



1810
FIRST TO ROLL BOILER
PLATE IN AMERICA

LUKENS PLATE

Published Every Other Week
By and For the Employees of Lukens Steel Company,
By-Products Steel Corporation, Lukensweld, Inc.,
And Their Families



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THE WORLD'S LARGEST
PLATE MILL

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NO. 11

VACATION PLAN IS IN FULL SWING

Lukens employees in large numbers continue to take advantage of the liberal vacation plan offered by the management with the result that each week sees many of them just "taking it easy" and still collecting their all-important pay check.

From all reports the Lukenites are enjoying their week's vacation to the fullest extent with the New York World's Fair once again proving a prime attraction. With the advent of hot weather, employees from here are expected to flock to Atlantic City, always the favorite spot for locals.

Departmental heads are especially anxious that all eligible employees who have not already done so report the date upon which they wish to take their vacation. This cooperation will make for the efficient operation of all departments, despite the absence of veteran workers.

Employees who vacationed last week, those who are sojourning this week, and those who will vacation next week include the following: Raymond Chesnet, J. Spense, W. Franklin, C. Gilbert, N. Root, W. Alexander, L. Farmer, G. Reymos, J. Blackney, E. Brickus, F. Allen, J. Barber, C. Kauffman, William Powers, John Kausnak, Isaac Henry, Norman Vandever, Walter Shelton, William DeMora, Edgar Faddis, Harry Jervis, Eddie Wike, J. Kopp, J. Gibson, S. Reed, George Konley, Harry Thompson, Ed Gerringer, C. McWilliams, Howard Harvey, Clifford Wilson, Alex Pelekot, John Devault, John Peaco, Grover Davis, William Shirk, Robert Mackey, Mike Shesko, Mike Demeter, Ignatches Slavko, John Mankow, Harry Hosiey, Joseph Shoemaker, James Lewis, James Profeto, Stanley Volnek, Harry Chestnut, John Suitak, Press Detterline, Harold Mathias, William Warren, Samuel Tober, John Graubart, Mike Sojeski, Joseph Pisarto, Rufus Carter, George Brown, Luke Towels, Norman Miller, Howard Feaster, Horace Bowman, A. Mason, C. Powell, H. Nixon, James Mendenhall, Alfred Swift, C. Warden, Adam Sinco, William Root, Rawlins McGuigan, Charles Campbell, Carl Shuppert, Lester Winters and Walter Mann.

Wear Safetoe Shoes.

Thin Ice



Finding that all work and no ice skating makes a pretty dull winter, W. B. Harris, manager of our sales agent, the Corlett office in Cincinnati, promptly took to the pond like the proverbial duck. He cuts a pretty fair figure but nothing that would give Sonja Henie cause for worry.

Contributions Asked

Every employee receiving his pay today will also find a card attached to his envelope containing provisions for contributions to local and county service organizations.

These organizations, including the Visiting Nurses, Public Welfare, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and American Red Cross, are placing much dependence upon the generosity of Lukens employees to help sustain their expenses throughout the year. Last year, Lukenites contributed a total of \$5,801.60 to these groups, the Girl Scouts excepted.

Since the recent edict by the Board of Directors, barring any further solicitation of employees within the plant, this is the only permissible plant method by which these groups may receive support from Lukens employees.

Provisions are made on the cards for payroll deductions if the employee so desires.

Each one of the groups requesting funds serves a definite and worthwhile purpose in the community and to cause any slackening of their activities due to lack of funds would be a setback to the entire community.

Safety Always Pays Dividends

1013 MEMBERS IN CREDIT UNION

With 43 new members being admitted during April, membership in the Lukens Employees Federal Credit Union shot past the 1,000 mark and came to a halt at 1,013. This represents more than one-third of the entire number of employees in the company and is another indication of the esteem in which Lukenites hold the Credit Union.

The Credit Union operated at a net profit of \$159.25 during April with income being derived from \$287.93 interest on loans and \$40.00 income from investments. Expenses, of which salaries were the main item, amounted to \$168.68.

