THANKSGIVING MEANS MORE THIS YEAR

Sacrifices of millions of men and their families made it possible

Never since the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock and later held their first Thanksgiving Day on the bleak shores of the old Bay State has there come a Thanksgiving Day so full of meaning. They were entering a new era, for themselves and for their children's children. We are entering a new era. What it will bring to us and future generations we do not know. To the Pilgrims the future looked just as difficult. In addition they had to work without steam, electricity, radio, autos, telephones, railroads, airplanes and modern medicine. But they got down on their knees and gave thanks that they had been saved; and then they got up and faced the future with courage and determination. Let us do the same.

V-T FUZE ONE OF BIGGEST FACTORS IN BEATING FOES TO KNEES

In a recent issue of the Log announcement was made of the award to the Sprague Electric Company and its employees of the Bureau of Ordnance "E" for work done in the development and manufacture of the Variable Timing or VT-Fuze. Since that time the Company has received from the Navy Department a series of photographs, several of which are printed on page three of this issue. These photographs of the VT-Fuze bring out graphically the tremendous amount of engineering which must have gone into designing, experimenting with, perfecting and building the tiny mechanism which detonates the shell. The secret of “Madame X,” as the fuze was nicknamed by some, was as closely kept as that of the A-Bomb development. Very few of the thousands of men and women at work on this project all over the country knew anything at all about the nature and purpose of the parts they were asked to develop and make to go into the Fuze.

(Continued on page 2)

President R. C. Sprague Sees V-T Fuze In Action

To the Log:

I had a very interesting day Wednesday along with about 30 other civilians on invitation from the Navy Department on the Cruiser “COLUMBUS.” The “COLUMBUS” is one of the newest 13,000 ton heavy cruisers; actual weight, 17,000 tons; 620 feet long, and with a power plant of 120,000 H.P. to drive her at a top speed of 33 knots (about 40 miles) an hour.

The purpose of the trip was to permit representatives of manufacturers who contributed substantially to the development and manufacture of the VT proximity fuze to see a demonstration of the fuze in action.

Effective Demonstration

During this target practice the starboard battery of eight 5” anti-aircraft guns mounted in twin turrets, two on the starboard side and two on the centerline, shot at a plane radio-controlled from two twin motor mother ships located about 5,000 feet away from the target ship or “drone” as it is called. The 5” shells used were equipped with the VT or proximity fuze, and the target ship was knocked down in flames within 30 seconds after firing commenced. It was a very effective demonstration of the deadliness of these new fuzes, and was a thrilling experience indeed.

We then cruised back to Graves End Bay going at a comfortable speed of 33 knots.

(Continued on page 2)
SPRAGUE ELECTRIC VICTORY LOG

Published by the SPRAGUE ELECTRIC CO., North Adams, Mass.

PUBLISHING STAFF
EDITOR: E. S. Whitton
MANAGING EDITOR: Evelyn Faitchlik
ASSOC. EDITOR: Mary Mathews
CIRCULATION MGR.: Marion Caron
ASSISTANT EDITORS:
Lorence Haskins, Clara Miller, Jim Otham and Fred Electric
SPORTS
Walter Carpenter, Kenneth Russell and Bernard Butlett
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER: Howard S. Brown

DEPARTMENT REPORTERS
Marshall Street: Cecil Tonkon
Brown Street: Bertha Szedmak

PLANT EDITORS
Marshall Street: Cecil Tonkon
Brown Street: Bertha Szedmak

We are thankful for the glory of the old Red, White and Blue,
For the rising sun that beckons every man to do his best.
For the joy of honest labor and the hoon of happy sleep,
We are thankful for the plenty that our peaceful land has blessed,
And thankful for the loyal souls and brave men of the past
Who fought to give us freedom -- a freedom that will last.

Thanksgiving
We are thankful for the glory of the old Red, White and Blue,
For the spirit of America that still is staunch and true,
And the laughter of our children with the sunlight in their eyes,
For the joy of radiant mothers and their evening lollabies.
Thankful for the riches that are ours to claim and keep.
For the joy of honest labor and the boon of happy sleep.
And thankful for the loyal souls and brave men of the past
Who fought to give us freedom -- a freedom that will last.

We are thankful for the plenty that our peaceful land has blessed,
For the rising sun that beckons every man to do his best.
For the flame of loving hearts, symbolizing as it burns
Here none may roll the toiler of the praise he fairly earns.

