and 21 and players and their dates made merry far into the night at the banquet and dance on Hotel Edson roof the evening of April 23. A good time was had by all, including members of the De Bouy team which again went down in defeat, this time by a score of 255 points for the Linnehans to 213 for the De Bouys. Mr. Walker re-awarded the cup to Captain Linnehan at the banquet, presided over by Toastmaster Riegel.

Harry Rafferty handled, and very capably, registration this year and Paul Masterson was MC for the annual raffle. On the program committee were Duke, Lilyerstrom, Carlisle, Barron and Pettie, and they did the good job that might have been expected. Orrick, as usual, saw that food right in quantity and quality was provided. All committees functioned under the supervision of Mr. Faber.

On the theory that if you took part you're already in on the "know" and if you didn't participate the story would only bore you, Plain Talks skips the horrible details and presents instead two pages of pictures. And if it's true that a picture is worth ten thousand words, this spread is the equivalent of a story about 100,000,000,000,000,000,000 words (count 'em) long!

See candid snaps on next two pages.

P. R. Williams tournament visitor

P. R. Williams, comptroller of Virginia Electric and Power company, was a Beaumont visitor the week-end of April 23 and was honor guest at the annual golf banquet. Mr. Williams, as all old-timers know, was originator of the annual golf event and its ramrod during the years he was with us. Needless to say his many, many friends enjoyed his brief visit and hated to see him leave the morning of April 26 for Richmond.

APRIL PLAIN TALKS







Frank Smith
Editor

Pelican state news

JENNINGS DIVISION

Several of the fellows who had spent many quiet evenings at home working in their gardens had love's labor lost when old man Winter stepped in and shrivelled up the vegetables just like the landlord does to your pocket book on rent day.

H. Corbello is very happy every time it rains. The clay dirt used in filling in the low places around the water plant gets very sticky, and it reminds Henry of the times when he was a little boy and made mud pies.

We notice that when Frenchie's dog is in the office Mr. Pappin will not come in. Has the dog bitten someone, or is Pappin just afraid of dogs?

We load dispatchers are glad to have Joe Molbert back with us again. Joe has been very much a home boy the last few months, but he even stays at the office a little over time now and chats with the other men. That's all right Joe, because most of us have been through that stage too.

We hear that C. J. Lloyd has resigned from the El Paso Electric Company, and he and his family are returning to Lake Charles where he will be connected with the Berdon Campbell Furniture Company. His many friends in the Louisiana Division will be glad to have "Nicodemous" and family back with us.

Friends of Ellis Baker and Billy Gayle regret that Ellis has resigned to work with the Fohs Oil Company, and Billy has resigned to work with Swift & Company.

Since participating in the Annual Golf Tournament in Beaumont, Marguerite Carter has been seen with split shoes and a bottle of Sloan's Liniment.

Miss Vivian Dudley has recently joined the accounting department. Glad to have you with us Vivian.

If you pass Fred Cordsen's house around midnight most any night, you will find Fred drawing plans and figuring costs for his new home which he is about to build.

We have learned from a reliable source that J. C. Crow, Sammy Bono and Ivy Dupin are going to open an umpire's school this fall for Evangeline League Umpires. This trio has yet to agree with the ump.

LAKE CHARLES

One way to insult Henry Landry - Call his new four door limousine a two door sedan.

J. W. Billodeaux woke one night last week taking the legs off his bed. (He had been uncrating and assembling ranges all that day.)

Walter Broussard, Jennings service man, turned in a range prospect one day at five p.m. Before the prospect could be contacted the next morning Walter brought him in to the office personally. Within 30 minutes the prospect was converted into an owner, not only of a range, but also a water heater. This is not a rare incident with our service men but happens often and demonstrates the value of their help.

Sam LeBlanc is working in the appliance service department at Lafayette with Kelly Powell. Kelly says he is getting Sam in condition for an important coming event. If Charley Gary keeps them delivering refrigerators at the present clip he's likely to over-condition Sam a bit.

It has been reported from good source, that a serious hoax has been perpetrated on our good friends at Lafayette. For some time they have been enjoying unusually fine rabbit stews. Recently, we overheard that a dusky gentleman of enterprise was wholesaling to the markets. Trouble began when his friends noticed there were fewer and fewer pussy cats in the neighborhood.

