A NEW SPIRIT IN INDUSTRY

For more than twenty years the thoughts of American people have been directed toward peace and the enjoyment of our relative well-being. Our vast ocean boundaries, wealth, and great industrial capacity seemed to justify our believing that advance war preparations were largely an unnecessary expense. When the depression came, many became discouraged by the lack of opportunity and lost some of their confidence and pride in our American institutions and method of living.

During the last few months, as Total War has brought devastation and tragedy to the countries of Europe that were once the co-leaders of our peaceful world, the spirit of the average American has undergone a rapid change. He has realized as never before, perhaps, the weaknesses that have gone unsolved in our country. Unemployment, taxes that discourage the growth of business and jobs, the lack of preparation to meet new techniques of war, have suddenly become immediate instead of theoretical questions. But instead of becoming discouraged over these problems, it is my observation that a spirit of enthusiastic patriotism and pride in our country is reawakening. People are going to work to tackle these problems and they won't stop now until they are solved.

This country wants peace, not war. One of the best ways to discourage other countries from engaging in war with us is to be well armed, well equipped and fully alert to any threats to our security. Many of us now are having a part in producing quantities of up-to-the-minute equipment for our armed forces. In doing this we are making a direct contribution to our National Defense. How well our army, navy and airforce perform in the field depends to a great extent on the efforts and ability of the people as a whole and particularly those who build the tools and equipment and produce war supplies.

Another thing that will make the country stronger is good government. That, too, is a problem for all of us for we get just the kind of government we vote for and deserve. The surest proof of that is to compare the government of two different cities of equal size but with populations that show a contrast in their thoughtfulness and willingness to take time and effort to govern themselves. In every case, the community where people devote time and thought to insist upon sound and sensible government enjoys the best living conditions under the circumstances.

America has always "snapped out of it" when circumstances really demanded it. Problems we face today that seem impossible will melt away as we get up on our hind legs and decide to wipe them off the books. At Sprague Specialties, as we share in the National Defense program and continue bringing income to the community, we are glad to take part in the development of this stronger, more realistic and constructive American spirit that is appearing throughout the country.

R. C. SPRAGUE, President.
NEALLEY DESCRIBES LIFE IN AFRICA

(Continued on page four)

ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION TO CREDIT UNION SAVINGS PLAN — LOANS NOW AVAILABLE

Demonstration that Sprague employees understand the value of thrift has come with the announcement of William H. Brundige, president, that more than $220 is being added to the treasury of the new Sprague Specialties Credit Union weekly.

The Sprague Specialties Credit Union is the first industrial credit union to be organized in North America. It was incorporated by William H. Brundige, president, and Stanley M. Denoyan, treasurer, by Helen Albini, Loretta A. Planey, Ida Marceau Lovett, Maurice E. Chonard, Howard F. Sherman, Lars N. Andersen, Harry A. Cassidy, Jr., Ramerick F. MacAlpine, Theophile J. Rou-

Any person accepted for membership who has completed payment on at least one $5 share is eligible to obtain loans from the Union. "Proper purposes" include purchase of home equipment such as refrigerators, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, heaters, etc., payment of doctor’s and dentist’s bills, funding of debts, vacations, education, purchase of automobiles, and home repairs. All loans must be passed upon by the credit committee.

As of September 17, 1940, 225 fully paid members had enrolled. The Sprague Specialties Credit Union was organized by a "Coal Cartel" through which coal may be purchased wholesale and then sold on credit to members. Members of the Union may borrow up to $100 on an unsecured note unless individual financial stability is questionable, in which case a satisfactory co-signer is necessary, and over $100 with a co-signer. Interest will be paid on savings shares, the actual rate of which will be determined by the amount of business.

Two hundred and twenty-five contributing members are saving more than an average of one dollar per week.

Applications for membership must be in writing and bear the approval of a member of the Board of Directors. No director may present the name of a person whom he cannot recommend as being honest and industrious and of good habits. Unlike many savings banks, deposits will be placed on interest the first business day of each month. All members will receive a pass book recording payments.

For entertainment, we make our own. We have a grand club-house where we spend most of our idle time, especially Saturday evening.

Hunting for Leopards and Crocodiles

Bridge is played very well by most everyone here — and often. Hunting for deer, antelope, leopards, crocodiles and the most savage of perhaps all game, the buffalo, is more distressing and usually longer. It is inhabited by a tribe of man-eaters. No one is allowed on the mountain. The natives would sooner cut their hand off than to try to enter the jungle there.

