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Safety

By H. J. TROUT

For my safety article this month, I ran across a couple of articles that I thought very good and very timely. I am, therefore, passing these articles on to you because I believe you can derive a good lesson from them.

Individualist?—Numbskull?

By RALPH DINSMORE
Hercules Powder Company

Some years ago, we had a friend who claimed to be an anarchist. He was against all law of any kind and thought everyone should be a complete individualist, doing exactly as he pleased; that each man should be a law unto himself. His argument was that if there were no laws, there would be no lawbreakers. It seemed to us that he was confusing law with ethics—with human behavior. It is true, we agreed, that if there were no laws against stealing, a thief would not be a law-breaker, but he would still be a thief.

This discussion occurred in an automobile while we were driving through a city street. Presently, we came to a street intersection and having a green light, we did not stop. A driver approaching on a side street, not noticing that he had a red light against him, also continued through the intersection. It was only by quick action on the part of both drivers that a collision was avoided.

You should have heard my friend express his opinion of the other driver! In language more forcible than elegant, he gave his opinion of people who couldn't see a red light; who didn't observe traffic rules. "The law shouldn't permit such people to drive . . . etc."

It was in vain that we argued that the other driver was an individualist who was doing exactly as he pleased: he still was an "ignorant numbskull."

We often think of this man when we hear people object to safety rules. To some workers it seems that safety rules are just ideas gotten up by management for the purpose of annoying employees. It never occurs to them that management spends a great deal of time and effort in trying to enforce safety rules and that it would be much easier to forget the whole thing. But accidents would go on, and experience has proved that where there are no such rules a great many more injuries are incurred by workers than in a plant where safety rules are strictly enforced. Without rules an injury still means pain and financial loss to the injured person.

In the last analysis safety rules are simply common sense—an effort to insure that work will be done in such a manner that no one will be harmed in doing it.

Most safety rules didn't just happen; they are a result of bitter experience over a period of years and are adopted by most companies only when experience has shown the safe way of doing a job or handling a machine.

Without a law against stealing, a thief is still a thief; without safety rules, an injury is still an injury.



BORNEO INVADED: Americans and Australians cooperate to make surprise landings in Borneo. These pictures tell the story of the Labuan Island-Brunei Operation, June 10, 1945. Australian troops pour ashore at Borneo from an American-manned LST. Naval support to the landings June 10, 1945, was furnished by both Australian and American ships under command of Rear Admiral Forrest B. Royall, USN.

I BELIEVE

I BELIEVE in the dignity of SAFETY because it protects me and my fellow workers.

I BELIEVE in the TEACHING OF SAFETY because it attempts to alleviate suffering for me and mine.

I BELIEVE in the MAGNANIMITY OF SAFETY because it creates conditions whereby workers may enjoy the fruits of their labor.

I BELIEVE in the USEFUL SERVICE SAFETY offers because it considers humanity as unexpendable—not to be compared with inanimate objects.

I BELIEVE in the SUPREME WORTH OF SAFETY because it teaches the worker to protect his right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

I BELIEVE that the RULES and LAWS OF SAFETY are made for man and that SAFETY is the SERVANT for the welfare of man.

I BELIEVE in the SACREDNESS OF SAFETY because it creates a world wherein cleanliness and order reign.

AND ABOVE ALL—I BELIEVE IN SAFETY because it considers the prolonging of life and preserving of limb so that mankind shall not be broken and maimed while striving for a decent livelihood.

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"PALS"—Pictured above are two of the plant's most distinguished men, Jim Odom and Jess Belote. This picture was made just after the formation of the official Teddy Bear club at which the officers were elected as follows: Jim Odom, president; Jess Belote, vice president; Jake Ross, secretary (see page 8). These two boys are very close associates these days and we know their ceased operation of the Dog House club and formation of the Teddy Bear club will be a tremendous success.

J. W. MAY CONTEST WINNER

By E. P. TROUT

Word is received here from Chicago that our own J. W. May, pattern shop apprentice, placed twelfth in his exhibit of a pattern and core box entered in the 1946 A. F. A. Apprentice Contest. This is the first time that a member from the Texas pattern shops has entered the contest, and as a result, considerable publicity and interest was shown in behalf of James May's work.

Names of companies submitting entries included the largest industrial plants in America, and it is most complimentary to learn that James finished well up in the list. Of particular interest is that he finished ahead of the three entrants of Allis-Chalmers Company in Milwaukee who hold a contest of a great number of apprentices in which the three best were selected to represent their company at the Cleveland Convention.

James' score, on the basis of 100 being perfect, was 74.5 and the winner, Mr. R. Dragon of Western Pattern Works on Montreal, Canada, had a score of 88.4.

It must also be noted that many of the entrants in the contest were as a result of their being winners in different city and chapter contests, such as the city of Cleveland presented three exhibits which were the winners of perhaps fifty contestants which included Aluminum Company of America, Warner & Swasey Company, Allen-Ryn Engine Company, and innumerable other large corporations.

We congratulate James upon his effort and the good showing he made.

☆

Harkins Wedding

The old adage that a woman can't keep a secret has apparently been broken since our own Robbie Harkins was certainly secretive about her wedding. She was married at 9:30 Sunday morning May 26—to Aubrey Gilbert.

☆

We wish to thank all the employees of the Lufkin Foundry for their consideration and aid when our home burned recently.

MR. AND MRS. AUBREY LOVETT
AND BILLY

☆

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Smith on the birth of a son Friday June 7.

MANHATTAN MAIN STREET

By CARL HELM

N'YAWK, N. Y.—Where Big Shots lunch on lobster in Radio City's Rainbow Room—850 ft. high and wrapped in clouds—and their stenos munch apples and sun themselves on a rock in Central Park . . . where Pekinese wear mink coats and homeless cats prowl the garbage cans . . .

Where tough taxi drivers sing ballads out the side of the mouth, and a hard-boiled cop stops traffic to let a squirrel cross the Avenue . . . where wharf rats grow big as dogs, and there's a "Mouse House" in the Zoo to show city kids what mice look like . . .

Where hat-check girls garner $50 a night in tips, and a blind fiddler shuffles Broadway playing "God Bless America" for dimes; where Madison Square Garden's a mile from Madison Square and isn't a garden but a drafty barn big enough to stable Barnum & Bailey's Circus with some left over . . .

Where gloom is thickest when gag-writers gather to cook up laughs for radio comics . . . where the nakedest night clubs are around the corner from St. Patrick's and St. Thomas' . . . where they dig holes a block wide and deep and dump it all in the river, and you pay Macy's $2.50 for a bushel-basketful of dirt for flowers . . .

Where Tiffany's sell cigarette lighters at $1,500, and East Side pushcarts peddle pickles for nickels . . . where The Avenue of the Americas (ex-6th Ave.) is one of the shabbiest streets in town . . . Where you can long for a neighborly smile or chat, and freeze dead-pan when someone speaks to you, wondering "What's he after?"; where people live ten years together beneath the same apartment roof and never say "Good Morning!" . . . where you can have the greatest privacy—and the greatest heartache . . .

☆

Jobs For GIs Only— Plan Is Successful

Begun as an experiment last winter, the policy of an Eastern aircraft manufacturer of hiring only war veterans and war widows has become permanent, and an additional 2,500 of them will be employed.

A check of the initial 500 ex-GI workers showed their production to be higher than other employees, while their rate of personnel turnover was only one-half per cent as compared with 3½ per cent for civilians.