

AS OF JULY 15, 1943

\* \* IN THE ARMY 203 \* \* \* IN THE NAVY 92 \* \* \* IN THE MARINES 6 \* \* TOTAL 301 \*

#### ARMY

Akins, M. O., Baton Rouge Allgood, G. I., Lake Charles Allison, Mildred, Beaumont Andrus, L., Lake Charles Atkins, J. W., Jr., Beaumont

Bacon, R. C., Beaumont

Baden, H. A., Baton Rouge Baker, P. W., Port Arthur Ball, W. A., Jr., Beaumont Barron, C. B., Beaumont Benton, C. M., Baton Rouge Blanchard, H. T., Baton Rouge ★Blanchard, R. A., Baton Rouge Bloxom, R. M., Lake Charles Bobino, Willie, Beaumont Bolton, F. L., Winnie Bonura, C. J., Beaumont Braswell, J. L., Beaumont Breaux, M. L., Port Arthur Briggs, C. W., Baton Rouge Brock, K. P., Liberty Brossett, F., Beaumont Brown, L. J., Lafayette Bush, L., Port Arthur Bushnell, K., Beaumont

Cain, D., Baton Rouge Canizaro, B. G., Beaumont Carnes, G. L., Jr., Beaumont Carpenter, A. W., Baton Rouge Carpenter, N. G., Lake Charles Cassels, J. B., Nederland Charlton, H. S., Baton Rouge Christian, L. C., Jr., Lake Charles Clement, J. L., Baton Rouge Cole, E., Beaumont Cole, H. S., Lake Charles Colyer, C. M., Lake Charles Conway, A. L., Beaumont Cook, Katherine, Baton Rouge Cox, C. B., Beaumont Cryer, E. M., Port Arthur Cummins, L. C., Navasota

Daigre, F. B., Baton Rouge Davis, S. E., Baton Rouge Davis, V. E., Beaumont Denham, P., Baton Rouge Dennison, H., Lake Charles Deutser, H. J., Jr., Beaumont Dickerson, H. R., Beaumont Donald, H. P., Beaumont Dorsey, J., Baton Rouge

Ebow, S., Lafayette Echart, J. F., Beaumont Elkins, F., Port Arthur Elkins, J. A., Alvin Ellis, J. A., Baton Rouge Ellis, R. H., Beaumont

Faust, L. R., Baton Rouge Faver, W. V., Jr., Beaumont Fitch, N. C., Beaumont Fontenot, W. E., Lake Charles Ford, L. M., Lake Charles Ford, W. H., Jennings Franques, R., Lake Charles Fredericks, J. A., Baton Rouge

Gaines, H., Baton Rouge Garrett, T. B., Beaumont Gary, C. J., Lake Charles Gary, T. Beaumont Geiger, G. A. Beaumont Glover, C. A., Baton Rouge Goodwin, L., Lake Charles Graves, J. T., Baton Rouge Griner, J. E., Jr., Beaumont Handley, G. P., Lake Charles Harrell, L. W., Baton Rouge Harrington, J. E., Baton Rouge Hays, R. H., Baton Rouge Hebert, A. L., Baton Rouge Hebert, H. J., Port Arthur Hebert, S. J., Port Arthur Hemphill, J. S., Orange Henderson, J. M., Baton Rouge Henry, J. M., Beaumont Herndon, W. H., Jr., Baton Rouge Hodges, T. T., Orange Holman, J. T., Lake Charles Holmes, M. R., Baton Rouge Hughey, A., Port Arthur Humphries, B. H., Baton Rouge Hunter, O., Baton Rouge

Inglehart, J. K., Huntsville

Jacobs, L. J., Lafayette
James, F., Beaumont
Jameson, Agnes, Navasota
Jeanne, G. S., Lake Charles
Jensen, M. N., Beaumont
Johnson, A. J., Orange
Johnson, C. E., Beaumont
Jones, J. K., Beaumont
Josey, J. L., Beaumont
Jumel, K. L., Baton Rouge

Kaltwasser, E. E., Huntsville Kernan, J. A., Jr., Baton Rouge Kirkwood, R., Jr., Baton Rouge Kornegay, F., Liberty Krebs, S. F., Beaumont Kuntze, J. W., Port Arthur

Ladue, W., Baton Rouge
Lahaye, E. J., Port Arthur
Landry, L. P., Baton Rouge
Langford, A. T., Navasota
Laughlin, D., Port Arthur
Lea, P. H., Liberty
Lee, M. P., Baton Rouge
Leonhardy, Mary, Baton Rouge
Lewis, J. L., Baton Rouge
Linscomb, D. B., Orange
Linscomb, T., Orange
Little, W. K., Baton Rouge

Madigan, E. P., Baton Rouge Maris, E. L., Franklin Martin, S. T., Beaumont Mary, A. J., Baton Rouge May, J. M., Jr., Baton Rouge McAlpine, R. A., Beaumont McCann, J. R., Beaumont McClelland, J. H., Jr., Beaumont McGee, V. V., Port Arthur McGraw, R. A., Baton Rouge McGuire, D. L., Baton Rouge McKenzie, S. A., Baton Rouge Merrick, O., Baton Rouge Middleton, F. W., Jr., Baton R. Mire, L. S., Baton Rouge Moore, Docia, Orange Morgan, W. P., Baton Rouge Murchison, W. O., Beaumont Murray, G. R., Beaumont Murray, J. R., Orange Muse, C. H., Conroe Nantz, Fern, Beaumont Nevils, E. H., Beaumont Northcutt, H. H., Beaumont

Odom, B. Y., Beaumont
Patin, J. F., Baton Rouge
Paul, M. C., Beaumont
Pennington, R. C., Baton Rouge
Petkovsek, R. S., Beaumont
Pfeiffer, C. A., Beaumont

Nott, L. W., Port Arthur

Pharr, W. W., Beaumont Pool, V. F., Navasota Porter, Bobbie, Beaumont Pugh, W. A., Beaumont Reese, Marian, Beaumont Richardson, B. A., Alvin Richardson, G. W., Baton Rouge Richardson, J. P., Beaumont Richardson, W. B., Beaumont Riley, T. N., Beaumont Riser, W. A., Port Arthur Risher, L. M., Jr., Jennings Romano, L. J., Beaumont Sadler, L. A., Calvert Sanders, H. C., Orange Sanchez, L. G., Baton Rouge Schaefer, C. F., Navasota Schiller, A. L., Navasota Sedberry, J. M., Jr., Beaumont Shreve, J. W., Baton Rouge Small, S. B., Beaumont Smith, M. D., Navasota Spurlock, L. O., Beaumont Stiteler, T. W., Beaumont Stone, R. M., Navasota Stovall, G. W., Baton Rouge Strachn, C. H., Jr., Beaumont Sullivan, L. A., Jr., Lake Charles Sumrall, H., Baton Rouge Taylor, A. H., Baton Rouge Thompson, F. R., Jr., Baton Rouge Thompson, L. L., Beaumont Trice, J. T., Baton Rouge True, J. G., Lake Charles Turbeville, A. R., Lake Charles Turner, F. L., Beaumont Umphrey, S. B., Port Arthur Vaughan, C. R., Port Arthur Walker, D., Baton Rouge Wall, H. J., Lafayette Watson, A. N., Baton Rouge Watson, J. H., Baton Rouge Weller, F. R., Beaumont Whipple, J. R., Lake Charles Whitaker, E. B., Baton Rouge Whitson, A. L., Beaumont Wickey, J. R., Navasota Wilkins, D. G., Lake Charles Will, S. C., Port Arthur Williams, H. A., Baton Rouge Wofford, P. O., Beaumont Wood, E. L., Conroe

#### NAVY

Adams, A. A., Jennings Adams, C. D., Baton Rouge Armstrong, F., Conroe Atha, R. I., Beaumont Baillio, E. M., Baton Rouge Baird, A. W., Port Arthur Ballard, H. W., Baton Rouge Barnes, F. E., Lake Charles Bennett, R. E., Beaumont Billodeaux, J. W., Jennings Boles, C., Navasota Boring, C. J., Navasota Boudreaux, M. J., Lafayette Buell, M. N., Baton Rouge Burgess, R. L., Lake Charles Campo, B. L., Jr., Baton Rouge Carr, H. H., Beaumont Cart, Z. T., Lake Charles Carver, M. L., Lake Charles Cazes, W. L., Baton Rouge Chambers, C. E., Baton Rouge Cole, J. W., Lake Charles DeLamatyr, G. T., Baton Rouge Doucet, C. W., Orange

Duff, C. T., Jr., Beaumont Elms, H. A., Lake Charles Ener, J. B., Beaumont Ethell, G. K., Beaumont Fabre, J. M., Baton Rouge Farlow, J. C., Lake Charles Fortenberry, C. A., Jr., Baton R. Franklin, K., Calvert Fugler, S. C., Baton Rouge Garner, E. H., Port Arthur Garon, D. V., Baton Rouge Garrison, B. R., Baton Rouge Garvey, C. C., Baton Rouge Gautreaux, V. A., Baton Rouge George, C. W., Baton Rouge Glach, S., Orange Griffith, D. W., Beaumont Harder, Dorothy, Beaumont Heil, H. M., Beaumont Hill, G. L., Maringouin Hine, A. E., Jennings Holland, V. L., Baton Rouge Hurt, W. M., Beaumont Johansen, A. J., Port Arthur Johnston, J. C., Conroe Jones, F. W., Beaumont Lamm, J. W. Jr., Gonzales Latimer, D. F., Baton Rouge Lavergne, P., Jennings LeBlanc, A. A., Lake Charles Little, Jessie, Baton Rouge Magee, H., Navasota Manley, R. S., Beaumont Marquette, P. J., Baton Rouge Matens, J. K., Baton Rouge McKnight, T. O., Jackson Miller, W. K., Beaumont Minton, D. W., Baton Rouge Morrison, D., Jasper Munson, H. B., Jr., Baton Rouge Netzer, C., Beaumont Parker, W. H., Jr., Baton Rouge Pearson, C. B., Baton Rouge Pettepher, C. S., Baton Rouge Poulson, A., Beaumont Powledge, B., Navasota Pratt, E. S., Baton Rouge Redfield, W. R., Baton Rouge Reese, R. F., Beaumont Reeves, H. H., Lake Charles Rice, G. N., Jr., Beaumont Route, E., Baton Rouge Rube, F. C., Baton Rouge Shaddock, Ada, Beaumont Smith, E. C., Beaumont Stewart, D. C., Baton Rouge Stracener, C. W., Beaumont Stuart, Susie, Beaumont Sturdivant, J. H., Beaumont Terrell, J. L., High Island Thomson, W. A., Orange Turley, E. G., Beaumont Versen, M. A., Baton Rouge Wallace, L. E., Baton Rouge ★Warren, E. E., Conroe

