

Noisy Working Conditions Often Are Cause of Impaired Hearing

Quiet, please! Noise can be very disturbing. Noise in industry can be dangerous. It can affect hearing, increase accidents and lower efficiency. When does sound become a dangerous noise? The international unit of sound is the decibel, named for Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone. A soft whispered voice heard at a distance of five feet has a sound rating of 10 decibels. Ordinary conversation is rated 40 decibels. A riveting hammer registers up to 140 decibels, depending on distance. Occupational deafness, formerly known as boiler-makers deafness has been known to medical men for many years.

Sixty years ago, 1100 boiler-maker who had followed their occupation for more than three years were examined and not a single one had normal hearing. Industrial physicians who have studied the effect of noise on the workers' ears believe that noise of less than a 90-decibel level can be safely disregarded. The noise level of an ordinary office is 40 decibels, that of a busy street about 65 decibels and that of heavy traffic around 80 decibels. Noise cannot be eliminated in industry and one alternative is to prevent noise from reaching the ear by the use of plugs or muffs. Exposure to extremely loud sounds over a period of time results in impaired hearing.

Fred Bloom Elected New President Cambria County Extension Assn.

3 Resolutions Adopted At Meet In Ebensburg

Fred Bloom of Ebensburg R. D. was elected president of the Cambria County Agriculture Extension Association at its annual meeting at the Courthouse in Ebensburg last Wednesday. He succeeds Edward Jones of Wilmore, who held the position for the past eight years. A special vote was conducted after the initial balloting resulted in a tie between Mr. Bloom and Galen Metzger of Johnstown R. D. 1. The former was chosen and Mr. Metzger automatically became vice president. Mrs. George Leiden of St. Lawrence was named secretary to succeed Mrs. Frieda O'Hara of Ebensburg. Mrs. O'Hara who held the office for the past 14 years was not a candidate for reelection.

Russell J. Edwards of Ebensburg was named treasurer. He was unopposed for the position. Nine directors who join the officers as members of the executive committee were named as follows:

Three years—Edward Jones, of Wilmore; Mrs. Eldred Gittings, Ebensburg R. D.; and Mrs. Galen Metzger, Johnstown R. D. 1; two years—E. J. Farsbaugh of Loreto R. D.; Mrs. Frances Holsopple of Ebensburg R. D.; one year—Mrs. Wendell Myers of Portage R. D.; and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Nippes of Nanty Glo R. D.

The association adopted three resolutions presented by a committee headed by Carl Harrison of Johnstown R. D. 1. They are:

Tomorrow's Payday!

'Tis the night before payday And all through my jeans, I've hunted in vain for the Ways and the means. Not a quarter is stirring, Not even a bit. The greenbacks have left me, The pennies have quit. Forward, turn forward, O time in thy flight, And make it tomorrow Just for tonight.

SAFETY TIP
Keep sharp kitchen knives in a rack when not in use.

NAVY 'FROGS' IN ALASKA WORKOUT



MEMBER OF THE NAVY'S underwater demolition team, a "frog" dives into the icy Arctic water at Kodiak, Alaska, during winter fleet maneuvers. Another "frog" sits on the edge of an ice floe waiting his turn to jump in. The underwater experts are clearing the way for a mock invasion of Alaska in temperatures far below freezing. (International)

Little Courtesies make life more pleasant



On party-line telephones too, it's the little courtesies that count. Little courtesies, for example, like keeping calls reasonably brief. Like spacing calls so that others may use the line in the intervals. Like hanging up gently when you find the line in use. Party-line neighbors who take the lead in courtesy find these favors returned. They enjoy better service. So do others on the line.

THE BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK

By R. J. SCOTT



Co. to Pay No More Johnstown Claims

Payment of damage claims in connection with the Grant Street improvement project have been halted, Cambria County Commissioners said last Friday. The announcement was made in a letter prepared by County Solicitor Philip Shettig and sent to the Johnstown City Solicitor Elvin Teitelbaum.

Shettig explained that a \$30,000 fund contributed by the county in 1944 toward payment of property damage claims has been exhausted. It is expected that outstanding claims of city residents will be directed to the city for payment. Commissioners said the county payments have totalled \$36,200, or \$6,200 more than called for in the agreement between the county and the State Highway Department.

Airlines Join Fight On Gas Tax Hike

The Pennsylvania airlines last Thursday joined the state's oil industry in opposing a boost in the commonwealth's gasoline tax to five cents a gallon. Warren Lee Pierson, chairman of the board of Trans World Airlines, issued a statement that Pennsylvania's neighboring states

realize the inequity of taxing aviation fuel. Rep. Charles H. Bunner Jr., Republican House leader, informed the airlines that Pennsylvania's constitution provides that all receipts of taxes on aviation gasoline be earmarked for aeronautical purposes in Pennsylvania. **LARGE DOORS** Large doors in brooder houses permit chicks to use them without danger of piling up, points out Harry H. Kauffman, Penn State extension poultry specialist.

