

News And Gossip From Our Various Departments

OFFICE BITS

After a month of hot weather and a few exciting adventures, here we are again with a few gossip strips and gabs from every corner of the Main Office. As for most of us, vacation time is over and we are ready to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

As most everyone knows, "Lucky" Russell is the topic of conversation with everyone now. And lucky is really the name. Only a few days elapsed from the departure of her Army Flier until he arrived again. Reba was out of work another exciting week, but is back again now with us. We hope it isn't too long until "Lucky's" luck returns.

We are sure sorry that we lost Olin Bell of the Cost Accounting department and we welcome Ralph Russell and Elliott Brickett from Asheville. In fact, we have quite a few new-comers who have joined our happy band. We have Lucille Collins from Lebanon, Ohio, now Brevard, in the Traffic department and Jean Trice in the Personnel department. Jean hails from Honea Path, S. C. We extend our most cordial welcome, gals and fellows. With deep regret we lose Jim Jones, who is going back to Pennsylvania and welcome Few Lyda, of Brevard. We are going to miss you, Jim. Bobby Whitesides has left us for the Navy. Best of luck, Bob.

Mr. P. R. Miller has just gotten back from an enjoyable week of leisure. Pete Eberle took a couple of days to greet Mrs. Eberle when she returned home. He says he was tired of batching, especially the dish-washing part.

Gladys Burnette reports a very nice two weeks while on vacation. Gladys was also fortunate enough to enjoy her vacation with a "Soldier Boy." But two weeks passed quickly with Gladys coming back to work and Eugene going back to Athens, Ga.

After all of this excitable gossip, we turn to some not so good. We were sorry to lose Leona Allen from the Payroll department, who underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Biltmore hospital. Leona is reported to be improving very nicely and we hope will soon be back at work again.

Ethel Snelson has heard that the fleet is in again and is contemplating taking a trip to her grandmother's to see if this is actually true.

Ted Reese may be seen looking very blue these days. His attention was called to the Gatehouse Thursday, August 10th, about 1:15 o'clock. There he saw his girl friend talking to a very handsome sailor. Ted says, "all girls are fickle." After all, Ted, what can you expect when there is such a critical man shortage?

Two birthdays were reported in the Payroll department last month. Those were Hicks Scruggs and Gladys Burnette. "Happy Birthday," girls, and many more of them.

Margaret Collier of the Bond department reported a nice vacation except for one thing. It wasn't long enough. Emmie Neuberger also reported a nice vacation recently.

Betty Aycock enjoyed a nice picnic with a group from the Mill office last Friday. Betty says she never ate so much in her life. Talking about politics, Ethel Snelson, Hicks Scruggs, Helen Steppe and

Vera Allison from the Payroll department and Virginia Steppe from the Engineering office went to North Mills River last Thursday night on a combined chicken fry and weiner roast. They resembled "stuffed toads" the next day.

Betsy McCall is leaving us Wednesday afternoon for a vacation. We hope you have a nice time, Betsy.

Well, guess this is all the gossip we know for this time, but will be back again next month with some news "hot off the wires."

Physical Lab. News

By ANNIE LOU HAMLIN

Ruby Wolfe is visiting her husband, who is stationed in Florida. We welcome Antoinette Anders to the Physical Lab.

Connie Fendley, who was called home because of the illness of her father, is back with us now.

Two former Lab. boys visiting us a few days ago were Captain Charlie Cook and S. Sgt. Edward Hill.

Letters have been received from John Lyday and Raleigh Waldrop. Raleigh is in Italy. He says he has seen many interesting things, but will be glad to get back to Ecusta. He also says he is disappointed that Naomi didn't win the Rolling Pin Throwing contest at the picnic!

Gladys T. is all smiles. Her husband has been promoted to seaman first class.

Power Dept. News

Once more we greet you from the Power department after missing an issue due to circumstances beyond our control. We have just completed a thorough overhaul of the turbines and are now prepared to give you service comparable to your needs. We appreciate everyone's help in our time of power shortages and interruptions.

We are glad to report that Smith has now perfected his Indian war dance and will demonstrate it on very little urging; he is teaching "Brother-in-law" Willingham the intricate steps necessary to the successful consummation of this dance.

Everyone is rejoicing with Dorn over the arrival of his second son and third child; both mother and child are doing well, and Dorn is taking nourishment.

Mathews says the crops on his farm are late this year but that by planting late he saved a lot of work and a lot of harvesting. Bill Lowery says now that he can eat good, he is going to grow as big as "Honest Abe" Hunter, but at this, we wonder. What is wrong with Pete Norwood? He says he has lost his taste and can't remember anything.

Leland George and Dutch Breener motorcycled over into the Smokies last week-end and report a very nice trip.

We are glad to have Mr. Gallo-way back after having gone to a Winston-Salem hospital for treatment. We hope his trip will prove very beneficial to him.

Congratulations are in order for Bill Lyday, who has been promoted to sergeant in the air force. Good luck to you, Bill.