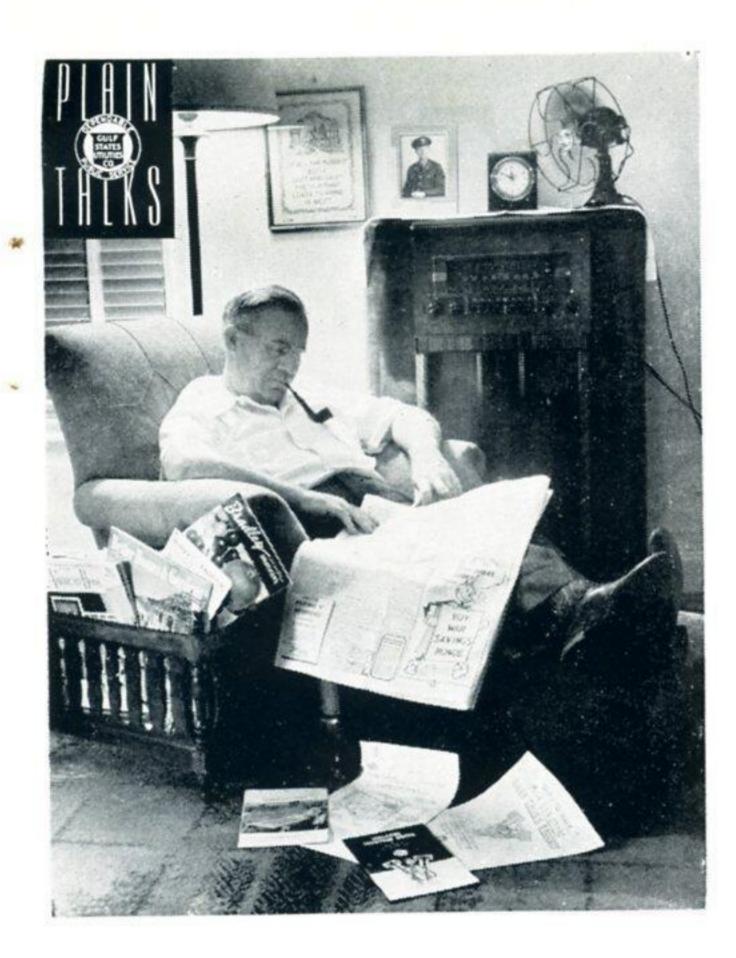
#### MARINES

West, E. G., Baton Rouge

Williams, G., Beaumont

Young, E. E., Beaumont

Bonnette, R. J., Jr., Baton Rouge Doiron, J. T., Beaumont Michel, K. V., Lake Charles Read, W. A., Jr., Beaumont Reed, H. H., Jennings Sanchez, J. F., Baton Rouge



Vacations spent at home can be fun, and, in wartime, to vacation at home is the patriotic thing to do. You save precious gasoline and tires on your car, or spare a needed bus or train seat for a serviceman, or a civilian who must travel.

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Reddy Kilowatt will be on the job during your vacation-at-home and our cover picture suggests a few of the ways in which Reddy will help to make your Victory vacation a success. He'll provide proper light for comfortable reading—he'll bring you favorite programs and news on your radio—he'll provide cool breezes from your fan (not to mention cooling drinks from your refrigerator) at the end of a productive day.

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Inside the back cover Reddy suggests several ways to keep profitably busy around the place.

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Thanks to Wesley Eckles, Beaumont engineering, for modelling for the picture in which we show the typical "Victory Vacationist" enjoying an evening at home with Reddy's help.

## PLAIN TALKS

VOLUME 21

JULY, 1943

No. 5

Published monthly by and for employes of Gulf States Utilities Company as a medium for a better appreciation of our responsibilities to each other and the public.

Editor: Kenneth Sutton, Beaumont.

Louisiana News: Bill Callender, Baton Rouge.

Texas News: Bill Hammond, Beaumont.

Art Editor: Jack Gammage, Beaumont.

## OIL OFFICIALS INSPECT PIPELINE

Twenty-five oil officials, most of them representing the six oil companies which financed the recently completed Bayou Pipeline from Baytown, Texas to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, visited the Gulf States Territory not long ago on a tour of inspection.

The Bayou line is unique in these days of government financing, in that it was not only financed by private capital, but most of the required material was furnished by the associated companies; Humble, Shell, Texas, Pure, Pan-American and Crown Central. Gulf States furnishes power for ten

of the eleven pumping stations. The line connects with Plantation Pipeline in Baton Rouge.

Shell Pipeline built the system under the direction of H. H. Anderson, vice-president, who invited General Sales Manager Riegel and Manager of Industrial Sales Robinson to accompany the party on the complete tour because "you people have been a big help".

Vice-president Leonard, System Electrical Engineer Adams, Beaumont Division Manager Merriam, and Louisiana Sales Manager Hodge joined the party for various parts of the trip.



In the group picture (left to right); front row—E. V. Hewitt, manager, Pan-Am Pipeline company — O. Q. Lomax, vice-president, Humble Oil and Refining company — H. H. Anderson, vice-president, Shell Pipeline company — Station Operator Richards, Bayou Pipeline, Fannett station — L. F. Riegel, general sales manager, Gulf States Utilities company — A. A. Jago, assistant to the vice-president, Shell Oil company — M. M. Stuckey, general manager, Iraq Petroleum company.

Back row — C. V. Merriam, Beaumont division manager, Gulf States Utilities company — S. S. Sellers, Shell Oil company — H. S. Lane, vice-president, Crown Central Pipeline and Transportation company — E. A. Birge, division chief, Plantation Pipeline company — O. D. Crites, Shell Oil company — R. H. Maupin, Pan-Am. Pipeline company — F. C. Clark, Crown Central Pipeline company — L. J. Rittiner, engineer, Shell Pipeline company — C. R. Younts, president, Plantation Pipeline company — H. C. Leonard, vice-president, Gulf States Utilities company — T. E. Swigart, president, Shell Pipeline company — R. B. High, vice-president, Shell Oil company — E. L. Robinson, manager of industrial sales, Gulf States Utilities company — E. C. Adams, system electrical engineer, Gulf States Utilities company.

In the insert, above picture of inspecting party, are (left to right) E. L. Robinson, L. F. Riegel, H. H. Anderson, and H. C. Leonard.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Louisiana station established a new record when 2,225,800 kilowatt hours were generated from 7:00 A. M. Wednesday, June 16 to 7:00 A. M. Thursday, June 17th, an average of 92,724 kw for the 24-hour period.

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The new 20-inch pipeline under construction, from Spindletop field in Beaumont to New York, can deliver oil, kerosene, gasoline, and five other grades of refined petroleum products, all at once, on a schedule, and drop them off where they are needed—just like a railroad.

The reason the fluids won't get mixed up is "turbulent flow". This means that at certain speeds the liquids whirl within the pipe so that the division between two different products is almost perpendicular, virtually eliminating intermixture.

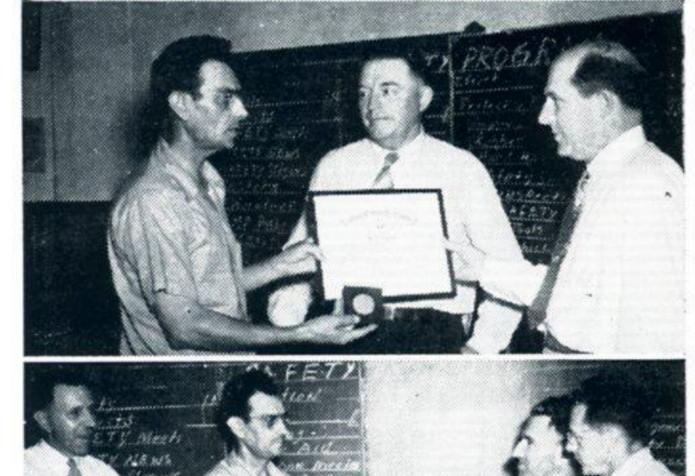
What will turn the trick on the new pipe line will be electric motors so powerful that they could hold in check freight locomotives

(Continued on page 10)

## GULF STATER GETS SAFETY AWARD FOR SAVING LIFE

S. J. Guidry, Port Arthur production, was awarded the National Safety Council's certificate and medal at the Port Arthur safety meeting, July 14, in recognition of his having saved a man's life on April 25, 1942.

Had it not been for Mr. Guidry's quick action in applying first-aid measures to a man who had accidentally swallowed poison, he would certainly have died before reaching the hospital according to the attending physician.



Top picture—S. J. Guidry relates the incident to President Nelson and L. L. Hirsch, Lakeside superintendent, who made the award.

Bottom picture—Among the first Port Arthureans (left to right) to congratulate Mr. Guidry were H. C. LeVois, customer service superintendent; F. W. Merrell, operating superintendent; F. L. Davis, chief clerk.

# LAKE CHARLES EMPLOYEES IN VICTORY GARDEN PROJECT

Food shortages should not bother 22 employees of the Lake Charles division who have cultivated gardens of their own. The early part of this year a plot of ground, adjacent to the water plant and formerly used as a mule lot. was divided into 22 lots, 50 ft. x 60 ft. and allotted to employees willing to plant and cultivate gardens of their own. They were immediately taken. The pictures above give evidence of real production. At left, Russell Dunn hoes weeds



from his beans. At right, Whitney Keller and Hugh Holland with an arm load of corn.

Credit for the idea goes to Harold Brown and Bob Sherwood, and results to the following individuals who have diligently worked the gardens.

G. R. Fulton, Whitney Keller, Russell Dunn, Marguerite Carter, Neil Gobiel, L. J. Pitre, R. W. Sherwood, I. L. Goen, H. E. Brown, George West, Frank Sonnier, Lee Henry, R. W. McGowen, L. A. Papin, Hugh Holland, R. W. Aleshire, D. A. Spell, J. M. Mattingly, Harvey Johnson, Ray Sumrall, Roy Jardell, and Isaac Lewis.

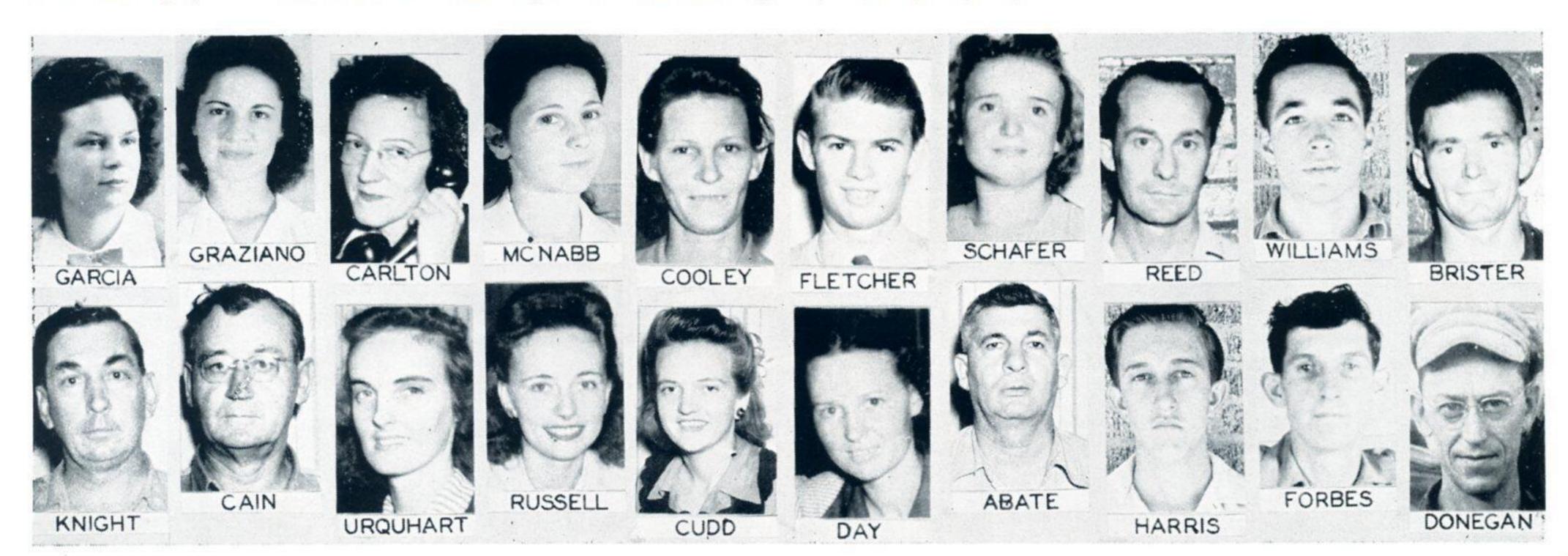


## "REPORT TO THE NATION"

Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network

(Plain Talks—August, 1923) Kirby Jones and Shorty Herrin went with a fishing party to the jetties last Sunday but lady luck did not lend her approval to their Sunday fishing parties. Consequently they didn't catch quite all the fish that they anticipated. The mosquitoes, according to Kirby Jones, attacked them like a pack of hungry wolves. They came back crowded with red, itching souvenirs of the persistent attentions shown them by the pesky insects.

