# Disabling Accidents . . . May, 1944

Norman D. Johnson of No. 3 Refinery sustained severe laceration and fracture of the right index finger when smashed by a piece of scrap anode falling from the crane rack.

William A. Nicholas of the Reverberatory Department sprained his back while moving a platform away from reverberatory furnace.

Pedro R. Biarrial of Fine Casting Department bruised his finger while piling sheared cathodes.

Raymond R. Tabares of the Arsenic Department fractured his jaw when he stuck a bar into the disintegrator.

Carl Anderson of the Converter Department fractured his right arm when he lost his balance and fell from the silica gun platform to the floor.

Albert R. Sanchez of the Herreshoff Roaster Department fractured his right elbow when a feeder bar struck his elbow.

Fred R. Keever of the Yard Department acquired a hernia as he was unloading a car of scrap.

#### IT MAY GET YOU

By J. E. Stebbins

It's been quoted loud and often It's been taken down as facts That accidents are solely Caused by mortals' careless acts.

Directly this may seem quite harsh You were involved it's true And the careless act of someone Points accusingly at you.

But then a mishap can be traced As Dean has pointed out To start back somewhere, somehow And catch you round-about.

So call it just rank folly Not to give your safety thought And avoid a later pit-fall In which you may be caught.

#### WHO WILL BE NEXT?

This year to date we have experienced twenty-five disabling accidents. At this rate the indications are that this year we may surpass even the terrible record of last year when fifty-one cases were incurred and, therefore, it is reasonable to assume that twenty-five more disabilities will occur before the year is out.

Now who are those who will be hurt? This question of course we can not answer but, we, knowing the likelihood of more disabling accidents, have the tendency of looking around for someone else as a possible victim; it just does not enter the mind of each one of us that "I may be the next one."

We all seem to be egotistical enough to believe we don't make mistakes; it is always the other fellow. How many times have we cursed other automobile drivers when we

(Continued on Page 2)

#### KILLED IN ACTION

Rudy Evansich, former Smelter employee and well known throughout the plant, has been listed as killed in action by the War



Dept., as indicated by the letter below which was received by his father, Joe Evansich, retired.

"My Dear Mr. Evansich: "It is with deepest sympathy that I write to you in regard to the death of your son, Technician 4th Grade Rudy Evansich, who died April 8, 1944, of wounds received that day.

"At the time of his injury, Sergeant Evansich was with

his company in the forward positions held by this Force. He was assigned to a daylight reconnaissance patrol, and in the fulfilling of its mission the patrol ran afoul of an enemy minefield, in which your son was severely wounded by the detonation of one of the mines. He was retrieved from this minefield and rushed to an aid station, where he died a few hours later.

"The loss of your son is deeply felt in this command. While I fully realize the magnitude of your loss and the degree of your sorrow, I assure you that our feeling of loss can be second only to that of Sergeant Evansich's loved ones.

"You can well be proud of the service that your son has given his country. He was a keen and efficient soldier and acquitted himself bravely against the enemy. He shall remain in our memory and shall inspire us in the fight against a ruthless and dangerous enemy.

"Please accept my sincere and heartfelt sympathy for the irreparable loss you have suffered. 'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.'

'Most sincerely yours,

"Robert T. Frederick, (Signed) Brigadier General, U.S. Army." \* \* \*

# LATEST CALLED

We extend our best wishes to Edmund M. Michalski of the Cottrell Dept., and Zachariah L. Sayre of the Fine Casting Dept., who were inducted into the Armed Forces.

## IN MEMORIAM

John A. Swanson, formerly of the Carpenter Shop, and serving as the Local 25's Secretary, passed away June 8, 1944. Our deepest sympathy.

# SLAG GAGS

"Believe me, if my wife scolds me for coming home late, I'm going to tell her a thing

"Don't you do it. Tell her one thing and stick to it.'

Wally: "Do you charge batteries here?" Service Station Man: "Sure we do."

Wally: "Then put in a new one and charge it to Dad."

M. P.: "Anything you say will be held against you."
G. I.: "Betty Grable."

"Now, my son," said the father, "tell me

why I punished you.' 'Hmmm," said the kid, "that's good. First

you pound the life out of me and now you don't know why you did it.' \* \* \*

"I saw your wife down town yesterday with a black patch over her eye. What happened?" "Nothing, that was her new hat."

