

The Hawthorne Microphone

VOLUME 3

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1924

VOLUME 4

ARMY OF MEN FIGHT SNOW FLURRIES TO KEEP WORKS WORKING

Close to 200 Men and 10 Teams Engage in Battle to Dig out Hawthorne—One Man Skis to Work and Surprises Officer

It has taken the excavators of Tutankhamen's tomb 18 months to uncover the resting place of his royal majesty, but if Hawthorne's service department had been on the spot they would probably have finished the job before breakfast.

When Hawthorne was buried in snow recently and traffic throughout the city was virtually at a standstill for more than a day, the local service department had sidewalks cleared and a path through all Hawthorne streets wide enough for traffic to get through by seven o'clock the morning after the big storm.

Of course, they didn't get the snow hauled away in that time. It took until Saturday to clear sidewalks, streets, the reel yard and the lumber yard entirely, and it required the combined efforts of 200 men, 10 teams, two trucks, three tractors pulling various snow plows and brushes, and a tractor hauling a road grader to put the big job across. In place of the little 30-foot strip of sidewalk that most of us have to clear, the local excavators had to clean close to 11,000 square yards of sidewalks, and 40,000 square yards of driveways. This does not include the reel yard, where snow buried everything, delaying shipments a day and a half, nor the lumber yard.

The service department men ploughed through the snowdrifts to work on foot, long before street cars were in operation, and the tractor drivers had the new tractor-driven snow-brush out cleaning sidewalks in the early hours of the morning. Two other tractors were soon hooked up to ox drags and making a path through all the driveways.

Company trucks made rush trips to the Madison Street lodging-house district and soon had recruited a temporary army to help the regular service department employees dig the plant out.

A team and scraper was assigned to clean the lumber yard drives—due to fire hazard it is not possible to use the gasoline equipment for this work—while a grader of the kind used to level the surface of country roads was hitched to a tractor and set to work cleaning the Works' streets. A hose was used to wash considerable of the snow down the sewer system, but the fall was so heavy that most of the snow had to be carted to vacant property.

However, outside of the temporary tie-up of the reel yard, Hawthorne suffered no interruption from the big storm beyond that due to tardy employees, who were delayed on their way to work.

Taxis carried loads of Hawthornites, local motorists loaded up the family fliover and many other varied forms of transportation were called into requisition to get Hawthorne people to work, but it remained for O. Gullang of the Permalloy Department, to think up the most novel method of locomotion. He arrived on a pair of skis in plenty of time for work, although the guard at Gate No. 1 almost had heart failure when Gullang rounded the corner into the Works. However, it was nothing new to the ski rider, who is a former Norwegian athlete, now serving as athletic director of the Sleipner Athletic Club.

W. E. NEWS TO HOLD CARTOON CONTEST IN MAY ISSUE

Hawthorne shakers of the wicked brush and pen—those individuals who amuse their friends by getting up humorous caricatures of their associates or sketches burlesquing local happenings, current events or sayings—will have an opportunity to capitalize their talent in the Western Electric News cartoonists' contest, which is now open for entries.

The News is offering nine prizes, ranging from \$20 to \$3. The largest prize is for the cartoon embodying the best W. E. idea. In this, however, the idea will be the main thing considered. Of course, the better the drawing is made, the easier it will be to get the idea across. Prizes will also be given for the best general idea and for the best drawing.

They will be awarded as follows:—Best W. E. idea—1st prize, \$20; 2nd, \$10; 3rd, \$3. Best general idea—1st prize, \$10; 2nd, \$5; 3rd, \$3. Best drawing—1st prize, \$10; 2nd, \$5; 3rd, \$3.

The cartoons are to be made with India ink or a grease pencil on one side of a good grade of white paper, preferably bristol board. In preparing them for mailing they should be packed flat (not rolled) and extreme care should be exercised in the wrapping to prevent possible damage through handling.

All cartoons entered in this contest must reach the Western Electric News, 195 Broadway, New York City, not later than April 10th.

The winning cartoons will appear in the May issue.

VALENTINE'S DAY POST-MORTEM



WORKS EXECUTIVES HOLD CONFERENCE

Hawthorne's Manufacturing Heads Meet at Sherman House—Officials Give Talks on Budgets—A. T. & T. Man Speaks

Approximately 109 executives of the Hawthorne Manufacturing organization held their second semi-annual conference Thursday, February 7th, at the Hotel Sherman. The meeting was called for the purpose of discussing some of the major problems involved in the efficient administration of the big job carried on at Hawthorne.