## NEW EMPLOYEES . . .



Maureen Garcia, Hull Cashier — Mary Graziano, Baton Rouge production steno—Mary Carlton, Beaumont store—Margie McNabb, Baton Rouge sales—Josie Cooley, Beaumont customer contact—George H. Fletcher, Orange customer accounts—Emma Schafer, Orange customer contact—James L. Reed, Orange production—Leon Williams, Silsbee ice—James C. Brister, Orange production.

N. C. Knight, Beaumont guard—W. A. Cain, Beaumont guard—Inez Urquhart, Beaumont accounting—Mary Russell, Beaumont cash-

ier — Dorcegene Cudd, Beaumont engineering — Lois Day, Silsbee cashier—Farmer Joe Abate, Beaumont guard—William H. Harris, Silsbee ice—Leslie J. Forbes, Baton Rouge production—L. F. Donegan, Beaumont line.

No pictures were available of Herbert T. Morris, Calvert ice—B. Williamson, Liberty ice—Ellis A. Bohler, Silsbee ice — Wilbert L. Bush, Baton Rouge production — John L. Andrews, Baton Rouge production — Loraine Batey, Baton Rouge electric.

#### TRANSFERS



Agnes Sturrock, Beaumont, billing to cusmer accounts — Vivian Terrell, Beaumont, billing to storeroom clerk — Gertheen Gardner, Hull cashier to Beaumont customer contact.

Loraine Dunham, Port Arthur, customer contact to cashier — J. J. Jordan, service, Shiro to Caldwell.

Elizabeth Watkins, Beaumont, customer contact to customer accounts — J. R. Abernathy, line, Beaumont to Jennings — Helen Landry, electric, Baton Rouge to Port Allen.

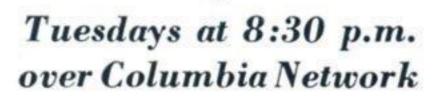
No pictures were available of Leonard H. Ernest, Lake Charles, substation to line and W. M. Gibbs, line, Jennings to Lake Charles.

# COURTESY MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER BEFORE

"Impressions received in times like these are not soon forgotten. Therefore, more than ever, it is important that we, as Gulf Staters, remember that courtesy in dealing with all our customers is most necessary. We wouldn't like to be the cause of unnecessary concern to one of these folks after he or she had suffered some grievous loss in this war.

"We don't always know who these people are, and although we always like to be courteous, just now, we can't be too careful of the manner in which we carry on business relations with our customers,"—Treasurer Faber in a recent memorandum regarding collections.

## "REPORT TO THE NATION"



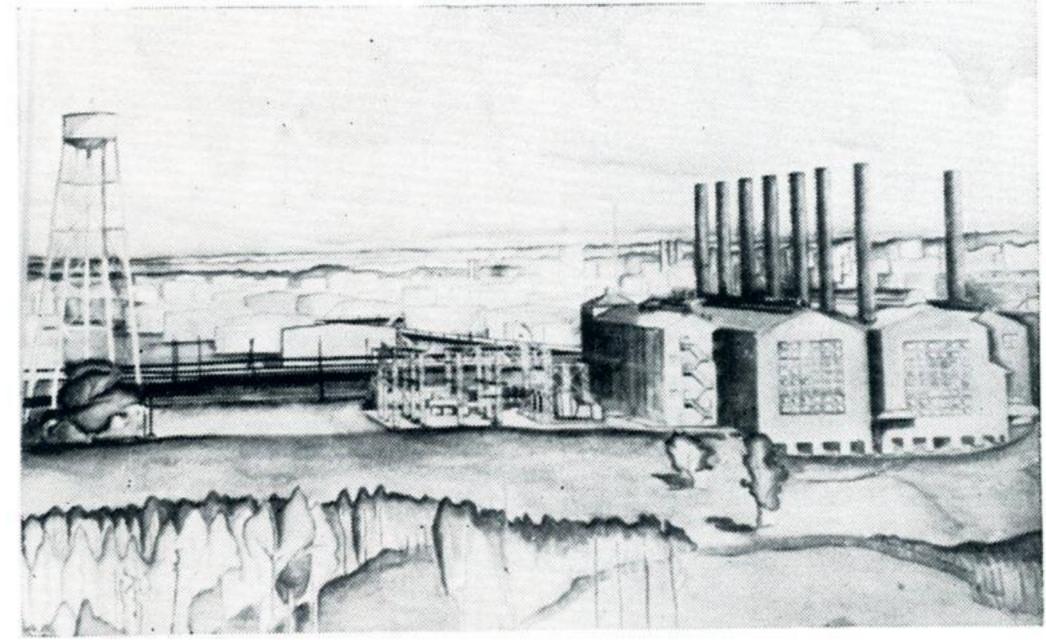


# ATTRACTIVE MURAL INSTALLED IN BATON ROUGE OFFICE

Skeptics who doubt that there is beauty in an electric-generating and steam plant are invited to see the 8 ft x 6 ft. original mural of Louisiana Station which was recently installed in the waiting-room to the Baton Rouge executive offices.

The painting is in water colors and shows the station as it appears looking east from the Mississippi river.

Mrs. Frank Johnson, the artist, painted the colorful mural



ed the colorful mural from photographs and original sketches.

## DISPLAYS WIN COVETED AWARD

The southwestern regional award for excellence in window and store displays in 1942 was won by Gulf States in a contest sponsored by the Public Utilities Advertising Association.

Public utility companies of seven states, Texas, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Utah, competed for this recognition.

Gulf Staters are familiar with the high quality of the company's displays and Brice Pettie, supervisor of displays, has won national recognition for his work on a number of occasions in the past.

"Because of the tremendous number of entries submitted, and the fine quality of so many of them, the selection of winners was extremely difficult, and the winning of the award is a great tribute to those who were responsible for producing the winning entries," according to a letter notifying the ad-

#### WEDDING BELLS

vertising department of the award.



It's Mrs. Allen now if you speak of former Marie Burkholder of Baton Rouge accounting. Hubby is a sergeant in the army.

Mrs. Fred Reisz was Margaret McCann, Beaumont home service advisor, before she resigned recently to stroll down the middle aisle.

Evelyn Guillory, Lake Charles customer service, said 'I do' with Staff Sergeant Paul A. Landry on May 18.

## SAFETY GOGGLES SAVE EYE

Sherman West of Beaumont substation can tell you that it pays to practice one of the simplest rules of safety—that is, to wear goggles if there is even remote danger of injury to the eyes.

Recently, while doing some plain and fancy pickaxe swinging on the job, a particle of concrete struck and completely

and completely shattered the right lens of his goggles.

Net loss from the incident was one easily replaced goggle lens. If Sherman hadn't been wearing the goggles, the net loss might have been one eye and eyes can't be replaced.



"MORTIMER! GUESS WHAT! I'VE BEEN RAISED 3 CENTS AN HOUR!"

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## ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE



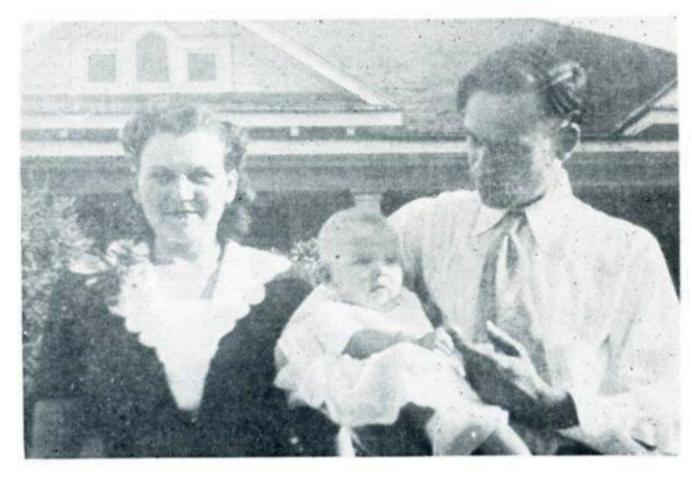
Julius DeBouy's many friends and fellow-workers are going to miss him during the next year or so. He took leave of his job in Beaumont, as assistant treasurer and head of the statistical department, on July 15 for a wellearned vacation but spent it getting his affairs in order for an extended leave of absence which he was granted in or-

der that he might handle some special statistical work for Engineers Public Service company of New York.

So it's "so long" to the DeBouys, lots of luck, and we'll be seeing you!

#### NEWCOMER

Good news always reaches us sooner or later. In this case it is the *slightly* belated report of the birth of a daughter, Kitty Barr, to the E. C. McGehee's of Jasper, on November 23, 1942. Pop is an operator in Jasper power plant.



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(Plain Talks—May, 1924) If you see any dark, dirty looking spots on anyone's neck or face around the Beaumont office, don't think it's dirt. No, it isn't negligence—it's oil—beautiful, greasy, unremovable oil, that defies all the attributes of soap and water. A large party went to McFaddin Beach for a swim and supper, and the oily complexion is the result.

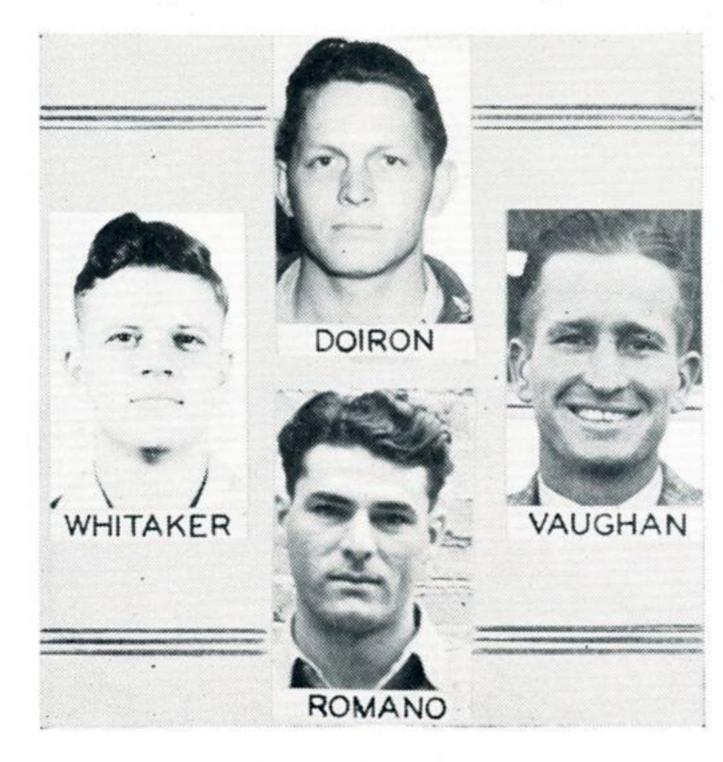


"I know it's our week's sugar quota, but he's going to buy War Stamps with the profits."

## With the Colors . .

25 4 25

(SINCE THE LAST ISSUE)



TO THE ARMY—Emerson B. Whitaker, Baton Rouge accounting — C. R. Vaughan, Port Arthur t & d — Louis J. Romano, Beaumont engineering — Gail W. Richardson, Baton Rouge production.

TO THE NAVY — Vernon A. Gautreaux, Baton Rouge production.

TO THE MARINES — J. T. Doiron, Beaumont line.

No pictures were available of Richardson and Gautreaux.

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(Plain Talks—May, 1924) Port Arthur has equalled the record of Beaumont in selling 100 curling irons in one week. It is good work, for Port Arthur has not had the advantages of exceptionally attractive showwindows.



