Sprague Electric Victory

We pledge to the armed services our maximum wartime production

"Of the employees" ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ By the employees ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ for the employees"

Volume VIII SPRAGUE ELECTRIC VICTORY LOG, SEPTEMBER 22, 1945 Number 4

53 Returned War Veterans at Sprague's

Meets Many North Adams and Former Sprague Employees at Okinawa and Philippines

Sprague Orchestra in First Rehearsal October 9

Reports show that some forty persons have signified their intention to rehearse with the Sprague Electric Orchestra which is scheduled to hold its first rehearsal at the Richmond Blue Room on October 9th.

While the committee organizing this orchestra has contacted a long list, if you have had experience playing any standard instrument—brass, wind or string—please accept this as an invitation to attend the October second rehearsal.

Arrangements for adequate rehearsal headquarters for the winter have been made, as well as for building a library of music. The Sprague Electric Company is definitely interested in the development of this orchestra and those joining may feel assured that this orchestra will have adequate backing so that it will be a healthy and continuing organization.

Your Cooperation Asked on 4-Point Program

Police authorities and safety officials in cooperation with the Berkshire Safety Council have called on all residents of Berkshire County to reduce the pedestrian traffic accident toll on the streets and highways.

Judge Israel Ruby of the Williamstown District Court, Chairman of the Highway and Traffic Safety Committee of the Safety Council, points out that out of the total of 13 motor vehicle fatalities in the County so far this year 10 have been pedestrians.

To emphasize the need for immediate steps to reduce this toll, Judge Ruby has announced that one minute trailers on traffic safety will be shown in all theaters. These movie trailers deal especially with pedestrian hazards both among children and adults. The following four-point message is emphasized.

1. Cross streets at corners.
2. Don't step into the street from between parked cars.
3. When walking on the highway always walk on the left, facing traffic.
4. Always drive so that you can stop if a pedestrian does the unexpected.

The showing of these movie trailers is a part of the general highway safety campaign during which every car owner in the County will be asked to join the "Automobile Safety Club" and pledge to drive safely.

Peter Maruco, formerly of Paper Assembly, waits for American Red Cross canteen to open near the Army Convalescent Hospital in the Philippines. He is talking with a Red Cross worker, Margaret Bullock of Birmingham, Ala. (Acme Photo)

Dear Friends:

I am writing this letter on my day off and today it is very warm. I am now at rest camp, been here since July 10. Came from Okinawa—a good trip over. The food was very good. I like Okinawa for the climate, as it is like back home and that is all I like about the place.

At this time I want to thank the Sprague Employees for the package they sent to me in May. Everything was in good order and sure appreciated.

I am again receiving the Log and want to thank all who are making this possible. I enjoy reading them as I then know what is what around the shop and where my friends are.

I met Arthur St. Pierre and Robert Dube here. They are in good health and look good. St. Pierre asked me to also send his thanks for the package he received. He is very busy right now and has had no time to write.

Some other boys I have met are William Andrews, Anthony A. Cilli, William Breault, Clifford Dube here. They are in good health and good trip over. The food was very good. I like about the place.

On that the war is over I hope that all the fellows are home for Christmas.

Your pal, Peter Maruco

Aug. 20, 1944

543 Sprague Employees in Service

18 Sprague Men Made the Supreme Sacrifice

53 Veterans Now Working at Sprague's

Log readers will note with interest that the man nominated as the new Secretary of War is former Assistant Secretary of War, Robert P. Patterson, who dictated and signed the letters awarding to the Sprague employees in February 1913 their first Army-Navy "E". When we realize that less than 5% of all war plants received the "E" award the importance of the honor bestowed five times on Sprague employees becomes clear. Sprague workers were engaged on highly important war work. Their attention is called to page 1 of this issue and the "Seven Salutes to the Electrical Manufacturing Industry."

Clipper Helped Speed Up War Work

Nobody seems to know just why the Sprague Company's Packard came to be known as the Clipper. It had been called the "Blue Beetle", the "Packard" and the "Clipper", but that last name stuck to the car which daily makes so many trips between the Sprague Company's three plants. The always cheerful skipper of the good ship tells us that it made its first voyage from the Beaver Plant, via Marshall Street Plant to the Brown Street Plant, and return, in July of 1944. Since that time, it has put behind it, some 24,000 miles. Skipper "Chet" Gallup also estimates that the Clipper carries fifty or more passengers per day—not to mention the valuable models and important communications which also journey from plant to plant. With fifty or more passengers daily, "Chet" estimates that by October first of this year, the Clipper will have carried upwards of 20,000 persons in the fourteen months of service.