The main topics of discussion on this occasion were the 1924 Hawthorne budget and what the manufacturing program means to the Bell System. The speakers were Works Manager C. G. Stoll, Assistant Works Manager C. L. Rice, superintendent of Production J. J. McKenna, Operating Superintendent W. H. Meese and R. H. Burcher, assistant vice-president (on operation) of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

After an introductory address by Mr. Stoll, Mr. McKenna told of our 1923 achievements, illustrating his figures on output records with charts and tables.

In speaking of our 1924 business, Mr. Meese brought out the fact that schedules on nearly every item have been increased over 1923's record output, in several instances exceeding it as high as 80 percent.

Mr. Rice explained our latest method of determining budgets and brought out the importance of keeping within their limits.

Mr. Burcher gave an interesting talk on the cause for the rapidly increasing demands of the telephone companies for apparatus, and described how the American Telephone and Telegraph Company outlines its budgets and calculates the probable telephone requirements of the public for years ahead.

Mr. Stoll closed the speaking program with a brief resume of the subjects covered.

At 7:00 o'clock a dinner was served in the Tiger Room. The meal was followed by some entertaining songs by such radio celebrities as Jerry Sullivan and the Cambridge Sisters. The musical program was augmented by several Hawthornites present, who gave vocal numbers at the solicitations of the committee.

Something novel in the way of diversion greeted the men as they were ushered into an adjoining room. Here they were surrounded by the scenic reproduction of an old-time mining camp. Wads of "stage" money were distributed equally among the guests and the rest of the evening was given over to exciting games of chance, which resulted in Bill Hosford, Jake Berman and Louis Yochum copping the three prizes put up.

GIRLS TO HOLD PARTY

A repetition of the exciting time enjoyed at the girls' party last May is expected at the Hawthorne girls' supper and bunco party, which will be held Thursday evening, February 21st, on the second floor of the Restaurant Building immediately after work.

From all reports this is destined to eclipse all previous parties of its kind. About \$100 worth of prizes will be given away in the bunco games, the supper will be delicious and the entertainment well, wait and see.

The tickets, which cost 50 cents, will cover everything. Further information can be obtained from Miss Edna Harrold, of Dept. 6675-2, phone 1031, Bldg. 54-1.

HAWTHORNE GETS ITS NEWEST BUILDING ON RAILWAY CARS

Usually when the Works outgrows its floor space the building construction division plans a made-to-order building to fit requirements exactly. Recently, however, Hawthorne has had to resort to a "ready-made-to-fit" building to meet emergency demands for floor space.

The new acquisition—the first building of the sort ever erected at Hawthorne—arrived at the Big Works early this month and is nearly completed. It is an all-steel warehouse structure, with an area of 16,000 square feet, and was ordered to provide floor space for an expansion of the Cable Plant made necessary by the increase in cable schedules.

A made-to-order building of the same floor area, constructed similar to Hawthorne's other permanent structures, would have required in the neighborhood of 23 carloads of building materials—five carloads of brick, seven of sand and crushed stone, five of cinders, two of tile, one of steel beams, one of roofing material, one of miscellaneous supplies and one of cement. The sectional building, however, arrived complete on three cars.

The new structure will be used for storage purposes only, so no heating equipment will be installed. The bulky stock of insulating paper will be moved out of the present storage space in the cable plant as soon as the new building is completed, thus allowing room for the installation of more cable producing machinery. The new warehouse will have a capacity of about two million pounds of paper, approximately one-fifth of the Works' annual requirements.

The building is of corrugated steel sheeting, containing a certain percentage of copper to give it rust-resisting properties. The sections, which are 25 feet in width, are shipped bolted together, while the trusses are separate. The building will be provided with large windows in each section and will also be equipped with electric lights.

A steel corridor about 16 feet wide and 33 feet long will connect the new structure with the main group of buildings.

Although heavy snow storms have delayed the erection of the structure, it is expected that all work will be completed this month.

SEVEN W. E. PEOPLE INJURED IN WRECK ON KEDZIE AVENUE

Switch Engine Demolishes Crowded Street Car—Our People Escape With Relatively Minor Injuries

Seven Hawthorne people were injured when a switch engine demolished a street car at 49th St. and Kedzie Ave. at 6:45 Tuesday morning, February 5th. The street car, which was proceeding north on Kedzie, was packed to capacity with Hawthorne and Crane Company employees. Owing to a blinding snow storm, its crew did not see an approaching switch engine drawing about fifty freight cars, loaded with bricks, and the car started to cross in its path. The locomotive struck the car amidships, rolling it approximately 75 feet down the railroad right-of-way before the heavy freight could be stopped on its key rails. The street car was collapsed until its side walls were only three feet apart in some places, and in view of its crowded condition, it is a marvel that so few passengers lost their lives.