## "REPORT TO THE NATION"

Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network

## Electric Companies Sponsor Radio Show

Since December, 1941, Gulf States, along with more than a hundred other electric operating companies, has sponsored a magazine advertising program with ads appearing each month in Life, Time, Saturday Evening Post, Collier's and Newsweek. These ads have very effectively presented the advantages to the American people of business management of utilities. A continuing readership survey by one of the outstanding organizations in this field has shown that the ads have had well above average readership.

In order to reach an even larger audience, this advertising program has been enlarged to embrace radio. Since July 27 the operating companies have sponsored a well known Columbia network news program, "Report to the Nation", which has been carried each Saturday night as a sustaining program for several years and which has now been switched to Tuesday night from 8:30 to 9:00 central wartime.

Other radio news that is of particular interest to employees in Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana is that on August 2, we assumed sponsorship of Blue Network's very popular patriotic, half-hour dramatic show, Counter-Spy, which can be heard at 8:00 o'clock every Monday night over KFDM in Beaumont. Counter-Spy announcements will tell listeners how they can help the war effort right here on the home front by cooperating with the various volunteer organizations, such as Red Cross, Texas State Guard, OCD and Ration Boards, which are doing such splendid war work.

In addition to these two top-notch radio shows, we will continue the popular fifteen-minute musical program, Penny Serenade, which is heard week-days at 10:45 a. m. over KRIC in Beaumont and Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8:15 p. m. over KPAC in Port Arthur; the quarter-hour news program on WJBO in Baton Rouge every other night at 9:45 and daily spot annuncements on KSAM in Huntsville and KPLC in Lake Charles.

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The Jap secret agent had been instructed to investigate internal conditions in the United States and report particularly on national morale. After a few days he filed his report for transmittal to Tokyo: "Conditions very bad. People all very hungry. When two meet on street, one always says to other, 'What's cookin'?"

## KILOWATT KOWBOYS.

C. L. Cain sends in this snapshot of the Jennings substation gang, self-labelled the Kilowatt Kowboys.

Left to right: (front row) Cain, J. C. Hart, T. D. Brooks, W. W. Patterson, W. M. Gibbs, C. J. Shirey, system safety engineer - present because picture was taken just after a safety meeting, B. J. Cart, and Dave Shelton. (back row) J. S. Ab-



bot, J. M. Leger, B. W. Hart, N. J. Istre, W. N. McClary, and P. C. Faulk.

Thanks for the picture go to T. D. Brooks and his camera which is equipped with what he calls the delayed-action "shudder".

### SAFETY SLOGAN CONTEST WINNERS



ADLONG "Be Safe On Purpose, Not Just By Accident"

WESTH "Make Our War Worries Littler, Let Accidents Happen To Hitler"

LEGER "Neglected Scratches Aid The Axis, Get First Aid"

As announced in June issue of "Safety News", safety slogan contest winners for May were-

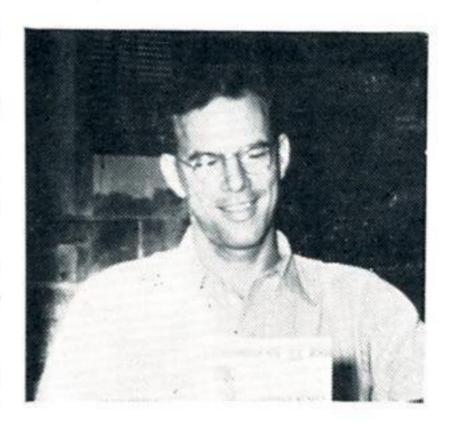
Martin Leger, Jennings lineman, first prize of \$5.00 in war stamps.

Willie Mae Adlong, Beaumont advertising steno; M. V. Westh, Baton Rouge production; and F. C. Cordsen, Lake Charles engineering, each won prizes of \$1.00 in war stamps.

July "Safety News" announced the following as winners in the June safety slogan contest—First prize of \$5.00 in war stamps went to B. J. Cart, Jennings appliance repair.

Prizes of \$1.00 in war stamps were won by M. C. Corkern, Jr., Baton Rouge accounting; Dan Poulson, Beaumont engineering; and M. C. Garman, Jennings substation.

Pictures and details will be in next issue of Plain Talks.



CORDSEN "Give Safety A Break, Stay Mentally Awake"

# CROWING WITH GULF STATERS

The young miss in the bonnet celebrated her first birthday on June 15. She is the daughter of F. B. Stirling, Baton Rouge electric engineering.



MARGARET STIRLING

> "Can you lend me a cup of Thermite—I just need a little to finish up a batch of incendiaries!"

(Plain Talks-March, 1924) We welcome into our organization, R. K. Wilkerson. He comes to us from Key West, Florida.

## SOFTBALLERS WIND

The Gulf States softball team in the Baton Rouge Industrial USO league recently wound up the season and, even though they finished some distance out of first place, they had a swell time while the fun lasted.

In the picture, left to right, (standing) W. P. Gautreaux, Bill Gatlin, Maxie Rodriguez, Manager "Soup" Ganier, and Sharkey Bergeron — (kneeling) A. O. Rushing, F. J. Bergeron, Morgan Fair-





child, and Harry Faulk. At left of group is Johnny Harrop. Other players, not shown here, were Johnny Godso, Jack Stewart, and Bill Callender.

## BUS COMPANY CHANGES HANDS

Announcement was made on June 8 by the Baton Rouge Bus company, that its assets had been sold to the Intercity Transit company of Little Rock, Arkansas, for \$348,000. The new owners took charge on July 2.

The bus company was owned by Engineers Public Service company of New York, which took it over from Baton Rouge Electric company when the transportation properties were segregated from the electric and gas properties a few years ago. The sale was made in conformity with an order of the Securities and Exchange Commission, issued September 16, 1942, directing the Engineers company to divest itself of certain of its subsidiary companies.

M. E. Moore, partner of the purchasing firm, stated at the time of the announcement of the sale that the new owners would continue to operate under the present policies, and would retain the same name as at present, also it was his firm's desire to retain all of the present employees of the bus company.

The history of public transportation in Baton Rouge dates back to 1890, when the city granted a franchise to the Baton Rouge Railway & Improvement company, which promptly began operating mule-drawn cars. Three years after this original franchise, electric street cars made their entrance, and Baton Rouge was the first city in Louisiana to offer that type of transportation.

In 1895, the Bank of Baton Rouge took over the transportation system and formed the Home Electric company a year later. This firm provided service until 1904, when John D. Fisher bought it and merged the company with his gas plant, calling the new firm the Baton Rouge Electric and Gas company. Stone & Webster, Inc., asumed managership in 1907 and from 1909 on, the firm was known at the Baton Rouge Electric company.

In 1938, the Baton Rouge Bus company acquired the capitol city's transportation system, shortly after it had been re-routed in order to keep step with the city's rapid industrial development. Buses had begun to replace the street cars in the early '30's, and the last car made its final trip in April of 1936.

Today, the bus company operates a fleet of 50 buses, seven of which were purchased new in 1942, and eight of which were leased from the Industrial Transportation company. The firm now employs 140 people, and operates buses over a total of 42 miles, as compared to 20 route miles in 1937.

(Ed. note-Because of the change of ownership of the bus company, Plain Talks will discontinue bus company news. We shall, however, continue to send copies to bus company employees now in the armed forces, and shall also keep their military addresses on file. Please feel free to ask us for any such address. We will appreciate your notifying the editor of any changes of address you may have.)

### "REPORT TO THE NATION"

Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network



## Baton Rouge Wins Safety Plaque Again . . . Beaumont Low

Baton Rouge division sailed through the second quarter without a single lost-time accident and retains possession of the safety contest plaque.

Consecutive days since the last losttime accidents, by departments, as as follows: gas, 574; production, 473; electric t & d, 260.

Beaumont division was low-man on the

totem-pole for the second three-month period and ended up in possession of the famous white elephant which Safety Engineer Jack Shirey bestows on the safety contest tail-enders each quarter.

Beaumont's downfall was the result of accidents in the production, t & d, and ac-

counting departments, according to Mr. Shirey.



Mr. Shirey presents the pale pachyderm to R. E. Cargill, Beaumont division operating superintendent, as M. B. Marshall, Neches superintendent; J. H. Linnehan, Beaumont assistant treasurer; and C. V. Merriam, Beaumont division manager look on.

#### POP'S POOCH POISON TO PROWLERS



We related a story, in Plain Talks, some months ago about a mangy, half-starved dog that staggered in Beaumont substation in such deplorable physical condition that Pop Rouse took pity on it and took it under his wing.

Evidently Pop knows his business about care of dogs for, believe it or not, the sleek, well-fed canine in the above picture is one

and the same dog.

Now Fifi, which name belies the gender, is repaying Pop's kindness by doing a good job as watchdog at Kolb's Crossing substation, discouraging marauders and the idle curious.

#### RESIGNATIONS

Beaumont - Rubye Hudson and Bertha Jones, customer contact — Marzee Becker, Leah St. John, and E. D. Gipson, accounting - Agnes Sumrall, billing - S. B. Neel lowing motion was received by the editor and C. W. Haynes, guards.

Baton Rouge — Lucille Ricaud, meter records — Ruby Leteff, customer accounts — Marian Little, Judith Puckett, Mildred Gideon and Lena Byrd, accounting — B. G. Minnier, Sr. and M. C. Schwartz, production — W. L. Bush, repair.

Port Arthur — Shirley Hise, customer accounts — Aline Showalter, cashier — George

D. Hazleton, production.

Robert E. Thomas, Lake Charles substation — Leon Fugett, Orange customer contact — O. T. White, Conroe line.



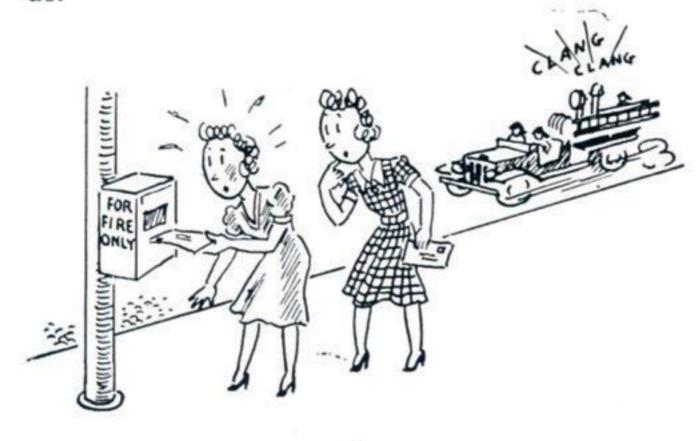
## "REPORT THE NATION"

Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network

#### ADD EMBARRASSING **MOMENTS**

Have you heard the one about the two women who called out the fire department when they tried to mail a letter in a firealarm box?

Plain Talks has steered clear of tales of the Paul Bunyan type and you don't have to believe us if you don't want to but we have a copy of a trouble report which was received by S. R. Bono of Lake Charles service department, and it really happened—so help us!



(Plain Talks-December, 1923) The foland is reproduced for what it is worth. To say the least, it is a very strong motion! "We, the cashier and employees of the commercial department, make a motion that all stenographers and utility clerks be denied the privilege of eating the well known vegetables garlic and onions, since they have been voted obnoxious and are certainly demoralizing in their influence upon the office force in general." By way of explanation, the above motion was the result of certain employees having eaten numerous hot tamales seasoned with garlic.

## Nutrition Program **Gets National** Publicity

Gulf States and some of the communities we serve will receive national publicity as a result of Health for Victory clubs which we have conducted since early this year.