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The Windsor Print Works

NEIGHBORING INDUSTRIES: WINDSOR PRINT WORKS

Founded in 1873 as the Freeman Manufacturing Company, the Windsor Print Works has long been a contributing factor to the city's industrial life.

Here millions of yards of cotton cloth are printed yearly. Bales of cloth in the gray state enter the plant and after going through the various stages of refinement, are printed with many colors and designs. One of the novel processing features of the Windsor Print Works is the crinkle finish of many of its pieces of goods.

An average of 350 employees are on the pay roll of this concern at the present time.

The Windsor Print Works
TEST LABORATORY NO PLACE FOR TIMID SOUL

The voltage in the electric chair or "hot seat" at Sing Sing is 1,200 volts. In contrast to this, controllable AC voltages in the Sprague Test Laboratory range from 0 to as high as 7,200 (and much higher in our special high voltage laboratory), for here is where condensers are tested to the breaking point and subjected to tremendous electrical and heat loads. They are torn apart by the huge electrical forces and deliberately loaded with supercharge until they burst, so we can observe the changes that go on inside and check the often complex physical reactions of the various materials used in manufacture. Sprague condensers, certain competitor's models and whole radio sets are dissected on the operating tables of the Sprague Laboratory.

A visitor from the outside walks softly and keeps his hands carefully in his pockets as William Bolduc, in charge of the Sprague radio sets are dissected on the operating tables of the Sprague forces and deliberately loaded with supercharge until they burst, so we can observe the changes that go on inside and check the often complex physical reactions of the various materials used in manufacture. Sprague condensers, certain competitor's models and whole radio sets are dissected on the operating tables of the Sprague Laboratory.

William Bolduc at the high-voltage test

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WALTER CLARK

When a manufacturing order leaves our sales office, the next man to handle it and draw up the manufacturing specifications is Walter Clark, who is in charge of this important part of the business, as well as our production system and finished products, and is responsible for the preparation and delivery of samples to our customers.

Walter Clark has handled specifications since his first job in the Portsmouth Navy Yard. They are as familiar to him as the multiplication tables are to a teacher in the third grade. His experience has been broad as well as intensive and has taken him as far away as China.

A native New Englander, he was born in Granville, Vt., February 23, 1899, and soon moved to Portsmouth, where, after completing his education, he put in papers for a job at the Navy Yard and was soon accepted. He is far from being just a white collar worker; he has served his apprenticeship in the carpenter, joiner and spar shop, and blacksmith shop. His light step belies the fact that he has wielded a hammer on the forge and made it ring. Beginning with the tracing of specifications in the drafting room in the submarine design division, he soon rose to a supervisory position and ended up by being a designer in the mechanical division that turned out the "Y" boats.

Walter Clark is one of the few members of our Company who really adapt with chesblips the result of his being transferred in 1925 to the position of superintendent of the construction office in Shanghai where the Navy was building six gunboats for service on the Yangtze River Naval Patrol for the protection of American interests in that broad and dangerous area. These included the ill-fated Panay, the Japanese "honor" hostess ship. Some years later, when the Japanese took care of repair work and specifications for the Fleet as it came into Shanghai from Manila and Tientsin. It was not a peaceful period for the Communists rolled down over China and Shanghai was completely surrounded. Clark saw the wreckage of the revolution and the heads of victims stuck on poles outside the city.

Returning to this country to work with a division of Allied Chemical and Dye Company in Detroit, where the Solvay division made soda ash, caustic soda, calcium chloride and other chemicals, he was called to Sprague Specialties by Mr. Shugg who had known him for his work at Portsmouth. Formerly handling engineering work, he is now directly under Mr. Shugg handling manufacturing specifications and keeping his inspection up to date.

Mr. Clark married the day he left for China, honeymooning in Hawaii and the Philippine Islands. He has a daughter, Pamela, nine, is treasurer of the parish of St. John's Episcopal Church, Williams town, and has just built a new home in the Colonial Village in Williams town, equipped with both a vegetable and flower garden. Like many members of the Company, he is an enthusiastic tennis player and in the winter puts on his skis.

 Favorite food: broiled lobster; society-hair's club, hobby: collecting books, football, movies, shorts - prefers Hollywood stars to men's. One hobbyist builds and operates a model railroad. He's still loyal to Clara Bow. Questionnaire signed by "Dr. I. Q." Lists Mae West as favorite actress and has been up Greylock "once too often." One girl says ambition for children is "To be like my husband," carefully underlined. Sounds like a happy marriage.