The Hawthorne Injured

Patrik Greaney, of Raw Material Store 6229; face cut by glass, right side and back bruised.

C. A. Clausius, of Stores Dept. 6565; cut on left hand, bruises on right side.

Charles Bumbale, Repair Dept. 5376; left arm strained, cut on face and chin.

Miss Ursula Darachunas, of Coil Winding Dept. 6325; left leg cut, contusion on head and left arm wrenched.

Stanley Buchek, of Heavy Punch Press Dept. 6339; bruised over ribs on left side.

J. J. Tuhey, of Relay Mounting and Adjusting Dept. 6324; knee bruised.

Mrs. J. J. Tuhey, of Light Punch Press Dept. 5335; arms lacerated and possible internal injuries.

In view of the number of our people riding on the car it is fortunate that more of them were not injured and that those who were, escaped as lightly as they did. Several of those hurt have since returned to work, and according to present reports most of the others will be on their feet again within a few days. We all

LAUGH AT WEATHER MAN

Local Dance Fans Tunnel Snow Drifts to Club's Paradise Frolic

In spite of the avalanche of snow that buried Chicago recently, about 1,200 dancers managed to get to the Hawthorne Club's prize-drawing dance at Guyon's Paradise on Tuesday evening, February 5th.

Nobody found out how many snowshoed to the frolic palace nor whether the taxis had substituted bob-sleds in place of the regular conveyances, but the crowd didn't worry how they got there—or how they were going to get home.

There was no need of a synthetic storm to make this affair a storm dance, but the more the snow swirled and whirled outside the more the crowd whirled and swirled in the big dance hall.

The Club provided a flock of the frolicers with taxi fares during the course of the evening, for during intermission five-dollar bills were distributed to those who held the lucky numbers.

Those whom Lady Fortune smiled upon were:—Ladies, Misses H. Emard, Dept. 6671-4; H. Kudak, Dept. 6551-1; A. Kamman, 6632-1; G. Hennessey, 6047-1; M. Rama, 7381; F. B. Brunck, 6315; Gentlemen, D. Alis, 6671-4; J. Odwyer, 6049-2; O. H. Clark, 6087-2; M. Clemens, 7381; L. W. Ruppert, 9395; H. Cogburn, 6516; V. Henderson, 6644-1; L. A. Reed, 6366; J. A. Foley, 5338; H. Horan, 5569-1.

HAWTHORNE TALENT TO BROADCAST FROM WMAQ ON FEB. 28th

When you sit down at the tuning coil Thursday, February 28th, don't forget to swing the dials over to catch WMAQ's program from 9 to 10 o'clock, for a Western Electric quality program will be on the air at that time.

H. E. Mathisen, vice-president of the Club, has arranged a program for this night, which contains some of the best talent of the Works.

A score of Hawthorne musicians will crowd plenty of versatility into the hour that has been allotted to them and it will be well worth staying home from the movies for a chance to listen in.

Those who will take part in the program are:—Elmer Jacobs, the Sate Comedy Four, Miss Margaret Golden, Leon Theriault, Elliot Oakes, Miss Loreta Faxon, Anton Hassel, Miss Elsie Ruzicka, Luther Carter, Mrs. Sylvia Riha, Joseph Hurt, Roy Snyder, Miss Emmy Rentzman, J. E. Petersen, Miss Loretta Kane, and Charles Blim.

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A BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED FOR HAWTHORNE PEOPLE AT THE HAWTHORNE WORKS OF THE WESTERN ELECTRIC CO.

Dept. 5078-2 Bldg. 55-2 Telephone 1949

Distributed Free of Charge to Hawthorne Employees.

To all others.....\$2.00 per year

RIGHT IS ALWAYS CORRECT

A Hawthorne man came into The Microphone office the other day to register a kick.

As our subscription price is nothing per issue, with 10 percent off if paid in advance, we are free from the usual newspaper's fear that every indignant man means a loss to the exchequer through a cancelled subscription.

Of course, everybody realizes that a uniform rule for pedestrians works to the advantage of everyone, but many people nevertheless thoughtlessly or carelessly ignore the rules as far as they themselves are concerned.

The only place where a violation of the right-hand rule seems to be at all justified is on some winding stairways where the left-hand side offers the shorter path going up.