Assets and liabilities of the Credit Union balanced at \$43,772.19 at the end of April. Heading the assets were \$35,015.50 outstanding in loans and \$5,000 held in Federal Savings and Loan Shares. Shares held by members, amounting to \$41,613.81, comprised the bulk of the liabilities.

Members of the Federal Credit Union obtained 178 loans amounting to \$13,194.00 during April. At the same time they paid in \$4,881.29 on new shares and repaid \$8,874.00 on loans.

You can make use of your Credit Union and borrow money at the rate of 1 per cent per month for interest on the unpaid balance. This is the best interest rate available outside of the banks.

One share, costing \$5.00, and for which payroll deductions are permitted, will make you a member. For further information call at the Credit Union office on the second floor of the Employees' Store Building or consult any of the Credit Union members in every department throughout the plant.

More steel probably was made throughout the world in 1939 than in any other year in history, largely as a result of record-breaking production in England, Germany, Italy, Japan and Russia. Total steel production for last year is estimated at 149,330,000 net tons. Of this amount, the United States produced about 35 per cent.

Join the Credit Union.

LUKENS PLATE

Editor - Edward Lake
Photographer - J. Huston Scott

One Minute Pulpit

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. John 15:12.

Public Enemy No. 1

Page the Dies Committee—the "reds" have invaded Lukens and are now officially listed as Public Enemy Number 1.

The "reds" in this instance, however, are in the form of lights on the two new safety boards and they go into action whenever a lost-time accident takes place in the plant.

Everyone, to the man, so far as we can learn, is dead set against the new lights, and is especially anxious that they have nothing to do at all times.

To give the devil his due, however, we do believe that the "reds" have accomplished one worthwhile thing during their brief stay in the plant—namely that of making a lost-time accident more vivid to all Lukenites than heretofore.

Before the advent of the new safety board with its red and white lights, (the white indicating a no-accident day), most employees took the news of an accident right in stride.

Now, however, when the red light flashes on the board everyone seems to realize that serious trouble has come to one of their fellow-workmen and everyone discusses the matter seriously.

The sight of the white light flashing on and off is a welcome one to each employee as they enter the plant and the safety boards have been instrumental in developing with all employees a determination to keep the white light going and the red light "dead" in a continuous campaign against accidents.

IN MEMORIAM

ANDREW ANDERSON

First employed here in 1893 as a laborer at the old 84" Mill. Was later promoted to operator of head machine, from 1905 to 1923, and was then promoted to operator of monitor shears until 1926. Anderson was placed on the pension rolls on March 20th, 1927, and was one of the oldest pensioners at the time of his death.

TERRANCE BRENNAN

Entire employment with Lukens, with the exception of a brief period, was in the Machine Shop where he served as a machinist, since June of 1920. Illness forced Brennan to relinquish his position on December 16th, 1939. Death occurred on May 18th.

Veteran Cop



One of the real old-timers on the Police Force is Joseph Warner who was first connected with Lukens on March 7th, 1911, a matter of 29 years ago. Two sons of this veteran employee, Herbert and Robert, are also listed among our employees.

Help The Red Cross

As the Gods of War continue to get in "their licks" in war-torn Europe, with innocent women, children and old folks among the chief victims, the American Red Cross has once again gone into action.

The familiar sign of the Red Cross is everywhere on the other side, doing its best to relieve the suffering which has been brought to the civilian population by the new and more dreadful means of modern warfare.

Eye-witnesses to the plight of refugees in Europe say that words fail to describe the confusion and the agonies which have been brought to some 5,000,000 people, suddenly rendered homeless.

Money is needed and needed desperately to provide food, clothing and medical aid for these unfortunates.

Your contribution to the American Red Cross will be a God-send to those who are afflicted.

Employees Transferred

Employees transferred recently and the new departments and their positions are as follows: Benjamin Nune-maker, to Open Hearth Department as second-helper; Ed Ramstine to By-Products as first-class operator; Roman Fedorczyk to Construction Department; Francis Diehl to Open Hearth Department as craneman; Clair Butler to Rigging Department as first-class rigger; and Samuel DeCarlo to Open Hearth Department as craneman.

