

1810-1934

Lukens Plate

World's Largest
Plate Mill

VOL. 1

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NO. 10

Insurance Has Proved Worthy

Workmen Have Benefited By Policies

That the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, with home offices in New York City, has proved to be an invaluable aid to the employees of Lukens Steel Company and their families in times of dire stress, is borne out both by endorsement of company officials and by actual figures compiled since Equitable's affiliation with this company early in 1928.

A grand total of \$106,179.47 has been entered in claims against the Equitable during the past 6½ years and in every instance the claims have been recognized and either have been or are now being paid off in full amount.

Of the 87 death claims made against the Equitable, in many instances the employee involved carried no outside insurance with other companies although a number of those who died were members of various lodges.

Combined with the \$350 cash benefit paid an employee at death by the Wawassett Society, the \$1,000 Equitable insurance, paid with interest over a period of 20 months, has often proven nothing short of a God send to the families of deceased workmen and has enabled more than one family group to get back on their feet more quickly than could ever have been possible otherwise.

Previous to April, 1928, the \$350 Wawassett policy was the only insurance of Lukens employee, and although this amount was quite helpful in the case of a death, company officials and workmen alike reached the conclusion that much more adequate protection should be afforded to all employees.

The upshot of this agreement was the group insurance contract with the Equitable which provided for \$1,000 insurance for regular employees, bringing

(Continued on page two)

New Building Being Erected

A fine new building, an addition to the equipment of this company, is in the final process of construction at the west side steel yard.

This building, which is approximately 100x90 feet will house the chipping and deseaming departments when it is completed. These two departments were recently forced to relinquish their space in the Lukenweld building when that department expanded. They have been occupying temporary quarters during recent weeks.

The necessary railroad tracks have been completed to the new structure as well as the piping, roofing and painting. The chippers expect to occupy their new quarters either late this week or early next week.

Foremen's Club Is Off to Good Start

Prospects for another successful year for the Coatesville Foremen's Club, with many Lukens men numbered among the members, looms up quite bright following the gala opening meeting of September 24th, when Dr. Leon C. Prince, Pennsylvania State Senator, electrified the gathering with his fine address, "Legislative Solutions and Human Problems."

Most of the old Lukens members were on hand for the first session and quite a few new foremen are scheduled to be added to the club's roster. A fine program of fellowship and entertainment is being outlined for the 1933-34 season with Lukens men holding down prominent places on various committees.

Walter Detterline and Herman Riediger, Open Hearth, are the latest additions to the 30-40 year list of Lukens employees. Both of these men have been with the company more than 30 years and their combined service hovers near the 70-year mark.

Lukenweld, Inc. Exhibits in Ohio

Cleveland Display Attracts Much Attention

An exhibit of the products of Lukenweld Inc., in the form of celluloid models which were made as exact duplicates of the original, was one of the features of the Annual Convention of the Association of Iron and Steel Electrical Engineers, held at Cleveland, Ohio, from September 18th to 20th.

A Diesel engine, a mill housing, a gear blank, a truck frame, and a crane girder, all Lukenweld products, were included in the models on display at Cleveland. These models were colored in yellow, scarlet and black to indicate the use of different materials. The models were housed in five attractive boxes, and aroused considerable favorable comment.

Those who participated in arranging the display included, George Gillen, Mrs. Everett Chapman, Robert Nivison, Edward Charlton and Miss Helen Doan. The carpenter shop constructed the display cabinet.

Walter Burr, head of the maintenance department here, attended the Cleveland convention in the capacity of president, having been selected for this position recently. He gave the main address, "Developments in the Iron and Steel Industry," on the opening day and was also accorded a reception at the Municipal Auditorium.

Among the other Lukens men who attended were, General Superintendent J. H. McElhinney, Everett Chapman, and Martin Conway. The latest equipment in the steel industry was on exhibition at Cleveland and was thoroughly inspected by the locals.

"Say, why do you nickname your girl Appendix?"

"Because it costs so much to take her out."

Safety—first, last, and always.

Lukens Plate

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Editor, Edward Lake

Insurance Has Proved Worthy

(Continued from first page)

to \$1350 the least possible insurance for practically every worker, and which allowed assistant foremen, foremen, and superintendents the privilege of taking out policies up to \$10,000.

Incidentally, the Equitable Company is one of the few group insurances which pays out death benefits in the event of permanent disabilities. Five of the 87 claims against them have been of this type, and one of the Equitable members still living received permanent disability benefits.