\* \* \* Virtues are learned at mother's knee, and vices at some other joint.

"Does your husband talk in his sleep?" "No, and it's terribly exasperating. He just grins.

Hubby: "Mary, here's a hair in this pie crust."

Wifey: "It looks like one of yours, Henry, it must have come off the rolling pin."

\* \* \* Mrs. Firefly: "Put out that light. Don't you know we're in a blackout?"

Mr. Firefly: "How can I help it? When you gotta glow, you gotta glow."

\* \* \* Once there was a sailor named Practice He met a girl named Perfect-

\* \* \* Mess Sergeant: "You're not eating your fish. What's wrong with it?"

Private: "Long time no sea."

An overseas sergeant wrote to a friend: "It has been so long since I've heard from you that you are practically a stranger."

\* \* \*

The letter was returned with the censor's notation: "Military personnel are not permitted to correspond with strangers."

# Excerpts From Letters From Our Servicemen

Harvey Langberg, formerly of the Refinery Dept., writes from New Guinea:

"I wish to add my thanks and appreciation



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for sending me the 'Slag.' It helps link the broken chain between us and home. Especially at present, for the boys on the other side. They certainly are facing the greatest tasks of their lives, and need all those little 'helps' from home. Wishing them a speedy success so that we can soon finish up the nasty little job on this side of the world,

and we all get back home.

"We are stationed 'Somewhere in New Guinea' at present. Although living conditions are not exactly up to par with the good old American standard. There are lots of insects, bugs, mosquitoes, etc., to contend with, and quite a bit of that California liquid sunshine, but we really can't complain too much.

"The native gals, as yet, haven't gotten any whiter looking, and I wouldn't exactly say they smell like 'Evening in Paris.' Enclosed is a snapshot I had taken with one of their sweaterless sweater girls at the native village. About all the natives can speak English, and know more about the American people and way than you would think. The missionaries have really done a wonderful job with them.

"Thanking you again, and wishing all the men and women in the Armed Forces and you folks at home the best of luck and continuous success so we can all meet again when the plant whistle blows in the very near future.

car rature.

"Sincerely, Cpl. Harvey Langberg."

"I received my copies of the 'Slag' from you the other day and I want to thank you for sending it to me I think it is very nice of you to send copies to former employees who are in the armed forces.

"I enjoy the paper very much and I enjoy reading the news of the plant.

"Pvt. George A. Taylor."

"Received your monthly copy of the 'Slag' and was very much pleased to receive it. It is nice to read about what's what on the

job every month. I've been down here in sunny California for three weeks now and it is hotter than one of those damn converters. I believe I'd take a converter any time to this kind of weather.

"Thanks a lot again for your interest in a poor Private and I hope to hear from you again soon."

"Pvt. Robert D. Walker."

Excerpt from a letter received from C. L. Baxter as submitted by Guy K'Burg of the Anode Dept.: "If you want to take the drinking cure this is the place. You get a cure for everything here. There is nothing to drink so you lose the drinking habit. They won't let you smoke, only a couple of times a day, so you lose the smoking habit. You can't whistlte or use obscene language so you lose two more habits. You can't talk back or take a poke at anyone so you lose the last of your habits. Oh, hell, what's the use, you can't do anything anyway. But even as black as it seems it isn't so bad you don't have time for habits."





Joseph Udovich, Jr., is now somewhere in Australia. Joe started to work here September 1, 1934, and left for the Army January 1, 1942, from the Mechanical Dept.



## PLANT VISITORS

Denver Bishop, former employee and Boiler Room man, visited the plant last month, wearing the Purple Heart, good conduct, American and European theaters of war, and South Pacific combat ribbons. Denver is now stationed somewhere in Tennessee.

R. L. Garner, another former employee, returned to Tacoma and called on the boys in the Yard Dept. We understand he is now stationed at Fort Lewis.

H. Yurisich of the Refinery Dept., was home on a furlough from boot camp. Geo. O'Malley and Joe Mihcich, both of the Refinery Dept., called on the boys in the tank house.

Robert Wood returned from Texas for a short leave.