JoJo Dugas, ace power engineer and bazin' suit king, has added another accomplishment. He and a partner were out inspecting a customer's irrigation well and came to a new electric fence. They managed to get over the fence without difficulty; however, on the return JoJo's curiosity got the best of him. He ventured a light touch on the charged wire. To keep his partner quiet, he knew both would have to touch the fence. So JoJo turned on his best sales ability, and

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ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT: Here in the middle of the excitement over the Golf Tournament, banquet, and dance; and the always-much-looked-forward-to vacations it is really hard to concentrate on any one subject. . . . We were happy to see an old time favorite, Joyce Cowser, who paused briefly here recently on his honeymoon trip. We were sorry that he couldn't stay over for we can't imagine anything more perfect than having both Mr. Ben Williams and Joyce with us for the annual golf event. . . . Adding further to this month's excitement and interest is the engagement and approaching marriage of Margaret Parish to Jack Turner. While we regret losing Margaret, she takes with her the best wishes of everyone. Looks like Gulf States is living up to its reputation of marrying 'em off. . . . On April 4, Lyndon Futch came to work with what seemed to have been a good case of the Monday morning blues and decided that on such a beautiful morning he would start a week of his vacation. About ten o'clock he strolled leisurely out, but the sunshine didn't last and he spent the remainder of his week's vacation trying to keep warm and out of the rain. He'll probably wait until summer to take his other week. . . . It is reported from a very, very reliable source that Georgie (Scotty) Dunlop will soon be able to give us his own interpretation of 'Truckin.' We can't wait. . . . When I asked Mr. Linnehan about an interview for this issue, he suggested that I interview Mr. Debouy instead and introduce him to the many new employees in the building inasmuch as the Federal Power Commission and "Dipsy Doodle" have kept him so busy that he doesn't know any of the boys in this department anymore, which caused no end of difficulty in matching up partners for the Golf tournament. . . . Seen in and around the office recently is V. L. Beagle, formerly of Hull, who will do relief work during vacations. . . . Joe Willard missed the golf tournament by taking his vacation at this time. . . . It is being quietly rumored in and around the third floor that there developed, the second night of the tournament, a shortage of dog houses.

BILLING, BOOKKEEPING, AND COLLECTION DEPARTMENTS: Notes by Dennie Taylor: Jack Watson and Red Dunham started the vacation period off this season, Red to the 'Old Country.' And we don't know where Jack is enjoying himself. . . . It seems that Crispy's enthusiasm over her dashund has strayed

treasury department news



Carra Williams
Editor

to candid-Camera, her latest picture being that of a snoring man on the Beaumont-Port Arthur bus. . . . And speaking of men, Gertie Snow, who is this Harold fellow? It is rumored among the members of the Billing Department that Mildred and Ione are definitely in competition over a certain young man. . . . The golf tournament certainly had its revealing features, we didn't know before that Helen Heller is a horticulture enthusiast. . . . We wonder what has caused Glover Fannette's interest in the Billing Department to wander to the Steno. Department. . . . Weller, the man with many inside interests and many girls, says that he may be little but he's loud. . . . Fletabel Denton, one of the older heads, says she isn't as old as she looks - maybe it's the life she has lived. . . . Ava Mary Stevens, we understand, has a third floor interest. . . . We wonder what has happened to Birdie's Louisiana boy friend who drove the Sport roadster, it seems that she now prefers a Ford Sedan driven by Byron Anderson. . . . It has been suggested that it might be well to remember to take along a few cow bells on next year's golf tournament for the benefit of some of those players who get lost and have to be sent for. . . . Joe Powell recently vacationed in Austin, and was there for the Round Up.

STENOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT: Girls, Girls, you must be slipping, Can't you do something about the sour and altogether unbecoming expression that our own Casanova, Rufus Manley, is wearing lately, or, maybe due to his modesty you haven't discovered his possibilities. . . . Hi Ho Everybody, this is station STENO Dept. broadcasting on a consigned frequency of ten stenos and one—"Belle" boy, sponsored by the Company that makes hearts, homes, and highways brighter and lighter. If this news flash is somewhat dull it's because the reporters have been too busy with Golf to pick up any choice morsels of. . . well, choice morsels. . . . Imogene, the drum major,

came in leading the parade one down and one to go. She can really bounce the old ball . . . Elizabeth, the queen of the ball—last formal dance she appeared in a swing skirt, and we waited, half eagerly, half fearfully, her appearance at the banquet dance, we held our breath, what next? What, beside that cheerful smile, is there about the little four-foot, thirteen-inch girl that makes all the office boys fall over each other to pick up her pencil? Mary, how do you do it? . . . Maybe it's the position of the desk, maybe it's just naturally the old "come hither" look, but there is something about the "Purchase Order" girl that catches every eye of the stronger sex who walks into the department, if there is a secret, tell us, Rose . . . A certain young Miss in the Steno Dept. really believes that pennies fall from Heaven for she is seen bringing her umbrella and parking it in a corner, which, after work, and unknown to her, is used to cover a typewriter . . . The mystery of this department is—why a certain young lady would throw over the chance to attend the "opening baseball game" to hustle home and bat out a knitted dress for Easter. . . . Why do girls invariably have slumber parties and think it is Sunday morning when they wake up . . . Much to a young maiden's surprise over the week-end, she woke up and realized that she still had a whole day to shop before Easter . . . Boys, here's your chance! We understand that Doris June's boy friend is off to school about June 1. . . . Of all the mail boys, Rufus Petkovsek, takes the pie. He doesn't even give us a chance to rate a date to the dance with him. What is it that little girl has that we don't have? . . . One wonders how Laverne can play nine holes of Golf looking like a flower and then drive to San Antonio to enjoy the "Battle of Flowers" all in one day. . . . Do you suppose bank night could go on without Fern. We hear they postpone the drawing when she can't attend. . . . What other department can