Life magazine of August 16, September McCall's, October American, and October Parent's magazine will carry full-page ads telling the story of how our Health for Victory clubs have aided thousands of housewives in preparing wholesome, nutritious meals for their families and health-building lunchbox meals for shipbuilding husbands.

Because of the importance of the shipbuilding industry in Beaumont and Orange, Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company chose Health for Victory Club activities of our home service advisors in these two cities to feature in ads of the series now appearing in national magazines.

The ads will use pictures of real-life shipyard workers and their families in Beaumont and Orange.

A reprint of the ad which will appear in Life and McCall's has been inserted in this issue of Plain Talks.

### JOHNNY DOUGHBOY 1952 MODEL

This soldierly young gentleman is Jackie Gaines, son of F. F. 'Blondy' Gaines, Baton Rouge line. Jackie's first love is soldier lore, drilling and all matters military and we think you'll agree he makes a pretty snappy looking fighting man.

This picture was taken on Master Gaines' ninth birthday.

Looks like the military future of the country will be in pretty good hands, says we!



(Plain Talks-September, 1923) A completely, electrically equipped home for "ye school marms" is the latest addition to Port Arthur's residential district. It is modern in every respect, having electric cooking stove, water heater, lights, and heating stoves, as well as most of the smaller electrical appliances put out. The home is exclusively for school teachers and she who gets within its portals should consider herself extremely fortunate.

It's safer to label all rumors "baloney" In time of war they're mostly phoney. And even if they're partly true, Think of the harm the "tellers" do. The only "repeater" that's worth a trifle Is in the Army. And that's a rifle.

## TO DRAPE OR NOT TO DRAPE?

(No Longer a Question)

Two WAVE recruiting officers dropped in our Baton Rouge office recently to ask if we'd consider putting a WAVE uniform in one of our show windows. This seemed like a good opportunity to render another war service, so permission was granted.

After many days of futile search, we managed to borrow a dummy, whom we named Gertie, from one of the department stores.

Certain difficulties then began to arise, such as Gertie's long red wig (a WAVE's hair must be no longer than neck-length), lack of a ration stamp with which to buy her shoes, and an oversize uniform (seems that Gertie is a "junior miss" size).

During the several days in which these difficulties had to be ironed out. Gertie stood nonchalantly in the advertising office, sans clothing.

Traffic on the sales floor would snarl every time the door opened to expose Gertie, and employees directed many pointed questions to the advertising department. At last, it was deemed advisable to drape the model, and this was promptly done, much to the relief of all.

When Gertie finally was outfitted, she made a mighty cute-looking WAVE. The pictures above show her "before" and "after."



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(Plain Talks—May, 1924) Several changes have been made in the personnel of the Port Arthur power plant to take care of the ice plant operation. Among them were; Ellie Prejean from switchboard operator to ice plant operator, Lawrence LaCour from fireman to switchboard operator.

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A rural couple were on their first visit to the big city and took a ride on the train.

No sooner had they been seated than Zeke's wife started eating her first banana. Shortly after she had finished it the train went through a tunnel. The good woman gasped, crowded closer to her husband, and said: "Zeke, have you et one of them bananas yet?"

"Nope," said Zeke, "not yet."

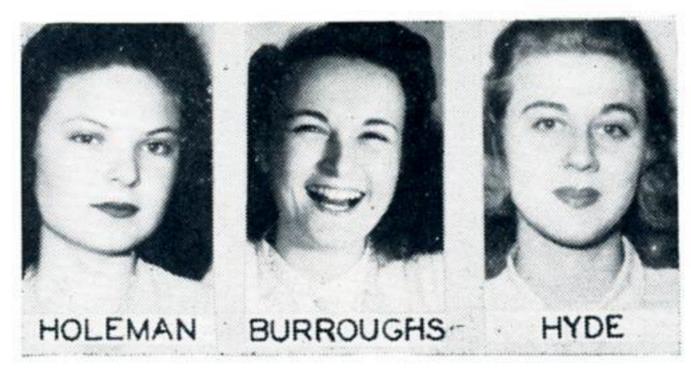
"Then don't," came a groaning reply, "I et mine and just went blind."

### Revenue Act Unfair

"In common with other business enterprises, except tax-exempt government and municipal business enterprises, electric utilities have been called upon to finance the war by a substantial increase in Federal taxes," C. W. Kellogg, President, Edison Electric Institute, pointed out in an address before the eleventh annual meeting of the Edison Electric Institute, recently. "The utilities recognize that tax rates must be proportionate to the magnitude of the war effort.

'Taxes upon the electric utilities now take 25 cents out of every dollar of gross revenue. Federal taxes constitute the lion's share of this. Unlike governmental utility enterprises in Great Britain, which pay both local taxes and national government taxes, government power stations in this country pay no Federal taxes, practically no local taxes and in general make contributions in lieu of local taxes substantially less than such taxes imposed upon electric utilities. Generally speaking, Federal hydro projects pay no interest on capital. In the case of privately owned utilities, taxes plus return on the investors' capital, represent half of the total cost of furnishing power—for hydro plants the ratio is much higher. These facts are well-known and they represent enormous subsidies which the Federal taxpayer is called upon to make to advance government ownership. Nevertheless, many government officials continue to broadcast claims as to the cheapness of power from projects under government ownership compared with the cost of power from projects under business management. If business management got its capital for nothing and had no taxes to pay, electric rates could be cut in half tomorrow. Similarly, if political management were required to pay the same proportion of taxes as do the electric utilities and if they had to pay the cost to the people of long-term government money invested in the projects they manage, the enterprises they manage would be insolvent."

### BATON ROUGE GIRLS VOTED PRETTIEST



In Baton Rouge, there is a group known as the Military Maids. These girls act as dancing partners for servicemen at USO parties, and do a grand job of morale-building.

All of which is by way of saying that three Gulf States girls all but ran off with the first preliminaries of the beauty contest to choose "Miss USO of 1943" when on June 29, sixty-five models paraded in "victory cotton formals" before a large crowd of enthusiastic servicemen, at the USO center. When the shouting was over, Norma Holeman, steno, was voted most beautiful in her division, while Freda Hyde, accounting, won first honorable mention, and Thelma Burroughs, accounting, tied for second honorable mention.

The three winners were chosen from about thirty contestants, and faced stiff competition all the way.

Who said there was no glamour in this business?

The finals were held July 27, and we'll let you know how Norma comes out in her bid for the "Miss USO" title.

## "REPORT TO THE NATION"

Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network



#### **WORRIED?**

I wish I could give you an easy solution to the problem of discouragement and worry— But I can't.

The only answer I know is homely and old-fashioned. It has but one virtue. It never fails to work. The devil of discouragement can be blitzed by being so ceaselessly and continually busy that there isn't time for anything except hard work—and lots of it.

When, back of a man, there is a great pressure of things he wants to do within a given space of time, he doesn't worry then and he isn't discouraged. The effects of physical and mental hard work are truly healing.

When as a boy, I came home from school at noon and found my mother on her hands and knees, scrubbing the stairs, I knew without being told that during the morning bad news had come to our home. Perhaps a three-star telegram telling of the death of a close friend or a dear relative! Mother knew that in the hardest kind of hard work, she would find solace and peace, the cleansing of her grief.

Dr. Link tells the story of a man who came to see him, so desperate he was on the verge of suicide. He couldn't sleep. He had lost his grip. Dr. Link agreed that suicide was the only way out, and suggested to the man that he run himself to death. "It's easy," said Dr. Link, "after supper, tell the family you are going for a walk. But don't walk. Run as hard as you can. You are middle-age, probably your heart is bad, and you will drop dead. No one will know. There will be no disgrace." The man thought the suggestion was perfect, and that night, he started to run himself to death. But self-preservation took control, and he stopped far short of running so far that he would drop dead. He went home, and for the first time in months, slept like a baby. The next night he tried it again, but the result was the same— a good night's sleep. By the third night, he was feeling so fine he wanted to live forever.

I hope you will give yourself a quota, not of production, but of calls and interviews, a quota of activity so big that from dawn to dusk of each day, there will not be a single moment when you are free from the pressure of the things you must do. I know that if you are worried and discouraged, there will come to you the contentment, the peace of mind, the balance of thought that is the very essence of happiness.

Yes, a quota of activity so intense that there will be no intervals. For it's the intervals that kill.

By Paul Speicher, The Insurance Research and Review Service.

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The Eskimo traveling man returned from a business trip to the North Pole territory to find his wife and a strange man solidly frozen in a huge cake of ice. After the husband had released them from their frigid prison, the stranger went on his way.

He did not mention the matter to his wife, however, until the next morning.

"By the way, my dear," asked the traveling salesman, "who was that man I thawed you out with last night?"

## News From and About Gulf Staters in the Armed Forces

What is the matter around there, have you folks forgotten me already. No joke it has been ages since I have heard from any of the gang. Hope there is still a few of them left. I did get a copy of the April Plain Talks though and want to thank you for it. It certainly helps me to keep in contact with the company. I MCALPINE



enjoy reading the letters from the boys . . . and girls, in the army as well as getting a little of the low-down on new employees and resignations. In fact the whole thing is

just like a long letter from home.

I am sorry to report that I am seeing and doing so much that I can't tell you about. You know if they would drop this island off in a small spot of Texas, I wouldn't mind living here at all. Here it is, the middle of June and I have yet to see a hot day. It never got really cold. At present the surrounding countryside is simply beautiful. Flowers everywhere. All kinds too. I have about worn my poor bike out taking rides out in the country. Didn't know I was such a nature lover. To tell the truth, I have to get pretty dern far out, to get away from the throngs of people. You know a fellow from Texas has to get out where he can "Holler" every once in a while.

Well, so long. I am looking forward to the day when I can see you all again.

> Randy McAlpine (Beaumont sales)

#### WRITE 'EM TODAY

As reported in "With the Colors" column, A. G. Mashburn, Beaumont t & d, has departed for the navy.

However, before leaving he asked us to publish what he calls his swan song which he left under his desk glass for successors to see-here 'tis:

> "Beware kind friend As you pass by As you sit here So once did I.

"Where I sit now You soon may be Prepare for the navy And follow me.

"If in any way the law You've broken The navy can't use you And I ain't jokin'".

#### · WRITE 'EM TODAY

Thanks to Florence Breaux of Lake Charles for this snapshot of 2nd Lt. Grover Jeane and his Missus. Grover was in Lake Charles accounting before entering the army air corps and is now stationed at Valdosta, Georgia. Mrs. Jeane was Ruby Thigpen of Montgomery, Alabama before the May 23 wedding.



Gulf Staters in the armed forces and on furlough frequently drop in to say hello to friends and fellow-workers.

Among the most recent were WAC Mary Ellen Leonhardy, Baton Rouge accounting, now stationed at Daytona Beach, Florida-WAVE Susie Stuart, Beaumont accounting— Ensign Rufus S. Manley, Beaumont lighting.



#### WRITE 'EM TODAY

Hello, Gulf Staters:

Just received my June Plain Talks, it followed me from California to Tennessee, then on to Pine Camp, New York. I really enjoyed it. If you Gulf Staters keep up the good work, none of us will be coming up behind the eight ball.



Spent last week-end on the Canadian border. Wish Jack

Pat Griffith and Sadler could have been along. Just wanted to let you know my new address. So I will keep on getting my Plain Talks.

R. M. Stone (Navasota production)



#### "REPORT THE NATION" TO

Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network

It has been sometime since I last wrote and I have been travelling some since that time. Now on a new assignment at a new location. Enjoyed New Guinea while I was there. This is really a beautiful spot, mountains, sea shore, woods, and a delightful climate. We enjoy our daily baths in beautiful rocky,



JONES

clear mountain streams. Tropical fruits are plentiful and our food is good. Please give Plain Talks my new address as I enjoy all of the company publications.

Sincerely, Kirby Jones, (Beaumont power sales)

WRITE 'EM TODAY



Corporal Lawrence Jacobs, former Lafayette appliance serviceman, was married to Olite Mouton on February 22.