Emil H. Tietje, Jr., formerly of the Fine Casting Dept., was home on a five day leave from his base somewhere in California.

# WITH THE ARMED FORCES

# Excerpts From Letters From Our Servicemen

"I have received your most welcome letter and the 'Slag' which I really appreciated and enjoyed reading. It took a long period of time for the letter to reach me. The reason for this delay was that I have changed my address a number of times, so for that reason I didn't receive the mail for such a long period of time.

"I think that the 'Slag' is a very excellent and most interesting paper. I am quite sure that this will help an awful lot to keep the morale higher and it also gives them an idea of what our buddies are doing and where they are approximately. I have found a couple of names of fellows who I've been wanting to know what their addresses were, and if it wasn't for the 'Slag' I still wouldn't know.

"I think that it is very kind and thoughtful of the Company to publish this paper for the boys of the forces of the United States and for the ones who are on the fronts fighting. I have enjoyed this paper and so have the boys who I have showed it to. We all think it is a very good paper.

"Here is an item that I think the boys

would like to read in the 'Slag':

"The guide showing a group of Yanks through St. George's Chapel made a number of references to King Henry VIII. On the way out of the building he was about to call attention to a stained glass window bearing a likeness of the famous King, but a GI beat him to the draw. Nudging his companion, he whispered loudly, 'Look—there's a picture of Charles Laughton.'

"I want to thank you once again for all you are doing for us who are in the service..

"Yours very sincerely,

"Pvt. James M. Gronka."

"Just a few lines to tell you I think the 'Slag' is a mighty good little publication. I enjoy the news it has about the plant and also the former employees that are now in the service.

"Say hello to the gang at the plant for me. I can't remember all their names but they're a darn good bunch.

"I'll sign off for awhile.

"Pfc. James Phill."

"I have been meaning to write to you before but have always put it off, so I will take the time now.

"Thank for sending me the 'Slag.' News is

hard to get down here in New Guinea and so any news is good news. It sure helps to know what is going on around home and at the place you used to work.

"This place is nothing like home but it reminds me of home because of the rain. When it rains here it rains. Then you walk in mud up to your neck. That means a lot of washing with the good old GI brush and water.

"If you see a white woman around here it is a treat. There are a few such as nurses and Red Cross workers, or we see one in the movies.

"Thanks again for sending me the 'Slag' and I hope I can continue to get it.

"Yours truly, Cpl. Jesse J. Owens."

"I want to thank you for sending me the 'Slag' each month. It helps keep a fellow in touch with the places and the people he would like to see. As you know, any news from home is good news.

"I hope everyone is enjoying a nice peaceful summer at home. Personally, I've never had such a hot one in my life.

Thanking you again, I remain,

"Yours truly, John Lyon, F 2/c."

"I miss all the swell folks I met and worked with down at the Smelter. Please tell them all hello for me.

"There are about 600 of us girls starting boot training, so I have a lot of company and we're all trying for the same goal. I am sure I will like it more and more as time goes by.

"You keep up your end and I shall do my

best to keep up mine.

"Sincerely, Pvt. Bettyjean Miller."

P. S.: "Would love to hear from any and all of you."

Miss Miller worked in our Electrical Gang.—Ed.

"I have been receiving the 'Slag' for quite a few months now, because it has been catching up with me as I moved around. But now that it looks as if I am permanently settled for a while I am dropping you a line to tell you I enjoy hearing from the old plant and seeing notes about men I knew when I worked there.

"I would also like to give you my address so I cant get my paper regularly and as soon as possible.

"1st Sgt. John G. Berringer."

#### THE FISH STORY OF THE WEEK

Of course, everyone in the plant has been told of the fishing trip Geo. Jackson, Dave Davies, Sam Blackburn and Roy Denney experienced at Lake Wallup and about the judge in Chehalis.

Well, to bring everyone up-to-date on the results and cost of redecorating the Judge's

chambers, it goes like this:

After having to push their car half way to the lake through the mud up to the running board of the car, they set out a fishin'.

Geo. Jackson and Dave Davies are experienced fishermen of long standing; complete with a huge wealth of knowledge relative to the fish and game laws of the land, sea, and lakes. Least an eagle's eye for spotting game wardens. But this particular game warden could talk faster than George and Dave.