NEALLEY IN AFRICA

(Continued from page two)

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out here and we have the latest news before you folks at home, at least at the same time.

We receive all the more popular programs from home, such as Amos and Andy, Easy Aces, Ben Bernie, etc. Football games in the fall and baseball games in the summer. Ice hockey and National Tennis matches. So you see, we aren't lost altogether, even though we can step outside of the door and see bands of monkeys in the trees.

World war one here, I came as a planter and spent about three months actually growing and collecting rubber but inadvertently I told somebody a few things that could be done in handling material in our large material and supply department. Net result was that I was transferred to that department. Being closely allied with transport, I soon was handed that branch, too.

Still boasting, I am the secretary of the Firestone Overseas Club, one of the House Managers for the club and sports editor for a paper that we have just started to publish.

Give my best wishes to all the gang, R. C., Carl, Andy, Mac, J. K., Walter and many of the fellows I haven't named. When I get back I'll have to come up and give you a first-hand description of some of the things I've seen and done in jungle vines.”

ED NEALLEY.
EMPLOYMENT

Due to the routine seasonal variance in the condenser business it is impossible to keep our employment at a year-round level; therefore, the layoffs. When these layoffs are necessary they are made in order of seniority as is the re-hiring when work picks up. No new production workers are employed while there are any layoffs in good standing and available. If a job requiring special skill is to be filled, exceptions to the seniority policy are sometimes made.

The majority on our payroll can be considered as year-round workers. Those who make up our "reserve" list now should keep in mind that they are the future "regulars." This becomes possible by the dropping out, from time to time, of workers with greater seniority and by the expansion of the company.

To the prospective employee — his turn will come only after all available former employees have been placed. The list of applicants is then gone over carefully and selections made in order of desirability. In making this selection many things are considered — neatness, alertness, general health, poise, education and previous experience. The apparent sincerity of the applicant as to just how much he really wants the job is also considered. (One more item will be added to the requirements of an employee in our Brown Street plant as government contract work allows only United States citizens to be employed.) From the group of applicants best filling these requirements, workers are then selected to fill the jobs for which they seem best suited.

MORE HIGHLIGHTS ON THE TYPICAL EMPLOYEE FROM OUR SPECIAL QUESTIONNAIRE

The remaining questions and answers of our vacation questionnaire continue to reveal an active, up-to-the-minute individual as the typical employee. A psychologist would undoubtedly award him or her an A1 Personality rating. Many activities and wide interests are the usual qualities of the vigorous and even-tempered person.

Favorite color was blue by a big margin. Favorite cigarette — in spite of the famous slogan "It's — —'s, two to one," was Liggett & Myers' Chesterfield. Favorite gum, a plurality to Beech Nut. Do you own a car? Slightly less than half answered "Yes," Practically all employees replied that they drive a car. Ford was the most popular make; other favorites being Plymouth, Dodge, Buick, Chevrolet, Oldsmobile, Studebaker, Mercury, Pontiac, DeSoto, Packard.

Twenty-five employees had travelled abroad. Sprague employees proved themselves to be joiners and the list of associations belonged to are as follows:


Brunettes were preferred over blondes. Favorite song was Irving Berlin's twenty year old "God Bless America," originally written in 1917 but not popular until this year. Most employees have worked in only one department. Nearly sixty employees own their own home. To the question, do you think girls should wear shorts and slacks to work, the majority replied "O. K." Practically all employees smoke.

The question, is there a radio in your home, brought out the fact that every single employee reports having a radio, thus demonstrating the remarkable fact that in less than a decade the radio has grown from a little known invention to one of the prime necessities of the American way of life.

The Greylock Trails have taken quite a pounding from Sprague hikers. All but forty-six have reached the top. All but twenty-one answered "Yes" to the "Can you swim" question. Almost half of all employees can speak or read some foreign language.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Chet Zabek has returned to Providence College in Providence, R.I.

August Lindquist, Jr., has resumed his studies at Norwich University, Northfield, Vt.

Russell and Leland Marchall have returned to the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S "GUESS WHO"


ABOUT PICTURES FOR "THE LOG"

The LOG is very grateful to all its readers who have kindly submitted photographs of themselves and their children for publication. So far as is possible all pictures submitted and which can be properly reproduced will be used. However, certain points should be kept in mind.

