

PLEASE
TELL ME

Q and A

Q. Should an employee gripe or "blow his stack" on the job?

A. Yes, providing he does it where it will do some good.

Some people fear the consequences of speaking their minds. When you consider that griping about government, taxes, management and other subjects is a sort of national pastime, "blowing your top" may have a healthy influence if it is confined to legitimate areas of complaint.

Some researchers have reason to believe that — contrary to popular notion—chronic grippers are not necessarily ineffective and unproductive people on their jobs.

Instead of griping to someone who cannot do anything about it, who may misunderstand you and even use your gripe to damage you and your employer, speak your convictions to your supervisor. It is part of his job to listen to you.

Q. What is one of the most threatening dangers to eyesight?

A. Glaucoma. This disease results from failure of the aqueous humor (fluid content of the eye) to drain properly when some anatomical or functional defect blocks the outflow. Increased pressure on the optic nerves causes dimness of vision. If unchecked, blindness results.

A large North Carolina industry recently conducted a screening project embracing 1,017 employee volunteers over 40 years of age. Discovered were 24 cases and 19 borderline or suspected cases of glaucoma. Only one of the 24 who had the disease reported having any symptom or suspecting anything wrong.

Medical research has turned up important new drugs for treating glaucoma. Short of surgery itself, the only weapon in the past has been eyedrops known as miotics which reduce

the inflow of aqueous humor in the eyeball. Several recent drugs have opened a new approach to glaucoma control.

On glaucoma, here is good advice from the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness: If you are age 40 or older, see an eye specialist at least once every two years. You may not have any warning signs of approaching eye disease. An examination will find out for you.

Q. I'm just one person on the job, performing one small task as part of many operations that produce a finished piece of goods. How does quality workmanship—or the absence of it on my part—affect me and my job?

A. There are very few things we do or say that do not affect others—and in turn, have their effect on ourselves. This goes for producing things for others to buy and use.

Every single act of workmanship that goes into a product can mean the presence—or absence—of the kind of quality that customers are demanding these days. The customer is the producer's real boss. If the consumer can't find quality and fair price in one manufacturer's goods, he will go elsewhere to search for them.

A lost customer can very well mean a lost job for a worker on the manufacturing line.

The more conscientious a worker is about quality, the more he benefits in the long run. It works this way: The company benefits by the improved quality of the products going to the customer. The employee benefits because the quality of his performance plays a big role in his advancement, and in product acceptance on the market. More satisfied customers mean better and more secure jobs.

promotes safety education in the home, industry and in public places—with emphasis on industry. It is one of eight councils sponsored by the North Carolina Industrial Commission.

Quarterly meetings are held at various places in the Blue Ridge area which includes Gaston, Cleveland, Rutherford, Burke, Polk, McDowell and Lincoln counties.

BRSC Meeting

Several members of supervision attended the October 27 meeting of Blue Ridge Safety Council, in Chase High School cafeteria near Forest City. J. J. Tarlton, superintendent of Rutherford County Schools, was the after-dinner speaker.

Alvin Riley is president of BRSC, an organization which

Religion In Life: Strength We Need

Television star Robert Young tells how his young daughter often talks to God following her formal prayers.

Kathy usually asks for many things. But one night, after her lists of requests, she paused and added: "And now, God, what can I do for you?"

That question set Kathy's father to thinking seriously. What can she—or I, or anyone—do for God? he asked himself, then came to this conclusion:

"Certainly I don't know if we can do anything for Him. But I've decided that one way to serve God is by taking a real and continuing part in church life. For me, there has been no one great inspirational moment. But, over a period of time, my family and I have discovered that church attendance and religious experiences have added new strength to our lives.

"It's a strength we all need—and a strength we don't find in any other source."

During November a nationwide observance of Religion in American Life is underway. This is a good time to find or renew the Strength of Your Life. Then you can "Light Their Life with Faith."

