

# PITTER PATTER

## Knitting No. 1, Second Shift

Well, well here if it isn't time once again to view the big moments of—"Who's Doing What" on the "Merry-Go-Round"?

Walker is going to make sure that the next time Roy Wayne rides to work with him that their lunches aren't mixed up. For six ham sandwiches are a great loss in these days of meat shortage.

We are inclined to believe that Hubert Payne's shoulder bones will fail to hold up many bone crushings.

We heartily welcome R. F. Haney (Jack), as a machine fixer on our shift.

"The hide-and-seek-boys", are better known, as Lloyd Pearce and Richard Crouse. But, next time you play the game Richard be sure that you make it Lloyd's tool box instead of Johnny Wardells.

A few evenings ago Bryant Mitchell was seen in the office administering first-aid to his leg injury which he sustained from a fall while working on his hog pen. He was asked a few questions about the accident and he replied, "He was making it difficult for Roy Wayne's haughty appetite for ham."

We are all glad to see Lewis Humble (Cowboy), back with us after recuperating from an appendix operation.

Fridays just prove to be unlucky days for Charlie Helmsetter while en route to work. One Friday the clutch flew out of his car and the following Friday he lost his battery, but maybe by this time Charlie has his car so it will bring him to work on Fridays.

Ah yes, Walkers ravishing thirst for squirrels proves to be more remarkable for opossums.

Hubert Payne should hereafter give his head a second thought when it comes to sticking it under a certain window while playing peeping tom.

So long, until January—"Wishing you everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year."

## FULL FASHION FINISHING

The full fashion finishing department are glad to announce that we are one hundred per cent for the beautiful baby contest. Every parent who has a child under six years of age has entered them in the contest.

We welcome at this time Everette Jester and Maud Bradsher. Maud being a former employee has come in for a few weeks to help us catch up with the folding.

We are sorry that Ora Bryant is ill again, and wish for her a speedy recovery.

Anna Belle Myer is in the hospital, Boulevard unit, where she underwent an operation. Last reports are she is doing fine. We hope you will be well soon Anna Belle. We miss you lots.

Everyone is getting the Christmas spirit and are looking forward to the Christmas party.

## LOOPER LEARNERS NEWS

I want to thank all the learners for the nice gift and surprise party they gave me last month. I don't know how to go about showing my appreciation, all I can say is thanks for everything.—Ida Bodenheimer.

I think it would be very nice to have one night out of each week for entertainment, such as singing, dancing, and games. It would be lots of fun for a group from the mill to meet and have some good clean fun.—A Learner.

What about it learners, let's get together and get up a basketball team? Don't you think it would be fun? Let's talk to Mr. Boyd.

—A Learner

Did you happen to see Ida Bodenheimer flashing a new watch around? Wonder where she got it?—A Learner

Wonder why all the learners come in here sleepy on Monday morning? Too many dates I bet.

# Ortho-Rater Survey

The reports from employees on action, or no action, taken in response to the company's recommendations following the Ortho-Rater tests have been tabulated. In a large measure workers have cooperated and have given voluntarily the best sort of testimonies of help received.

It needs to be re-stated that these tests are a service to workers. Employees who have acted upon recommendations have benefited. In view of all the facts, it is futile to question the accuracy and reliability of the Ortho Rater. In thousands of cases in industry, and in the navy during the war, it has proven to be a marvelous instrument.

The analysis of reports shows substantially the following items.

After each item there is a courteous statement to stimulate your thinking.

The number after each statement represents number making this report.

### 1. "Went to eye doctor", 147.

Approximately 150 prescriptions (including "went" and "just been") were issued (glasses ordered).

This grouping also lists those who in good conscience went to the eye doctor and were advised that, due to age, etc., nothing more could be done. Many had adjustments made. There have been scores of testimonials (many of which were printed in these columns) stating that unexpected help was received. Subsequently such statements as these have been made: "I wouldn't be without my glasses again for anything." All these people are strongly urged to call for a re-test to see how Ortho-Rater scores now.

### 2. "Not taken time, too busy" etc., 9.

Obviously these people need help as much as others; they probably would benefit as much as others. Procrastination — putting off — such an important matter as the eyes is hard to understand. There are few things that any of us can do with "a little time" that will pay dividends more than time given to pay attention to such an important detail.

### 3. "Intend to go; have appointment", 24.

It is hoped that this group will carry through their good intentions. New resolutions time is here. The only thing to do, is to do it now!

### 4. "No reason" 24.

This is the most tragic answer. If you know that this matter of eyes is so important that for nearly a year (and as a policy for the future) persons who are lacking in eye skill (such as those who have received "2" and "3" reports) are not being placed on your job in the plant, it should make you pause and consider that each new person who comes into your department has better eye skill than you have!

### 5. "Gone; left plant," etc., 56.

It is highly regrettable that these people did not take action on the recommendation and get the help that is available. The conclusion is inescapable that many people quit their jobs because of illness, restlessness, sleeplessness and other factors that are directly traceable to the eyes. Over against the fact that people who were told of their condition and did not act, there is the fact that since using the Ortho-Rater the number of quits has dropped to a point where practically the only persons quitting among newly hired workers

are those who have unavoidable reasons.

