

# News And Gossip From Our Various Departments

## Physical Lab. News

Well, Christmas is gone—no snow. Enjoyed the many Christmas cards from all service men and former Lab employees . . . . Connie Fendley visited Fred during Christmas holidays. She seems quite proud of her soldier husband. . . . Glad to have Myrtle Mae Spain back. She was called home a few days ago because of the death of her father. . . . Gladys Teague attended the Jordan-Galloway wedding during Christmas. . . . And while we're on the subject of weddings this is Leap Year! Boy, oh boy! Now's your chance, girls. Better start making those New Year resolutions. . . . After all there is a manpower shortage, or a man shortage, or a shortage period. . . . But this is the year to hope. . . . A VERY HAPPY LEAP YEAR TO ALL OF YOU.

P. S.—Looks like a Phys. Lab. news shortage . . . . Nothing ever happens to us, or does it?

## Refining Shift "A"

Who said there wasn't a Santa Claus? We here at Ecusta have reasons to believe there is. Thanks to Mr. Straus.

The boys here in the Refining seem to have gotten through the holidays in fair shape, and have settled down to work again, with the hope that 1944 will be a victorious year for our armed forces and see them all home for our next Christmas. Our (only) two game hunters, "Bud" and "Al" seem to have taken a sudden interest in bowling. Don't suppose there could be a shortage of ammunition? Boys, we suggest a slingshot if you don't mind using one of your spare inertubes.

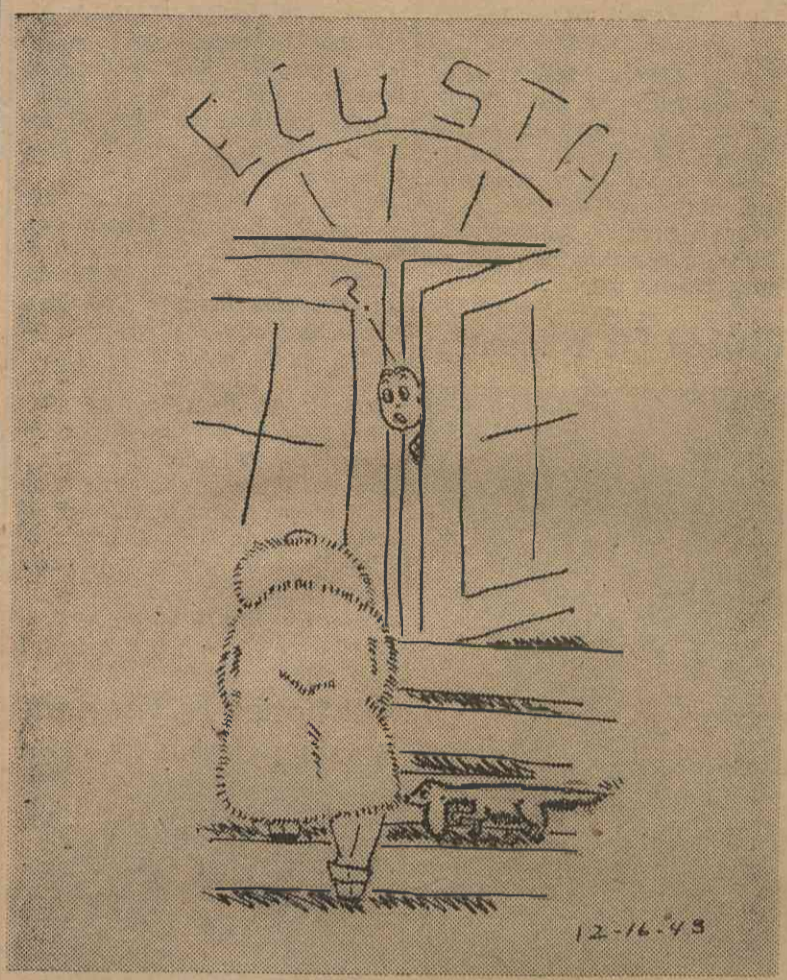
Now that "Butch" Clayton has sold his interest in the railroad—he seems to be very happy about the whole affair.

Somebody said there was a fellow on Batt No. 5 & 6 that would loan you a dollar until tomorrow for 75c interest. Wonder who that could be?

Well, folks, see you next month. Hope everyone a Happy New Year.

## Filter Plant News

Well, I guess it's about time for the "water factory" to crash into print again . . . . Nothing much. . . . just a few notes. . . . Boy, is it cold? Ice all around here, sure slows us up. . . . A. Harrell just killed a hog. . . . We will be right over, Andy, we like ham. . . . It must be warm in Summerville, S. C. Harry Kolman hails from there. . . . Up here Harry wears two coats and three sweaters plus a vest at a temperature of 18 above zero. . . . What would he do if it really turned cold? . . . C. Aiken has just gathered his V-garden potatoes (all three of them). . . . Anybody got a mule for sale? J. Connell wants to buy one. . . . He intends to plant a garden with six rows in it instead of the usual four. . . . He needs the mule to ride the 1-8 a mile from his home to garden. . . . two rows do make a difference. . . . We lost F. Waldrop to the army a short while ago. . . . Sure miss him. . . . The Army is lucky. . . . H. Mehaffey must be in love again. He hums quite a



## Machine Room News

BY JOHN GOOLSBY

Once again we face the dawn of a New Year, and our sincere wish is that our boys who face the enemy on far flung battle fronts of the world can return in 1944 and enjoy the freedom for which they so gallantly fought and next year we can truly say Happy New Year!

