

News And Gossip From Our Various Departments

BLOCKING GAB

As for news we don't have any, but for gab we have plenty. We all have smiles on our faces for we know spring is just around the corner. . . . We were sorry to lose one of our blockers for awhile; Lucille Heffner is helping in the library. . . . Oh, yes, Myrtle, tell us all about your being sleepy Monday. Could it be results from a trip to Columbia? Could be. . . . What's this I hear about Lula C. going to church in a wagon? That's O. K., Lula, keep your religion if you do get it in a wagon. . . . Girls, you really played a grand ball game Friday night if you did lose. So don't give up all hopes and keep playing for the winners. Some little bird told me Mary and Willie P. spent a nice weekend in Charlotte. . . . If you have been wondering about the blockers, would you like to see a change? Let's see how this would be: Irene with red hair and blue eyes, Nell J. weighing 200 pounds, Frances P. bowlegged, Jean with glasses on, Dare with a smile, Eula without anything to say, Ruth J. with freckles, and Helen and Edith W. married. Wouldn't that be wonderful? It can't be true. . . . We'll sign off with a thought for the day: The best time to read a book is when Spring opens the leaves and Autumn turns the leaves. We'll turn a new leaf for next month. So long for now.

Stitching Dept. News

Now that spring is just around the corner, the stitching department will awake for a bit of second-hand gossip. A dinner bell should be erected for the benefit of Myrtle P., Jo C. and Margaret P.—Not hungry today, girls? At first the stitching department thought John S. was blushing, but later found out it was sun-burn as a result of working in his victory garden. We think Evelyn T. is a lucky girl. Not many girls rate a pair of silk hose, especially from Panama. Judging from Alma R.'s spring outfit, we wonder what is cooking. Come on and tell us, Alma. How is it that Thelma S. can get so much more mail than the rest of us poor girls. Tell us the secret, Thelma. It has been reported that Mr. Erwin has spring fever, but confidentially we think he is as mean as ever. Anyone wishing to know the direction of the Asheville depot, we refer you to Betsy A. and Pearl A. We wonder if Bill H. has recovered from the struggle of working out his income tax. It seems like old times to see Dot G. back in her familiar corner. Ruby D., don't you know shoes too small will cause corns and bunions? We wonder why Lillie S. would like to visit the west coast? 'Fess up, Lillie. Kate S. received a surprise visit from her husband who is home on short leave. Frances W. is wearing a lovely shell necklace and bracelet to match. A gift from her husband. Nell W., our star reporter, is spending her vacation in Providence, R. I., visiting her husband.

Winner Of Echo's 1944 Baby Contest



Meet Little Miss Patsy Owen and her mother, Mrs. Ray Owen, who live at Lake Toxaway. Patsy was first "Ecusta Baby" to arrive in 1944 and she received a \$25.00 war bond with the compliments and best wishes of the Echo. Her father, Private Ray Owen, worked in the Refining Department before entering service in 1942, and her mother likewise worked at Ecusta.

Machine Booklet

Well, here we are again folks. Seems as though wedding bells and vacations are all the go these days.

Pauline Campfield was married to Lewis Martin of Hendersonville February 28th. Nice going, Polly, we wish you every happiness possible. And Gladys Whitmire was married, February 23, to Robert Raines of Rosman. Now our old maids' club is ruined.

Seems as though Mrs. Van O'Kelley is all smiles these days. She spent two weeks with her husband, Private Van O'Kelley of Camp Wheeler, Ga.

Carolyn G. sings all the time; it's practice for those afternoon singings. Ah, come on, Carolyn, give us a solo. Practice makes perfect.

Mary Martha G. says that leap year doesn't do her any good; a vacation gone and no man. Ah, cheer up, Mary Martha, Charlotte C. says you can have one of her old boy friends. Who is the good-looking boy Janetter Tinsley still thinks of?

We all are sorry to lose Gwendolyn Morgan, who has been with us for four years. Hope she has a nice rest. We are glad to welcome several new girls to our department: Marie Galloway, Betty McClure, Mae Staton.

Machine Booklet was very glad to see Jimmie Dunne and Johnnie Souther who were in on visits.

Louise Souther can certainly think up good reasons for being absent when a certain sailor comes home, especially.

Buck Albert, recently heard from, is expected in for a visit. We hear also he is a "Looie." Chewing gum might be rationed but Mae Whitmire and Robin think not.

We are very sorry that Ruby B. is in the hospital; hope she will be back with us soon. Myrtle V. is back with us after being absent for a few weeks.