Employees' Store Is Now Twenty Years Old

The Lukens Employees Co-Operative Store, a striking example of employee management, observed the 20th anniversary of its establishment on May 19th.

To say that the idea of the Employees Co-Operative Store has flourished since it was first put into execution back on May 19th of 1929 is putting it lightly.

Operating in accordance with the policies mapped out by the Board of Directors, the Employees Store has grown from a one-room, one-clerk affair to one of the largest stores in the county.

A corps of clerks and two delivery trucks are now required to meet the demands of the customers.

The lone clerk in the store when it was first opened, incidentally, was Emory Bachman who is still on the job as the manager after 20 years.

Headquarters of the store were moved into the present building on December 16th of 1924. This new building is owned by the Employees Store.

The policies of the Employees Store have always been governed by the Board of Directors who are, in turn, elected by the stockholders. Ever since the inception of the Store, only one share has been permitted to each stockholder and each stockholder is permitted only one vote.

Safety Board "Line-Up"

1. When the white light flashes there have been no lost-time accidents within a 24-hour period.

Here's the official "dope" on the two safety boards recently installed at the east and west entrances to the plant:

2. When the red light flashes there has been a lost-time accident within the last 24-hour period.

3. The red hand on the board indicates the number of lost-time accidents during the current period.

4. The blue hand on the board indicates the number of lost-time accidents during the safety year.

5. Total lost-time accidents last year are listed in the first line beneath the clock.

6. Lost-time accidents by departments are listed in the next lines.

7. Total days since last lost-time accidents occupies the bottom space.

The purpose of the safety boards is to make every employee safety-conscious during every day he is on the job. Don't forget to watch the board and help to keep the white light flashing.

"Did Frances blush when her shoulder strap broke?"

"I didn't notice."

SEEN AND HEARD AT THE MAIN OFFICE

One of the prettiest homes in this section—that of Mr. and Mrs. George Eshleman located on King's Highway.

Sam Hofmann reports that he can smack a golf ball 250 yards on the fly.

"Mickey" Magill giving the low-down on who is who at home and abroad.

"Hello, lovely," is the way certain girls greet Art Daggett.

Izzy Myers is making elaborate plans for her vacation.

"Snuffy" Smith has written all the letters to be mailed back home from the Tall Cedar Convention at Washington, D. C.

Jimmy Herman was disappointed with a 98 golf score.

Faith Russell was a visitor at the home of her sister in Pittsburgh recently.

Veryl John confides that the wedding bells will ring soon but doesn't give the date.

They are all for a Lukens women's bowling team—Marion Miller and Betty Coates who are pretty good tenpin artists.

OPEN HEARTH HEATS

Tony Bilka was passing the cigars around recently. It was a girl at the Bilka's and to which we can only add congratulations.

Congratulations are also due to Harold Hall who only recently joined the ranks of the Benedicts.

Al McFarland is planning on visiting Niagara Falls, among other places, during his vacation. Incidentally he will drive his new car on the trip.

Art Gillespie has a prize coon dog named "Hoover." The dog has placed in 14 out of 19 field trials this season with the best dogs in this section.

George Sinco and Frank Nagy are planning months ahead for their vacation gunning trip.

Getting the deep sea lines in shape are Cliff Wilson, Stan Sapura and Grover Hersh. The big ones will soon be running.

A red-hot Athletic rooter and one who sees many a game at Shibe Park—Ben McNamee.

Henry Berry says that it looks like Atlantic City for the vacation this summer.

Marlin Kuhn has a new responsibility—that of being head of the fine Moose Lodge in Coatesville.

Mann Winner Of \$20 Suggestion Award

Wide-awake employees with progressive ideas continued to "clean up" on recent Suggestion Awards, recommended by the Suggestion Committee and approved by President Robert W. Wolcott, with four men sharing in the distribution of \$30.50.

Heading the list of winners was J. Arthur Mann, Flanging Department, who received \$20.00 for his suggestion. Others to share in the cash distribution included Clyde Goodwin, \$5.00; A. J. Kunik, \$3.00, and William Ford, \$2.50.