Of the 87 death claims made, eight were of the accidental type and occurred outside the plant. Only one accidental death has taken place within the confines of the plant. Seventy-three of the claims were for \$1,000; 5 for \$2,000; 1 for \$3,000; 1 for \$4,000, and 2 for \$5,000. The \$1,000 claims are paid off in 20 months, the \$2,000 claims in 40 months, and other claims, up to \$10,000, over a period of 60 months. All of these are paid with interest.

Regarding the policies pursued by the New York concern in dealing with Lukens, the fact that not one check in seven years has ever arrived here past due is sure-fire evidence of their business stability and fairness.

Some men who have terminated their employment with Lukens have realized the value of the Equitable protection and are now carrying their policies personally, so highly do they regard the entire system.

Lukens' History To Be Outlined

A series of articles, tracing the history of Lukens Steel Company from the early days of 1810, will begin in the November issue of the Lukens Plate.

These articles should prove of especial interest to all employees

and will no doubt reveal many facts with which the majority of the employees have not been acquainted. It will be of interest to everyone to read these monthly stories.

SPORT SHORTS

With nothing on the list until basketball gets under way, the present period is just a little dull for the company athletes. The Lukens Mission, at the West entrance of the plant, is going to be put into shape to accommodate the basketeers for their practices and Lukens hope to put a winning team on the floor this winter.

Ezra Dripps, chairman of the athletic committee, is already busying himself on the basketball subject, and is now faced with the proposition of selecting a coach. Lukens lost to the New Idea Laundry in the thrilling Community League last year, and hopes to reverse the order during the coming season.

Meanwhile, many Lukens men are entered in bowling leagues at the Brandywine and West End Fire Companies and at the Y. M. C. A. The new league at the Brandies is attracting special interest. Bowling alleys at the Brandies and West End have been resurfaced and are in the best condition in recent years.

JUST BOOST

Boost your company, boost your friend,

Boost the meetings you attend,

Boost the street on which your dwelling,

Boost the product we are selling.

Boost the people'round about you,

They can't get along without you,

But success will quicker find them,

If they know you're behind them.

Boost for every forward movement,

Boost for every new improvement,

Boost the man for whom you labor,

Boost the stranger and the neighbor.

Cease to be a chronic knocker, If you'd make our company better

Boost it to the final letter.

IN MEMORIAM

MRS. EDW. GILBERT

Mrs. Edward Gilbert, wife of Edward D. Gilbert, died suddenly on September 4th, following an illness of only twenty-four hours duration. Mr. Gilbert was one of Lukens' oldest active employees until placed on the pension list a few months ago, and is joined in his bereavement by his scores of friends at this plant.

MRS. MARSH

Mrs. Sarah Marsh, mother of Celeste Marsh, main office, and Norman Marsh, bull pen, passed away recently, following a spell of illness.

MRS. ECHOFF

Mrs. Mabel Echhoff, the mother of Harry Echhoff, pipe shop, died recently. She was the victim of a long illness.

FRANK E. SOULE

Frank E. Soule, popular Chester County Fire Marshal, and one of Coatesville's oldest volunteer firemen, recently ended his own life by suicide. Soule was known to hundreds of Lukens employees and his demise came as a sudden shock to all. A son, Francis Soule, is an employee at the By-Products.

McCULLEY'S CHILD

Mr. and Mrs. William McCulley, Buttonwood Street, grieve the loss of an infant, on Saturday, September 8th. The father is an employee in the Open Hearth Department here.

Lukensweld Inc. Does Speed-Train Work

...Two duplicates of the sensational "Burlington Zephyr," the streamlined train which smashed all speed marks during trial runs from Denver to Chicago recently, have been ordered from the E. G. Budd Mfg. Company of Philadelphia.

Lukensweld, will of course, build the engine beds and engine crank cases from the good Lukens Cromansi! Steel. This is one of the best advertisements yet to befall the local steel company, when operators of the country's fastest trains stipulate that Lukens' steel and Lukens' workmanship shall go into the makeup of the rail speed wonders.

Oldest Employee Tells of old Days

John B. Troup, 75, Recalls Incidents

A "trouper" if there ever was one, even right down to the name, John B. Troup, age 75 years, and a Lukens' employee for 62 years, can recall many interesting events during his more than three score years affiliation with this company.

"I was a door boy in the old 84" mill, after carrying water for Lukens men for several years, as my first regular job," said the plant's oldest employee recently.

"Some of the men who worked in the mill at that time were Frank Barnes, Kale Walker, Wilson Vanderslice and my father, Samuel Troup." Charles Penrose was my first foreman."