You see, Roy and Sam contribute a very minor part, insofar as George and Dave were assisting them to get the limit. No! Nothing was said about George and Dave having

caught the limit.

The game warden counted the fish. The count was proper. But fishing within 400 feet of a tributary was bad. The fickle finger of fate had turned. The warden had spoken. The judge said, "\$15 and cost of \$2."

That's 85 cents per fish additional for the trip.

# RETIRED

Glen Matthew, Cottrell Plant Foreman, retired from work June 15, 1944, and is living at his beach home on Henderson Bay.



Glen came to Tacoma in 1889 at the age of 10. He was in the Tacoma High School graduation class of '97.

During the years between 1905 and 1910 his sporting nature guided him into amateur baseball, passed through the semiprofessional stages and for one year, 1907 and 1908, played professional baseball with the Northwest

League in Tacoma. In 1909 Victoria outbid Tacoma for the super ball player. This ended his baseball career.

With the burning desire of being a showman, Glen turned to the Stage. The Pantatges theater as a stage electrician was his first step, thence to stage manager through 1915, when he began his work at the Tacoma Smelter.

Starting in the Yard Dept., Feb. 22, 1916,

for three weeks, then transferred to the Reverberatory as a larry car operator for four or five months. He was power house operator. In 1920 to 1921 he was employment man for the Tacoma Smelter, after which he was transferred to the Cottrell Dept., and became foreman of that department and continued as such until his retirement date.

Mr. Matthew has always been well liked by all persons in his acquaintance. While we hate to see him leave our plant, we want to express our sincere wishes for the continuance of good health throughout his retiring years.

\* \* \*

## SMELTER SOFT BALL TEAM

Following is a list of games played and scores:

scores:			
Played at Jefferson No. Smelter Maxwell	1	H 6 13	E 4 0
Played at McKinley Fig Smelter Summit	1	5 7	2 2
Played at Harmon Field Cammaranos Smelter	6	10 8	3 2
Played at McKinley Fie Smelter Teamsters	1 13	4 12	1 0
Played at Jefferson No. Eagles Smelter	2	4 8	4 1
SmelterLincoln Heights	1	7 2	1
Boeing	3	6 4	1
Played at Portland— Smelter Coast Guard	2	0 2	3
Played at Jefferson Fiel Stores Smelter	4	11 0	0 2
Played at McKinley Fie Smelter W. S. G.	6 8	6 8	3 2
Played at Harmon Field Smelter Elks	0	2 7	2 0
Battings averages of t Anderson, sf	Markham, p Walters, cf Cates, 3b Stefano Tipton		.174 .167 .161 .137 .125

Harkness, p ...... .186

### THIS 'N THAT

Elmer Olsen entered the Salmon Derby at Point Defiance a couple of weeks ago.

He called it a Salmon Derby—but trying to land his boat he fell in the bay twice.

Did he say what his day's catch produced? Headache maybe?

It only goes to prove that "firewater" and saltwater don't mix.



## \$

#### HERE'S PROOF

Can you top this? Stanley Mladenich's daughter, Joanne, was harvesting the bean crop from a ladder. Stanley said at the latter part of the season the family was gathering beans by the box from the upstairs bedroom window.



### \* \* CONFUSED

One of the girls in the mechanical gang worked day shift (7:30 a. m. to 4 p. m.), went home and lay down to rest and fell asleep. She awoke at 7:20 p. m. and amazingly thought it was 7:20 the next morning.

Running down the hill, she grabbed her clock card and punched in. She was asked if she had worked that day. Her answer was no, but her card clearly indicated that she had punched in and out. She argued that that could not be, that someone else had

punched it by mistake.

At this point the guard inquired of her what day it might be to which she answered, "Saturday." She was informed that it was Friday, but she would not believe it until a man from the plant was called in to assist the guard in convincing her that she should return home and finish her sleep.

Wonder she doesn't meet herself somewhere some day!

Dave Gallacher of the Steel Shop caught a sixteen inch rainbow trout June 15th at Long Lake.

#### HINTS ON HARVESTING

By A. Wargardener

Beware of too much fertilizer. It recently came to our attention that a Ruston family had to vacate the kitchen due to the rapid growth of a potted tomato plant left therein too long after chemical fertilization. Also, two certain mechanical foremen were telling stories of 15 and 20 foot high plants last September. However, their associates attribute this phenomenal growh more to hot air than to fertilizer. Allowing plants to attain such size might necessitate falling them in order to harvest the crop.