Right is right. Let's keep to it.

MDSE. STUDENTS BANQUETED

About 75 Merchandise folks attended a dinner in honor of the students on the Merchandise college training course, Thursday evening, February 1st.

Old students, representing classes as far back as 1902, told their experiences while on the student course and dropped little bits of advice into the ears of the younger men.

B. J. Lowe, representing the class of 1924, expressed the students' appreciation of the help that had been accorded them during the past year and was joined by the student body in an original song of appreciation.

Messrs. Benson, Baker, Baldwin and Deakins (popularly known as the 'Merchandise Melody Makers'), Mr. Musson with his violin and Mr. Morse at the piano entertained the guests with some excellent music.

C. I. DeWitt, general merchandise manager at New York, who was out at Hawthorne, gave a very encouraging talk on the opportunities that lay ahead of the members of the Merchandise organization and spoke of the increasing complexity of the problems that will confront them during the next few years.

Mr. Pelly, representing the Scheduling Engineer's Division at 195 Broadway, to which some of the students will be assigned, also gave a short and interesting talk.

In closing, Mr. Hellweg told of some of his varied experiences in the early days of the General Merchandise Department.

RIFLE CLUB PLACES THIRD

Tribune Cup Race Closes With Locals Well Up Among Leaders

When the smoke of the final engagement in the Chicago rifle tournament had cleared away last Friday night, the Hawthorne Club found itself in third place by the narrow margin of one point. Nine teams competed.

The local club's bag for the ten matches totals 9,360 out of a possible 10,000 and is the best ever collected by local marksmen in a city tourney.

Hawthorne marksmen haven't ceased firing by any means just because the city tourney is over. Tonight local target smashers will shoot the first of a two-match tournament with the Case rifle team, of Racine Wisconsin.

In addition to this event a three-week tournament open to all Hawthornites is now in progress at the range.

A meeting of the organization has been called for tonight at 6:15 at the club's quarters, Ogden Ave. and the Belt Line.

STUDENT SUGGESTS GUARD ON STRANDER IN CABLE PLANT

When R. N. Feicht, a student on the training course, was being shown the wonders of Hawthorne for the first time, he noticed everywhere the care the Company takes to safeguard its employees.

Then, one day, while he was being shown cable manufacture in the Cable Plant, he noticed the tremendous strain placed on the cable core as it was drawn by the driving capstan through the strander and wound on the drum.

He voiced his pride in 'this gang' and the interest they are taking in the Hawthorne Evening Schools, especially in the blue-print reading class, which has 25 of 'Thirty-nine's' boosters enrolled in it.

The department's visiting committee, through its chairman, M. Fahry, next made a report on its activities which included 30 visits made to members who were sick and who appreciated a little word of cheer from the boys in the shops.

E. Canning and C. Reihmer sang several pleasing solos and the affair came to a close with the singing of 'The Star Spangled Banner'.

TECHNICAL CHIEFS BOWL AND DINE

Planning Scribe Breaks into Song, but Escapes Uninjured

The executives of the Technical Branch, ranging from superintendent to department chiefs, held a get-together dinner at the Chateau Des Plaines, followed by a bowl-party at the Windy City Wednesday evening, February 6th.

In spite of the rigid enforcement of the 18th amendment on such occasions the following bit of dry humor was thrown through the transom into The Microphone office 'the morning after the night before'.

Listen, my children, and you shall hear— Of the best little banquet held this year, On the sixth day of February, one-nine-two-four.

Under the fivvers, the frozen road, Slicker than Satan (and quite as bad), flowed Suffering chiefs in the seats behind. Made remarks to the drivers (mostly un-kind).

Undaunted, the drivers spurred on by desire, Swept straight to the goal and under the wire! With a turn to the right, through big gates they spun.

Then broke for the banquet hall, all at a run. As always at banquets, 'twas not very long 'Till food was forgotten, while all bawled a song.

To which the refrain was a low, steady mutter From hungry Jack Kasley demanding more butter.

There were speeches and stories with never a lull, And a quartet of song-birdies led by Jack 'Stull.

Tom Wolcott, the rascal (old Dame Fortune's pet), Proved his stand-in by winning a radio set. (It was only a bogus contraption, 'tis true, But it may 'get the coast'—Many bogus ones do).

That seiffed, the crowd all agreed on the question That 'bowling's a splendid first aid to digestion So quickly they climbed in their fivvers once more.