Our superintendent, J. R. Denton, underwent a minor operation, and at this writing is improving nicely.

G. E. Patton, foreman of "C" shift, underwent an operation at the hospital here; he is also getting along as well as could be expected at this writing.

The grim reaper slipped in to the home of Olin Edney again and took his mother-in-law. This is the third death in his family in less than sixty days. We extend him our sincere deepest sympathy.

Oliver Vallincourt has returned from his vacation and reports that things have undergone lots of changes since his visit. His destination was New York.

John Pickelsimer leaves for Uncle Sam's fighting fleet in a few days. We wish him the best of luck and we believe he will make a swell sailor. John was backtender on No. 5 machine, "C" shift.

bit. . . . One word of warning, Mac, don't let it get you down. . . . We had a little contest the other day, nobody won. . . . Why? . . . Well, can YOU name all the states in the Union in 24 hours? (without help) I'll tell you. . . . You can't. . . . So there. . . . Forget it. . . . Hope Santa was good to you. . . . We at the filter plant wish to thank Mr. Straus for the extra check at Christmas time. . . . The Christmas program this year was the best ever, all those nice things help one to go through life with a lighter heart. . . . Well, I gotta take a reading now.

So long,!!!

"WATER DOG"

## Refining Room—"D" Shift Reporting

Fred Wallin surely had a fall on that ice Christmas. Anyway he said his back was out of commission until he had some sort of a "rub down" from a doctor. Tell us about the foot treatment for sore backs, Fred. We might need it sometime.

Leland T. and Clifford G. seem to have secrets all their own about what they did Christmas. I bet it was a trip with hunting playing a minor part.

Frank Patton, our foreman, is on vacation this week and Henry Holliday is acting foreman in his place.

John Rogers and others have been absent with the flu. Flu seems to be getting the best of a lot of us. But for others, now is the time when the cold shots we had last fall are doing most good.

Now we turn to the New Year, 1944, and see what it has to offer.

John Ball's New Year's resolution is not to worry so much so that he won't get any more grey hairs. We advise Fred W., Buck P. and a few others to take the same precautions.

Jerry Freeman, you may shave off your mustache now that Christmas is over and you won't be needing to play Santa Claus any more for another year.

From the looks of the clouds, the New Year is coming in and bringing snow. We'll be coming in the gate with either skis or ice skates.

Clarence Crow says if he has to double over many more times, he's just going to bring his bed down and not bother to go home for less than a half dozen hours sleep. Good idea, Clarence, let's all try it on the much dreaded double backs.

That's all for now, readers, except that we want to wish you all the happiest of new years and let's all try to make 1944 the year of Victory.

## Office Bits

Whizzzzz — — Bang! Ring out the old year and in the new. May this year be a brighter and happier one for us all. Well, folks, another month has rolled around but not very much has happened. Santa did manage to get around though through all of the sleet and leave a few things. Of course everyone was well pleased with what they got and didn't even ask for more. Fred Jordan has just returned from his honeymoon and we are glad to have him back.

We understand that Harvey Souther was an usher in the wedding. How's your knees, Harvey? We sincerely regret that Virginia Pryor, due to the doctor's orders, leaves us for the fair city of Hendersonville. Congratulations, Bill Millner on that fine son at your house —But, where's our candy?

We wonder what happened to Bob and Mary Ruth Johnson the other day that they didn't get to work on time. Maybe you had better let "Dottie" set your alarm clock for you, "Bob". And what's that on Willa Kate's finger? That's a mighty pretty ring, Kate, and the "Hubby" did some nice selecting to be over seas. Among the sick we are glad to have back are, Reba Russell, Margaret Collier, L. F. Dixon, George Bell, Rose Alice Rozier, Ruth Shepherd, and Ruby Brookshire. And there's been another named changed—from Paxton to Armfield. We are glad to have you back, Mary.

What's this about Leonard Bauer placing a call to himself from the New York office? Didn't you know when you were to return to work, Leonard? We understand through Homer Harris that Audrey is in town and that she will pay us a visit before she leaves. Karl Straus came in on furlough to surprise the folks for Christmas.

"Dot" Hunter met her husband in Raleigh for the Christmas holidays. That was a long trip back, eh what, "Dottie?" Sonia and Robert Colwell spent Christmas in New York with the family. Jack Driscoll is back from Jersey City. Lee Bauer has returned from New York where he spent the holidays with his relatives.

Why is it that Jimmy Jones has such a "gleam" in his eye these days?

Ruby Brookshire is very happy over the fact that "hubby" is coming home soon.

Who's the young lady that receives calls from N. Y. despite the fact that conversations are limited to five minutes—"the Navy Come Thru"!

Margaret and Bob Collier spent the Christmas holidays in Greenville, S. C. with their families.

"Kitty Kat" went tearing off to Columbia to see the "Cpl."

Mildred Carpenter spent her holidays in Newton, N. C. but most of the time was spent on the bus. How about that, Mildred?

Mr. V. E. Barker went to Greensboro, N. C. for Christmas holidays.

Mr. Charles Cook spent the Christmas holidays in Fountain Inn, S. C.

From the way that Betty A. talks she must have had a real nice Christmas; don't hold out on us now, Betty.

BUY WAR BONDS!