**JACOBS** 

Somewhere in New Guinea I have just received your news letter of April 23 and I enjoyed every word telling about you folks back there. Please keep it a coming.



As you will notice, I have moved from the Australian continent so please change my mailing address accordingly. Notify "Plain Talks" too, will you? Thanks . . . .

You may wonder what power companies do towards winning the war. Well, here is one for your advertising department. While we were building lines in one of the bottest parts of Australia where sometimes it gets up to 125° in the shade, we had a GE 6-foot electric refrigerator. It was an American job, which in peace time would have found its way to one of OUR customer's homes, and was driven by an 1.5 kw gasoline-driven generator. By running it one hour during the day and then in the evening we kept the entire company's butter (for mess) cold and hard along with other perishables. The nearest house was approximately 200 miles away. We're still using the box and have never had to maintain it.

Space is short so tell the "gang" hello for me. I'll tell about this country next time.

> Lloyd W. Nott (Port Arthur engineering)

WRITE 'EM TODAY

Ella Mae Akins, Baton Rouge electric, sends word that hubby Malvin, who left the electric department in March to don the khaki, got his sergeant's stripes in June. Mal is somewhere over-there in Iran.

WRITE 'EM TODAY



Lt. Amos Schiller strode the middle aisle with Jane Plummer on July 3. Amos was formerly Navasota cashier and is now stationed with the army at Abilene, Texas. Mrs. Schiller recently resigned from Beaumont customer accounts.

#### WRITE 'EM TODAY

I am in the Louisiana Maneuver area, sorry I can't describe it any for I was notified a few minutes ago that I am a casualty. Anyway I enjoy the Plain Talks and please send it to the above address.

My luck has been pretty good for I made

warrant officer June 30.

You know how it is trying to write after you are dead, so adios!

J. B. Cassels (Nederland service) • WRITE 'EM TODAY •

W. V. Faver, Jr., Beaumont accounting, now in the army air corps, was recently promoted from second to first lieutenant. Vic is assistant to the commanding officer at Love Field.

FAVER

Plain Talks

I appreciated very much the copy of Plain Talks which was mailed to me a couple of weeks ago.

Yesterday I completed the advanced course in Radar and am leaving for Santa Monica tomorrow. Surely hope to get by the "zoot suit" gang in Los Angeles.



Am enclosing an article on America which was given to me by the author. It impressed me very much and I hope you enjoy reading it. Mr. Welch is quite a character and was a very good friend of the writer, Peter B. Kyne. Together they have toured Europe several times.

Haven't had much time to write any of the old gang at the company due to the fact that Uncle Sam has kept me awfully busy since my arrival in California. I have thought of each and every one of you quite a number of times and am looking forward to the day when I will be back with you.

> Joseph M. Henry (Beaumont t & d)

(Plain Talks agrees with Joe. Mr. Welch's article on America is impressive and we are reproducing it here.)

#### **AMERICA**

More than one hundred and fifty years ago Someone—and that Someone could only have been God-gave to a Brave and Right-thinking little Band of Home-loving Men, who lived in what was then regarded as a far-off land, the thought that they should build for themselves, their children, and their children's children, a Country the Foundation Stones of which would be Faith and Fair Play; Home and Helpfulness; Justice and Honor; and the Right for Everyone, no matter how humble his beginnings, to Carve Out for himself, in Peace and without Fear or Favor, his own Destiny, no matter how high. And because Someone—Who only could have been God wished that such an Idea, and that such a Country, should persist, this Land has grown into a mighty Nation, despite its modest start, and despite the fact that throughout its history Evil-minded Men have oftentimes tried to Sap its very Foundations: to-day with more Hatred and Virulence than ever before. And who may succeed if We do not Remember that Help comes only to the Whole-hearted.

But if we do remember this, and if Each and every one of us Casts Aside all Self, and Bends every Effort to the task allotted, then the idea of such a Country can never perish.

Because that Idea, and that Existence, came from Someone-and that Someone IS God.

-Louis Welch

## "REPORT THE NATION"



Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network

Received an issue of Plain Talks which took quite a while to catch up to me. It was truly enjoyed. Thanks a lot and keep 'em coming.

North Africa is very interesting country to visit and see but not to linger. Wish I could tell about it only I have enough war to keep me busy without starting one with the censor.

There has been plenty of electrical work here from telephone ship repair to pole climbing. It's the nearest thing to G. S. U. the navy has to offer and I've been enjoying it

as much as possible under the conditions. Even hope to go up for a higher rate this month.

My best and fondest regards to all the company. Keep Reddy sparking.

> J. W. Billodeaux (Jennings line)

#### WRITE 'EM TODAY

(In Michigan) I received the June issue of "Plain Talks" yesterday, and you can bet your life that I really got a big thrill out of reading it. The only thing that ruined it was the picture of me, but I thought it was one of the best issues that I have ever seen. There is nothing like seeing some good old news from home.



NORTHCUTT

Sort of looks like I don't stay in one place very long, doesn't it? I have been up here since June 1st, but I don't think it will be long before I will be on another little trip, this time by water if you get what I mean. As a matter of fact we were supposed to leave here on the 3rd of July but Uncle Sam changed his mind so now we don't know when it will be, but we do know it will be very soon. I am enjoying it very much up here. The weather is cool, and sometimes even gets cold. It turned cold about the 28th of June and I mean it really looked funny to see everybody putting on winter clothes late in June. I am only about 30 miles from Detroit, and I have been in about three or four times. It is one of the best soldiers' towns I have ever been in; nearly everything is free and if it isn't free, it is so near it that you think it is free. I have been to one ball game, and have seen Jimmy Dorsey and Horace Heidt. There is no doubt about it that the Army gives a person opportunities that he probably would never otherwise have gotten in his whole life.

Thanks again for the magazine, and I will be anxiously awaiting the next issue.

> Harold H. Northcutt (Beaumont customer accounts)

WRITE 'EM TODAY



Cecil Nantz, Beaumont t & d, just received a V-mail letter from F. W. Jones stating that he was recently promoted to warrant officer in the navy.

JONES WRITE 'EM TODAY

Following are excerpts from a letter which was received recently by E. L. Robinson, manager, industrial sales:

Sorry I was unable to get you over the Hi-line phone the day I was in Orange. I guess you got my note.

I made the round trip on a furlough rate which meant I had to set up at nites from New York to Lake Charles and back to New York. Boy! I haven't caught up on my loss of sleep yet, and it is getting THOMSON. worse every day up here. Ft. Schuylin was



a breeze compared to this place. We go to school from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. a slight pause for supper, then we study and do our homework. (Homework means working math problems of all descriptions up here). Incidentally, we have a Professor Dawes giving us a brief review of AC-DC theory who wrote an electrical engineering text book that I studied in college. It is a small world after all.

The campus is beautiful. The buildings are all of an old timey design, but well kept. The grounds are really pretty this time of the year. Everything is pretty and green and there are hundreds of squirrels and pigeons around the grounds. A person would be ashamed to hunt them because you would have to knock them off the barrel of the gun before you could shoot them, they are so tame.

Everyday we have what the navy calls a "happy hour" (calisthenics) in the Harvard gym. Boy! That place is a poor man's dream. It has four decks with a large swimming pool in the center of the building in which Harvard holds its diving and swimming meets.

We haven't had any time to explore Boston as yet, but from what I have heard we will have several places to go and see things.

We expect to be here about six months and during that time I hope to try to see John Knapp and Wally Trumper if I can locate them.

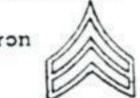
Bill Thomson (Orange power sales)

### DIED IN LINE OF DUTY

Edward E. Warren-May 15, 1942 Ray A. Blanchard—October 31, 1942

#### TO SHARPEN YOUR MILITARY I. Q.

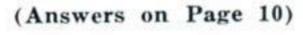
- 1. Who is the Chief of Staff of the United States Army? From what military school did he graduate?
- 2. The commanding officer of a regiment is a .....; the commanding officer of a , and sometimes battalion is a ..... a..... ; a company cammander is a......
- 3. What grade in the Army does this chevron indicate? Remember Napoleon?



- 4. When and where was the armored tank first used in battle?
- 5. Distinguish a "jeep" from a "peep."
- 6. What branch of the service in the Army is indicated by this bronze "castle" worn on an officer's collar or on an enlisted man's blouse?



- 7. What is a ponton?
- 8. American soldiers have seldom won a defensive battle; what celebrated victory, attended by the death of the enemy commander, is a notable exception?
- 9. In Army slang a bugler is referred to as a "rooster's helper." Why?
- 10. Name this award which has been given to many American soldiers since Pearl Harbor.



## TIPS TO THOSE ON THE HOME FRONT

"Don't travel on inter-city trains or buses this summer and fall unless the trip is essential", the Office of Defense Transportation is asking everyone. The men and women who are making weapons to blast the enemy know that the heavy stuff they are turning out has got to move first.

Passengers, too, will be greater than ever before during this season when all travel normally increases, ODT explained. More people have to travel, more people want to travel,

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

and buses and trains will be fewer.

Over 2,000,000 troops a month are moved, and the number is increasing. About an equal number travel on furlough. A soldier makes an average of eight moves by railroad between induction and embarkation for overseas. This vast movement requires over one half of the Pullman sleepers and nearly onefourth of the day coaches. It takes 356 passenger cars, as well as 82 baggage cars and over 900 freight cars, made up in 65 trains, to move an infantry division of 15,000 men and their equipment. Movement of an armored division and its vehicles requires 75 trains of from 28 to 45 cars each.

Travel essential to war effort comes first but if you must travel, try to make it in the middle of the week, not on week-ends or

holidays.

NO ROOM



America's fighting men are anxious to read in letters what their families back home are doing. For one thing, they like to read that the family is "okay and busy."

The right kind of mail—showing the boys that the folks at home are backing them upis one of the most vital factors in building and sustaining armed forces morale.

The soldier, sailor or marine wants to hear how we are spending our time, what we are doing to help them get home sooner, what the neighbors are doing, how the family is feeling, who's been around to visit them lately. They want to know how their friends are, who's getting married, who's having children, how the home team is doing and any other gossip that will make them feel closer to home.

A joint Army-OWI survey shows that the wrong kind of mail can harm morale. The men don't want to hear how the folks back home are being "deprived" by the need for cooperation in the national effort. Nor does the fighting man want to know about the "troubles" which the folks back home are having. He has plenty of troubles of his own. If you worry him with more troubles, he may be seriously distracted from the grim job of taking care of his own life under battle conditions.

"If you get a letter that's a gripe about

things back home, you feel like you never want to write again yourself," is the way one soldier expressed it.

### "Write and keep writing to the men who keep fighting"

#### ANSWERS TO MILITARY I. Q.

1. General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff of the United States Army, is a graduate of Virginia Military Institute.

2. The commanding officer of a regiment is a colonel; the commanding officer of a battalion is a lieutenant colonel, and sometimes a major; a company commander is a captain.

3. The double barred chevron indicates the grade of corporal.

4. The armored tank was first used by the

British at the Battle of the Somme in 5. Under a new ruling the name "peep" has

been discarded. The "jeep" is the fourwheel drive quarter ton truck. 6. The Corps of Engineers.

7. A ponton is a portable boat unit to support a floating bridge. Webster still uses "pontoon."

Orleans January 8, 1815. 9. The bugler's reveille getting troops up at sunrise comes when the rooster is doing

8. Gen. Andrew Jackson's victory at New

his loudest crowing. 10. The distinguished flying cross.



## "REPORT TO THE NATION"

Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network

#### HOT WEATHER TIPS

When that "tired feeling" gets you in hot weather, maybe it is something you ate, but it is more likely to be something you should have 'et'.