1. The best size photos are those not smaller than 2" and not larger than 4 1/2" in any dimension.

2. Except in unusual cases where something else of interest is shown, the person should occupy the greater part of the picture. In other words, tiny figures and a lot of landscape do not develop very well in the LOG.

3. Pictures should be in good focus and of proper exposure. Those that are too dark or too light naturally cannot be used.
**BLESSED EVENTS**

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Trifari on August 29. Frank is connected with our patent department.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Castra. Mrs. Castra is Dorothy of the Paper Test Department and the baby has been named Joanne Mary.

A daughter, Prudence Mary, was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Davis on August 6, 1940.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Cwalinski welcomed a daughter born on August 28. Mother is Betty of the Impregnating Department.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Bolduc on August 21. The baby who weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces, has been named William.

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IRV KAHAN, EMMA UNDERWOOD AND MYSTERY FISHERMAN WIN CONTEST PRIZES

The LOG is happy to announce that Irv Kahan, traveling representative for Sprague retail sales, working out of Chicago, has been awarded first prize for his fish story, published herewith in this issue, in the contest which we first announced in the July issue. He will receive a check for $5.

Second prize of $3 has been awarded to Emma Underwood, of the Sample Department, for her surprising little story about her water spaniel.

Third prize of $1 goes to the "Mystery Fisherman," whose story appeared in the July issue. Naturally this prize can only be awarded if the gentleman will come forward and make his identity known.

An honorable mention goes to Mr. Don Carpenter, not an employee of Sprague Specialties but a constant reader of the LOG, and who submitted the fascinating story "Little Known Facts About Whitingham Dam and Surrounding Waters," reprinted herewith.

Mr. Carpenter, the president of the Chevy Chase Citizens' Association in Washington, D. C., is widely known as an angler and was the founder and first president of the National Capital Casting Club. He takes two boys and one girl, aged 4, 7, and 11, respectively, with him on his fishing trips and writes a daily newspaper fishing column. The LOG believes his adventures are well worth reading and so reprints them herewith.

FISH STORY LANDS CONDENSER ORDER

By Irv Kahan

Your "Mystery Fisherman" had nothing on me — so here goes. I perspired through a similar experience a few weeks ago on one of the lakes in upper Wisconsin and when I finally bagged the culprit, it weighed seventy pounds and a four-footer. However, I was the one who had lost the weight, and not the fish — which was all right with me — as reducing has become my hobby because I like apple pie. Too bad the mighty two-hundred-pound "Mystery Fisherman" did not become lighter, or did he? However, the story does not end here.

The scene changes. It is a week later and I am sitting in the office of one of my Chicago accounts trying to reel in a good condenser order. My moody prospect was perched up in punt formation ready to let me have it (not the order). "Well," says I to myself, "start thinking, get some bait out for this fellow — interesting stories and unusual experiences go good — give him the business about 'Did you hear this one?'" Well, to make a long fish story short, I related my old "one-two." I lost another five pounds.

The desired effect is always accomplished when the listener comes back with one (in this case, my good customer, God bless him). Well, round one was mine. Now listen to his story. If you are getting bored with this, don't stop. The best is coming.

Says he to me: "Did this take place up there at Elephant Lake, near Duffy's Landing?" "That's it," says I, "how could I forget." "Well, la'd," says he, "I was up there last year in exactly the same spot cruising around in my little boat, not having any luck. I dropped my oars, reclined, and decided to relax. I got to thinking about business and your bloomin' condensers and the maple syrup you send each Christmas to sweeten things up a little — when suddenly, I felt like my line was tightening up a little. I gently grasped my chagrin when, lo and behold, there on the other end of my line became visible, and a big whale of a fish story. I'll say I was in there pitching. I gave it the old "one-two." I lost another five pounds.

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT WHITINGHAM DAM AND SURROUNDING WATERS

By Don Carpenter

Deep amid the frigid waters of Whitingham Dam, dwell the fur-bearing trout, clothed from nose to tail with long silky fur. These odd fish are seldom seen by the amateur angler, and are born with fur coats on, to protect them from the penetrating cold at the bottom of the two-hundred-foot deep lake.

One day on a recent visit to this anglers' paradise, I prepared to ease my lures to the fish in the lake. Upon this occasion the fish were so numerous it was necessary for me to step behind a tree to bait my hook. My catch that followed was too weighty to mention — after piling them against a convenient hillside, I was astonished to note that the level of water had fallen some twenty feet. Due to this sudden lowering of the water, a school of these rare fur-bearing trout became visible, and I caught several before they disappeared. My specimens were duly preserved, and today rest in the Fish and Wildlife Service Aquarium in the Commerce Building at Washington.

