

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Vol. II
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1954

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

A Monthly Magazine for Employees of the
Arkansas State Highway Commission

VOL. II

December 1954

NO. 12

STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Raymond F. Orr, Chairman

Miss Willie A. Lawson
Glenn F. Wallace

Cecil S. Lynch
D. F. Portis

Herbert Eldridge, Director
A. E. Johnson, Chief Engineer

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OF THE COMMISSION - - -

Well, December 9 was another one of those busy days for our Highway Commission and Director. They somehow manage to make every minute of their fully scheduled day count with almost unbelievable results.

Take, for example, the hearings. In this instance, they heard 12 delegations, from as many different parts of the state, whose requests, if approved, would amount to about \$3 million. That these people were aware of the keen interest taken in their individual highway problems was obvious and the warm, friendly feeling of good will filled the Commission Room. This wholesome attitude duplicates that encountered at the hearings all through 1954.

The people in these delegations do not come before the Commission to present a grievance -- nor do they complain, "You did 'this and this' for 'so and so' and now you do 'thus and thus' for us." As a matter of fact, their mood is just the opposite. They present their request and almost invariably aver: "We know you are doing everything you can to give Arkansas good roads so, what we want to know is how we can help. You just tell us what to do and we will do it." And they are told in just what way they can be of help in getting their project underway. When it is known that a proposed request definitely cannot be granted, there is no hedging.

Mr. Eldridge or one of the Commissioners tells the delegation that the request cannot be approved and explains why it is not feasible. In most instances, an alternative is suggested and the delegation is told how they may help to bring about the desired results. Is it any wonder each person leaves the Commission Room with a "good taste in his mouth" and an appreciative glow of pride in his heart?

Then, of course, there is the business of all Highway Department affairs to be discussed, approval or disapproval agreed upon, and authorizations promulgated, as well as attending the "letting" and awarding the contracts. On this particular day, 11 road and bridge construction contracts were awarded to the tune of approximately \$2.5 million, subject to the approval of the Bureau of Public Roads. Included in these contract awards were 15 RC bridges, 2 RC and structural steel I-beam bridges, 1 RC precast slab bridge, and remodeling 6 RC bridges; all of which totals 2,941.61 feet of bridge construction in various parts of the state. Then, too, contracts were awarded totaling almost 78 miles of blacktopping for our roads, to be constructed on modern standards and specifications.

Now we ask you: How about that for achieving results which count?

OZARK CHRISTMAS *** 1910 VINTAGE

This charming Christmas story was written especially for "Arkansas Highways" by a Department employee, in the Central Office Building, who particularly requested anonymity. We know you will enjoy it

When I think of Christmas there always comes to mind a little old country church up in the Ozark hills. The time: Christmas Eve night in the early 1900's.

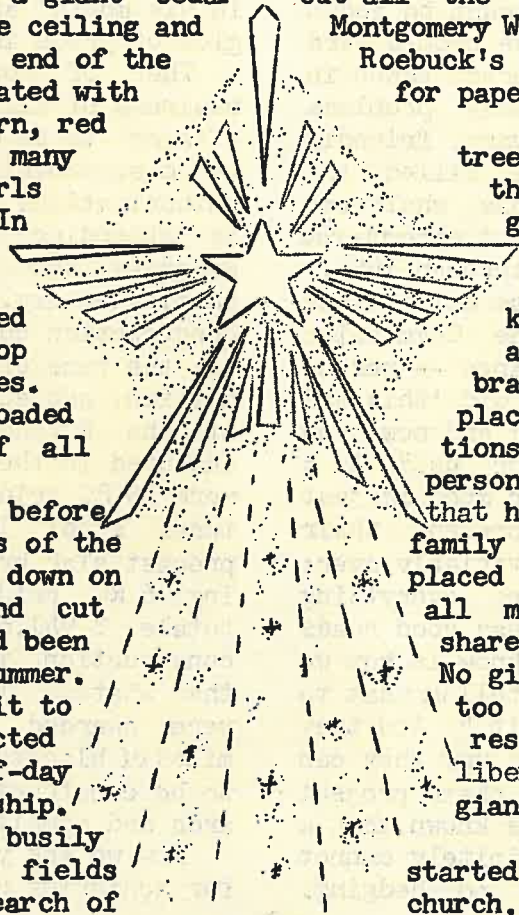
On the stage was a giant cedar tree reaching to the ceiling and almost filling that end of the room. It was decorated with long ropes of popcorn, red forest berries of many varieties, and swirls of paper chains. In the top was a great tin-foil star and the tree was covered from bottom to top with lighted candles. The branches were loaded with packages of all sizes and shapes.

Early the morning before all the men and boys of the community had gone down on the cedar glades and cut the tree which had been chosen during the summer. They had hauled it to the church and erected it, enjoying a half-day of congenial fellowship. The children had busily scoured woods and fields for many weeks in search of

hawthorn berries, wild rose hips, and any other brightly colored berries with which to decorate the Christmas tree. They had popped and strung bushels of popcorn and cut all the colored pages from Montgomery Ward's and Sears and Roebuck's catalogues in strips for paper chains.

As soon as the tree was set up, all of the women and children gathered together and began to decorate it. What a time we kids had clambering among those fragrant branches very carefully placing candles, decorations, and packages. Each person brought the gifts that he had bought for his family and friends to be placed on the tree, that all might see them and share in their pleasures. No gift was too large or too small to find a snug resting place on the liberal branches of this giant of the forest.