And made for the alleys near Hawthorne's front door. The pin boys climbed high to escape sure disaster. While the pins hit the ceiling and knocked down the plaster.

And the management hastened to strengthen the walls When Ruthven and Ewing out loose with the balls.

But Ruthven, in spite of the wild game he played Lost his place in the sun and sat down in the shade.

While Ewing, proclaimed the big noise of them all, Received the first prize, a nice new bowling ball.

But Al didn't gloat for long over his prize, For the darn thing collapsed right in front of his eyes.

And now, before Pegasus gives us a fall Let's close with, 'A jolly good time had by all.'

PUNCH PRESS BOOSTERS DINE

Hold Dinner and Smoker in Company Restaurant

The Booster Club, of Punch Press Dept. 6339, held a 'Western Electric Quality Get-Together' last Saturday afternoon.

The meal consisted of one of the Company restaurant's celebrated steak dinners. While it was being given due attention an orchestra composed of some of the boys from the department provided some fine musical numbers, which made a real hit with the diners.

Community caroling was another musical number that went big with the punch press leaders. 'That Old Gang of Mine' proved to be the most popular of the popular songs, even surpassing the song about hail.

Two very attractive numbers followed, one a fancy dancing exhibition by Miss Lorretta Fischer, the other some fancy singing by Miss Lorretta Faxon.

E. J. Riegel, also must have liked that 'Old Gang of Mine' song pretty well, for he used it as the basis for an interesting little talk about his organization, pointing out the opportunities that exist for everybody.

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BUILDING AND LOAN TO FINANCE \$750,000 IN HOMES THIS YEAR

Employee's Financial Organization to Increase Shares from 35,000 to 40,000—15th Series Opens February 15th

A healthy indication that the Hawthorne Club Savings, Building and Loan Association will realize its aim to finance three-quarters of a million dollars' worth of houses in 1924 is seen in the way our people snapped up the 14th series of stock last December, when approximately 6,000 new shares were issued, bringing the total to some 35,000 outstanding shares in force, with a maturity value of \$3,500,000.

To increase these shares to 40,000 the fifteenth series of stock will be opened Friday, February 15th. This addition will increase the income \$10,000 per week, an amount sufficient to finance homes this year to the extent of approximately \$520,000.

Only a comparatively short time remains before the building trades will be working to their full capacity. From all indications home building has not reached its peak and records surpassing those of the last few years will be established.

The plan of saving a small sum with the association weekly is one which has been tried for many years and has withstood all the tests applied to any sound financial investment. It is well worth while to investigate what the plan is.

Those interested in the new series or any other phase of the good work being done by this association can apply for shares or obtain information at its offices in Bldg. 22-1, which are open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between 12 and 12:45 and on Thursday evenings from 5 to 6:30.

SEVENTEEN MORE JOIN PIONEERS

Japanning Dept. 6345 leads the Works in number of candidates for membership in the Telephone Pioneers of America during the past two weeks. The applicants from that organization are:—John B. Jensen, Herman Frieder, Thomas Harazin, William Hodoval, Gus A. Molentin and August Penzer.

Cards of Thanks

Rose Veselka, Dept. 6377, and Jerry C. Veselka, Dept. 6161, gratefully acknowledge and thank their co-workers for the kind expressions of sympathy extended them at the time of their bereavement.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Baumrick and Mr. and Mrs. James W. Vakurka wish to express their sincere thanks to the members of Depts. 6372 and 6377 for the beautiful floral piece, and expressions of sympathy extended during their recent bereavement.

I wish to acknowledge my sincere thanks to my many friends in Dept. 6321 for their kindness expressed at the loss of my mother, and for the beautiful floral piece.—C. Backstrom.

E. M. Doyle wishes to express his sincere thanks for the beautiful floral piece and for the sympathy shown him by his friends of Div. 2420 in his late bereavement.

F. L. Iwinski wishes to take this opportunity of thanking his friends of Div. 2420 for the beautiful floral piece and kind expressions of sympathy extended during his recent bereavement.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to our many Hawthorne friends for the beautiful floral offerings and kind expressions of sympathy extended us in the loss of our father.—Ethel Roddy, Mabel Roddy, 2456-S.

I wish to express my sincere thanks for the tokens of appreciation extended to me by my many Hawthorne friends in my late bereavement.—E. J. Hedberg, 2405-1.

I gratefully acknowledge and thank the output men and the members of Mr. Murphy's counting room for the help extended me. It was such a help to be remembered in my hour of bereavement, and was deeply appreciated by me.—Mrs. Ada Tyk, 6162-2.