boast of *two* golf loons? . . . S T E N O
Dept. STATION SIGNING OFF—YOUR
ANNOUNCER, ANONYMOUS . . .

batter up

(Continued from page 2)

TEAM ROSTERS

Production Department — Kilo-Makers:

R. Guidry, Manager, E. A. Andrus, J. W. Baird, J. O. Bauman, S. R. Boleman, P. Bradshaw, H. R. Carver, H. G. Fitzgerald, R. W. Haynes, L. L. Landry, J. V. Lasyon, C. T. Lewis, S. W. Scigousky, S. E. Moore, C. R. McGrew, C. O'Brien, O. Parker, E. Prejean, W. Prejean, H. D. Steele, W. G. Strong, R. W. Tevis, W. A. White.

Official Umpires:

L. L. Hirsch, M. B. Marshall.

Commercial Department — Kilo-Peddlers:

F. F. Johnson, Manager, J. C. Connaughton, L. Brannan, E. W. Bishop, H. C. Sandefer, D. Seastrunk, J. C. Winfrey, M. Larkin, R. A. McAlpine, C. W. Winborn, L. E. Mosier, B. Hammond, D. Dawson, J. R. LeBlanc, L. E. Talley.

Official Umpire:

Bill Hilsman.

Accounting Department — Kilo-Counters:

Jimmy Linnehan, Manager, J. B. Kennedy, H. Herndon, W. T. Buckley, E. A. Bode, G. H. Rafferty, H. Chatelain, S. LeClere, B. Anderson, H. P. Robichau, H. C. Hansen, H. I. Taylor, George Rice, John French, F. Tenholder, A. G. Fontana, R. Petkovsek, J. Inglehart.

Official Umpires:

G. Dunlop, J. R. McCann.

Distribution Department — Kilo-Senders:

A. L. Stahl, Manager, F. R. Smith, A. W. Baird, L. Romano, W. A. Thomson, P. Wiggins, J. M. Geen, S. Oliver, Bill Wendt, L. Didrickson, D. Poulson, A. Poulson, E. J. Vogel, C. White, J. T. Camp, R. McConathy, H. A. Vaughn.

Official Umpires:

R. Tompkins, H. P. Donald.

Official League Scorekeeper:

H. V. (Eagle-eye) Scanlon.

CITY LEAGUE NEWS

YOUR Company team opened in the City League Tuesday night, April 26th, 9:00 P. M. at the Fairgrounds Ball Diamonds.

Other playing dates for the rest of the first half season are:

Wednesday, April 27th.

Tuesday, May 3rd.

Friday, May 6th.

Tuesday, May 10th.

Thursday, May 12th.

Friday, May 13th.

Thursday, May 19th.

Tuesday, May 24th.

Thursday, May 26th.



Above, right, is General Sales Manager Riegel pitching the first ball of the first game in the Beaumont inter-department Reddy Kilowatt soft ball league. J. M. DeBouy is the catcher and L. L. Hirsch, the umpire.

The game was played on April 25 by the Kilo-Peddlers, commercial department team, and the Kilo-Counters, accounting department. The score was nine to one in favor of the Kilo-Counters.

to members of

Federal Credit Union

In keeping with certain Federal requirements, H. V. Scanlon has been appointed by the Board of Directors to serve as trustee of pass books for members of the Federal Credit Union.

All transactions must be recorded in these pass books, and they are now held by the trustee, as the membership is spread over such a wide area that it is impractical for members to keep their books.

We should also like to suggest, for the benefit of the members who have reached their maximum in shares, that they consider investing these funds in the First Federal Savings & Loan Association, or in Federal bonds, or other safe investments so they might continue this plan of systematic saving by payroll deduction, which has proved quite popular as well as helpful in creating a cash reserve.

R. J. Orrick,
President.

Port Arthur division news

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT:

L. J. Johnston, D R for many years, resigned the early part of this month, joining Linn Motor sales force, and is now selling Fords. Joe Hatley, "From Laredo", is pinch-hitting among the DRs, taking care of District 7.

