

SAFETY PAGE

By H. E. NEWBURY, Safety Director



In the January issue of the Echo this year, the two following suggestions were made with reference to the hazards we have here, in connection with the new construction.

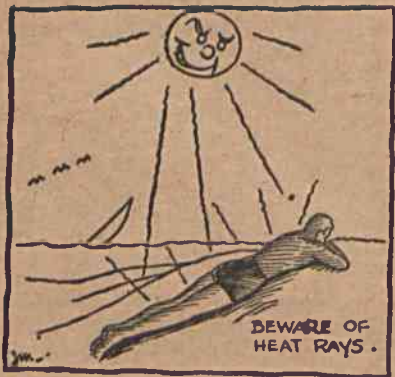
1. Use only the regular walkways provided by the Company, in going to and from your work, and to the Cafeteria. (Please do not take short cuts or go near any ditches or other excavations).
2. Unless your job requires it, do not go near any new construction work. You will not only endanger yourself, but will possibly interfere with the work of others.

These suggestions were made only for your protection, and it is very disappointing to see that they are not being followed.

On several occasions recently, numerous employees have gone through the new construction areas at various times. They have even jumped ditches, climbed over and under barricades, and have resorted to running in areas that were too rough to even walk in. Such tactics are truly dangerous, and for your own welfare and protection, should be stopped immediately.

It has been said that "at the root of all carelessness is selfishness, or at least indifference. None of us can afford to be careless about anything—our safety, our work, our body, our friends, or our attitude toward life, if we would be successful and enjoy a reasonable amount of happiness."

Let's all think it over.



DID YOU KNOW?

That during the past ten years 322,200 Americans were killed in motor vehicle traffic accidents?

That it already appears certain that, with fewer motor vehicles on the road, the 1946 death toll from automobile accidents will be close to the all-time high of 1941

1945 ACCIDENT FACTS ARE ALARMING--FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A Reminder

In the booklet of safety rules that all employees have received during the past five years, the following personal message appears on page one, over the signature of the President of our three companies:

"The Management is sincerely interested in doing all it can to prevent injuries to its employees. Therefore, you are being given this booklet of rules and instructions to keep and study. Know and strictly follow these rules and instructions, and you will protect yourself and others from injury.

Accidents, as a rule, are caused by someone not thinking, or by someone not using the proper care in his or her work or actions.

It is the duty of those experienced in safety to teach the inexperienced, and the duty of the inexperienced to learn. Each of the rules and instructions in this booklet has been suggested by some supervisor or worker in this company. Most of the rules and instructions have been included to eliminate practices which have endangered workers in the past.

In the interest of your own, and your fellow workers' safety, the Management urges that these rules and instructions be considered as a part of your job, and strictly followed."

When management takes the above stand to try to protect us and eliminate personal injuries, surely, the least we can do is to heed and obey safe practice rules and instructions that have been outlined for us.

Remember, when we all make up our minds to stop accidents, they will stop—and not before then.

Remember This—

Most accidents can be avoided, but it is right at the moment when our attention is distracted for a few seconds—when we take things for granted, that the "impossible" thing does happen. In ten seconds a man may be maimed; wrecking his life; bringing hardships and poverty; leaving all his past in ruins.

A worker will never forget for even a moment, if Safety, Safety, Safety is drilled into him every day. He will never take a chance if foremost in his mind there is the thought that one chance may result in a serious injury.

This means that our job of "Accident Prevention" requires the constant attention of every one of us, and that we are the ones who can and must "keep everlastingly at it" on Safety.

—39,969?

That accidental deaths of children 5 to 14 years old numbered 6,700 in 1945?

That the 1945 total of property loss in fires was approximately \$484,000,000?

The National Safety Council has just released a booklet on Accident Facts for last year, and you will find some unbelievable figures listed below.

To begin with, there were 96,000 deaths throughout the United States during 1945, due to accidents alone. These fatalities were listed by classes as follows:

Occupational (civilian)	16,000
Motor Vehicle	26,200
Home (civilian)	33,400
Public (civilian) (non-motor vehicle)	15,500
Military Personnel (non-motor vehicle)	4,900

Based on the figures compiled by the Army and Navy Departments up to V-J Day (August 14, 1945), war casualties totalled as shown below:

Killed	261,608
Missing	32,811
Wounded	651,911

The accident toll on the home front from Pearl Harbor to V-J Day was as follows:

Class Of Accident	Deaths	Injuries
Motor Vehicle	94,000	3,300,000
Home	118,000	17,500,000
Occupational (Industrial workers)	66,000	6,600,000
Off-the-job (Industrial workers)	94,000	8,400,000

It is truly alarming to see that a hundred thousand more deaths occurred on the home front due to accidents during the above period than those purposely killed in World War II. The sad part about it, is that a great majority of the home front fatalities could have been prevented.

A disaster, bringing death to 25, or even 10 persons, would crowd into the front pages of newspapers throughout the country, inspiring many editorials. Yet the annual accident toll — 96,000 in 1945 — receives only passing notice.

Disasters have always been front-page news to American citizens because of the number of lives lost. But the lives lost are relatively few when compared to the day-by-day life losses from ordinary, and for the most part, unspectacular accidents. This does not mean lessening precautions against disasters, but it does suggest the tremendously greater importance of guarding against every accident hazard, whether it threatens only one life, or a thousand.

With fatalities hovering around the hundred thousand mark every year, and other personal injuries reaching the enormous figure of thirty-five million, it has really reached the stage where something must be done.

Let's all accept our part of the responsibility in accident prevention work, and resolve now to extend our utmost efforts in helping stamp out personal injuries.

That the 96,000 accidental deaths last year, would have wiped out the entire population of eight counties the size of Transylvania?



Employee was using pocket knife to sharpen end of stick, when knife slipped and he received a deep laceration on his finger.

SUGGESTION: Be especially careful when using any sharp-edged tools. Always cut away from your body, never toward it.



Employee was working in confined area when he raised up, struck his head on a pipe, and received a laceration on top of head.

SUGGESTION: When working in confined areas, especially where there are overhead pipes and braces, be very careful when raising up.



Much has been said in the past about the very unsafe practice shown above. This has occurred, not only on hand trucks, but on electric trucks as well. These trucks are not made to haul passengers, and it is the responsibility of operators and riders to eliminate this hazard.