There were many practical reasons why the good ship Clipper was put in service in 1944. Pressure of business, heavy and important war contracts, plus the constant visiting of government officials, exponents, engineers, military officers. Those all meant constant conferences back and forth between the Sprague three plants. In addition, there was the need for (Continued on page 2)

The Skipper "Chet" Gallup is ready to leave the Beaver plant, with mail for the Post Office. At the back, is a special bus waiting to pick up employees from the second shift.
All-Star Softball Team

As has been the custom for the past several years, the Sprague Log has once again chosen its mythical All-Star Softball Team, comprised of outstanding players in the Northern Berkshire Softball League.

This year, a change in the manner of selecting players took place. Each team was allowed to pick the team they thought strongest. The players receiving the most votes were honored.

ALL STAR PLAYERS

Coop
Bar
Corner Cafe
Bar
Corner Cafe
Walden
Corner Wire
Magnifico
Lenschent
Lefse Corch
S.A. Log
Bullotti
Adams Laundry
Frank Krol
Robert Bissaillon
Kenneth Muggle
Leslie Dustin
Howard Delisle
William Pinsonnault
Frank Casuscelli
Raymond Lamoureau
Walter Westcott
Bernard Perras
NAME
BUSINESS MGR.: Lawrence Madison ASSOC. EDITOR: Mary Mathews

 SPORTS . . . . . . by Bernie Bullotti

M.V.P.

Bullotti sparked the Corner Cafe to a first place pennant with his lusty hitting, finishing the regular schedule with an average of better than .400. He has always been a mainstay of the team he has represented, and for years, has been considered the peer of softball players in the Berkshire County.

Runner-Up

George Roy, who batted second in the batting war, pitched the young man to the first half championship and in the 2nd half eluded the Sprague Products to the crown. Roy, among his other assets, wielded a mighty potent bat.

Third Place

Butch Kolls, last year's winner got off to a hot start with the Laundromats this summer, but even with his post start he finished strong, and took third place.

Baseball Coach and Assistants Lauded

Enough praise cannot be given to the local club and its popular and efficient coach John McConnel. They have afforded this city with an excellent local of half all season. McConnel deserves an extra pay on the back for both his unequally coaching ability and earnest effort in booking strong opponents throughout the season. Another fellow who helped the club was our own Walt Carpenter, who served very competently as assistant manager. Our sports reporter "Ken" Russell played a fine game of ball when in the lineup, and thrilled many spectators with his thievery of fact.

CLIPPER HELPED SPEED WAR WORK . . . . Continued from page 1

For many people the war is over, but it is still difficult to realize that the war is over. Gradually things swing back into civilian stride. It is heartening to learn that a large number of our boys and girls are returned to their homes and are once again going ahead as rapidly as possible.

The days are gone when it was a regular sight to see a whole division of men going about their business. The war will still be with us.

All Hands Out

We hereby declare all hands out.

To the young men and women of the Navy, your turn is over. Now the heading will carry the sim-
Dear Friends:

I've been receiving it regularly day and I want to thank all of my former fellow employees. The boys here and myself sure enjoyed every last bit of it and it was used as our means of celebating Japan's surrender. It arrived here just 5 hours after the war was officially over.

I also wish to send my thanks for the Log. I've been receiving it regularly since entering the army in July of 1943. It is great to read the latest in what's happening back there.

Log, I've received your package the other day. It's the only way I have of contacting you and I hope everyone at Sprague's is still going strong, the service and if it were not for the mail I really need to stay in touch with them.

Sgt. Sandy Sartori, stationed at Quantico with the U.S. Marine Corps. Sandy was formerly in the Ordnance Department, maintaining and conducting religious services for all purposes. Many native women, children and old men are still here and they are working for the women and do our laundry, but we are not allowed to talk to them.

Out here there isn't anything for us to do and no where to go. Boy, one certainly misses home. Now that the war is over I wonder what will become of us. I don't think we will get a break and go home, instead I imagine we will probably go to Japan for a while. All we can do is wait to see what happens next.

I have been receiving the Log, it takes a long time to get here but it's better late then never. Well I guess that's about all for now. Regards to the boys in the Maintenance Department at Brown Street.

John Rosse

Finally Settled


Sept. 5, 1945

Dear Miss Owen:

Just a few lines to let you know that I have finally got settled for a while longer.