Here are some hot weather food tips:

1. Drink milk, citrus fruit, fruit juices or tomato juice.

2. Eat a raw vegetable salad every day.

3. Start the day with a good breakfast including citrus fruit, cereal-whole grain or restored—toast and coffee, cocoa or milk.

4. Use plenty of salt on food.

5. Drink water frequently.



"Stop worrying, Mr. Smith, your office boy bought War Bonds with the money you gave him to buy stock in that gold mine."

#### DID YOU KNOW?

(Continued from page 1)

pulling against them at full throttle.

Gulf States power will be supplied to two pumping stations on the new 20-inch. A 3,750 hp. station, near Spindletop will start the petroleum products on their way and another 3,750 hp. station near Newton, Texas will provide a big boost on east.

Pay-as-you-go Taxes make Bond Buying Easier-Accurate computation of the maximum amount of money you can afford to put into War Bonds becomes much more of a reality under the pay-as-you-go tax plan. In contrast to the former system of tax collection, the taxpayer is now in most cases relieved from any uncertainty as to tax liability, thus making it easier to earmark funds for War Bonds.

The withholding tax, which is the mechanism for putting taxpayers on a current basis, is not an added tax—it is merely a simplified method of tax collection. Although figured at the rate of 20% on wages after personal exemptions, Treasury Department experts estimate that in the majority of cases it will amount to only 10 or 12% of total wages. The advantage of this type of tax collection is exemplified by the fact that last March when taxes became due under the old system, \$131,210,000 worth of bonds were cashed in-largely because taxpayers had miscalculated the amount of their taxes.

Pay-as-you-go should prove a distinct convenience and should enable you to increase your bond buying to help pay for the war now and to assure your family of a solvent future and the payroll deduction plan is a convenient way to purchase your War Bonds.

It's not inspiration we need in these unusual times so much as the ability to keep out feet on the ground and an eye on the ball.

We can't do that if we're listening to the murmur of the crowd. Nor can we do it if we're hearkening to the gloomy conjectures of misguided people who have the idea that faith and courage are qualities for the use of frontline soldiers only.

It's dead easy to get rattled sometimes, human to be tempted to run around in circles-to seek a victim upon whom to hang the blame for upsetting the order of our lives. But—let's face up to it—where does it get us, apart from a lot of useles opinions that never seem to work out, anyhow?

We need to know only this today—that each of us has a job to do that must be done. It's harder than it used to be, certainly, so why make it tougher still by cluttering up our intellect with side issues that, when we take off the decimal points, are only words?

So let's tackle the job, taking the rough with the smooth, making our task easier by taking our attention away from the sidelines and our eye kept firmly fixed on the ball.

American soldiers in North Africa are almost entirely free of infectious and contagious diseases, the war department reports. Most effective against the hordes of mosquitoes has been a new lotion which the soldier rubs on his face and hands and which repels the mosquitoes for about seven hours. Flies and other insects have been fought with a bomb-like device which the soldier sets off with a trigger. Lice are eliminated by an entirely new powder sprinkled on clothes. As a general rule, American troops in Africa have been free of this pest.

# GULF STATER CHRONICLES THE TUNISIAN WAR

Former Lake Charles Appliance Repairman Relates Experiences While Chasing Nazis From North Africa

The letter which Sergeant Leon R. Andrus recently wrote to the employees at Lake Charles gives Plain Talks it's first real account of what's going on over there as experienced by a Gulf Stater.

Following is Leon's letter in its interesting entirety:

May 18, 1943 Tunisia

Dear Employees:

This is the letter I haven't been able to write for so long a time, but as the war here in North Africa is over, I have the opportunity to write in detail some of my experiences from the time we left the United States up until now.

We left Camp Hulen, Texas May 16, 1942 and arrived in Indio, Cal. May 20. When we arrived, the place was very vacant looking, just a few quartermaster units scattered around. First thing we had to do was to clean off the cactus so we could put up tents, etc. None of us were used to such tremendous heat, so the effect was that some of the boys bled at the nose, and others had to go to the hospital. After we got things well set up and under control, it wasn't so bad. Then, later we had a canteen which was enjoyed by the whole bunch. After a maneuver we sure did enjoy the cold drinks and things afforded us.

## "We were told to get ready for a long trip—"

After two months, we were all getting tough and used to hard ways of living, thenone bright morning early we were ordered to get new guns and equipment and get things in shape for a long trip. Well, that left us all guessing, but on July 28 we were loaded on two long trains and the next thing we knew, we were leaving Indio. On August 3, we arrived in Indian Town-Gap, Penn. After a two-day stop where we got rid of all excess equipment, we left for Jersey City, and from there we were loaded on ferry boats and carrier to the port of embarkation. August 6, we pulled out of the port and the big convoy was formed. August 8 we anchored in Halifax, Nova Scotia; spent Saturday night and Sunday morning there, but on August 9 the anchor was lifted and we were out to sea. August 10, we were overtaken by a big storm which swept the ship from side to side; that was when I got sea sick, then on top of that we had to take typhoid shots. From then on things went along O.K. —we were all getting used to the unsteady waters and we went ahead with exercises, inspections, etc.

#### "We sighted land-"

On August 18 we sighted land, and boy was I glad. The following morning we were going through a chain of islands escorted by battle ships and destroyers. Some of the air force had come out to meet us. We landed in Scotland and were greeted by the people most highly. They gave us cakes, coffee and other good things to eat. We were load-

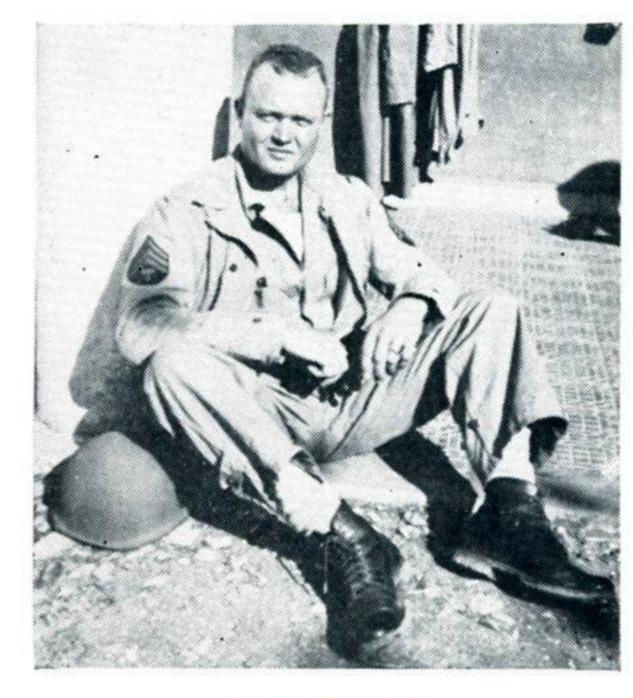
ed on trains which looked like toy trains back home, but surely did exceed their looks. Well, we rode for about 300 miles and finally pulled up to a station and stopped (Tidworth). There we unloaded and were escorted by an English soldier to Camp Penning. From there we moved to Tidworth Barracks, a beautiful sight, all buildings made of brick, and a good place for living. We soon got orders we would be moved again —this time is was to Roseneath, a place by the sea, where we trained amphibian warfare. This didn't last long and we were given all necessary equipment for a sea voyage. On October 14 we loaded ship in northern Scotland. We were out for a few days maneuver and then back to port. The 27 at 11:00 PM we pulled anchor for the deep blue, again not knowing where we were going. For days and days the convoy was steadily going ahead. I haven't got the time to write all the happenings from then until we saw land again so I'll just skip that part.

#### "We were attacked by enemy subs-"

On November 6, at 8:30 PM, we sighted lights off the coast of Gibraltar, but it was too dark for land to be seen. We were attacked by enemy subs, but one was sunk and the others driven off. On Nov. 8, at 5:00 AM, our fatal day came. Major Barkley, Capt. Von Kolnitz, Sgt. Dailey, Cpl. Zeaman and myself were selected to land first on reconn. We went over top and down the nets with full field equipment, but luckily all made a go of it. Thirty-two in all, we were, on the small landing craft. The officer in charge was English and a very good pilot, but instead of landing us at the required place, we were going right into the jetties which were lined with (Hotchkisses) MG's. We quickly saw then that the infantry hadn't taken the town of Orzew as yet. Heavy artillery and shore batteries were still firing on our ships and landing craft. We withdrew from the jetties and landed about one-half mile below by an old sulphur mine. We were on land at 6:15 that morning. The battle for Orzew was still going on, and plenty sniping behind the lines. We made it across the beach line and set up our CP at 7:00 AM. Soon the firing began to cease except a few machine guns used by snipers. Our troops and equipment began to pour off the transports, soon all our batteries were landed. and the guns were set up along the entire beach. Our planes were then master of the skies, but due to poor visibility, two Spitfires came down and strafed our troops. We opened fire and brought both of them down. That was our first real experience, (on our planes at that). On the 14 we left Orzew for the big Tafaroui airport; arrived 7:45 PM, set up guns. Next day Arabs were all around trying to sell oranges and dates. We soon learned the best place to live was under the ground, so we all dug large holes to sleep in. Sure a lot of fun watching the large formations of fighters and bombers leaving out to bomb and strafe enemy positions.

## "A man drowned while repairing phone lines—"

On the 9th, we left Tafaroui air base, went through mountains and huge grape orchards on our way to Bogia; arrived there on the 12th, took over old French barracks and set up guns along the jetties. Left Bogie on 19th, and moved to Djidjelli, set up in school house, put guns around the small airport and docks. Attacked by one JU88 which was shot down by our Bofers. One of our men was lost in the sea (drowned), was washed off the jetties while repairing telephone wires going out to the outpost. Sunday 10th we left Djidjelli, headed south. Arrived in



SG'T. ANDRUS

Feriana Monday night, just a few miles from the front lines. We were protecting the advanced air field near there. Tuesday, 12th, four ME109's attacked our positions—two were knocked down. Wednesday, 13th, we were attacked by seven JU88's and 2 ME109's. Two JU88's were shot down and one ME 109. Thursday, 14th, we were again attacked by ME's and that night again by six JU88's. Three were shot down. Friday 15th attacked by ME's, lost a couple of our planes. That night we were attacked by nine JU88's which were all shot down. They came in without escort, so our planes went up to intercept and our Bofers cut loose on them. In the end they were all destroyed. On Wednesday, Feb. 3, Sgt. Dailey and myself were down on the field spotting gun positions when four ME's attacked. We happened to be in the middle of the field, so all we could do was hit the ground. They bombed and strafed the field, neither of us was hurt. Feb. 8th we received a report that Rommel's army was advancing from Gafsa up the road to Feriana. Monday 15th we were ordered to evacuate the big airfield; that same night at 11:30 we pulled out, moved to 20 miles west in the hills.

#### "We were in the battle for Kaserine Pass—"

Then came the battle of Kaserine Pass. Our units were ordered to go up and support the infantry and field artillery. On Feb. 22nd Pvt. Herman, Bill Ollinger and myself were sent up with the force to the infantry CP. At 11:00 AM that same day we were driven out of the pass by the Germans who had us outnumbered about 10 to 1. We lost some of our guns and men in the fight. From there we pulled out for Headi, on around to Tebessa, and back around to the flank overlooking the pass. At 3:00 PM we counterattacked with infantry and armor (some of the famous French Sengalis were in the fight (Black African troops). Feb. 24th the Germans were driven completely out of Kaserine Pass and were in full retreat toward Feriana. Saturday night the 20th, we had the Germans well on the other side of Gafsa; there we set up our hq. and the gun batteries were set up. On the 21st, our batteries were attacked by JU88's. A Battery 105th CA, shot down 6 of them, the 23rd we shot down 5 more that attacked. The 24th the Germans counterattacked; we lost plenty of men and equipment, but later captured it all back. Here's where the battle of El Guettar began. We were protecting the field artillery positions. Enemy planes attacked every day, always to their sorrow. On Tuesday 30th, we began to gain ground, prisoners began to pour in, and captured equipment. Wed. 31st,

(Continued on page 12)

#### ANDRUS STORY

(Continued from page 11)

we left Gafsa for area around El Guettar; the first night we were raided all night by JU88's which came over and dropped flares, and then they would pick out their target, and then in the drive personnel bombs were dropped on our positions. We soon learned the fox hole was the place to sleep in at night. I don't think I was ever so scared in all my days. The darn things would come over, drop about a dozen flares, light up the whole country, just like day. The moon was full and shining bright and we could see them as they came at us.