On Committee

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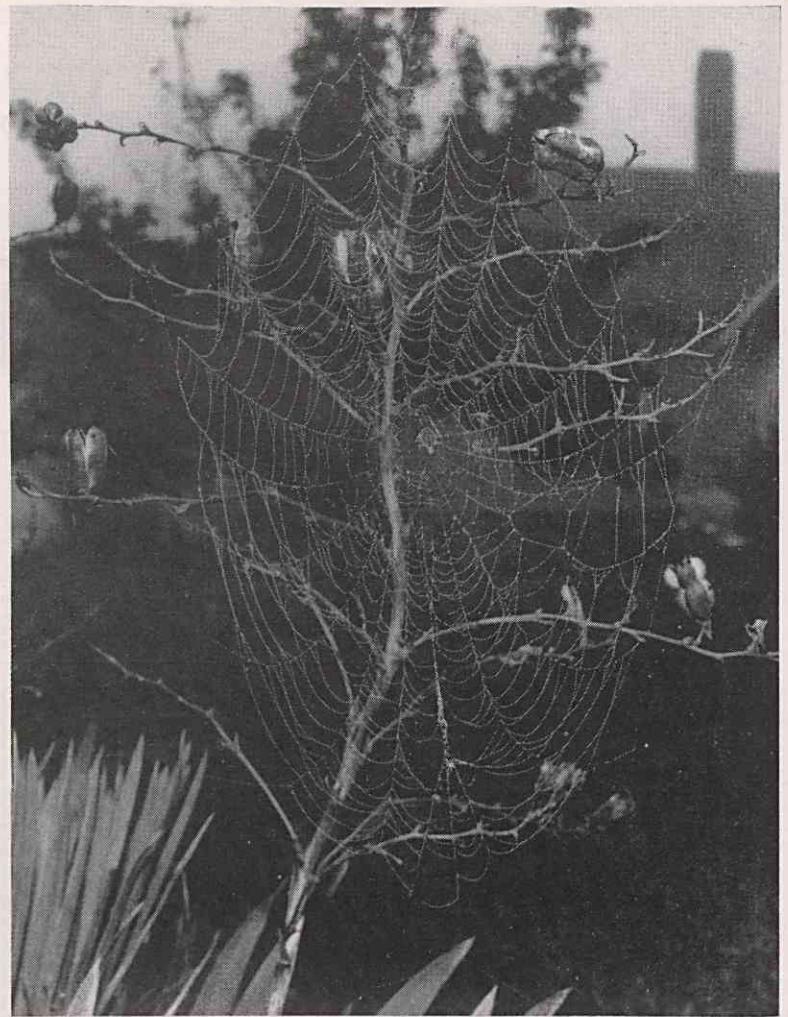
Rev. J. H. Acker, pastor of St. Paul's Baptist Church.

THE SON of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Floyd of Clover, Route 2, Dr. Floyd is a graduate of Howard University. He served two years as a senior-grade lieutenant in the Navy Dental Corps during World War II.

Dr. Floyd is chairman of the Gastonia Citizens Committee, president of the Charlotte Medical Society, president-elect of the Old North State Dental Society, and a member of the board of directors of the Gaston County Mental Health Association. He is chairman of the board of stewards of St. Stephen's AME Zion Church, Gastonia.

Pound-for-pound, the nylon yarn woven into fabric and used to reinforce tires, is twice as strong as steel. In every mile of travel, the fabric "backbone" of a tire bends and flexes more than 700 times. Tire engineers rate nylon best in flex strength.

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A Picture for an Autumn Morning

This engineering project, exhibiting the intricate skill of a spider (finishing up at center), glistened in the sun-

light of an October morning. The handiwork was done on the seedpod stalk of a yucca plant at the front entrance of the Industrial Relations annex.

Jewels of sparkling dew made the web a picture of natural beauty, only a few brief days before leaves began to drift and whisper of another season of deep frost and firelit nights.

Thinking Can Be Turned Into Cash

Many ideas that have revolutionized United States industry didn't originate with professional inventors. Some of the greatest ideas came into being through company suggestion boxes, "by accident" and as by-products of research projects.

History offers some examples. An American naturalist in Labrador noticed that the extreme cold instantly froze meat left outside his shack. He observed that meat frozen in 40 and 50 degrees below zero weather tasted better than the same thing frozen in spring and fall.

Back home in the States, he mechanically quick-froze a variety of foods. The frozen-food business he launched was sold in 1929 for \$22 million.

Nicholas Appert, a Frenchman born in 1750, worked at several jobs among which were chef, pickler and candymaker. Why not pack food in containers like bottled drinks? he wondered. When his idea proved itself, all France hailed Appert as a hero. Today, 150 years after Appert's idea, Americans alone open more than 60 million cans daily.

Englishman Harry Brearley in 1912 developed an alloy which he hoped would solve the corrosion problem of gun barrels. Then discovery of a new kind of gun powder made corrosion-resistant metal unnecessary.

But Brearley's idea hadn't gone to waste. American industrialists found new applications for the alloy, known today as stainless steel. More than 650,000 tons of stainless are now used by Americans every year.

It is a major part of manufacture in Firestone's Steel Products Field.

Do these idea stories offer any suggestions as to how good thinking can be turned into success — and cash? Three lessons are apparent:

1. A disappointment may be giving you an opportunity to create revolutionary ideas. One key to making an idea pay off is coming up with something that will solve a problem.

2. Don't be discouraged if your idea doesn't succeed at first. An idea, however good, may never pay off unless it is used to accomplish something. Try again and again.

3. Good, useful ideas are not the exclusive property of professional inventors. The majority of them come from average people who stay alert to opportunities.

Party Winners

Four children of Firestone families won prizes for "most original and interesting" Halloween garb at Firestone Stores and Horne's Home & Auto Store in Gastonia the night of October 28.

Winners and their prizes were Wayne Booth, portable radio, and Iris Price, basketball, from Horne's; Tommy Lytton, portable radio, and Nancy Jacobs, flash camera, from the Firestone Stores.

The occasion at the two stores was a sale of bargains to employees, combined with a party for the youngsters.

IN HIS HANDS

Some Tricks That Teach

A few clever tricks of magic served to drive home some timely lessons in safety, at a regular quarterly safety meeting of supervisory personnel.

The sleight-of-hand artist visiting here in October was Clyde Powell, magician of the Lehigh Safety Shoe Company. Mr. Powell was one of the first persons to put on a hypnosis show over television.

For several years now, he has been employing the medium of magic to teach accident control in industry.