I have been signed now to the USS Admiral Byrd which is a Amphibious ship. It is commissioned last Sunday and I guess everyone from Pennsylvania were aboard.

The weather here is very warm, especially in the morning when one is on watch. There isn't much more to say—only I hope everyone at Sprague's is doing well.

Sincerely yours,

Francis Bennett

With First in Tokyo

Fifth Air Force Headquarters, Tokyo—Sgt. Roger M. Vinellette, formerly of the Black Test, is a member of the famed 9th Fighter Squadron, the first fighter outfit to land on the Japanese home-land. It was the 9th for its destruction of 26 enemy planes in combat while the Japanese were retreating from Darwin, Australia, to their home bases.

Sgt. Vinellette works in the Ordi- nance department, maintaining and servicing the guns of the squadron. His P-38 "Lightnings" and has been with the organization since December, 1944. And there he felt he was being a member of the first American fighter squadron landing in Japan, he replied, "Glad to be among the first."

Log.

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MEET OUR RETURNED WAR VETERANS

In the last issue of the Log we printed short summaries of nineteen of our returned war veterans who are now working at the three Sprague Electric Plants.

We are pleased to continue these reports in this issue. We have had many favorable comments from our readers on these items appearing in the last Log. We hope that our returned veterans will keep our questionnaires coming back to the Log desk so that through this source, our workers can become better acquainted with these ex-service men who served on many battle fronts.

At Brown Street:

Walter Medods of Industrial Supply Dept. is a private for twenty-three months and earned the Asiatic-Pacific campaign medal.

Robert Pilot is employed in the Cam Shop and prior to entering service employed in Paper Rolling. He served twenty-four months as a private in the Medical Detachment of the Air Corps.

At Beaver Street:

Alfred Peters was employed with the Wet Salvage Department before entering the service and at present is employed in the Reception Department. He served in the Air Force as a private for twenty-three months and earned the Asiatic-Pacific campaign medal.

Joseph Poisant of Paper Rolling prior to the war and at present serves with the infantry four years and six months. At the time of discharge he was Corporal and holds the Good Conduct and Infantry veteran ribbons.

Gerald O'Neil of Stock Room at present and before service was a private in the Air Force for three months.

Dear Miss Owen:

I've been quite a while since I last wrote you and I have been receiving the Log every week. It really means a lot to me. You can't imagine how wonderful it is to read that "little paper from the home town."

I guess folks in New York Adams are beginning to be relieved now that the boys are coming back. The girls in the Marine Corps have to have 25 points. I have 22 so I should be discharged in November. Everyone here is excited about going home, I really like the service and if it were not for pay I would probably stay in a little longer.

I am still cooking and today I was promoted to Chief Cook, which is the rank of Sergeant. Another bit of exciting news—1 am having a 15 day furlough September 15, and I am going home to Resburg, Idaho, to visit a friend who was recently discharged.

I am sure glad it is all over and I am coming home.

Give my love to all my friends at Sprague's.

"Sandy" Sartori.

Dear Friends:

I received the box sent to me in May. It sure did a lot of traveling as I moved a dozen times after I left the field. I took infantry training and was headed for the front lines, got as far as the Rhine river and we were kept there for ten weeks then moved back to France, around nineteen miles from Marvilles, it is very nice here but very hot and dusty.

But this will be all for now. Regards to the boys in the Maintenance Department at Brown Street.

Good Luck.

John Rosse
SEVEN SALUTES to the 

Electrical Manufacturing Industry

Sprague Electric employees all contributed so much to the war effort that we are sure they will be inspired by these short salutes, recently given over nationwide radio networks, to let the people of the country know the part taken by the Electrical Manufacturing Industry in bringing about final victory.

1. Salute to Electrical Controls

One of this war’s greatest production jobs was done by the manufacturers of electrical control equipment—a job without fanfare or glory. For there is little glory in a “master control station” that keeps a plane stable...or the “electric brain” for a one-hundred-ton propeller-cutting machine...or the photo-electric cells that detect cracks in glass food containers...that insure accurate counting at rates up to a million per second...that judge the color and temperature of steel. But in spear-heading the attack, the electrical industry engineered and perfected nine billion dollars worth of victory-producing equipment in 1944—though geared for only one-fifth of that amount. Electrically speaking we’re living in 1970.