Every successful company is built upon the ideas of its employees pertaining to improvements and Lukens is no exception to this rule. That is the reason the management is always ready to pay cash for any worth-while suggestions.

If you have any suggestions to submit they will receive speedy and fair consideration by the Suggestion Committee.

CHATTERBOX

George Gordon has a tip for those taking their driver's test *** don't get riled at the officer *** congratulations to Brooks Grab at Lukenweld *** he recently took the fatal step *** also belated birthday salutations for two well-known Lukenites *** namely Rod Martin, one of our 50-year men, and C. L. Huston, Jr., Director of Personnel *** back on the job again after recovering from an injury *** and smiling as always is Ray Moore at Plant 4 *** here's a new saying at Plant 4 *** "it's not a plane, not a bird, it's Szabo *** one of the recent admirers of the famous Skyline Drive *** was Leon Guiney who toured that district with his family *** one of the biggest showers ever held in this district was staged last week at the West End Fire Company *** the prospective groom in the case is friend Stan Kuhn of the Masonry Department and the bride-to-be is the daughter of Stanley Weilock, O. H. Dept. *** the wedding will be in June *** Ben Elliott one of the real veterans of Lukens is planning a real vacation in June *** he will take several weeks and motor to the Frisco Fair, Oregon and Yellowstone Park among other places *** took his week's vacation and then he went to the hospital *** Sam Reed, efficient craneman at the 84" Mill *** Reds Bireley at the Flangers is going to get his teeth made at Lukenweld *** and save the wear and tear *** Frank Bates, also of the Flangers, is a real fireman *** especially when the parades are due ***

Sales Manager—"You give me a pain in the neck."

Salesman—"Thanks for moving me up."

"WHY LUKENS IS AT COATESVILLE"

Compiled from Company and County Records by Stewart Huston in collaboration with George M. Gillen.

PART I. REBECCA WEBB LUKENS

Rebecca Webb Lukens, born to Isaac and Martha Pennock on January 6, 1794, was a woman admirable for her courage, unflagging enthusiasm and sincere interest in people around her.

When, in 1850, Rebecca Lukens was called upon by the Chester County Court, in connection with the settlement of Isaac Pennock's estate, to defend her business career against his other heirs, she proved herself a lady of fire and steel.

Rebecca Lukens had written her autobiography in the long, solitary evenings after her tall Quaker husband, Dr. Charles Lukens, the physician of Abington and ironmaster of Coatesville, had died. It is the story, in Rebecca's own simple words, of a woman of deep feelings whose memories were wrapped up in her ironmaster father and versatile husband. On those memories she relied to carry on the iron business left to her direction at her husband's deathbed.

