

MUELLER RECORD

INSIDE ONLY OCTOBER 1934 NO. 15

FIRST FALL ELECTIONS

E. C. Stille Brought In as Dark Horse Is Winner

HIS SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE
STATES HIS PLATFORM AMID LOUD
APPLAUSE OF FRIENDS AND ADMIRERS

The first meeting of the Foremen's Club in many months was held at Mueller Lodge on the evening of November 1st. Paul Jacka was inaugurated president with democratic simplicity and announced the first business of the evening would be the election of a vice president. There was a moment of tense silence when Ed. C. Stille proposed the name of James Hamilton. Then Burt Jackson was entered in the race. Just before the voting was ordered Ed. Stille was nominated as the dark horse in the race. George Krag, C. W. Hathaway and Blue Lusk were appointed members of the canvassing board, and later announced the results.

Ed. C. Stille
Burt Jackson
James Hamilton.

Amid tumultuous applause and cries of speech, the successful candidate arose with Websterian dignity and thrusting his right hand in his vest, said in solemn tones:

"My friends and countrymen, lend me your ears. I'll send them to the laundry to be returned to you nicely cleaned for next Wednesday night's prayer meeting. I am deeply conscious of the great honor and responsibility that has been thrust upon me. It is, indeed, a great honor to have you repose confidence in my ability to discharge the duties of this highly important office, and you shall not be disappointed. For years I have watched our vice-presidents stagger under the heavy load of doing nothing and get away with the job. Doing nothing is my long suit and I therefore accept the trust and promise you now to be the best vice president this club has ever known. My platform is to do as little as you can and get everything you can for nothing, and in this effort I shall depend upon the support of all the do nothings in the club."

The victorious candidate sat down amid the cheering of his followers.

Outside of this important contest there was no set program. It was a sort of get together meeting to pick up the work of the club where it was dropped several months ago.

Adolph Mueller spoke of his recent trip to

Chattanooga, and on business topics. At the Columbian Iron Works the Foremen's Club met on October 19. The situation there is different. It's a new organization and not as yet fully familiar with our plans. In the south business is handled differently. There is not the friendly intercourse between employer and employee that we so well know here. The Columbian plant is very much improved. Big moulding machines for making heavy castings have been added.

He referred to the fact that when anything was destroyed it was lost forever and changes conditions. He cited the great anthracite coal strike and the fact that during its progress users of that coal, unable to have their requirements fulfilled, formed other fuel habits which could not be changed back to anthracite. He told the club members that business conditions with us were somewhat improved, but there are still obstacles to be overcome. The effect of some new governmental requirements were referred to without criticism.

Concerning the election of November 6, he advised every one to vote, but stated plainly he was not telling any one how to vote, except in general terms he explained the way to mark a ballot in order to make it carry out the wishes of the voter.

THE INVENTORY TICKETS

One of the big printing jobs turned out in our printing department recently was 80,000 tags for the annual inventory, which will be taken during the closing days of this month. In fact, the work is already in progress in several departments. The printing bed of the press to do this job had to move forward and back 160,000 times. It required four days to complete the job, at an average speed of 2,500 an hour or 20,000 per day. The inventory set is composed of an original paper sheet and duplicate tag board sheet. These sheets were numbered consecutively as they went through the press. After they were thus printed and numbered they had to be assembled by hand. This was a particular part of the work as it was necessary that the numbers on the two sheets match. Otherwise, much confusion would result in computing totals in the inventory. After this they had to go through the foot operated punching machine and finally put up in pads of fifty sets to a pad. It required 1,200 sheets of paper size 24 x 38 inches in size, and an equal quantity of tag board.

FORMER HALLOWE'EN PARTY



Walter Auer dug up an old picture of a Halloween party on the night of October 31, 1924. The party was composed of members of Dept. 50 and friends. In the group was several couples, sweethearts then, but married now. It proved impossible to identify all the members of this gay crowd at Mueller Lodge, but included in the fun makers were the following:

Emmett Reedy, Kitty Wilkins, Harley Himstead, Red Parker, Humphy Behrns, John Dav-

idson, Nellie Wicks, Helen White, Helen Bunch, Cecil Foltz, Earl Lowe, Paul Andrews, Bill Koontz, Mrs. Koontz, Leita Morris (now Mrs. Reedy), Roy Whitehead, Mildred Parker, Glen Finfrock, Mrs. Finfrock, Clifford Gillebrand, Mrs. Giliebrand, Russell Jolly, — Bennington, Earl Smith, Mrs. Cecil Foltz, Von Brubeck, Mrs. Harley Himstead, Mrs. John Davidson, Mrs. Kitty Wilkins, Alice Mercer, Bee Vick, Flossie Latch.