2. Salute to Electric Motors

Virtually every implement of warfare depends upon electric motors. A battleship has as many as 9,000; a B-29 carries 255; an LST uses 125. On ships, electric motors provide for ventilation, refrigeration and fresh water; electric motors aim and load guns; keep towlines taut; drive oil pumps and do the steering. In the air, electric motors feather the propellers; operate the turrets, automatic pilots, landing gears, bomb-doors and computing sights. Behind the battle lines, the services of electric motors are legion. They are available for every conceivable duty from operating an electric razor to hauling long, war-laden freight trains and turning massive rollers in a steel mill. The electric motor is in fact man’s most versatile servant.

3. Salute to Electrical Instruments

Millions upon millions of instruments were in service on the battle and production fronts. Instruments register every motion—every function—of planes, ships, tanks and artillery; they detect the enemy, sight the guns, drop bombs literally on a pinpoint. In the war plants, electrical instruments measure and record the slightest variation in light, sound, color, speed, distance, purity, size and hundreds of other vital qualities. The cathode ray oscillograph even reveals what happens in one three-hundred-millionth of a second. Yes, electrical instruments do marvelous things today.

4. Salute to Power Generating Equipment

A tribute to the giant whose product turns the wheels of every plant in the nation—the giant that goes to work every time you flick a switch. Here in America, we owe much to our standard of living—and our success in war production—to cheap and plentiful electricity. America used more than 270 billion kilowatt-hours last year—almost half of all the electricity produced in the world, and more than three times the pre-war demand of 1939. In carrying this terrific war load, the electrical power generating industry has done a monumental job.

5. Salute to Transmission Equipment

To supply this great nation with the power that produces our essentials in war and in peace, the electrical distribution industry maintains 290 thousand miles of high voltage transmission lines, to say nothing of the web of distributing systems reaching from every factory to every city and town. While you, the average citizen, see only the towers, wires and transformers scattered here and there, to maintain the electrical distribution system, the industry is in fact feeding millions of electrical devices—motors, instruments, motors, regulators and hundreds of thousands of miles of conductors.

6. Salute to Radio Communications

Of all the great achievements of this war, no star shines more brightly than that of the radio communications industry. Radio production for war is a story of almost miraculous scientific development and manufacturing achievement—a story woven around such accomplishments as the walkie-talkie...static-free radios in planes, tanks and ships...the “Gibson Girl” SOS transmitter for men adrift at sea...Radar...and many other secret electronic devices. These modern radio communications and detecting units permit instant two-way talk between all elements of Allied striking forces, on land, on sea, or in the air...and send bombs and shells true to the mark. Yes, electrical instruments do marvels today.

7. Salute to Wire Communication, Telephone and Telegraph

Last year, on the home front, the telephone industry handled 176,000,000 war supporting long distance telephone calls—as many as the total long distance calls made in 1938...39...and 40 put together. On the battlefield, in addition to maintaining unflagging field communications, the telephone and telegraph industry has done an even greater job in developing and producing the communication weapons of war such as two-way radios...field switchboards...telephones and cables...and many other war-secret electronic devices.

Do You Know?

That in a single U. S. battleship there are more than 900 electric motors, a thousand different electrical instruments, 1100 telephones, 1600 electronic tubes and a wiring system 1700 miles long? That gives some idea of the tremendous wartime assignment the electrical manufacturing industry received from Uncle Sam. Radar, automatic plane pilots, smoke generators, sound detectors, detonators, range finders—the only a few of the thousands of complex electrical products supplied in enormous quantity to our Armed Forces...And millions of Sprague components of many kinds, made by Sprague employees, formed a part of practically all this and much other essential war equipment. In future issues of the ‘LOG’ we hope to bring you more detailed accounts of this part taken by the Electrical Manufacturing Industry on the home front. The information becomes available the LOG will print it for its readers.

Says Au Revoir

The Sprague Chorus displayed fine form in singing the “Merry Widow Waltz” and the concluding “Chiquita” at the Fair on the September 5th program. It was at this period that Mrs. Charlotte Luckner and Emmett to her listeners in this area, as he leaves for European. When we stopped a big hit in “I’ll Eat Dum,” and in her duet with Mr. Madison: “I’ll See You Again.” Great soloist on the program was Jay Gray, who crooned “Here’s No You” and “Softly the Boughs.” A high spot in the program, was the piano duet of Miss Florence Dunn, our accompanist, with our guest, Mr. Very Affaire, who played Mozart’s Minuet from the Third Symphony.

Humor

A pretty, young drill press operator in a defense plant expressed her relief after a visit to the doctor. “I have just found out,” she said, “that those hard lumps in my arms are muscles!”