Fred Parent now vacationing in California, was warned not to get "stuck" in Hollywood with all the beautiful girls out there.

Sidney Hebert, when Easter came around gave his "true love" a box of candy. The other day he called to see her and found Joe Prejean enjoying the candy. Joe says that it was delicious candy. Sid says that Joe made a hasty exit with a great deal of his help (Sid grabbed him by the seat of his pants.)

John P. Knapp, Superintendent of Sales, attempting to pet an Easter bunny had his index finger badly bitten. Honest, it really happened!

The Home Service department conducted a cooking school in Sabine, April 12 and 13. There was good attendance both days. The school was held in the Old Windsor Hotel, which was built in 1898 and is the only building in that section that withstood the 1915 storm. The building was opened to the public when we held our school.

The present campaign among our DRs is causing quite a flurry and turmoil. Dick Eddleman, captain of one team, vows that his side is not going to pull a seine, not going to pay the expenses of the other side, and not going to wait on any member of the opposing team. Captain Dinkins says the same thing, so THE FIGHT GOES ON!

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT:

J. P. Peveto went down to the Distribution Department to sell golf banquet tickets. When he left, he had one more than he had when he arrived. Good going, Peveto.

Elizabeth Hagy spent Easter in Galveston, accompanied by two members of

the opposite sex, one of whom proved quite interesting.

Vernon Bodin spent his vacation right here in Port Arthur, he says to give the girls a break.

DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT:

We welcome two new members in our Department this month—E. B. Black, of Beaumont, in the Meter department; and W. K. Welch, of Virginia, in the Distribution Engineering department.

We haven't heard much from Joe Dugan about the Meter School at A. & M., but from reports of night sessions, we all want to go next year.

G. L. Hagler wanted the trash man to have eggs for Easter so he put seven, fresh from the chicken farm of Gus Hawkins, into the can with his other trash. That's the way Jake cleans house when his wife is away. We have also heard that Jake is going to hang out a "Plain and Fancy Dressmaking" sign. If that patch on his apron is an example of his ability, he should be a great success.

G. K. Phillips, ace lineman of the Madhouse Crew, has to have a grunt to carry a step ladder for him. He has started climbing poles with a ladder in preference to hooks.

R. D. Christian has resigned to return to the Sabine Towing Company.

L. V. Homuth, alias (Big Boy), spent Easter in Smithville visiting friends. We hear that he missed one of many curves and landed in the ditch. Better luck next time, Big Boy.

Seen at Showboat, "Dizzy" Acord and Bob Wharton. Bob was rescuing a sweet young thing's Easter bonnet from the river with the able assistance of Dizzy, who held Bob's ankles while he dangled over the brink.

POWER PRODUCTION NEWS:

S. J. Guidry was off sick April 11 and 12. We think Guidry has taken his self-appointed job of Naval Recruiting officer for the Pasadena District too seriously, and is working too hard at it.

G. D. Hazleton, with his wife and daughter, made a week-end trip to Winchester, Texas, to attend the funeral of his wife's grandfather.

The Nederland High School physics class with Professor J. F. Konechy visited the Plant on March 31.

We welcome J. S. Hemphill, a new employee at Lakeside, who came to work on April 1.

Route's able assistant, C. Arisco, is following in the steps of his master faith-

fully. He bought one of those striped pin-head caps, and expects to get his overalls this coming pay-day.

L. Lacour, commonly known as "Baldie", was off sick this month due to a cold, caused when a sudden deluge of water during the last cold snap, failed to run off his bald pate fast enough.

W. J. Johnston wishes to say that the statement about his "China Clippers" in February's Plain Talks is false, as he has never had a moment's pain from his new set. Besides, it was his first set of clippers that shrunk during the cold weather and had to be thawed out before he could remove them. Johnston now keeps his old clippers in the dresser drawer and watches them carefully so he can foretell approaching cold weather.

Snu-Nue, of Lakeside, is now the proud mother of quintuplets, born March 25, at 8:10 A. M. Snu-Nue has also felt the recent recession, it appears, as she had six kittens last year.

NEDERLAND:

Work is under way on the new store room in the ice department. A private office for Mr. Alexander C. Handley, Jr. is also being built—which means Mr. Handley to you from now on—no more of this Frog business. All of which reminds me. Did you know that before Mr. Handley received the name of Frog, he was known to his friends and family as *Bunny*, and that some of them still call him this. Frog or Bunny—it's all the same—both of them hop, skip, and jump to perfection.

There seems to be just too, too much executive ability centering in the mid-county area. Not long ago we mentioned that J. W. McMinn, Jr., of Port Neches, had been elected as president of the Port Neches Y. M. B. L. William Earl Dinkins was not to be out done and so he begged, bought, and bribed his way into the office of president of the Nederland Y. M. B. L.