MARSHALL IS NOW PLUMBING

Marshall Hobbs has succeeded Homer Van Vleet in the Plumbing Division under Chester Hathaway. Barney Marty was brought in from the Vitreous Plant and is now supervising the Receiving Dept. Barney has filled nearly every position in the organization. He has the ability and disposition to fit in almost anywhere—a valuable asset.

PARTIES AT MUELLER HEIGHTS

Robert Lusk and his Foundry Social Club have been meeting at intervals of two weeks at the Athletic Club. The third session was held on the evening of November 7. According to reports everybody is having a fine time.

BIRTHS

M'INROE—Mr. and Mrs. L. M., 860 W. Waggoner St., a son, David Lee, October 26th. Mrs. M'Inroe was formerly Madge Daniels and worked in Dept 8.

The printing department is unusually busy and it is only through constant switching and juggling that we can satisfy the needs of the various departments.

WHY NOT A DRAMATIC CLUB

In the Stationery Dept. we have a late copy of Dennison's plays. We are bringing this to your attention thinking that some of you may wish to avail yourselves of what this book presents. This book lists hundreds of plays, skits, vaudeville acts, songs and dances, monologues and a fine list of old time dinky songs. It would be a fine move if we could organize a dramatic club for presentation of some of these plays at evening entertainments, or our annual picnic. There is plenty of talent in the organization. This was demonstrated at the recent barbecues. Doubtless there is sufficient dramatic talent to put on a play in first class shape. If you think that you can do it or know of any one who can, you are welcome to look over the catalog where you undoubtedly will find a suitable play.

THE CAFETERIA

Don't forget that this company maintains a cafeteria for your benefit, and don't forget that the food is wholesome, prepared and served in sanitary surroundings. The prices are very reasonable. It is a place where all Mueller employees should eat.

GIDDY, GIDDY GOUT—GAD ABOUT

It's catching—this peregrinating—this dashing from one point in the United States to another with small regard for distance. We've grown so accustomed to having Duke, W. E., and Mr. Keil here one day and in Chattanooga the next that it is no longer news. But as we said, it's catching. The latest victim is Clara Uhl, who has shown inclinations of becoming a seasoned globe trotter, also. During the summer, she made several trips to St. Louis, punctuated with an occasional trip to Peoria. Then this month she dashed off to Chicago over one week end and visited the Century of Progress. Returning home, she climbed off the Chicago train, took one look at our fair city, drew a deep breath, and hopped back on the train bound for St. Louis. There she spent the remainder of the week, returning home in time to report for work on Friday morning. Whether Clara has put aside her roving disposition for the winter and settled down to the prosaic life in the old home town, we wouldn't be rash enough to say. We wouldn't be at all surprised to find her dashing out to the west coast some week end to pay a visit to our California friends.

SAFETY

We have reported from time to time on accidents that have happened. We do not have as many or as severe accidents as we use to have, but we still need to be careful. People are seldom hurt on power driven machines. They are more apt to be hurt by some apparently harmless tool. Toes need to be guarded, goggles should be kept in place, aisles kept clear. No safety rules have been repealed. The same necessity for care and thoughtfulness remain.

More important still are health hazards. The time to take care of a cold is at once. It is not wise to pass from a heated room into the cold or rainy weather without putting on a coat or overcoat. It is dangerous to stand in a draft or to work in wet clothing, or to neglect small pains or small injuries. Have a pair of rubbers ready to wear when the snow comes.

In the fall when the season is changing care should be taken to avoid undue exposure. Evidence is accumulating that diet is an important factor in health. Most workers need to eat more fruit and vegetables. The Florida oranges will soon be in the market. Apples are plentiful and fairly cheap. Stock up on these things.

DOROTHY TIES A RECORD

The absent minded professor who scratched his pancake and poured the syrup down his back was no worse than Dorothy Gepford when she really goes in for absent-mindedness. It happened at a bridge party, and the question under discussion was the best way to get in touch with a party in Springfield whose address was unknown. As she reached out and nonchalantly trumped her partner's ace, Dorothy declared triumphantly: "Why, just call up long distance and ask for Springfield, General Delivery."

Thanksgiving is only a few weeks away. It falls on November 29 this year.