### 6. "Didn't understand," etc., 2.

This is a small group who sincerely did not understand the nature of recommendation. In view of all the clarification, it is hoped that these people who still go to the eye doctor.

### 7. "Had just been to doctor," etc., 10.

These are people who had been to doctor before tests were made, but probably immediately after service was announced. These people did need attention and received prescription (glasses or treatment).

### 8. "No money; insufficient funds," etc., 13.

This, of course, is a personal problem. It is suggested that over a period of time it may be possible to make a place for this thing. In many cases, the new glasses will pay for themselves in increased piece earnings on the job. Credit payments in small amounts can be arranged. Consultation will be welcomed and assistance given when possible.

### 9. "Don't need; eyes don't bother, don't think necessary," etc., 24.

This is the hardest group to speak to. If any person in this group is interested in discussing the Ortho-Rater score, time will gladly be given to go over the matter in detail. Some in this group fall below the minimum only slightly and it may be that it is fairly safe to take a chance (however, even in these cases the advice of the eye doctor would be best). On the other hand, some of these persons obviously are in as great, or greater, need as any of those who went to the professional men with such satisfying results.

These people, especially, are urged to read Dr. Stump's article in this issue.

### 10. "Out of shop, sick," etc., 8.

These people will know whether they should consider their eyes. In any event, when they return to the shop, the merits of the Ortho-Rater service are urged upon them.

### 11. "Delayed, put off, no particular reason, etc., 15.

Here is a group of utterly frank reports. Many of these people are under 30. It is suggested that now is the time to give attention to your eyes. Ten, twenty years from now, you may want to stop putting off and find that the eye doctor cannot help you nearly so much as if you had come to him earlier.

The above reports are from workers who received score of "2" of "3" in the Ortho-Rater tests. "2" stated: 'slightly below average of operators in your department'. "3" stated: "considerably below average and below minimum standards that have been found important for satisfactory performance on your job."

Appreciation is expressed for the high degree of cooperation on the part of everyone. Melrose started the Ortho-Rater program feeling that it was bound to accept the experience and testimony of others that it is a good thing. Our confidence in the service grows each day as workers themselves express appreciation for benefit received. We have had numerous inquiries from other plants who want to render the same service to their workers. The Ortho-Rater is a permanent all-year-round feature of our mills. Inquiries and conversations are welcomed. If you have interest in any phase of the work you are welcome. The program is here to serve.

There are 123 individuals in groups listed above (not counting (5) "left plant," (7) "had just been") who were referred to eye doctor. Although they have not

## Life on the Production Line (Continued from Page 1)

10:47—Goes to Asst. Foreman and says, "Look, what that damn night shift did."  
11:00—Sees female employee—tries to get a date.  
11:30—Group leader is watching—no time to wash for lunch anyway.

1:00—Punches in one minute early—time for smoke.

1:10—Goes to machine—sees big shot watching; starts hitting mallet on piece of steel.

1:30—Hits finger with mallet—Talks to God about it for a while.

1:55—Goes to First Aid, waits while nurse takes care of fifteen other people.

2:00—Goes back to machine, decides it's time to go to the rest room.

2:15—Goes to rest room. Does a little drawing over picture started day before. Thinks of poem and writes same under picture.

3:00—Back to machine—looks at new girls as they come in. (Red sweater isn't bad.)

3:45—Goes to office to see if drawings on new models have come in yet.

4:00—Can't work—smoking time.

4:10—Goes to rest room—shouldn't have eaten that stuff in the cafeteria. Puts whiskers on picture drawn on wall.

4:40—Back to machine; tells group leader he doesn't feel well, wants a sitting down job.

4:45—Sorts rivets; drops can on floor—has to stand up while kicking rivets under table instead of picking them up.

5:15—Needs a drink—goes to fountain at far end of building.

6:00—Back to machine. Figures out overtime. Starts cleaning up and putting tools away. Watches for group leader or Asst. Foreman. Watch for Foreman; Watch for Superintendent. Watch out!!

6:30—Gawd, I'm tired. But boy—got a date with a new girl.

Next Day—Same Thing—Only Asked For Raise  
Mrs. G. W. A., Alton, Ill.

Electrical equipment is recorded as having saved the housewife 224 hours of work in eight months.

An all-steel linen closet equipped with sliding doors that will be airtight as well as moth and vermin proof, will be on the market soon, a manufacturer reports.

The heat necessary to melt one gallon of ice would, if converted into pumping power, lift more than 200 gallons of water to a height of 100 feet.

gone this analysis may stimulate some of these people to yet take care of this matter.

The following are testimonials on benefit of service:

"I don't have headaches so much now and I get more dozens."

"It helped my nerves."

"I can see so much better with my new glasses."

"Headaches are stopped and I have gained in production."

"I can see better and have gained in production."

"I can see better and am not so nervous."

"My vision is improved lots. Thanks."

"I can see better."

"Great improvement in my vision."

"Can loop with more ease."

"Eyesight much better."

"I think it is very beneficial to employees."