In another nearby lake, I experienced unusual sport with the Whifersnapper fish, closely related to the pike. This little known aquatic creature's habits are that it swims backward to keep the dust out of its eyes. It is easily lured at the proper time by immersing fragrant limburger cheese through a square hole dug in the ice with a round shovel. To prepare the Whifersnapper fish for the table, you scale, remove entrails, wipe with a dry tea-towel, place on a clean buttered plank. Place the whole in a 350 degree oven, and baste frequently during the four-hour cooking time. When done remove carefully from the oven, drop the fish in the garbage pail — and eat the plank.

Any questions directed to me regarding above, may be forwarded to my home — as I am out of town.

Truthfully yours,
Don Carpenter.

IMPREGNATING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Estelle Wilson enjoyed a week's vacation. Yvonne Davison and daughter spent a week at Long Island, N. Y. Harold and Roma Sweeney spent some time camping at Prospect Lake.


Kate Bryce spent a week in New York. James Copeland spent the week at Lake Champlain. George Coody has returned from a visit to Florida.

Our wishes for the best of luck to Nelson Leslie who is starting in business for himself. He recently bought a printing business in Brattleboro, Vt.
VACATIONS

Katherine Ferrara spent her vacation in Springfield, Mass. Agnes Fleming is another employee who “did” the World’s Fair. Walter Wood visited Atlantic City, N. J. and the World’s Fair. Frances Romeo began her vacation at the World’s Fair and then paid a visit to the Thousand Islands. All four are employees of the Prettuner Department.

Catherine Hyndman and Celia Duda, Resistor Department, took their vacations recently.

Mary Bellows spent her vacation in Schenectady, N. Y.

Jennie Chalifaux visited in New York City.

John O’Connell took his family to Goose Pond in Lee for their vacation.

Wes and Gil Green and their wives took a trip to Detroit, Mich.

Laura Lefebvre chose Hampton Beach for her vacation.

Historic Boston recently attracted Ernest Sorel for a short visit.

Gladys Ethier visited in New Bedford.

John and Lauretta Smith went on a fishing trip to Plum Island, Newburyport.

Viola Dupuis and Rachel Godbout were among those who visited the submarine at Albany, N. Y.

Cool Cape Cod lured Rita Siciliano on her vacation.

Emma Marino and “Pat” Siciliano spent a week at Dude Ranch, Lake Luzerne, N. Y.

Gladys Ethier visited in New Bedford.

John and Lauretta Smith went on a fishing trip to Plum Island, Newburyport.

Va
ds and Ethel Lemoine went to High Gate, Vt.

Others enjoying “time off” recently are Stafford Lewis, Lillian Boyer, Mae Szetela, Ida Piaggi, Mary Bernard, Eugene Marceau, Anne St. Laurent, Carl Bates, Ruth Davis, Olga Martinelli, Sylvia Kirby, Albert Lincoln, Ace Blanchard, Rose Tassone, Phyllis Fleurly, Antoinette Burro and Evelyn Sacco.

SOFTBALL RESUME

The Sprague Specialties softball team finished “to show” in the recently ended season of the Northern Berkshire Softball League. Eight teams competed. Manager Hank Gamaro had a good group of ballplayers. In the final games Spragues defeated the General Cleaners, 9-7. Cariddi did the twirling, while Scarbo, Russell, and Hank Gamaro featured at the bat.

The next encounter was a heart-breaker for the Sprague lads who lost a hard-fought battle to the Corner Cafe, 14-13. Trailing 12-2 going into the sixth inning, Sprague scored five runs and came back in the last inning to score six more. The Corner Cafe lads only won by means of pushing across two more in the last inning. Bulliet hit a homer for Sprague.

Sprague defeated the Y.M.C.A., 6-4, with Blanchard and McConnell both hitting triples. Sprague played a tie game with the Mohawk Theatre, 4-4, Bergendahl featuring with three bingles. In their last League game, Sprague defeated the Eagles, 8-7, Blanchard and Bergendahl both clouting home runs. For the last game of the season Sprague entertained the West Point Soldiers at Noel Field, the West Pointers winning 8-1. The Sprague boys were let down with two hits, both by Benoit. Gulez, the Soldiers’ pitcher, fanned 12.