NOW ITS BASKET BALL**Good Indoor Sport for the Winter Months**

Basketball is next in line in the way of athletics, and this season promises to be full of interest and keen rivalry. There will be four or five departmental teams in the Mueller League. As it appears now each of the following men will be captain of a team, the line-up of which has not been definitely decided upon: Walter Coventry, Halden Hanson, Ralph Duncan, Ben Taylor, and Eldred Connors. Connors will serve as manager-coach of all the League teams, and Herman Dash as business manager.

Every Monday and Wednesday night there will be a game in the Mueller gymnasium between two of the League teams, and on Saturday night an all star team picked from the five departmental teams will play out of town teams. There will be no charge for the games played on Monday and Wednesdays, but there may be a small admission charge on Saturday nights.

Every man playing on any team will undergo a thorough physical examination before he is allowed to play.

The first game will be played on Monday night, November 26. Everybody in the organization is urged to turn out for the opening game.

SCAT YOU SYLVIA CAT

The popular song "Sylvia", heard so often over the radio, was doubtless written because the author was inspired by the charms of some fair maiden who bore that name. However, Sylvia Barnes, our telephone operator, was not this spark of inspiration—unless she's been holding out on us. But Sylvia is not lacking in charms, for she has kindled such tender sentiments and adoration in the heart of a youth that he has named his newest and most prized possession—"Sylvia". Little Jimmie Hamilton, four year old son of James Hamilton of the sales department, chose this name as the most suitable for his new cat.

Our congratulations to Sylvia, the cat—may she live up to this honor; and our sympathy to Sylvia, the operator, may she bear up under this affliction.

DEATHS**Charles Riley**

Charles Riley, formerly of our Assembly Dept., died at his home, 1111 N. Monroe Street early on the morning of October 11. In the autumn of 1930, Mr. Riley, who was blind, stepped off a porch from a house which he was leaving and fell and broke his hip. He never entirely recovered from this injury, although he was up and about at times. In spite of his weakened condition, his death was a surprise, because he appeared to be in good spirits a day or two before.

Charles Riley worked in our munition department in 1918 as an inspector on work that was judged by touch. He came to work regu-

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A REAL NUDIST

larly in the Assembly Department in Feb. 10, 1919, and continued until April, 1930. Mr. Riley was a careful, exact workman, and had many friends in the organization. When this work was put on a conveyor system and he could not see it as it came by, he had to be laid off.

He was married Dec. 14, 1918 to Sarah Boin, who was a state teacher of the adult blind. Their son, Buddy, was born in 1923. Mr. and Mrs. Riley have been in broom business at their home since his retirement.

Theodore Sheppard

Theodore Sheppard, retired Mueller man, died at the Decatur and Macon County hospital on October 16 after an illness of six days.

Mr. Sheppard was born Sept. 22, 1864 in Kichendors, Germany. He was married in 1889 to Mary Christopher in Chaska, Minn. She died in May this year. He had been in Decatur for the last 38 years and for 34 years was employed in the brass finishing department. He was retired in 1930.

He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Rachael Tittmore of Cooperstown, N. D., and two sons, George and Oscar B. Sheppard of Decatur.

Funeral services were conducted at the First Nazarene Church and burial was at Graceland cemetery.

AT CENTURY OF PROGRESS

Those who attended the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago in the past two summers found many new and unexpected things and also other things which they were looking for. This particular observer was interested in the story of human life before there was any written history. The Mayan Temple tells a story of a civilization that rose and disappeared in the jungles of Yucatan.

Elsewhere a "finance" company had an exhibit which proclaimed the advantage of borrowing money from them to get out of debt at legal interest (42%). In an Oriental exhibit nearby there were clay tablets probably thirty centuries old which recorded similar borrowings of the ancient Babylonians. In those remote days men were trying to borrow their way out of debt.

In the Field Museum there is a fine series of scenes from the prehistoric life of men, the earliest of which is set at half a million years ago.

In the Science building there were a good many exhibits that directly or indirectly touch on the prehistoric past of the human race.

The significance of all this lies in the fact that man may have lived on the earth a million years before he was able to write anything about it, and scientists are piecing the story together from various sources collected all over the world. They are also tracing back the history of animals and plants to remote periods.



Here's a cute little nudist, enjoying summer life to the utmost. She is just about to get off her blanket reservation and investigate the ground work of the great big world. Her name is Marilyn June McQuality, and she is the ten months old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Earl McQuality, living at 1090 W. Green Street. Earl is employed in Receiving Dept.