TO THE NAVASOTA POET

*If I hurt you with my jingles,
Please forget and forgive.
To us you're the greatest poet
That ever did live.*

*But please don't be so modest,
Let's give credit where it's due;
You're really far better than them all,
Byron, Keats, and Shelley, too.*

*Your poetry is really quite subtle,
It's depths nearly make us cry;
But if we go where you want us to go,
We'll sizzle—But, Boy! how you'll fry.*

Caddying for Mr. Fulton turned out to be a bigger job than Jackson expected. Fulton arranged for an extra large number of clubs and made no apology for not using them. Caddy Jackson failed to show up, but Fulton and his charming partner won the match by four holes anyway.

Whitten managed for a new set of matched clubs, but the glare of the new irons blinded him to such an extent that he just couldn't hit the ball.

H. R. Carver has been transferred from the stationery department to Neches Power Station as clerk.

H. D. Steele former Lamar football star, is a new employee at Neches Power Station, and he'll be a pitcher on the Reddy Kilowatt baseball team.

The Kilo-Makers baseball team finally got organized listing some 23 players and a duet rooting section (Red Burges and Maxie Montagne) second to none. L. L. Hirsch and M. B. Marshall are official umpires from the production department.

Garland Strong, the little man who does big things with wood working tools, pushed two fingers into a jigsaw so he can't play ball for about six weeks.

Believe it or not Mr. Hirsch was at home every night while the Mrs. was visiting in Virginia and New York. That is his story and we believe it.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Maxie Montagne and S. R. Boleman who lost their fathers recently. Mr. Montagne passed away at Erat, Louisiana. Mr. Boleman died unexpectedly at Townville, South Carolina.

PLAIN TALKS is published monthly at Beaumont, Texas, by and for employees of Gulf States Utilities Company as a medium for a better appreciation of our responsibilities to each other and to the public.

KENNETH SUTTON EDITOR
JACK GAMMAGE ART EDITOR

production news



Bob Guidry
Editor

PROGRESS NO. 3 UNIT

The Turbo-Generator is completely assembled and will be ready for steam very shortly. Robert R. Kaley, Westinghouse engineer has been assisting T. W. Rubotham.

No. 9 Boiler has been on the line several weeks at 400 lbs. pressure. When the turbine is ready the pressure will be raised to 875 lbs.

Air operated Bailey combustion control is now being installed on Boiler No's 1, 3, 5, & 7. In fact the equipment is now operating fully automatic on No. 7 Boiler.

STONE & WEBSTER TOPICS

Golf and more golf was the main topic during the Gulf States Tournament. Markward a super salesman worked a miracle by inducing B. R. Wing to participate. We wonder who is responsible for Wing having been seen at several of the night clubs lately.

Stromberg played his first golf match and admits that the bug has really bit him.

The construction crew at Neches has shrunk considerably now that this job is practically completed. Several of the fellows have moved on to Baton Rouge to assist on the installation of two units at Louisiana Steam Generating Corp.

Stone & Webster now has two bowling teams in the City Industrial League. Team No. 1 led by Keenan challenged Neches men for a match, Keenan rolled high score, his team won two games, yet they lost the match on total pins.



Mrs. Spell
Editor

mdse. dept. news Bmt.

NEWS OF INTEREST AND VICE VERSA

"Doc" Seastrunk, "Bish" Bishop, and "Speedy" Holley turned in such bang-up jobs selling ranges and water heaters that their percentage of quota gained netted them first, second, and third prizes respectively in the first quarter campaign.

"Cash on the barrel-head" must have been Richardson's motto for his first quarter sales. "Sarge" really brought in the "do-re-mi" and, when the shouting was over, found himself a winner of one of the system prizes offered for highest average down-payments on major appliance sales.

Glancing at the bogie board we see that our friends "Tweed" Winfrey and "Silent" Brannan are making some good headway selling Electromasters and G. E. refrigerators.

Lady Luck seems to have deserted "Slim" Larkin, the self-professed champion of local domino players. One of the 'dubs' shellacked Mr. Larkin soundly on three consecutive occasions recently.

Lamentations are in order for "Thumpy" Mosier, who so distinguished himself in a recent soft-ball game between the commercial and accounting departments that he was handed an unconditional release. When a man drops pop-flies in wholesale lots something needs to be done about it. Mosier is in the market for a bushel basket.

"Bill" Hilsman was strutting around as 'pride of accomplishment' personified the other day.

He had just signed a customer in District One for an eight foot G. E. District One is a tough one and every sale is hard to get.

In the last issue we were at a loss for a moniker to tack onto Louise Kelly. After watching her play for two or three holes in the Company Golf Tournament, we christen Kelley, "Whiffer".