This morning has brought the news that our armies have landed in Southern France. We trust this will wind up Hitler's armies in that theatre and the show can move on to the stage of Germany.

Now until next month, so long.

Machine Room News

By JOHN GOOLSBY

Well, here comes the first story and the latest gossip hot off the line.

Tom Evans, back-tender of No. 5 machine, used to drive a truck for some garage before he came to Ecusta, and as he tells it, he must have driven perhaps a little recklessly. It seems that every time he would take the truck out this state cop would be right behind him. He happened to look up from his work the other day, and lo and behold, before his eyes, which had reached the size of saucers, stood Joel J. Johnson, that very cop he had been dodging for three years. Tom exclaimed, "To think they let him come in here after me!"

Welcome to the Machine Room, Joel, the gang is a swell lot of boys to work with.

The colored janitor was telling Frank Rhodes and me a story the other morning that I think is worth passing on. It was about being scared. He began, "The wust skeered I ever wus, wus when I called on a gal ob a big black prize fighter, and he comed in and ketched me."

"What did he do then?" asked Frank.

"Do? He didn't do nothing, suh. He jest looked at me and said, 'Mandy, what's this white man doing here?' and den I knowed how bad I was skeered."

We are glad to report Clyde Summey is back in the old gang after a successful operation. Clyde works on No. 6 machine.

Some of the boys around the new side were telling about Larry Faucher having a dream that sounded very logical, and I think a lot of married men might appreciate it. Here goes. He dreamed he had not been very good during his earthly life, and after he died he went below. As soon as he got to the lower regions, he began to give orders for changing the furnaces around and also bossed the little imps. So one of them squealed on him to Satan about the new-comer's actions. "Say," said Satan to him one day, "You act as though you owned this place." "Sure," said Larry, "My wife gave it to me back on earth and reminded me of it every day." (Only a dream, folks.)

We are sorry to hear that Frank Dalton is missing in action on the battlefield of France. He was pilot of a Thunderbolt fighter and was the brother-in-law of Owen Banning of No. 6 machine. He was formerly a teacher of Rosman high school. We in the Machine Room extend our deepest sympathy.

Well, I can hardly write without saying something about our baseball team. We have at this time earned the right to play the series with only one loss for the entire season. I asked a few of the boys what they thought about it. They said, "Well, we can use the batting practice." Those boys carry to the diamond the Machine Room slogan laid down by the skipper (J. R. Denton) in four words: "No alibis, get it!"

They tell me some time ago Bernice Roberts, third hand on No. 5 machine, risking the perils

Finishing Department "B" SHIFT

We wish to extend, in behalf of our department, our very deepest sympathy to Miss Maude Stewart, who has received word that her brother has died as a result of wounds received in action in France.

Several girls are taking their vacations this month: Gene A., who, by the way, enjoyed being called "aunt" twice by twin nieces, born recently; Amy H., who is taking a short trip; and Freda D., who revealed no plans.

Jean H. was made happy recently by the arrival of her mother from New York to spend a vacation with her. Gladys and Margaret McKinney were also paid a visit by their sisters from California.

of death, dived deep in a lake and saved a girl from drowning. When he got her up to the bank and in his arms, she looked up and said, "Listen, big boy, are you holding me for ransom?" "Ransom, hell," said young Roberts, "Let him get his own women."

A few days ago I relieved John Ambrose Brewer ("Shot Gun, to us). He was working days and seemed worried over something; but he failed to tell me the cause. I thought perhaps they had had him on the mat, which I know will disturb your mind for a while. I wanted him to go home with a lighter heart and smile, so I says, "If you are successful there is nothing to worry about. If you are not successful there are only two things to worry about. Your health is either good or you're sick, and if you are sick there are still only two things to worry about. If you are not going to get well, you are going to heaven or to ———. And if you go to heaven you have got nothing to worry about. If you go to the other place you will be so busy shaking hands with old friends, that you won't have time to worry, so why worry?"

Was talking to Archie Drake of No. 4 machine the other day, and the conversation reached back into his courting days. He admitted he was quite a Romeo with the ladies. This story from him I will pass on: One Christmas, out of the goodness of his heart, he gave his girl a beautiful skunk coat. A few days afterward he met her on the street, and after greeting each other, she remarked, "I can't see how such beautiful furs come from such a low, foul-smelling beast."

Of course, Archie stood there dumb-founded and let it soak in a few minutes, then he finally muttered, "I didn't ask for thanks, dear, but I must insist on respect."

Here is a story of another Machine Room boy who is now and has been in the European theatre of operations. Ed Vassey has completed 32 missions over enemy-held country. He has the air medal, 4 oak leaf clusters, distinguished flying cross. Ed has covered a lot of country since leaving Ecusta. He has helped to open four air fields and holds a hot seat on a fortress. Latest information from his father is that he wants to come back, train for a pilot, and go back after those Germans again. Good luck, Ed, and good hunting.