

ECHO STAFF HAS DINNER MEETING

Superintendents And Other Guests Enjoy Informal Discussion And Meal

The reporters on The Echo staff, their supervisors and other guests were entertained at a dinner meeting Monday evening, April 7, at the cafeteria. Forty-three were present to enjoy the delicious dinner prepared by the cafeteria staff and to take part in an informal discussion about the duties of reporters on employee publications.

E. B. Garrett, Jr., Director of Personnel, led the discussion which brought forth many valuable suggestions from the reporters and superintendents present. The meeting was an informal, get-acquainted event and is the first of periodic meetings that the staff will hold.

A REPORTER'S HANDBOOK, a handy little publication prepared especially for reporters on employee newspapers, was distributed to each reporter. This handbook should prove valuable to ECHO reporters as they prepare their departmental news each month.

The dinner menu consisted of tomato juice, lemon jello salad, prime roast beef, green peas, candied carrots, potatoes, cherry pie, hot rolls, butter, and coffee.

Refining Room "A" Shift Has Party

By "SPEEDY" JONES
Friday night, April 18, at 8:00 o'clock, "A" shift turned out in good force at Camp Sapphire. The occasion was to honor "A" Shift, winner of the Refining Department Stock Weight Length Contest for the first three months of this year.

A nice fire was going in the gym and tables were already set up for Bingo. During the evening as we played Bingo, cold drinks were served to everyone's enjoyment. "Doc" Casterton and Lucille Heffner ran the Bingo game, after John Eversman got it started. They all did a good job. Everyone present won a prize with Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Rogers and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Crow being the winners of the most prizes. All of the prizes were really worth while—that's the way Ecusta does things.

After the party was over, ice cream and cake were served and one could get "seconds", too. Our Mr. Earl Gray was a little off his eating so he didn't go around but once.

Just before we left for home, Mr. Bennett made a brief summary of the Refining department's record in the way that all shifts have stayed in our tolerances and everyone was praised for it, especially "A" shift, the winner.

The writer made a brief report on averages. Earl Gray, the beaterman on No. 1 Battery was high for "A" shift with 98.94% in tolerance and Clarence Crow, the beaterman on No. 2 was a close second with 96.55%. The entire shift was 91.8%, and Jones complimented all of the shifts for their good showing.

Hats off to Ecusta for a very enjoyable evening and to John Eversman, "Doc" Casterton, and Miss Lucille Heffner for doing a very nice job of putting it on.

Two good tips: always say less than you think, and remember that how you say it often means more than what you say.

Radio "Hams" Among Most Enthusiastic Hobbyists; Jim Winget Is Typical One

No Limit To Interesting Experiences Enjoyed By Amateur Radio Operators

A radio "ham" is an interesting individual. He follows a hobby from which he receives not one cent—on the other hand, he may have considerable cash tied up in it, depending upon the scale of his operations. But you'd have to do a lot of convincing to persuade a "ham" that his is not the best hobby in the world.

Typical of the several operating in Brevard is Jim Winget of the Filter Plant. At his home on Probart Road, Jim has taken over a room to install the equipment necessary to operate an amateur station. He also has a portable set that he carries along in his car. His radio station, assigned by the Federal Communications Commission, is W4JQF.

ENTHUSIASTIC

Like all amateur radio hobbyists, Jim is most enthusiastic about his pastime. He says it's very thrilling to talk to a fellow ham in England, then switch to one in Porto Rica, and then to one in South Carolina. He has contacted every state in the union except Virginia, Georgia and Illinois. Why not contact states like Virginia and Georgia? Nearby points are harder to contact on high frequency wave lengths where Jim ordinarily operates. Countries in Europe, Africa, South America, and other points are relatively easy to contact.

Every ham keeps a careful rec-

ord of places he contacts. It is customary to send QSL cards (exchange cards) to all operators that you contact. Jim's scrap book contains many such cards, some of them very fancy, three-color jobs, showing the interest and pride hams take in their hobby. To these exchange cards, such information as the date of contact, time, etc., are filled in.

Amateur radio is subject to certain government restrictions. You cannot play music and there must be no hint of commercialism. Thousands of friendly, personal messages are sent and received each day, but of course no charge is made for such services. On countless occasions, amateur operators have stepped in to perform valuable services in floods, storms, fires, and other mishaps.

One of the many thrills, Jim says, is to visit some of the men with whom you have talked many times. Perhaps you have your correspondent pictured as a husky, 220-pounder, judging from his voice, and he may turn out to be a frail fellow, about five feet, three. Of course the operators cannot travel far to visit with other hams, but Jim has made several trips into nearby states.

SOME SIMPLE, SOME FANCY

The extent to which the ham wants to go with his equipment depends on him. Some operate with a few watts, some with several hundred. Messages have been sent around the world with a five or ten watt station. The average is around 100. Jim's home outfit is 320 watts

and his portable one is 120. He has a 10-meter phone station and 80, 40 and 20 CW. He bought his receiver from a radio supply concern, but most of his equipment came from army surplus stocks at greatly reduced prices. He built the transmitter himself.

In order to be licensed by the Federal Communications Commission, an operator must be able to send the Morse code at the rate of 13 words a minute and be familiar with radio treaties which the United States has with other countries. After he gets on the air, the hame is policed constantly by FFC. About the only physical limitation that will not permit a person to pass the examination is deafness. Jim has talked with an operator in Utah who is totally blind.

CONTACTS AUSTRALIA

Other Ecustans who follow this fascinating hobby include Bob Collier of Champagne Machine Shop and E. B. Garrett, Jr., Director of Personnel. Bob is now preparing for his examination and after this has been successfully passed, he will be assigned a call number. Garrett, who has owned and operated his W4ACA for nearly 18 years, contacted Australia the other morning, a distance of more than 12,000 miles.

An estimated 1,000 hams operate in the two Carolinas and the growing national list is pushing the 60,000 mark. Prominent men who pursue this hobby include Herbert Hoover, Alvina Rey, band leader, and Amos of the famed Amos and Andy radio combination.

"The unspoken word many times is the best one."—Author Unknown.

A Beer King is a malty-millionaire.

Radio "Ham" Jim Winget In Action

Among the several enthusiastic radio amateur operators employed here is Jim Winget of the Filter Plant. Below Jim is shown contacting a fellow "ham" and to the right is his motor-powered rotary beam transmitter. Jim also has a small portable radio set which he carries in his car.