If you see a lovely creature sporting around in a shiny, spanking new Chevy, it will be our pint-sized Home Economist, "Boss" Youse.

"Happy" Talley's excuse for his absence from the golf tourney was that he has been bothered with 'hooking' and 'slicing'. We won't accept that excuse, for "Happy" has always been pretty adept at 'hooking' a customer and 'slicing' a nice down-payment from said customer's bank-roll.

This column feels it is high time to commend "Reddy" Futch and "Dude" LeBlanc for fine arrangements and displays on the sales-floor. These two are doing a swell job keeping our sales-floor presentable.

While in the mood, we also praise "Skippy" Martin, "Cookie" Nall, and "Sunshine" Brooks for that super-swell chicken feed at the last monthly meeting of the Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Central divisions.

As far as this department is concerned, the 1938 Company Golf Tournament will be remembered for the following: 1. The manner in which "Connie" Winborn and partner were slick-talked out of so many strokes that Winborn & Co. ended the match 7 down. 2. Pat Bishop's choice of a personal caddy who only smiled on occasions when Pat dubbed one. In our opinion, that is the wrong time for a caddy to indulge in levity. Later it was revealed that the ebon youth thought (????) the winner in golf was the party staying out of the hole the longest.

3. "Slick" Connaughton's grandiloquent stance for an approach to the ninth green. The aftermath was a fifteen minute search for the ball in shrubs near the club-house.

4. The dead-awakening argument which ensued on the fourth green when one of "Noisy" Hammond's putts was 'pool-cued' into the cup by a party holding the flag. It seems that this putt would, if made, win the hole for Hammond and partner.

5. "Pappy" Sandefer confessed he didn't play because he didn't want to chance another lawsuit such as he nearly got into with the Country Club after the 1937 Tournament. "Pappy" dug so many divots that Country Club officials thought he was going to lay in a crop of spuds on their golf course. They knew no man would do all that plowing unless he meant to cultivate the land.

We wish to thank Miss Ethel Doan who collaborated with us in writing the obituaries below.

IN MEMORIAM

This page is dedicated to the following reporters of Plain Talks in the Navasota Division who have died of procrastination:

Harold E. Brown—Transferred to the Navasota Division on February 1, 1937, who has continuously promised News from the Distribution Department from that date:

"Here lies the bones of Hal E. Brown,
He was never out though often down.
He couldn't find pencil, words or time
To send news to Plain Talks that were worth
a dime."

Mrs. Anne Grove—Transferred to Navasota Division on March 1, 1937, and has not as yet submitted any news for publication.

"Reasons, excuses, and promises galore,
First—I promise Geo. H. to forget you
no more.'
'No more, Anni', 'No more—never, never.'
But she sank with a gasp, 'Now Geo, don't
get sore,
You know, I am simply not clever.'"

Mrs. Ruby Nelson—Employed April 1, 1937, and is still promising news:

"There are those who have died from sheer
boredom
And those who have died just plain dumb.
But Ruby, while waiting for words that
would rhyme,
Continually sang and has now started to hum,
'I just haven't Geo. H., had the time.'"

Ruth Meekins, Cleveland—Who has skipped only about two months submitting news:

"Two months ago this little lass
Fell far below the head of the class.
Her only excuse for waiting day by day
'There isn't anything for me to say.'"

Louise Epstein, Calvert—Who missed us this month:

"She was little and sweet and mighty fine,
She talked and talked quite all the time.
But she failed this month to send us news
Of the Calvert bunch and all their "dos".

Oma Pearl Grant—Employed in Conroe on August 6, 1937, and has spasmodically sent in news:

"Here lies the remains of Oma Pearl
Who once was a sweet and attractive girl.
She occasionally sent us the lay of the land
But died by the wayside with pencil in
hand."

Louise Stokes—Employed in Caldwell on September 1, 1937, and has sent in two or three items since that time:

"Little Miss Stokes sat back on her shoes
And waited for W. T. to send us the news
Along came George H. and sat down and
said,
'If you wait for him, you'll soon be dead.'"

Mary Scott—Employed at Groveton, December 4, 1927, and has not sent in any Plain Talks since she was recently removed from a transom.

Navasota division news



G. H. Johnson
Editor

"How would you like to go up in a transom
Away from the men, (Some not so handsome)
Come down, come down from your pretty
perch,
And leave us no longer in the lurch."

C. M. Russell—Transferred to the Navasota Division in October 1935, and we have as yet to receive any articles concerning plant news:

"News may come and news may go
But C. M. goes on forever
His line is good but not for publication
For other purposes though—a liberal
education."

E. E. Figari—Transferred to Navasota on October 6, 1932. Put out some splendid effort on one edition of the Plain Talks and has been in seclusion since that date:

"Gabble, gabble everywhere and all the crowds
did shrink
Gabble, gabble everywhere and not one
thought he thinned.
He couldn't find news and he couldn't find
time
To send us a word, or a poem, or a rhyme."