If your beans are above the second floor windows by now, they can be trained through the room to another window and started back

toward the ground.

Beets or carrots which may get deeply imbedded in the ground may be harvested by using a small chain block. A certain reverb foreman devised this ingenious method. It is also useful for handling squash or pump-

Use of a stepladder is probably the easiest method of reaching roasting ears. If none is available, drive spikes in the stalks and climb them like telephone poles.

A Fresno scraper attached to the stern of the family bus can usually be depended on to go deep enough to get out even a smelter

worker's spud crop.

Previously this column has stated that a good gardener must be a good liar. From the stories heard on all sides, we are forced to conclude that practically all smelter gardeners are good ones.

Frank Baron's peas were nine feet high June 10th.

Joe Udovich is a gardener himself but his wife does most of the work.

K'Burg has a garden too, but he can't even grow hair.

## STORK CLUB

E. E. Henke, Anode Dept., has gained membership in the Stork Club. A boy—congratulations!

Pete Weller of the Fine Casting Dept., will be a member of the Stork Club very soon, which will make Chet "Cowboy" Neuman a grand pappy.

Owen T. Gallagher of the Employment Office, will take the second degree in the Stork Club about the 10th of October.

The call for a tug-of-war between the Lard and Beef was never answered, even when Dean offered the winners a case of quart size

Too bad, Dean has withdrawn his offer.

# Labor-Management Production Committee Report

By Arthur Rowan



The discussions at these committee meetings center mainly around the encouragement of volunteer ride sharing, improved cooperation with Transportation Advisory Committees, the handling of appli-

cations under the gasoline rationing regulations, and the care and maintenance of cars and tires.

#### Volunteer Ride Sharing

Trading rides among auto drivers has proven an effective means of reducing wear on automobiles, tires, and of relieving the load on public transportation. This committee is well organized and with the cooperation of the workers has thoroughly charted the city and its environs. It has also successfully planned the "share the ride program" in this plant. Everyone traveling to and from work should have a lively interest in the success of our efforts.

#### Handling of Applications

The application forms made use of under the gasoline rationing regulations are not simple, many facts must be known by the rationing board, these facts must be true, they must be carefully written, and the form so completed as to definitely show the need in each instance.

This takes time, so please have this information correct and make your application a week ahead of time and thus give the committee a chance to study each so that you may have your ration when it becomes due.

#### Maintenance of Cars and Tires

Owners of cars know full well that careful driving, and the skillful handling of the machine prolongs its life. Study your car and take great care of it.

Tires are hard to get, and it looks as though there will be no new tires for "A" card drivers until early in 1945. The Office of Price Administration has ordered the removal from rationing of all inner tubes. A total of 3,900,000 new passenger car tires have been allocated for rationing in July and August, an increase of 50,000 tires in both months over the June quota.

The demand for new tires is far in excess of the supply.

#### Fifth War Loan Drive

We are far short of reaching our quota, yet sales are steadily improving each day. No matter what your bond buying has amounted to so far, increase it, buy one extra \$100 bond now.

Tacoma and Pierce county now near the half-way mark with a total of \$10,500,375 in purchases reported Friday, toward the quota of \$22,000,000.

An interesting communication recently came to hand from an anonymous source, setting forth the fact that rumors now go the rounds strongly opposing this "Drive." These rumors are by no means new, no matter what project of an altruistic nature may be presented, the rumor-monger jumps on the "bandwagon" and gets in a few licks. All opposition to the purchase of War Bonds at this time must be defeated if only for the purpose of insuring the fighting man a sure and steady supply of cannon and small arm ammunition, bombs, etc., thus saving him the last resort of depending only on his bayonet or bare hands. A shortage of the necessary supplies of food, clothing, and equipment, of munitions of war and ammunition, with Americans facing the dangers that now confront them, will deprive them of the means of life and existence on the many far flung battlefields. We have spent money to train them, they have pushed the enemy far from our shores, they are real heroes, and I cannot conceive that any American here at home, could have the audacity, the impudence, or even the traitorous desire to voice objection to the purpose of this Drive. Such men certainly never in their lives, spent lonely and dangerous vigil, with ammunition and supplies spent, in fox hole, trench, or on a battle

Let every man get behind this 5th War Loan Drive and push it to success by deeds not words, buy a Bond, that extra \$100 Bond and help the record in your department.