"I piled in the 84" mill for 13 years and it was not uncommon for "Mike" McManus and myself to lift pieces of iron weighing more than 1,000 pounds on to the scales. I also did various other jobs about the mill, including just about the whole scale of positions. Screws were pulled by hand at this time."

"This piling job was very hard work and when the 132" mill (later the 112" mill) was built, I asked C. L. Huston for a job and got it. I ran the charging crane in this mill for 32 years."

"When I first worked at Lukens it was all iron and no steel. I well remember when the first steel was rolled here. The ingots for this steel were brought from Scotland and it was not until the No. 1 steel plant was built that Lukens made their own steel."

"You ask what do I think of the NRA," quized Troup, and his brow wrinkled a bit at this question. "Well, I think it's all right but I do believe the hours are a little low. In the old times we used to work 12 hours a day and think nothing of it."

SAFETY NOTES

For the 11th period the plate mills, led by Max Steinwachs, had the best safety percentage, 85.5%. Miscellaneous Shops finished second with 83.1%. Open Hearth Departments third with 80.8%; Mechanical Shops were in fourth position with

80.6%, and last was the Miscellaneous Departments with 71.6%.

Accidents steal the joy from the lives of little children. They suffer too.

A safety suggestion isn't child's play,—it's a man's size act.

All through life you're more or less dependent on other people to safeguard you from injury.

Then do not hesitate to send in your suggestion—and help the fellows who are dependent on you for their safety.

Don't trifle with minor injuries. Get first aid—at once.

Fools and drunks never make good drivers.

Care for your health. Avoid close contact with persons who have colds.

Report defective ladders; do not use them.

Here And There

Our esteemed friend, Mrs. Eleanor Sydenstricker, telephone operator, who has said "hello" to thousands of calls from every corner of the United States, is slowly recovering from her severe ankle fracture. Flowers from such distant points as the Lukens office in Dallas, Texas, attest to the popularity of Eleanor. She is very grateful for the friendship shown and wishes to thank everyone.

"Jimmy" Herman, treasurer's office, almost had occasion to file an application with the famous "caterpillar club" recently when the airplane in which he was traveling to Chicago got lost in a storm over Indiana. "Jimmy," however, did reach the Windy City safely and is now convinced that it is a century of progress.

George Hicks, carpenter shop, also was a recent visitor to the World's fair, and hitch-hiked it from Chicago to Coatesville in a day and a half. He averaged 100 miles per ride which is pretty good in these days.

Mrs. George K. Irwin, wife of George Irwin, company executive, is recovering at her home

from a severe illness. She was recently stricken with typhus fever, a form of tropical disease, which is considered very rare in this country.

Several Lukens men have visited their friend and co-worker, Richard Maxwell, at the League Island Navy Hospital in Philadelphia where he is confined following an operation. Maxwell is an ex-service man and has the best wishes of his friends for a speedy recovery and an early return to his job at the pickling department here.

No. 15 Open Hearth Furnace Sets Record

Proof that the boys at No. 15 Open Hearth furnace were doing some real work during the 12th period is furnished in the official production figures for these four weeks which show that a total of 4,187 tons of steel was produced during this time.

This is a new all-time record for that particular furnace for one period, eclipsing the previous mark of 4,080 tons which was established some time ago.

Lukens' Golf Tournament

Edward Haldeman won the fifth annual Lukens Golf Tournament at the Coatesville Country Club recently with a low gross score of 84. Don Spackman turned in the low net score in class A with 70, excluding 17 handicap; "Jeff" Walter won class B with 78, excluding 21 handicap; Everett Chapman won class C with 76, excluding 24 handicap; and W. C. Simpson won in Class D with an 83, excluding 41 handicap. "Booby" prizes went to Roland Edgar and Richard Copeland. The kickers' prize was won by Robert Moffett and Dr. Earl Hill. William Humpton and J. Fred Wiase were in charge of the tournament. Forty-two players participated. "Jimmy" Herman got socked in the jaw with a wild drive as the only injury of the affair.

Interest in the World Series is running high and most employees are rooting for Detroit to cop the pennant and the championship in the play-off.

Safety—first, last, and always.

Joint Meeting In Session Here

Election of New Repr. Set for October 15th

A report of the activities of the plant representative committee since their organization last August was the feature of the annual joint meeting of employees and management representatives, held on Monday afternoon of this week.

This report showed that the representatives have been extremely active over this period and have worked constantly for the advancement of all movements for the benefit of the workmen.

The committee which were active during this time, and their duties were as follows: Committee No. 1, rules, ways and means, safety, accident prevention, and athletics and recreation; Committee No. 2, wages, piece work, tonnage rate, hours of employment, working conditions, continuity of employment, and conditions of industry; Committee No. 3, economy and waste prevention, housing and living conditions, health and works sanitation, and education.