R. E. Morton—Who has never submitted any news but claims that his news is sent in by Jack (Clyde P.) Shirey, Poet Laureate of Navasota:

"Roses are red; violets are blue
What would I without Jack Shirey do?
Jack is my never failing light
And with the editor (I hope) makes things
right."

John Brady—Transferred to Navasota Division in March, 1935:

"John looked for a likely reporter, 'tis true,
To send Georgie news of the boys and their
crew.
John couldn't find one who would do just
that
So he spent his time in buying a new hat."

V. P. Gayle—Transferred to Somerville as Superintendent on March 3, 1934:

"He never did this and he never did that,
Not one of his bunch could so much as tat.
They only lived from day to day
So he had no news,—there was no more
to say."

It would be a timely suggestion if some one would ask George H. to have these lines buried as they are also dead.

The following have been appointed to handle Navasota division news for the next seven issues:

MAY—H. E. Brown, Bob Morton, John Brady, Oscar Wyatt.

JUNE—C. M. Russell, E. E. Figari.

JULY—Ann Grove, Ruby Nelson, Agnes Jameson, Jeannette Sangster.

AUGUST—Mary Scott, W. C. Sadler, Leroy Hardy, Chas. Waller.

SEPTEMBER—Oma Pearl Grant, S. R. Hereford, Ruth Meekins, A. B. Wilson.

OCTOBER—Louise Epstein, J. L. Crouch, Floyd Sharp, J. E. Birmingham.

NOVEMBER—W. T. Thagard, Louise Stokes, V. P. Gayle.

* * *

The Safety Committee of the Navasota division composed of C. P. Shirey, Ed Ward, K. Franklin, and E. E. Figari recently issued the following safety bulletin which was headed with a "STOP! LOOK! LISTEN!" illustration:

"SPRING IS HERE!! CLEAN UP FOR SAFETY . . . A CLEAN JOB IS A SAFE JOB!"

* * *

ALVIN

Installing and reporting all the ranges and water heaters sold during the campaign does not leave much time to do things along editorial lines, especially when we are also making the effort at Alvin to help get Ann and Ruby out of



The ONLY WAY
TO BEAT A *Smart Guy*
IS TO LET HIM GO ON HIS WAY
NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

the "Hot Water" they are complaining about, by selling refrigerators.

Not much time left for Dean to go fishing, but now "Jelly" Gilmore and "Red" Froberg have taken up frogging as an evening sport.

The Sixth Gulf States Utilities—Huntsville Item Cooking School was held at the Josey Scout Lodge at Huntsville on April 20, 21, and 22, with between fifteen and sixteen hundred people in attendance. Through the cooperation of the local merchants, many valuable prizes were given away. Our largest crowd was on Friday evening and both the husbands and wives attended. A most favorable impression was made on the merits of electric refrigerators, ranges, and water heaters.

By the time Plain Talks is printed, we will have moved to our new office which is now under construction, and we hope to have some pictures to submit for the next issue so that all our friends can see what a swanky place we are going to have to work in.

Jack Reidy just came breezing into the office wearing his customary happy smile, and, as this is Good Friday, he was looking for a good FISH dinner.

A. B. Mitchell, plant operator, made a trip to Beaumont with Mr. R. T. Wright, and got quite a thrill out of seeing the Neches Station for the first time.

Mr. R. T. Wright wore a new straw hat on his trip to Beaumont, and it seems that straw hat day occurred in Huntsville a few days earlier than in Beaumont; so he had the distinction (?) of being the only man in Beaumont with a straw hat on. (And they talk about what extremes ladies will go to in dress to attract attention!)

The Huntsvillians report a most amusing time at the stag party recently held at Conroe—Too bad none of the girls could make arrangements to go.

We have been unable to get a full report on the trip Bob Rikard and Richard Wright made to Houston.

Ruth Lee has acquired the title of the "meanest woman in the world". It's a long story, but a good one. Maybe association had something to do with this mean streak.

Pelican state

(Continued from page 5)

Hubert Ward has purchased a slightly used automobile, and its a good thing he does his driving in Huntsville, because we notice that it starts much better after it has been stopped on a hill. Since there is not a steep enough hill by the new office to give him a good start, we are seriously thinking of building some sort of platform from which the above mentioned jalopy can be catapulted. Ward, incidentally, doesn't want his girl back home to know he has been going with girls who wear shoes, because she might think he is a sissy.

Gean Cawthorne reports that the Huntsville Line Crew employees are very proud of their new truck.

MADISONVILLE

Earl Parker is soon to be sporting a brand new set of teeth; we will get childish at times.