A young soldier dashed madly across the dock towards the ferry. With a frantic leap he spanned the three feet of water, and crashed on the dock. “Whew!” he exclaimed when he had gotten his breath. “I made it after all!”

“My” what? asked one of the dockhands dubiously. “This boat’s just coming in!”

Sprague Wolf: “The doctor’s book says that bathing alone will not keep you clean. 

Petite: “Well, no matter what it says, I’ll continue to bathe alone.”
Payroll
By Priemilla Windsor
Miss "Jo" Girgenti of the Cost Department has been spending the past two weeks on vacation at Block Annex. Ellen Horstall who has left the Payroll Department, recently presented a pin and earring set by her co-workers. Best of luck, Ellen! Why is it that everyone greets Lovett with the little ditty of dirante-days—"Go in and out and the door?"
Mildred Kolbstein has been transferred to the Networks Laboratory, whereas the East, and the Secretary, do not exist. the Corners" isn't the same without ya' Millie!

Production Scheduling
By A. E. F.
Two weeks have passed quickly and it is "log-time" again. Since the war, and vacation have come to an end, we of Production Scheduling have quietly turned our attention to the task before us of reconverting to peaceful-time work. The most commonly used words this past month have been "cancellation of war contracts." In passing through this Department, one is almost certain to hear the expression. It may not sound too important, but because of it, we have changed our work routine, and even living, if we may say. However, we are more than happy to make the change if it will mean the early return of our boys to their home country.

Miss Emie (Charlottebona) Swartzter is going to spend another month with her husband, Cpl. Leslie R. Swartzter at McCook, Nels. She writes that she is extremely happy but still misses her life in the Berkshires. Must be there is no place like home, Emie.

Mrs. Genevieve Spils has received a leave of absence. She was given a party by a group of her close friends at the "Sprague Hotel" on Monday. Happy birthday, Mrs. Bowes, and have the clerk understand me!

BIRTHDAYS —
Gladys Sullavan celebrated her birthday last Sunday. She is the instructor in the new game "pickup." (almost 6,000 feet) that is it '...

No, Mary, not in Mexico, it is not so bad as the picture in the "Springfield Republican." "I am in the Army, Evelyn. Is there anything about Mexico, Evelyn. Is there anything about Mexico...


Clock Annex
By Esther Driscoll
Sgt. James Gorman, brother of Clarice and Marion Gorman, has returned from the ETO. He was one of the G. L.'s who was on the ship that was headed for the Pacific when the ship turned and came back to the E. S. Navy. He has returned after 14 months of overseas duty in the European theater. He expects to go to Florida to train troops.

We miss our happy-go-lucky buddy, Eddie Collins, who has left us to become a telephone operator in the local exchange. The best of luck to Eddie in his new position.

Machine Shop
By Walsh and Ramilard
George Scarbo and John Murray Jr., buddies of Eddie Collins, are also pictured with the evidence of their fishing ability.

Machine Shop
By Walsh and Ramilard
George Scarbo's advice to vacationers in New Hampshire, is to build a good box fire on a warm August evening to get the crisp temperature up somewhere in the 10th brackets. He practices what he preaches, according to Evelyn, who was with him on this vacation trip.

Welcome back to Joe Marhite after his recovery from a severe operation, and speedy recovery to Bill Monier, who is on the convalescing list. Cpl. Al Dcolo, of our former co-workers paid us a visit here in the Machine Shop when he was home on furlough. The August moon is a month late, and it is still showing its appearance now, according to our Astronomer, Ray House. Mr. House estimates that something had to do with it — what about it? The Machine Shop men are better with their tools, or with cutting price. The price hit the ceiling, all right, say we.

NICE Catch
Eddie Hinkle of Machine Shop has something to brag about, with this catch which he and his buddies hauled in one day.

Dry Test
By L. B. and V.
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**Editorial**

**Check Inspection**

During the period of recreation, many of our inspectors are laid off, and there is little news to report. Here's hoping all our girls will be back again soon.

"Mom!" Short has returned from a two-weeks vacation looking well refreshed. Rita Polfin spent her vacation resting at home and has returned well rested.

Welcome to Eleanor Torrey and Rita Fossanto to the Beaver Street Check Inspector Division.

To Doris Domenick and Norma Letroz. Who wore the handsome shoes you were seen bidding farewell to at the station recently.

Best wishes and lots of luck to Corinne Vanier, who was married at home and has returned well.