Today, our thanks for homes with laughter ringing,
And heartfires blazing bright.
For a land of snow and pine,
For the spirit of our people, and our manhood staunch and true.

—A Gleason of Edgar Guest

At School In France
Corp. Robert L. Nickola, formerly employed in the Shipping Department at the E.T.O. Ribbon.

Sends Thanks
John O'Leary, Alfred Vareschi, and Shoal Ashkar.

Hostesses to Industrial Nurses
The Berkshire County Industrial Nurses were the guests of the Sprague Electric nurses at a dinner meeting at the Richmond Hotel, Tuesday evening, November 15th. The hostesses were:
Elna Lowe, Eta Owen, Margaret Avery and Agnes Costello.

After dinner, a round table discussion on the prevention and treatment of dermatitis was held. The next meeting of the group will be December 12th in Pittsfield.

GI's PREFER RADIO SHOPS
It is interesting to note that our returning GI's are more interested in opening up radio shops than in most other lines of business. Of some 225 letters received weekly from veterans interested in new business, inquiries concerning radio or electrical shops leads the list, with restaurants and filling stations holding second place.

The World at Your Pillow
Miniature "radio" speakers enable hospital patients to enjoy radio programs without disturbing others nearby. Used under pillows, the speaker can be connected with any radio system.

Meet Our War Veterans...

Davidover has returned to the Maintenance Department after spending 13 months in the infantry. Bill received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

BROWN STREET

left: Daniel McMahon, John Callahan and Alvino Ferrone.

SPRAGUE VICTORY LOG

In recent contest for Employee papers, the LOG Staff receives an award. Professor Chadwick Parkhurst, of Boston University, member of the Judging Committee presents Certificate of Excellence, won by the Sprague Victory LOG to Editor Whitton.

The receipt of this coveted Bureau of Ordnance "E", in addition to the five awards already received between February 27, 1943 and VJ-Day, is further evidence that Sprague Electric Company and Sprague workers did a first quality, front rank job in support of the war effort. We hope you will look over evidence that Sprague Electric Company and Sprague workers did a first quality, front rank job in support of the war effort. We hope you will look over evidence that Sprague Electric Company and Sprague workers did a first quality, front rank job in support of the war effort. We hope you will look over evidence that Sprague Electric Company and Sprague workers did a first quality, front rank job in support of the war effort. We hope you will look over evidence that Sprague Electric Company and Sprague workers did a first quality, front rank job in support of the war effort. We hope you will look over evidence that Sprague Electric Company and Sprague workers did a first quality, front rank job in support of the war effort.

V-T Fuze Big Factor
(Continued from page 1)

"When the gun was fired, the shock of fire broke a small glass vial in the line. Continue charges in the projecting prongs caused liquid electricity to flow through a stack of thin, ring-shaped battery plates. The battery not only furnished the power for the fuse, but also "charged" the fuse. Did this change "charging a condenser hooked up with an electrical detonator much like a dynamite cap."

From then on these problems were at high altitudes to be solved and many others, suffice it to say that they were all worked out in the end and that the Fats helped beyond measure to stop the Germans as well as to spell the doom of the Army in that country.

"Wish I Were Shoveling Snow"
Luzon, Philippines. Oct. 25, 1945

Hello Jack:

How are you and all the Sprague employees? I am fine and getting so much better that I can work. My worst fear is that I will get my P.T. and have to stay in hospital. I can see that there is no use in your worrying about me, because I am fine and will be home in 2 weeks. I have received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

BROWN STREET

The World at Your Pillow
Miniature "radio" speakers enable hospital patients to enjoy radio programs without disturbing others nearby. Used under pillows, the speaker can be connected with any radio system.

Meet Our War Veterans...

William Overman has returned to the Maintenance Department after spending 13 months in the infantry. Bill received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

Barsh White has joined Dr. Robin-son's staff after just being discharged from the Navy Department at Washington, D. C. While in the service, Mrs. White held the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade, and served in the Navy for two years and ten months. Before joining the Navy Department, she worked in the Applied Physics Laboratory at John Hopkins, Silver Spring, Md.

BROWN STREET P.A.A. LINE

V-T Fuze Big Factor
(Continued from page 1)

"When the gun was fired, the shock of fire broke a small glass vial in the line. Continue charges in the projecting prongs caused liquid electricity to flow through a stack of thin, ring-shaped battery plates. The battery not only furnished the power for the fuse, but also "charged" the fuse. Did this change "charging a condenser hooked up with an electrical detonator much like a dynamite cap."