DUKE TELLS THEM

And Federal Board Says Company Meets All Requirements at Chattanooga

A Washington dispatch to the Decatur Herald under an October 9 date line told of Lucien W. Mueller's appearance before the federal labor board. Lucien's comment that they turned out to be men with a lot of common sense and a fair minded attitude. Duke's appearance had to do with the Columbian Iron Works of Chattanooga. The dispatch says:

"There has been difficulty there, as everywhere, in finding work for all the employes engaged in making plumbing goods. In an effort to obtain more work for themselves, employes and former employes of the Chattanooga plant organized and sent a spokesman to Washington, asking for a ruling to compel the company to employ more men. The labor board heard the story of the workers Monday. Then it listened to the evidence from the company's books presented by Mr. Mueller and an attorney.

"When both sides had completed their statements, the members of the board pointed out to the worker representative that the company is living up to its code requirements under NRA, and that there are no grounds for a complaint. The new arbitration machinery, or labor court, worked quickly and apparently the controversy is settled."

Frances Schuermann, who worked in the brass shops and inspection department for several years, visited the factory recently and reported that she is now living in Springfield and has a permanent position in the sewing room of St. John's hospital there.

Fred Galka returned to work October 10 after an illness of several weeks with rheumatism.

THE BOWLING LEAGUE

Specialty Division Still in the Lead—Blankenburg High Bowler

The Mueller Co. bowling league and the balls go thundering down the alleys every Tuesday night. After 27 games, the standings show little change. The Specialty Division still leads the league with 18 games won and 9 lost. Sickness has taken Frank Mueller out of the game, probably for the season. His absence will be missed by his team.

Blankenburg still leads the high bowlers with C. C. Roarick hanging on to his coat tails, and Behrns within hailing distance. The team leaders are:

- Specialty Division—Blankenburg, 191.
- Works Mgr. Office—Behrns, 181.
- Ground Key—Stille, 176.
- Pattern Shop—H. Leipski, 178.
- Utility Engineers—B. Mason, 170.
- Tool Room—C. C. Roarick, 181.
- Regulators—W. Smith, 162.
- Plumbing—P. Jacka, 151.

Team Standing

Team	G.	W.	L.	Pct.	Av.	HG
Specialty Div.	27	18	9	.667	851	972
Works Mgr.	27	17	10	.630	808	917
Grd. Key Div.	27	16	11	.593	761	897
Pattern Shop	27	15	12	.556	805	960
Utility Eng.	27	14	13	.519	713	894
Tool Room	27	13	14	.481	739	910
Regulators	27	8	19	.296	719	968
Plumbing Div.	27	7	20	.259	653	862

Ten High Bowlers

Player and Team	G.	Av.	HG
K. Blankenburg, Spec. Div.	27	191	224
C. C. Roarick, Tool Room	27	181	215
W. Behrns, Works Mgr. Of.	27	181	241
H. Leipski, Pattern Shop	22	178	225
E. C. Stille, Grd. Key Div.	24	176	204
C. Morenz, Pattern Shop	23	174	210
L. Wiant, Works Mgr Of.	27	172	200
R. Hill, Specialty Div.	24	170	211
B. Mason, Utility Engineers	27	170	213
A. Flaughter, Specialty Div.	27	169	221

SPENDS WEEK END IN CHATTANOOGA

Hugh Baker drove to Chattanooga on October 26 to spend the week end with his son, Hugh, who is a draftsman at the Columbian Iron Works. Saturday morning, Hugh Jr. took his father on a sight-seeing tour of Tennessee. They visited Norris Dam, one hundred and thirty-five miles from Chattanooga, and Smoky Mountain National Park, said to be the most popular national park in the United States. The scenery which they encountered along the way, Mr. Baker declared, was the most beautiful he had ever seen in any part of the country. Viewed from a distance, the red dogwoods, the yellow maples, and the green fir trees blended together into a veritable mass or color which made the mountains even more lovely to look upon than usual.

A PICNIC SNAP SHOT

Photo by E. H. Langdon



Charlie Gilmore consented to be photographed provided he could hold the Smith baby. Left to right Keith Smith of foundry, Keith Jr. and Chas. Gilmore.

RELIEF PROBLEM IN DECATUR

Just how serious the relief problem in Decatur is came to light at the Social Workers State Convention held in Decatur the last week in October.

There was exhibited a chart showing that in the state of Illinois 1,060,338 persons were on relief in the month of August, or 13.9% of the total population, or one in seven. The average for Macon county is somewhat above the average for the State. There were 16,394 on relief or 20.1%. Rural counties were somewhat better than the industrial counties, with the exception of Peoria, which had 8.7% on relief. In Cook county the total is 479,000, which was 12% of the population.

