

CHRYSLER KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE FIRED

Auto Executive "Socked" Boss By Mistake; Describes Experiences as Machinist's Apprentice

Philadelphia, June 24—Walter P. Chrysler, the automobile maker, tells how as a machinist's apprentice, he mistakenly "socked" his boss in the face with a wad of grease-soaked waste and lost his job on the spot.

Mr. Chrysler, in the second of a series of articles called "Life of an American Workman," relates in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post the tragedy of his error and the lesson it taught him.

A fellow-worker in the railroad shop at Ellis, Kansas, had provoked young Walter's anger by a rough practical joke. Thinking he had cornered his tormentor, Chrysler attacked instead the shop foreman, Gus Neubert.

Mr. Chrysler says: "I felt as if I had been banished from earth. I was sick. Nothing in the world was half so important as my apprenticeship." Later, "I went to Mr. Neubert. I begged his pardon while tears splashed on my chest."

After a severe dressing down Mr. Chrysler was permitted to return to his job. "Today," he says, "out in Kansas City, on our payroll, there is the name of a gentleman, a friend of mine, now quite old—the name is Neubert."

After that fright the young man "really settled down to learn" because he knew just how much he loved mechanics. He made his own tools, as was the custom at that time. His first venture was a pair of calipers. Others followed and many of them helped him to be assigned to jobs, which more adequately satisfied his passion to learn about machines. The tools he made may be seen in a glass case on the seventy-first story, the observatory floor, of the Chrysler tower in New York City.

Today Mr. Chrysler says: "I see that mainly we owe the tremendous advances of the physical aspects of our civilization to new and better tools. . . . How can anyone be so shortsighted as to suppose that opportunities now are fewer? In a world that offers not only new and wonderful tools but likewise astonishing new materials. . . . new human needs and bigger human problems are being revealed faster than a single human mind can ever count them."

At the end of his four years' apprenticeship young Chrysler knew all that the Ellis shops could teach him. His superiors considered him one of their best machinists. But the confident young man thought to himself, "Gosh! Here I am already twenty-two and still in Ellis." It was not just wanderlust; he wanted to learn more about machines, so he went to Wellington, Kansas, to work for the Santa Fe.

Life in Ellis was not all work however. There was the band! "In all the small towns I knew," Mr. Chrysler writes, "band practice was first of all a device for fun; it gave an excuse for getting out at night, and hence a chance to meet the other boys and girls of other parents just as strict as yours."

And, of course, there was a girl named Della Forker (Mrs. Chrysler). The element of romance had a marked influence on young Walter. It fired his desire to seek greater opportunity. It gave him patience to endure piano lessons. (Della took them from the same teacher), led him to master the family organ, and finally caused him to forsake the snare drum for a clarinet and later a tuba. In Mr. Chrysler's words, "I had become a good drummer but. . . . Hell, you could not serenade a girl with a drum!" For that matter love has sweeter voices than the tuba, but the auto man explains, "It made a big noise, and I liked it." In short, "It was well to be a member of the band. Nevertheless, Mr. Chrysler points out that he worked in the shop not less than sixty hours every week.

KUNKLE

MRS. MINNIE KUNKLE
CORRESPONDENT

(Too late for last week's issue)

Mr. and Mrs. James Smith of Newark, N. J., spent Sunday night and Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. James Place spent the weekend at Meshoppen. Mrs. Place's mother accompanied them home for a few days' visit.

Lawrence Smith is visiting his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Smith of Southdale.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Smith entertained a group of friends at cards on Saturday evening. Merton Coolbaugh won the prize for the highest score and Mrs. Laing Coolbaugh received the consolation prize. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Merton Coolbaugh of Kingston, Mr. and Mrs. Laing Coolbaugh of Trucksville, Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Kunkle and son, Alan.

Charles Kunkle is spending a week with Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Durland of Wyoming and attended the horse-show at Miller's Farm with them on Saturday and Sunday. Their grandson, Denton D. Durland, 3rd, was second prize winner in the pony class.

Ann Matukitis of East Dallas is spending a few days with Eleanor Kunkle.

Miss Margaret Kunkle, Miss Gertrude Smith, Eleanor Kunkle and Mrs. Minnie Kunkle attended Pomona Grange at Meeker on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Martin announce the birth of a daughter on June 19.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Hoyt and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boston spent Sunday with friends in Nescopeck.

JULY 15 LAST DATE FOR APPLICATIONS

The State Agricultural Conservation Committee has advised Grover C. Stock, chairman of the Luzerne County Agricultural Committee, that July 15 has been set as the closing date for Pennsylvania farmers to signify their intention of participating in the 1937 Agricultural Conservation Program. Mr. Stock advises farmers who have not sent in a card or notice to the county office and who wish to participate, to send such notice to the Luzerne County Agricultural Conservation office, rear 84 Scott Street, Wilkes-Barre.

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WALTER P. CHRYSLER TELLS OWN STORY

Right—A family that helped tame the prairies in the 70's when Indians were still a real danger. Reading to right, Walter Chrysler's Mother, Father and Mother's sister.



A railroader's home in Ellis, Kansas, where the auto man lived as a boy.



Walter P. Chrysler, above, at age 2. Left, "a tough kid." Below, at about 20.



Portraits by courtesy of the Saturday Evening Post

FARM CALENDAR

Timely Reminders from
The Pennsylvania State College
School of Agriculture

Cure Hay Properly—Correct curing of any hay means getting it sufficiently dry to keep well with the least possible loss of leaves and the minimum exposure to dew, rain, and sun bleach. After it is about half cured, clover and alfalfa will dry just about as rapidly raked up in small windrows as in the swath, say Penn State agronomists.

Help Seeds to Grow—After seeding, one or several rains often occur which make the surface hard and crusty. If there are no rains for another week the crust becomes too hard and dry for the seedlings to penetrate and the germinating seeds die. Keep the surface soft and moist. Penn State vegetable gardeners recommend.

Make War on Moths—Everybody is interested in keeping the moths out of clothing. Woolens, furs, and feathers are their diet. Circular 150, "Household Insects," tells how to control these pests. Ask your county agent for a copy or send to the Agricultural Mailing Room, State College, Pa.

Improve the Pastures—Many farmers pride themselves on their good

yields of grain, potatoes and other crops, give slight attention to their pastures. If part of the money spent for supplemental feeds were used to buy fertilizer, the pasture would produce extra feed, according to Penn State dairymen.

Protect Against Lightning—Metal roofs on buildings should be grounded properly for protection against lightning. A mimeograph pamphlet on the subject, issued by the Pennsylvania State College, can be obtained from your county agent.

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The new Kelvinator is Plus-Powered. It has as much as double the cooling capacity of other well-known refrigerators of equal size.

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