# Let's Declare War on Him

(Continued from Page 1)

take the time and effort to hunt him out of his fox hole. For this reason we can best war upon accidents by warring upon his ally, the unsafe condition.

Let's declare war on the regiment of accidents surrounding our own lives, off the job as well as on the job. Let's stop this cunning and cruel enemy who is continuously attacking us.

# THE SLAG.... S. W. Dean, Editor

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Guy K'Burg - Elmer Olson - Arthur Rowan Dave Davies - Glen Matthew



### ACCIDENT FACTS

In brief, the National Safety Council has released some figures on the accident rate over the nation.

Approximately 72 out of 100,000 persons in the United States lost their lives through accidents during 1943. The total of 97,500 accidental deaths is two per cent greater than the 1942 total of 95,889. In addition 10,100,000 persons were injured. In 350,000 cases the injuries resulted in some permanent disability.

Accidents continue, therefore, to be one of the outstanding problems of the country. As a cause of death, they are exceeded only by heart disease, cancer, cerebral hemorrhage and nephritis. Among children between 1 and 15 years of age they are the leading single cause of death.

Occupation deaths are estimated at 18,000, a reduction of 500, or three per cent, from 1942.

Public, non-motor vehicle, deaths increased from 16,000 in 1942 to 17,000 in 1943, a change of six per cent.

In addition to the 18,000 occupational deaths, 24,500 workers were killed in non-occupational accidents during 1943. Of these off-job deaths, 10,500 were the result of motor vehicle accidents. The 42,500 worker deaths, together with over 4,000,000 injuries from all causes, both occupational and non-occupational, resulted in direct lost time during 1943 equivalent to a year's work of 320,000 persons.

Twelve thousand eight hundred workers were killed and 400,000 injured in motor vehicle accidents during the year. Of these, only 2,300 were killed and 100,000 injured in the course of their occupation.

The time lost by these persons together with other production delays resulting from their absence caused a total loss of 32 million man days, enough to build 2,500 heavy bombers or five battleships.

#### WAR CLIPS

By Rear Admiral Dewitt C. Ramsey (Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics)

"The sparkplug of our Pacific offensives is the aircraft carrier. We will have over 100 of them in commission by the end of this year. I cannot divulge the total cost of our carrier construction program, but you can get some idea of the investment involved when I tell you that a carrier costs from \$7,000,000 to \$70,000,000, depending, of course, upon the class.

"About three hundred million dollars is required to finance the 2,500 aircraft that are procured each month for the Navy's needs. A torpedo plane, complete with armament, costs \$115,000; a dive bomber costs from \$62,000 to \$122,000; a fighter, \$73,000 to \$103,000; a patrol bomber, \$117,000 to \$417,000; and a land-based bomber from \$196,000 to \$280,000. Expensive? Yes, they are. But Naval airplanes of the type mentioned are the best that can be designed and built. And the quality of the products plus the skill and courage of our airmen account for the consistently high losses the Japanese are suffering today in the air."

# THIS IS THE LONG OF IT!

#### Approximate Height Name O. Babadilla ..... 6' Homer Brown ...... 6' 4" Henry B. Ellis .....6' 31/2" Robert Erickson ......6' 21/2 4" 2" Owen T. Gallagher ...... 6' M. T. Grubisa ...... 6' Douglas Hayden ..... 6' 3" Roy Henderson ..... 6' 2" Alex J. Jennings ......6' Arthur Jorgenson ...... 6' Jarl Johnson ...... 6' Oscar F. Landahl ...... 6' Edmund Michalski ...... 6' 21/2" John Pigott ......6' 21/2" George Radke ......6' C. H. Randt ...... 6' 3" Keith Reape ...... 6' 21/4" R. B. Roff ...... 6' Allen E. Staples ......6' Jack Velacich ......6' 31/2" Ed Wheatley ...... 6' Viretus Wood ...... 6' 41/2" Kenneth Oas ...... 6'