#### "We shot down an enemy plane-"

One bright morning one old JU by his lonesome came in low just at the break of day. Our guns spotted him and opened up; he could neither gain altitude nor move any faster; soon he was smoking and the next thing he was falling. Sure did me good to see the old boy go down in flames. Tuesday 6th, 1943, the all-out push began, which was a complete victory in the El Guettar battle. Many prisoners were taken, both Germans and Italian, besides large quantities of war material. Sunday 11th, we moved back about 125 miles for a few days rest, which we all enjoyed. Sat. 17th we left our bivouac for the battle in the north. We were attached to the 1st Infantry Division Artillery, so when you look at the newsreels, look for the 105th Bofers and machine guns knocking the German planes out of the air. We set up guns south of Mateur. On Friday 30th our positions were attacked by 17 ME's and FW190's. They bombed and strafed. Sgt. Dailey was killed—hit by bomb fragments the best friend I had in the army. I had known him for a long time—even from the first of my enlistment. We always went home together, and were great pals, his home was in Lafayette (a friend I shall never forget). We went through thick and thin together.

#### "German prisoners came in by the thousands—"

May 8th Tunis fell to the British and Bizerte to the Americans. May 9th we were in Ferryville. May 10th the Germans gave up (unconditional surrender). Prisoners came in by the thousands, and all kinds of war material. Now this day the 18th of May, we bivouaced on the Lake of Bizerte, a true picture of the gulf down near Cameron—it's beautiful. First thing we did was to take a good bath, something we hadn't had for a long, long time. Now we can lie down at night and sleep in peace—the sound of the water makes it so comfortable. We even killed a yearling the other day—had fresh meat to eat.

This letter is just a few of the happenings we have been in, and I thought you all would be interested to know. Guess we will be going back soon for rest and new equipment.

Hope this finds everyone well and in the best of health. I'm still getting along all right, just a little homesick. Tell everyone hello and write.

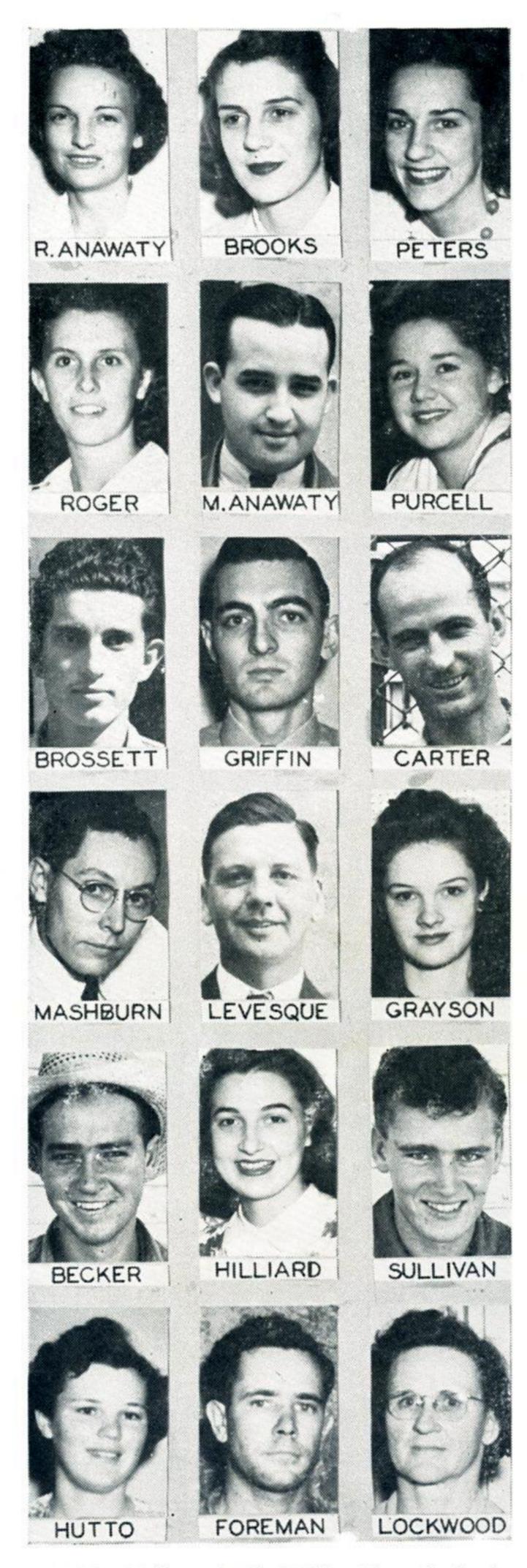
As ever,

Leon.

Lenore Eddy, Lake Charles customer accounts, sent a copy of Leon's letter to her father, Colonel Bret W. Eddy, Acting Quartermaster General, Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, and received the following reply:

"Thanks for the copy of the diary of operations from the young man from your office. It so happens that the 105th Coast Artillery Anti-Aircraft is a Louisiana unit. We are making a copy of his letter for the war rec-

## LAST MINUTE NEWS



(Plain Talks—April, 1924) If anybody in the organization wants any pointers on farming, ask Ed Green, our onion expert. He plants them with a shovel.

ord of the regiment. This will go into the archives of the Adjutant General's office.

"Please give the young man's full name and, if possible, the company to which he belongs. For your information, his whole regiment received divisional citation for its action during the landing operations in Africa. The Sergeant Dailey of whom he speaks as killed in action is known here in the office."

#### NEW EMPLOYEES

In Beaumont — Ray Anawaty, appliance repair — Margaret Purcell, customer accounts — Ethel Lockwood, customer contact — Lessie Grayson, billing — Jean Hilliard, pbx.

In Orange — Dorothy Hutto, customer con-

tact, and Ozone Foreman, ice.

Irone Peters, Port Arthur accounting — Dorothy Roger, Lake Charles meter — Lewis E. Woods, Huntsville ice — John L. Sullivan, David Becker, and Willie F. Buschmann, Navasota ice.

#### TO THE ARMED FORCES

From Beaumont — A. G. Mashburn to navy and W. C. Carter to army, from t & d — Freeman Brossett, production, to army — Maurice Anawaty, substation, to army.

P. Q. Hargis, Jasper production, to navy.

#### TRANSFERS

Marie Brooks, Beaumont, steno to purchasing — L. E. Levesque, service, Navasota to Shiro.

#### BIRTHS

To the C. S. Griffins, a daughter, Betty Jo, on July 27. Pop works in Beaumont production.

#### RESIGNATIONS

From Baton Rouge — L. F. Forbes, production, and Marie Allen, customer contact. From Beaumont — W. J. Godsey and Dorcegene Cudd, engineering, and Josie Cooley, customer contact. From Liberty line — Harold Barclay, L. R. Bird, and C. J. Ott.

No pictures were available of Buschmann,

Woods, and Hargis.



## "REPORT TO THE NATION"

Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. over Columbia Network

(Plain Talks—March, 1924) The ninth meeting of the Central Safety Committee was held in the Beaumont offices on February 12. Among those present were R. K. Wilkerson and T. E. Green. A total of ninety suggestions, offered by men of the different departments of the company for improvements and safety were considered. The first prize of \$5.00, for the best suggestion offered, went to R. W. Haynes of the power plant.

(Plain Talks—August, 1923) The memories of a splendid vacation spent at Palacios are fresh in the mind of T. B. Hensley, who returned recently from that little city where he spent two weeks at the BYPU encampment, T. B. says that the good times he had can't be beat when it comes to fishing and swimming.

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#### CARELESS LISTENER REGRETS

When God gave out brains, I thought He said trains, and I missed mine. When He gave out looks, I thought

He said books, and I didn't want any. When He gave out noses, I thought He said roses, and I ordered a big one.

When He gave out legs, I thought
He said kegs, and I ordered two fat ones.

When He gave out ears, I thought He said beers, and I ordered two long ones.

When He gave out chins, I thought He said gins, and I ordered a double. God, am I a mess!

-Caps and Lower Case.

## VACATION AT HOME AND HELP THE WAR EFFORT



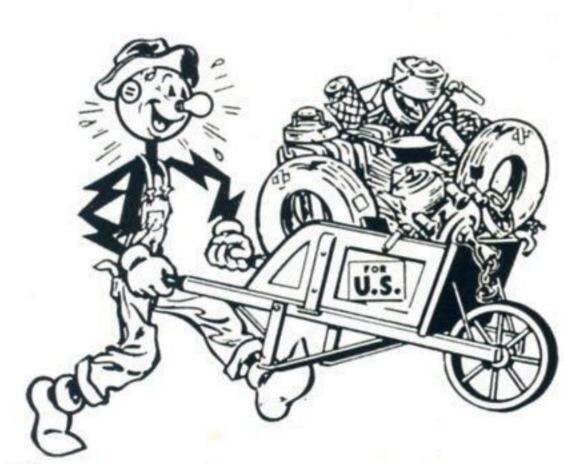
Your vacation is a good time to catch up on painting and fixing around the house.



Your vacation is a good time to weed that Victory Garden and prepare for fall planting.



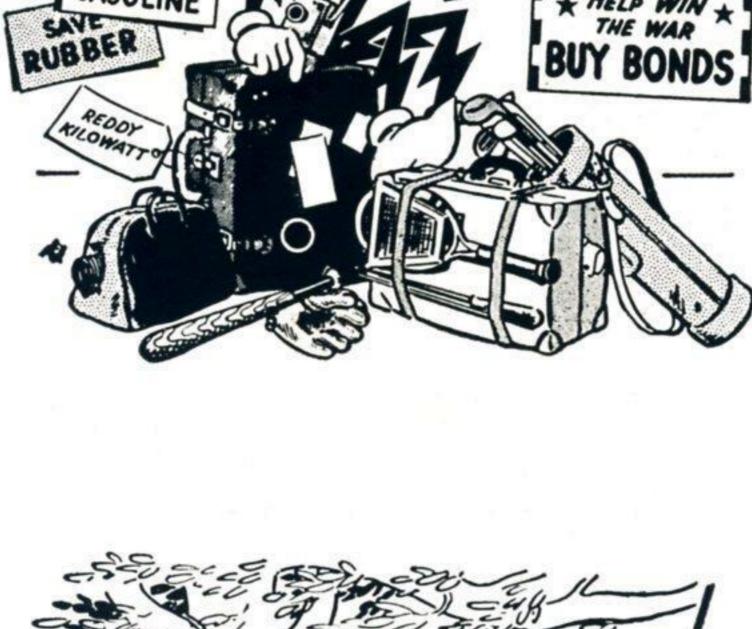
Your vacation is a good time to give the old homestead a thorough wash and polish job.



Your vacation is a good time to dig around in those forgotten corners for much-needed scrap.



Your vacation is a good time to catch up on overdue correspondence, especially to relatives and friends in the armed forces.





Your vacation is a good time to buy a few more War Bonds with the money you save by staying at home.



Your vacation is a good time to relax, forget your worries, and refresh yourself for the 50 weeks to follow.



Your vacation is a good time to let the family iron-steed out to pasture and save precious tires and gasoline coupons.