There was also a general committee to take up matters not connected with any of the aforementioned committees.

It is especially urged during the nomination, (Oct. 1), and the election, (Oct. 15), that all employees who are eligible to vote, take advantage of this privilege.

In this manner a representative group of employees for 1934-35 can be elected to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. Incidentally, members of the present representatives group are eligible for re-election.

Employees, with the exception of those in supervisory positions, who have been at Lukens continuously for three months, are eligible to cast their vote in the coming election.

Doctor: "You must avoid all forms of excitement."

Male Patient: "But, doctor, can't I even look at them on the street?"

"There's a hole in one," said the golfer as he reached for his socks.

Safety—first, last, and always.

CHATTERBOX

Simmers, Willard, and Byerly are going to sell their deep sea fishing outfit and fish in the bathtub *** the reason why, they can't take it *** "Tom" Scott at the pipe shop looks like "Connie Mack" *** he has been accosted several times while out of town, and was once threatened with a licking *** with three straight winning predictions under our belt, including Detroit, the Giants (?) and Max Baer, we pick the Tigers to down the Giants in six games *** large red signs are to be put on the door at the 84" mill electrical shop to tell a certain electrician where the proper entrance is *** and "Ray" Urbine at the same place now knows how it feels to fall out of an airplane *** somebody in the rigger's dept. is going to get paid back in his own money for shutting off the gas supply of a Ford roadster owned by a pipe shopper *** the phone girls are still laughing over that "phoney" pulled on "Norm" Franciscus as he awaited the west bound train for Chi. *** the machine shop Wolfe (Kenneth) is now attired in sheep's clothing *** meaning that he went and got married *** Julius says the last name is Sandusky and it's tomatoes, not cucumbers, that are his specialty *** Clyde Lowe, according to latest reports, is in line for an important political position at Lenover, B. C. (brush country), Pa. *** indications point to his selection as public streets superintendent *** Russell Miller, loco shop, is going to be made a member of the tall story club— *** at least he will if he keeps it up at the present rate *** Bachman and Hollingsworth are among the machine shoppers who say that Rubinoff can't take it *** say it isn't so *** Miss Electric Shop recently spent a vacation swatting the Jersey skeeters *** says she was in the house every night, says she *** Jack Powers and Joe Sabo, No. 5 electricians, are now accredited as experts on the height of those tall trees in Wisconsin and points west ***

It is rumored the "Horsemen" were riding tricycles over the week-end—it's much safer boys *** Ben Griffith still contends he can last nine innings *** Jimmy Herman is still on the "up and up" *** watch those thunder storms Jim *** Herb Ottey still slings a wicked bow *** Yank

Carson knows where the big ones live *** Ben Elliott is getting his lasso ready for rabbit season *** Charlie Brown still prefers a pipe *** Tubby Marsh is painting his Cadillac *** Joe Pashesnik is going to quit smoking (he doesn't know it yet) *** Sam McCarter can make his Ford do sixty *** Jake Berkehiser knows where the Post Office is located *** Bill Riddle, Peck Pennegar and Russell Miller still remain Numismatists *** George Cardwell is still "Alloying" *** Charlie Brown is still "claiming" *** but, before you go boys—tell us—"would you ever get married again?????" *** Johnny Runner wants to know why they don't give those Central Park wrestlers, most of them from the chipping department, a squadron of motorcycles so they can back-pedal faster *** those silk mill girls thought at first, judging by the uniform, that Chief Wright was an admiral in the navy when he guarded Lukens property recently ***

\$81 Cash Paid For Suggestions

Nine Men Are On Honor List This Month

Continued interest in the advancement of plant equipment was once again demonstrated at the meeting of the suggestion committee when cash awards totalling \$81.00 were awarded to nine men.

Lester Curtis, chairman of the suggestion committee, declared that he was well pleased with the interest being shown on the part of employees and hoped that this spirit will continue in the future.

All of the suggestions were of significant value and showed much thought on the part of the person who submitted them. Those who received the awards included: Robert Finnigan, \$7.50; J. Raymond Strouse, \$4.00; E. D. Sheller, \$5.00; Paul March, \$5.00; Joe Hopson, \$2.00; J. L. Quaintance, \$15.00; Benjamin Morrell, \$15.00; Benjamin Morrell, \$10.00; Joe Hopson, \$4.00; C. R. Sheaffer, \$3.00; and H. R. Long, \$5.00.

Bill Smith one day went into
A fortune telling place.
A pretty girl there read his mind
And then she slapped his face.