From then on these problems were at high altitudes to be solved and many others, suffice it to say that they were all worked out in the end and that the Fats helped beyond measure to stop the Germans as well as to spell the doom of the Army in that country.

"Wish I Were Shoveling Snow"
Luzon, Philippines. Oct. 25, 1945

Hello Jack:

How are you and all the Sprague employees? I am fine and getting so much better that I can work. My worst fear is that I will get my P.T. and have to stay in hospital. I can see that there is no use in your worrying about me, because I am fine and will be home in 2 weeks. I have received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

BROWN STREET

The World at Your Pillow
Miniature "radio" speakers enable hospital patients to enjoy radio programs without disturbing others nearby. Used under pillows, the speaker can be connected with any radio system.

Meet Our War Veterans...

William Overman has returned to the Maintenance Department after spending 13 months in the infantry. Bill received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

Barsh White has joined Dr. Robin-son's staff after just being discharged from the Navy Department at Washington, D. C. While in the service, Mrs. White held the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade, and served in the Navy for two years and ten months. Before joining the Navy Department, she worked in the Applied Physics Laboratory at John Hopkins, Silver Spring, Md.

BROWN STREET P.A.A. LINE

left: Daniel McMahon, John Callahan and Alvino Ferrone.

William Overman has returned to the Maintenance Department after spending 13 months in the infantry. Bill received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

Barsh White has joined Dr. Robinson's staff after just being discharged from the Navy Department at Washington, D. C. While in the service, Mrs. White held the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade, and served in the Navy for two years and ten months. Before joining the Navy Department, she worked in the Applied Physics Laboratory at John Hopkins, Silver Spring, Md.

BROWN STREET P.A.A. LINE

left: Daniel McMahon, John Callahan and Alvino Ferrone.

William Overman has returned to the Maintenance Department after spending 13 months in the infantry. Bill received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

Barsh White has joined Dr. Robinson's staff after just being discharged from the Navy Department at Washington, D. C. While in the service, Mrs. White held the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade, and served in the Navy for two years and ten months. Before joining the Navy Department, she worked in the Applied Physics Laboratory at John Hopkins, Silver Spring, Md.

BROWN STREET P.A.A. LINE

left: Daniel McMahon, John Callahan and Alvino Ferrone.

William Overman has returned to the Maintenance Department after spending 13 months in the infantry. Bill received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

Barsh White has joined Dr. Robinson's staff after just being discharged from the Navy Department at Washington, D. C. While in the service, Mrs. White held the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade, and served in the Navy for two years and ten months. Before joining the Navy Department, she worked in the Applied Physics Laboratory at John Hopkins, Silver Spring, Md.

BROWN STREET P.A.A. LINE

left: Daniel McMahon, John Callahan and Alvino Ferrone.

William Overman has returned to the Maintenance Department after spending 13 months in the infantry. Bill received the Purple Heart, the Combat Badge, Good Conduct Medal and the E.O.T. Ribbon.

Barsh White has joined Dr. Robinson's staff after just being discharged from the Navy Department at Washington, D. C. While in the service, Mrs. White held the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade, and served in the Navy for two years and ten months. Before joining the Navy Department, she worked in the Applied Physics Laboratory at John Hopkins, Silver Spring, Md.

BROWN STREET P.A.A. LINE

left: Daniel McMahon, John Callahan and Alvino Ferrone.
Radio Association In Tribute To Broadcasters

"Tribute is stimulating and encouraging," states Mr. Miller of the National Association of Broadcasters, "and it is an example of what we are doing for the other in order to achieve an end product."

The Radio Manufacturers Association, with radio distributors and dealers throughout the country, observed National Radio Week by paying tribute to twenty-five years of American radio broadcasting. Highlight of the occasion was the presentation of a statuette to the American public. Mr. Miller, accepting the statuette for the broadcasters, replied: This statuette has great significance to the broadcasters who produce and transmit programs for the information and entertainment of the American public. Use of radio receivers depends entirely on the popularity of what they are made to receive. Dollars spent in creation of fine radios could not induce people to use them, if the broadcasters did not produce programs that the listeners wanted to hear. The result is a common perspective—appreciation of what one must do for the other in order to achieve an end product. It is stimulating and encouraging to receive a tribute like this from those who are most aware of our responsibilities and our performances. We treasure it as a symbol of cooperation between the manufacturers of radio receiving sets and the broadcaster, working together in the public interest.