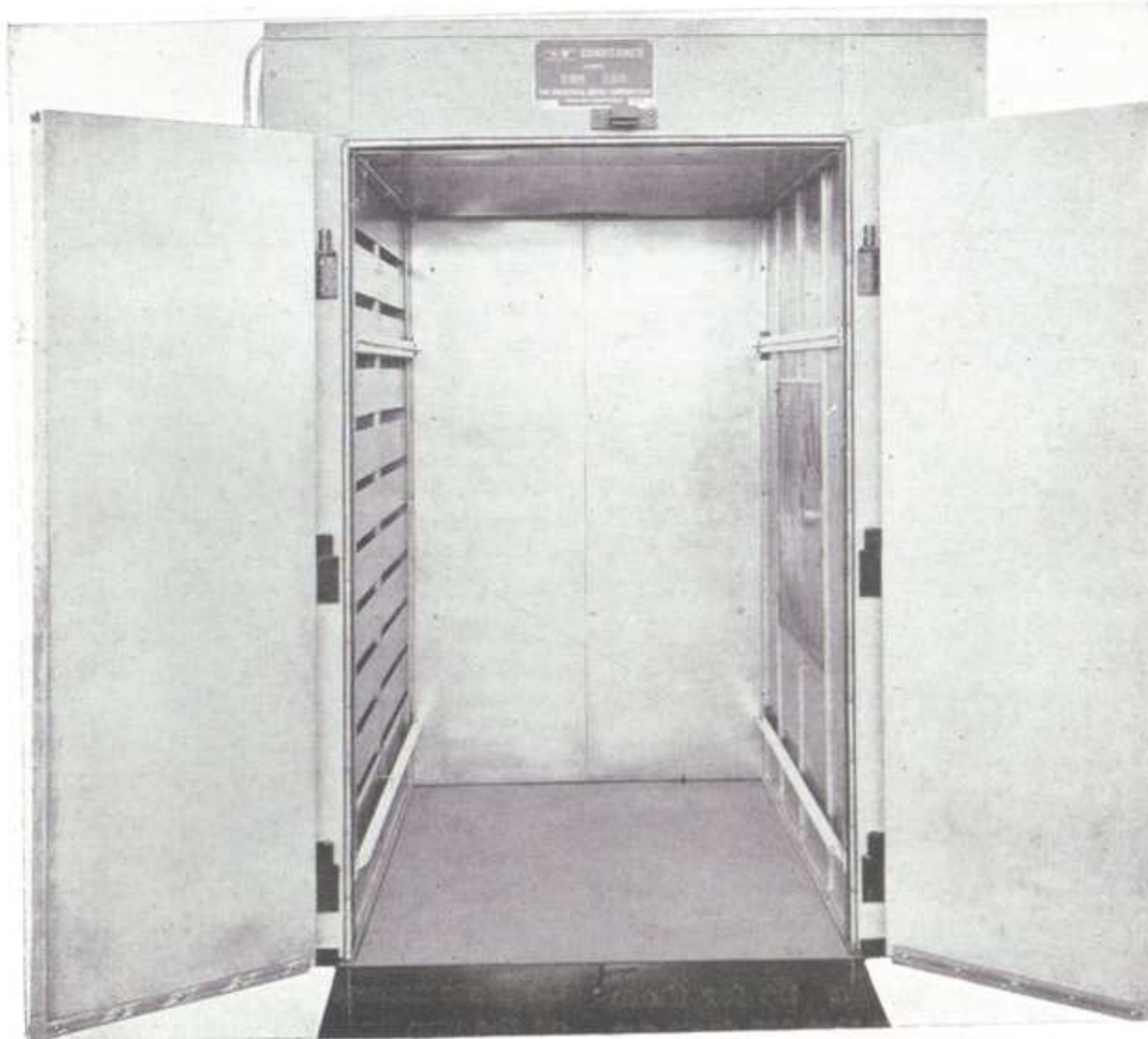
Twenty-five years later, for the Chester County Court, Rebecca wrote a clear and positive record of her business career from 1825 to 1850.

From these two papers, autobiography and letter to her lawyer in 1850, can be read the story of a strong, affectionate daughter, wife and mother, and a shrewd woman. She was a raconteuse who fascinated young people with impromptu tales on winter evenings in front of an open fire; an insatiate reader, who sometimes sat up all night by candlelight to read the latest books. She was an admirer of spirited carriage horses, so that her cautious friends often feared for her safety. She was a hostess who delighted in dressing up "Brandywine House", as she once called the iron works mansion, for festivities of her young friends. At the same time, she clung to the faith of her childhood and wore the plain, severe gowns of the strict Quakeress.

From the standpoint of our business, however, one characteristic of Mrs. Lukens is of outstanding importance. In the 1850 letter to her lawyer, representing her in the Chester County Court, she wrote, "Our character for making boiler iron stood first in the market, hence we had as much business as we could do."

Members of the Lukens Steel Company's bowling team received checks for \$44.66 from the American Bowling Congress last week. Eddie Lake secured \$22.22 for his 620 in singles; Dick Baker got \$13.00 for his 598 in singles, and Pyle and Lake took \$11.44 for their 1116 in doubles.

H. W. Conditioner Unit Makes Use Of Lukens Nickel-Clad Steel In Compartment Floor



Open doors reveal the Monel lining, and floor of Lukens Nickel-Clad Steel, in this "H-W" Conditioner, built by The Industrial Dryer Corporation, Stamford, Conn.