Here's Gist of New Labor Law Sought By President

Repeals Taft-Hartley Act, Restores Wagner Labor Law, Emphasizes Use Voluntary Methods

A volume could be written about the contents of the Administration's new labor bill, on which hearings are now being held. The highlights can be told, however, in relatively short meter. First and foremost, the measure repeals the Taft-Hartley Act and equally important, it provides that the Wagner Act is "hereby re-enacted." In those two provisions the Administration seeks to carry out the pledges made during the last election campaign—on which the voters of the nation registered a mandate. Then the bill proposes a limited number of amendments to the Wagner Act in conformity with proposals made by President Truman in his "State of the Union" message to Congress. Major of the changes are these: All pending Taft-Hartley cases, whether before the board or the courts, are to be wiped out, unless they deal with the issues also covered by the Wagner Act. That's one reason why so many "wails" from anti-union lawyers, like Gerald Reilly, anti-New Dealer, who gathered fat fees from such cases. The N. L. R. B. is given power to intervene in certain types of jurisdictional disputes where these affect commerce and involve strikes or secondary boycotts. Unions concerned must first be given a "reasonable opportunity" to settle among themselves, and if that fails, the board may hand down an award, directly or through an appointed arbitrator. Employers who provoke or prolong such disputes are also subject to board action. Two types of "secondary boycotts" are classified as "unfair labor practices"—those who seek to compel an employer to recognize one union where another bona fide union has bargaining rights, and those which attempt to force assignment of work tasks contrary to a jurisdictional award by the board. Unions are left free to boycott "scab" or sweatshop products. By contrast, the Taft-Hartley Act banned all "secondary boycotts" for whatever purpose, and gave the "green light" to drastic injunctions against them. Employers and unions not only regain their freedom to enter into "union" and "closed shop" contracts but state laws banning such contracts may not be enforced against industries engaged in interstate commerce. Unions and employers are to give 30 days' notice to the Conciliation Service of intent to modify or terminate existing agreements, so as to give the Service time to intervene and endeavor to avert strikes or lockouts. The Conciliation Service, which was torn out of the Labor De-

partment by the Taft-Hartley Bill is restored to the Department and its functions are spelled out more in detail than heretofore. It is declared to be the "duty" of employers and workers to make and maintain collective bargaining agreements. This language is borrowed from the Railway Labor Act and is purely voluntary in its effect. Also, the bill declares it to be "public policy" that disputes over interpretation or application of existing agreements should be settled by voluntary arbitration. The Conciliation Service is authorized to furnish arbitrators if sought by the parties. Another section provides that where disputes are of such magnitude as to threaten a "national emergency," the President shall issue a proclamation to such effect and then appoint an Emergency Board which shall report within 25 days and make recommendations for settlement. Status quo is to be maintained by the parties during such period and for five days thereafter. This clause, too, is similar to the Railway Labor Act. A very important section comes near the end. It restores the Norris LaGuardia anti-injunction Act and also the protection from antitrust prosecution specified by the Clayton Act. These safeguards had been whittled down by the "T-H" law. Also, the Taft-Hartley amendment to the "Corrupt Practices Act," forbidding political expenditures by labor unions, is wiped out. A final clause makes it clear that the bill in no way extends to any matter covered by the Railway Labor Act—in other words, workers on the "Iron Horse" are exempt from its provisions. —You can't fail to grow old gracefully if you keep too busy to worry in the daytime and are too tired to lie awake at night.

Gallitzin Lady Has 82nd Anniversary

Mrs. Mary Burke of St. Thomas St., Gallitzin, last Friday observed her 82nd birthday anniversary at her home. Born on Feb. 11, 1867, in Loreto, she was a daughter of Conrad and Veronica (Skimper) Spiegelhalter. Mrs. Burke has resided in Gallitzin since 1893. She was married to Samuel Burke Apr. 25, 1883. Her husband died Aug. 14, 1937. She is a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. The octogenarian is the mother of four children—Clem, Gallitzin; Mrs. Leanna Risbon, Munster; Mrs. Henrietta Nearhoff, Altoona, and Mrs. Virginia Lilly, Haynesville, O. She also has 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Parking Meters Net \$454 At Barnesboro

A report to the Barnesboro Council last Wednesday evening showed January parking meter receipts totalled \$454.22. Police fines amounted to \$71. Fines totaling \$85 were turned in by Peter Brancato, justice of the peace. The finance committee will meet with the borough secretary this Thursday evening to set up the proposed 1949 budget. A study of congested parking conditions between Eighth and Ninth Streets will be made by the street committee. Chief of Police Dean White said there are too many parking violations in that area.

—When a woman keeps a man guessing, it is generally another woman that gets him for keeps.