Finishing Touches B SHIFT

Maud Stewart spent her vacation in the "Sunny South." I guess she got her full quota of Vitamin D this time. . . . We are glad to have Mary K. back to work after being ill a week; we also hope she fully recovers soon. . . . It's a little early to start a Victory garden but that must've been Charles and Becky C's. reason for an early vacation. . . . Charles M's. new socks have every color in the rainbow and a few additional ones. He tells us his father advises him to put them outside his room at night because they're so "loud" they'll disturb his sleep. . . . Freda D. says she doesn't have time to sing at her work now like she did when she operated. Maybe she should take rest periods for that purpose. . . . Jean A. says maybe working a little harder would make her lose those additional pounds she gained while off two weeks. . . . We're glad to have Martha S. with us on this shift. Maybe it's because there isn't any ice cream for her to eat up from us. . . . Juanita O. seems to be made especially happy over a certain letter. . . . It's a long way to California where Ruth G's. husband is. Maybe that is what causes that far-away look in her eyes. . . . They say no news is good news, so I guess this is all. G'bye for now.

—Martha Lee McCall.

Finishing Touches A SHIFT

'Pears to us like we've been staying in the background a little too much here of late. Surely seems good to be "in the news" once more. . . . Have two new girls on our shift: Dorothy Queen and Marie Rogers. Glad to have the girls, especially when we're running such tiny "sets" off these slitters and every hand is needed. . . . Poor "ole" Ed! He sez carrying all those 1560 m. bobbins will be the death of him. Take heart, Ed, there comes Marie to help you out. . . . All the girls are excited over playing basketball. That is, they were! After the first night of practice, most of 'em were too sore to be excited. . . . It's well for Madge that Thelma doesn't choose to spend the night with her often, or, rather, it's good for Madge's small son. Rumor goes that Johnnie had to sit in a chair all day long so he wouldn't muss up the house. Hate to have been in Johnnie's shoes! . . . We've been hearing a lot of "Marine talk." Just wonder what could be in the air. Could you help us out, Thelma? . . . This department is hoping to walk away with second prize when bowling season is over. Pray that Endless Belt will drop down! . . . Lucille has had the spring fever, though a little early. Speaking of being early, Ruth Jones has already savored the sweetness of her vacation. Gosh, Ruth! . . . Alveria is leaving us; ole slitter No. 2 will certainly be lonely—so will we. Hate to see you go, gal. . . . Frosty's been receiving entirely too many phone calls (long-distance, too) since she went to visit her one and only a few days ago. However, she didn't go alone: Nadine accompanied her. Nadine's husband is stationed at the same place. Both reported a grand trip. . . . Wonder why Nita doesn't tell us more about her "Boot" sailor. . . . And there's Margaret looking mighty lonely for the past few days, and no wonder. Her special

Gumming News

By M. TAYLOR

Sgt. Bill Harrill, former employee of the Gumming Dept., was a week-end visitor. "Bill" is an M. P. now and is stationed in New Orleans. . . . Helen Duckworth has a new job; she's learning to run a printing press in the Printing Dept. . . . James Henson, super bloc cutter, has the cutter under control at last. He cuts good enough for a king. . . . Eric Newman, Supt. of Gumming and Repse Dept., has purchased himself a home on Probart Street. . . . Evelyn Morrow is our only representative on the girls' basketball team, while the boys have two, Robert Whitaker and Mitchell Taylor. . . . Pfc. Harold Misenheimer was a visitor recently. Harold is in the Marines and only recently returned from overseas. . . . T-Sgt. Weldon Misenheimer, former operator in the Gumming Department, who is now with the 13th Army Air Forces, was a member of the crew which made a successful raid on Kaiveng, New Ireland. . . . Ed Garren has enlisted in the Army Air Corps and is now awaiting his call. . . . Goodé, spring is just around the corner and those fish are itching to be caught. . . . Rosalie is spending her vacation away up on Probart Street. . . . Frank and Helen Duckworth visited relatives in Asheville recently. . . . Ben says he can't sleep on graveyard for his neighbors' geese. . . . Recent news from our former Gumming employees show that Amos Lanning is in India, Fred Hutchinson in Italy, Roy Carter in Australia, Grady Wilkie in Jamaica and Weldon Misenheimer is in Southwest Pacific. "Give 'em 'L' boys." . . . Helen's rubber gloves didn't last long in the Printing Dept. after the oil and ink hit them.

beau has just joined Uncle Sam's forces. . . . Now where in the world does Harry get all his gum? Must be finding it. . . . 'Tis all for this time. See you 'round the corner!!