Because freshly spun high twist yarns are so lively, they are a problem in the manufacture of woolen materials and mixtures thereof employing cotton, silk and rayon. They cannot be used directly after spinning in the shuttle or on the knitting machine. They snarl, try to untwist and shrink unevenly in the goods.

Such kinking, untwisting and liveliness is the bane of the weaver and knitter, and a constant source of complaints. To eliminate it, it is necessary to set the twist in the yarns very carefully and uniformly, without yellowing or injury to the sensitive yarn fibers.

In the "H-W" Conditioner, designed and built by The Industrial Dryer Corporation, Stamford, Conn., yarn is twist set at the desired temperature and humidity, which are held uniform and constant by means of instruments. The result is a yarn that, on handling, does not kink, twine or

show any liveliness that will interfere with its construction into a fabric.

Since the "H-W" Conditioner is often operated at 100% humidity, corrosion of metals used in the construction of its interior was a problem. It was solved by use of Monel sheets for side walls and roof, and the use of a plate of Lukens Nickel-Clad Steel, 3-16" thick, 10% clad, for the floor.

Many "H-W" Conditioners with floors of Lukens Nickel-Clad Steel are in service in the textile industry. They have proved entirely corrosion resistant in the variable atmospheres employed in the operation of the machines. They have effectively eliminated corrosion formerly encountered from the wheels of trucks used in loading the yarn into the equipment. Furthermore, the Nickel-Clad Steel self-supporting floor has eliminated guide rails on the floors, and enabled the use of any type of truck for loading.

Phone Changes

One change in procedure regarding the use of telephone equipment in the plant is announced by our Electrical Department, which has supervision over the phones.

The Electric Department requests that when a phone is out of order the Electrical Department, numbers 225 or 226, should be notified. In the recently issued Lukens telephone directory, directions were to the effect that

when a phone was out of order, the Lukens chief operator should be notified.

A correction should also be listed under "Night Calls" as follows: Mill Scale Office—112" is incorrect and should be changed to read: "Mill Office—84".

Wife—"Did you see those men staring at that flapper as she boarded the train?"

Husband—"What men?"

LUKENWELD ARCS

Employment at Lukenweld is now at a new all-time high with a total of approximately 350 employees on the payroll, including shop and office forces.

Twelve employees of the sales and engineering divisions are enrolled in the two welding classes instructed by Fred Forbes and Earl Hart.

These classes, which meet once weekly, were evolved to give the members a practical knowledge of welding—from the viewpoint of the welder.

Those enrolled are William Wilbraham, Charles Carlin, Frank Kardevan, William Funk, Richard Mitchell, S. Nelson Buell, Kit Carson, George Long, William Mymern, Ray Conabee and Jack Conrad.

Miss Betty Scott is the new secretary in the Lukenweld office.

Dick Lowery has returned to work following a spell in the hospital with an infected foot.

New office employees include Fats Southern, Bill DeVries, and Bob Newkirk.

Roy Brownback and Carlton Needham are shooting golf at Lancaster this year while Jack Newlin stays in the 80's at Phoenixville.

Ed DeVore figured in an auto accident recently and was slightly injured.

Wilmer Montgomery and Monty Kropp are buying and planting peach trees in large numbers.

The Harold McWilliams have moved into their fine new home near Towerville.

Everyone rejoiced in the recovery from serious illness of the child of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bunting.

Lukenweld's bowling team made a mighty fine showing in the "B" League at the Y. M. C. A.

Willie DeFroscia is now a licensed pilot and operates his own machine.

George Banzhoff has repaired his airplane which was damaged some time ago and is once again back in the ozone.

Lukenweld is going to be in the field with a strong baseball team, according to Sammy Mohr. Among the probable players are Ray Noble, Norm Smith, Sam Jefferis, Robert Ross, Samuel Mohr, Tony Dazio, Ralph Little, Lou Scamuffa, Robert Ney, Harold McWilliams, Dick Conner, Pete McCarthy, Art Reagner, Boles Brodzoski, and Kenny Robinson. Paul Farra is down for coach and Nat Engle is listed as trainer and water-boy.