The amount of radar equipment used on a ship of this type is fantastic and beyond anything I imagined possible with radar transmitting antennas of all sizes and shapes rotating at varying speeds from different positions on all the forecastle, main deck, and other parts of the ship.

Cordially yours,

R. C. Sprague

NAZIS DUPLICATED IMPORTANT WEAPON

The Germans, who almost mastered atomic explosive, duplicated in the closing days of the war this country's most important weapon—the proximity fuze. The Nazi fuze had passed laboratory and field tests, mounted on a rocket-propelled missile for use against Allied aircraft when the equipment fell into Allied hands.

This came to light with publication of the third report of Gen. H. H. Arnold, chief of army air forces. The Germans apparently solved the secret within five months after the fuze was used for the first time against them in the Antwerp offensive early last winter.

Over the Pacific, Lt. Col. R. C. Sprague sees V-T Fuze In Action

Persisting the "man's mind will be too slow for combat of the future," the Navy Department this week in a press release promised to press radio research during peacetime to prepare for the "robot." "The pilotless aircraft of the future, controlled by electronics, will 'home' electronically on its target," the Navy said. "Electronic brains will guide the counter-missile with precision. Out of research and development programs will come airborne radars which can initiate defense."

NAVY RELIES ON ELECTRONICS TO FLY PLANES OF FUTURE

and it is interesting that he was just one class ahead of me at the Naval Academy, class of 1922 graduating in 1919.

All in all it was a most pleasant, instructive and exciting trip, and I enjoyed every minute of the day, although I must admit I am a little unused to getting up at 8:30 A.M. When I gave the taxi driver my destination Pier 92 at 52nd Street North River, he asked me—"What are you going to do—join the Navy?" When going through one of the 8" turrets one of the sailors could no longer contain himself and finally blurted out this—"I suppose it is none of my business, but what the hell are you civilians doing on board anyway?"

I explained to him the purpose of the trip and he seemed satisfied with the explanation.

Some idea of the size and compactness of the Variable Timing Fuze can be obtained from this photo by comparing the size of the shell and projectile with the hands holding them and then referring again to the other photographs showing the fuze by itself.

This photograph shows the rugged construction of the tiny radio tubes used in some of the early experimental models of the VT-fuze. They are not much wider than any ordinary pencil.

This is the firing station at the Newtown Neek, Md., recovery field, where fuze components were examined after firing. Projectiles were fired nearly vertically and then dug up from the ground for examination.
I Was A Guest On The USS Missouri

Laura Ferguson of the Factory Engineering had the pleasure and privilege to be a guest of the officers and crew of the magnificent "Missouri" on Family Day, October 29th.

Her husband, James Ferguson SM1c, who has served on this ship for the past sixteen months conducted Laura and her mother on a thorough tour of the ship. Laura has described her day on the "Missouri" to us.

We arrived aboard the ship at 9:00 A.M. and were greeted by my husband. We began our tour by first walking around the main deck and to the Surrender Deck. Here we saw the spot where set the Surrender was signed. As you read spot where set the Surrender was signed. As you read...

Birth

SON: A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Sarkis, Thursday, November 8, 1945. Mother Jeannette was formerly employed in the Industrial Oil department.

Marriage

LISEE-GIACCO: Miss Grace Giacco, daughter of Joseph Giacco and the late Mary C. Giacco was married Saturday, November 10, 1945 to Lt. Ippol Bongioiatti, of the Navy. The couple have been married since June 30, 1943 and have lived in Philadelphia, Pa., and Mrs. Edward Lisee of Adams, Mass. Grace is employed in the Steel Lab at the Beaver Street Plant.

General MacArthur signs the Surrender papers aboard the Missouri.

OPEN LETTER FROM NEAL PIPPIN

Neal B. Pippin, formerly connected with the Esquel Printing Company, sends the following letter to Sprague Electric veterans:

"Having left the employ of the Esquel Printing Company..."

Sprague Electric Victory Log

Lt. Ogden Boldtatti last stationed in Japan, husband of Rachel, of Planning Department.

Happily and Proudly

With a smile of accomplishment and a thrill of excitement, Henry Anderson of the Factory Engineering Department was happy to let everyone know about his hidden treasure. He told his friends his next trip will entail a search for a new toy. He said the Missouri was grandparented!

A baby girl, Carol Elaine, was born to the son, Chet Peery Officer and Mrs. T. H. Anderson at the Cheyue Naval Hospital, Tuesday, November 13, 1945. Henry says the mother and baby are doing fine and so is Grandfather Anderson. Grandmahester Margre...