Abe Rowe is now a citizen and tax payer; he recently moved into a brand new home, he calls his own.

Mrs. V. B. Hereford spent a few days in Hearne with her mother last week.

John Lee (Froggie) Barrett reports a swell time at the Conroe Country club recently; he wonders why we don't have more meetings like that one. Jimmie Odom, R. B. Cash, and I. C. Moore, representing the rest of the Cleaner Gang from the Madisonville District also report a pleasant evening mingling with the boys from other parts. V. B. Hereford did not attend due to the fact it was necessary for some one to remain on the job, and he had recently returned from a Ginners Convention in Dallas.

through an ingenious question of voltage, sold Goody the idea of making a contact also.

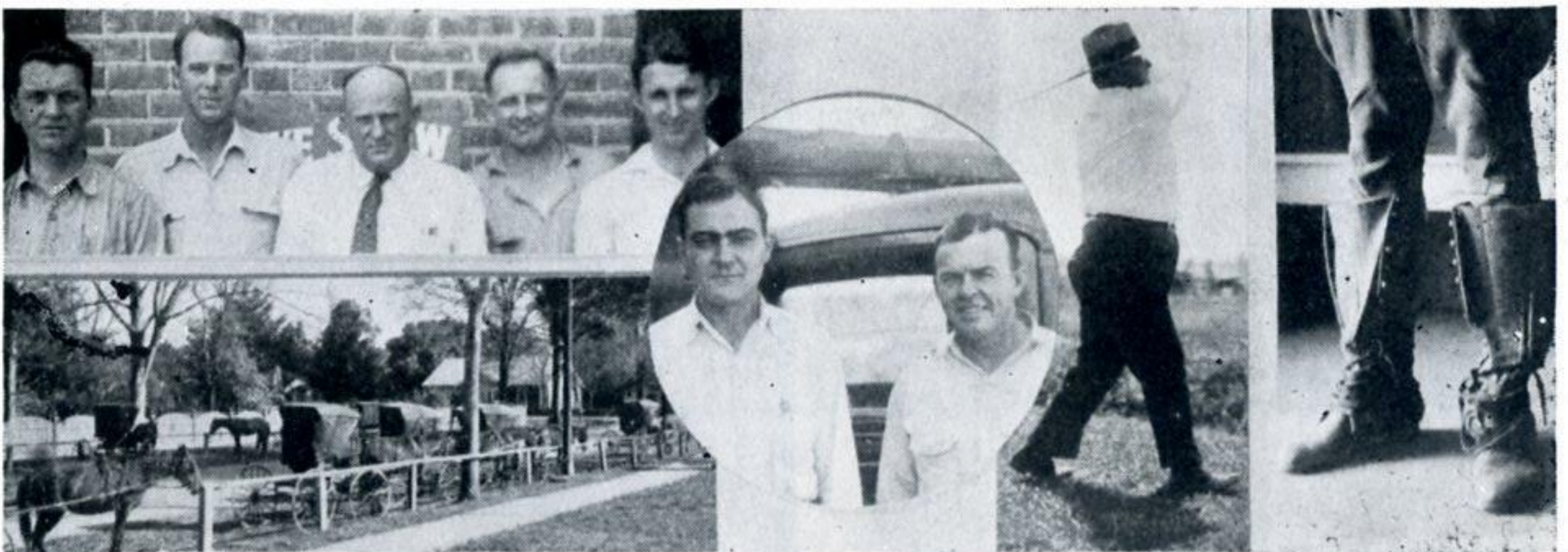
Our fast moving lighting salesman, Clay McCarroll, is really illuminating Lake Charles. His latest work is beginning a beautiful job of indirect lighting in one of the Lake Charles banks. This puts modern lighting in all three of our bank buildings.

The gentlemen of Louisiana have a serious case with their contemporaries in Texas. Why is it that when our young ladies go to Texas and play golf and otherwise, they come back with such glowing reports of wonderful times. Jim Sudduth says he is going to keep them from going next year.

Flash

Bobby Riegel, Beaumont's golfing sensation, son of General Sales Manager Riegel, ironed his way through the Texas amateur field to win the state title with a birdie finish on May 7 in Fort Worth. This was his fifth birdie over the rain drenched greens for a three and one triumph.

Bobby was the former Southern amateur champion.



Top, left, Lake Charles garage staff with Shug Goen in center of group. Lower, left, scene recently snapped at Scott, La. Center, circle, Sam LeBlanc and P. C. Faulk, servicemen, who are lighting up a lot of homes in the Lafayette district. The golfer is Pete Dennis, who says you have to hold it right and hit it right to play good golf. Right, Johnny Adams says that it is his practice to be prepared always. The boots are unlaced so he can get in or out of them in a hurry.