Figures for the state follows:

Less than 8% on relief	11 counties
8%-14%	42 counties
15%-20%	26 counties
20% or over	23 counties

BRASS CHIPS

Goldie Karl has been assisting in the Printing and Stationery Dept., assembling inventory tags, correcting price sheets on water and gas goods, and getting the envelopes ready for mailing the November issue of the Mueller Record.

M. C. Lofton of the Chattanooga plant visited the Decatur factory several days early in October.

W. F. Aaron, travelling salesman in Michigan, was in Decatur October 10-11.

Ethel Fogle returned to work October 25

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after an absence of several weeks due to illness.

Jane Cranston succeeded Mrs. Dorothy Andrews Yochum as stenographer in the water works division of the sales department.

Mrs. Frances Carroll, who was in the Decatur and Macon County Hospital for several weeks, has returned to her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Mueller, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mueller, and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wells were among the large crowd of football fans from Decatur attending the Illinois-Ohio game and homecoming in Champaign on October 20. The day was a perfect autumn day, entirely different from the chill rainy day for the Illinois-Army game on November 3.

Nancy Groble, daughter of Bill Groble of the Engineering Dept., celebrated her fifth birthday on October 23 with a party of ten or twelve of her friends.

Betty Auer, daughter of Walter Auer, entertained about twenty-five of her friends at a Halloween party on October 26. Decorations, games, and refreshments were all in keeping with the Halloween spirit.

Frank Mueller, who has been ill in the Macon County Hospital for the past few weeks is said to be improving daily.

J. Woodrum returned to work November 5 after an absence of about three weeks on account of his health.

Wm. Heddin of Plant 2, who got his foot in a hay baler about a month ago, is expected to return to work soon.

Merle Cunningham and John Curry both returned to work October 18. Cunningham got a couple of fingers mashed while unloading pig iron at Plant 2, and John Curry got his thumb in a power saw.

H. A. Henry of Plant 2 returned to work October 8 after an operation for goiter. He is much improved in health and the physician says he made a remarkably good recovery.

E. H. Langdon attended a convention on industrial relations at the University of Chicago, October 19.

Miss Van Dyke's class in gymnastic dancing is open to daughters, ages 6 to 16, of Mueller Co. employees. There are a number of girls who have not availed themselves of this opportunity for training that will improve their health, poise and charm.

Charles Johnson's Merry Revelers meet on alternating Friday evenings at the same place. The same group had a number of parties there last year.

The University Club of Decatur held their first meeting of season at Mueller Lodge on the evening of Thursday, October 18. Dr. Hessler, the new president of Millikin University, delivered the address of the evening.

Wm. Cambridge of the Maintenance Department was laid up with the flu for about two weeks in October.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gepford and daughter, Dorothy, drove to St. Louis on October 14 to visit relatives.

WEDDING

Bashore-Hanson

Miss Doris Bashore and Haldon (Teaberry) Hanson were married Saturday evening, October 27, in the parsonage of the First Christian church by Rev. Homer E. Sala. The couple were attended by Miss Lovina Cressler and Leo Meyers.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Bashore, 1124 W. Eldorado street, and a niece of Al Bashore of the Shipping Dept. She graduated from Decatur High School in 1931. Mr. Hanson is the son of Mrs. C. M. Hanson, 1617 East Whitmer street, and is employed in the foundry.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are at home in 1115 N. Water street.

VISITORS TO FAIR

Many local people took advantage of the fine autumn weather to visit the Century of Progress in its last few weeks. Among those in attendance from this organization were: Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Wagenseller, Mr. and Mrs. Burt Jackson and daughter Opal, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Troy Roush, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jacka, Clara Uhl, Mary Wilkins, Lucille Smith, Dorothy Stratman, Hugh Baker, and Grace Rhoades.

FRANK IN CHATTANOOGA

O. C. Keil and Frank Edmonson went to Chattanooga Saturday, November 5. Their mission is to put the comptrolling department on a new basis and a systematic plan. Mr. Keil will be absent for a few days, while Frank is expected to remain for several months until the new plans are firmly established and in efficient working order. Mrs. Edmonson and daughter, Carol Lou, accompanied Frank.

There is talk of removing glass partitions from the second floor. It is thought that this will make heating of the second floor more effective and less expensive. At the same time the printing department may be given additional space, which is sadly needed.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bowan, Dept. 44, and two sons, Donald and Milton, visited relatives in Alhambra, Illinois, over the week end of October 13-14.

It's time to be thinking up suggestions for the New Year. Get the old bean to working and win a prize.

Children's Christmas Party

AT GYMNASIUM

Saturday, Dec. 15.

GOOD TIME IN SIGHT