

WHAT CONSTITUTES A LOST TIME ACCIDENT?

The above question has been asked by our personnel on numerous occasions, and especially since the cumulative days and hours have been carried on the large board just inside the main entrance to the plant. This inquiry is only logical and is welcomed by the Safety Department, for it is only through clear explanation of such matters that we will know just what constitutes a good safety record.

"A lost time accident results when any employee suffers an injury that arises out of and in the course of their work, that is serious enough to prevent them from returning to work on their next regular shift."

Since our last lost time accident on November 22, 1950, we have experienced several injuries that were what we might call *borderline* cases, but in each instance the injured employee has returned to work following the receiving of necessary medical attention.

To protect the welfare of the individual who is unfortunate enough to sustain an injury while on the job, our Medical Director has the final say as to whether or not an injured employee is physically able to return to work. In other words, if the injured person wishes to work and our Medical Director agrees for them to do so, it is then left with the Superintendent of the department as to whether or not he has suitable work that they can do.

We are proud of the fact that we do have a good safety record here at Ecusta, and especially since this record represents a great decrease in suffering and loss of wages to our personnel as a whole. However, we must all remember that the person who gets hurt is always the greatest loser, and that even though we all wish to see the number of days continue to grow without a lost time accident, we wish for this to result from safe practices and not from someone being enticed to come back to work just to save the safety record.

DID YOU KNOW?

That through midnight on June 13, 1951, the entire plant had operated 203 days with 1,741,310 manhours, since our last lost time accident on November 22, 1950 . . . that our goal of two million manhours can be reached on July 16th, providing we do not experience a lost time accident before that date . . . that the prevention of personal injuries is EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS, and that our safety record can only be as good as we as individuals wish it to be . . . that remaining *accident-free* will not only insure us of steadier earnings, but will eliminate undue suffering and worry on the part of those who are dependent upon us for a livelihood?

STAY SAFE AT HOME TOO!

Hall and stairs are the scene of many serious falls. Stairs especially should be made safe. Halls should be well lighted and unobstructed. Chairs, laundry hampers and the like should not be placed here. It is preferable for doors along the upstairs hall to open into the rooms rather than into the hall. Many a painful bump will be avoided if doors are not left part way open.

The carpeting in the hall should be in good repair and fastened securely to the floor. Uprturned edges should be tacked or otherwise held down. Small rugs should not be placed in hallways, and never should one of these be placed at the head or at the foot of stairs.

Even if the stairs are enclosed by walls, they should have a substantial hand rail at least on one side. Winding stairs are not nearly as safe as straight flights. The carpeting on the stairs should be securely fastened down, for loose runners have often caused serious falls. Children should not be permitted to play on the stairs, for the children themselves may fall and older people may fall on or over them. Moreover, they are liable to leave their toys on the steps. Remember that children should also be cautioned not to slide down the banisters.

Most of the hazards on the main staircases are multiplied on the steps leading to the attic and to the basement. The steps are often too steep; the treads too narrow; there are no hand rails; sometimes insufficient head room, and with inadequate light or none at all. It is easier to make these stairways safe when the house is being built, but lights and hand rails can be installed at any time. Don't forget too, that broken steps can always be replaced.

Brooms, mops, waste baskets, canned goods and the like should never be stored on the basement stairs landing, nor on the attic steps.

Many a person has taken a fatal plunge down stairs, because he attempted to carry too heavy a weight and lost balance or tripped. Women should never carry such a load as a baby in one arm and a bucket of water in the other hand—especially if the water is hot. Remember that people are scalded as a result of such falls; that they often-times collide with hot stoves; and that everything one can do to prevent personal injuries will always be worthwhile.

PROTECT YOUR "WAGE-EARNERS"

We often refer to the *fingers* and *thumbs* as "*wage-earners*", because there are few jobs in the plant that do not require their continuous use. Approximately 50 percent of our total injuries each month are to these important digits, so we do urge that you do everything possible to protect them.