At sundown, people started gathering at the church, some of them coming



several miles. By the time that "good dark" had arrived the grounds around the church were packed with wagons, buggies, surreys, and saddle horses. All of the neighbors were calling, "Christmas Gift!!" back and forth. The small boys were shooting firecrackers, and now and then the sky would be illuminated by a Roman Candle. The very air was full of the wonderful spirit of Christmas.

About seven o'clock, the exhibition opened. There was a prayer by the preacher or deacon, then all the children recited a Christmas poem. There were Christmas drills and short Christmas plays, known then as "dialogues," and everybody joined in singing the Christmas Carols.

When the program ended, two men began to take the presents off the tree and they were passed out by the older boys. There was an unwritten law that each recipient must open his gift immediately. Nearly every Christmas, some practical joker put a small package into a larger package: probably a

half-dozen boxes would be opened to disclose some ridiculous little gift. This always called for a lot of laughing and kidding at the expense of the recipient.

After all the presents were off the tree, a number of cakes were cut and slices passed out to every one present. These cakes, baked by the best "cake bakers" in the neighborhood, were sometimes real masterpieces of art. They were decorated with white icing, "red-hots," and twigs of green cedar and holly. The next half-hour was spent in friendly visiting.

With the final Christmas wish, everyone started home to think of the Christmas dinner and the hunts of tomorrow. The Christmas Spirit was something which could not only be felt, but could almost be seen. I can think of no greater wish than that everyone may feel that same joyous gladness which filled the hearts of my Ozark people and so I shout my greeting to you:

Christmas Gift!



A. E. JOHNSON ACCEPTS AASHO POST

Alfred E. Johnson, Chief Engineer, has been granted a 6-month leave of absence by the Highway Commission to become effective on January 15, 1955. This leave was requested by Mr. Johnson in order for him to accept a position in Washington as Executive Secretary of the American Association of State Highway Officials.

Mr. Johnson has been an active participant in this vitally important national highway association for a number of years and served as its President during 1954. He succeeds Hal H. Hale as Executive Secretary and was given the additional honor of being offered the post by unanimous vote of the AASHO Executive Committee.

Mr. Johnson is well-qualified for the position he will assume the first of the year. His background of 27 years' diligent service in the Arkansas Highway Department coupled with his unceasing studies provide him with the experience and knowledge to do an excellent job for the AASHO. He started his career in the Department as rodman and instrument man and worked his way up through the ranks by serving in almost every engineering capacity afforded in the highway field. He is a proficient registered professional engineer and has effectively served as our Chief Engineer for the past 7 years.

During an interview, Mr. Johnson described the Washington position as one of those "once in a lifetime" opportunities and declared that he is "enthusiastic over it."

"I will be working closely with a great many friends in the several Highway Departments and Congress, and it is not like starting in a new field. My interest remains the Arkansas Highway Department, which has been my world during my adult life. I have come to know so many people in it not only as friends but almost as relatives. A great number of these fine men have practically reared me."

He continued with this message to you: "It is not good-by, for I will still be one of you and in close contact with you. I know you will give Ward Goodman the same loyalty and helpful cooperation that you have all given me."

Mr. Johnson's Washington plans include trying to sell President Eisenhower's proposed 10-year, \$24 billion highway expansion program. There is no question of his ability to achieve this goal as he is an eloquent and dynamic speaker who moves his audience and holds their attention with his enthusiasm.

We join his many friends in the Highway Department and throughout the state in wishing Mr. Johnson the best of luck, happiness, and success in his new undertaking.

WARD GOODMAN - CHIEF ENGINEER

W. Ward Goodman, Engineer of Bridge Design and Head of that Division, was appointed Acting Chief Engineer on December 9 by our Director with the approval of the Highway Commission. On that same date, Lawrence P. Carlson, Chief Bridge Designer, was named Acting Engineer of Bridge Design to replace Mr. Goodman. These men will assume their new duties around the first of the year.

High qualifications, experience, technical knowledge, loyal service, and highway and bridge know-how, all spell out Ward Goodman. It would be difficult to find a man more eminently qualified to fill the position of Chief Engineer and handle the many duties and responsibilities entailed in this highly important job.

Have you met Mr. Goodman? If you haven't, then you will before too long -- and you'll like him. Just for the record, here are a few tidbits of information about him. His age is 46 and he is married to a very charming and gracious lady, known to her friends as Mamye. Their pride and joy is their 16-year-old son, William Ward, Jr.

Mr. Goodman first worked for the Department during the summers of 1927 and 1929 while attending the University of Arkansas. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from

that school in 1930 and has served the Highway Department continuously from that time except for war duty from 1943 to 1945. He has worked as chainman, instrument man, road construction foreman, Resident Engineer, designer, Bridge Engineer, and he represented Arkansas as the Liaison Engineer on the Mississippi River Bridge at Memphis. He has held his present title of Engineer of Bridge Design since March 1950. He is a registered professional engineer, a member of the AASHO Bridge Committee, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and the Little Rock Rotary Club.

L. P. "Collie" Carlson has been Mr. Goodman's right-hand man for several years, so it is readily apparent that he is well-acquainted with the duties, responsibilities, and obligations he will assume in his new position.

Mr. Carlson has been with the Highway Department since 1933 and has served as designer, supervisor and Bridge Designer. He obtained his BSCE Degree from Iowa State College, majoring in structural design. He is a registered professional engineer in Arkansas and a member of the Arkansas Society of Professional Engineers.

We offer our congratulations to Ward and Collie -- this couldn't happen to two finer fellows, and we wish them outstanding success.

DISTRICT 10 PRAISED

District 10 was highly complimented by the citizens of Dalton community, the early part of this month, for their efficient work in improving the highways and bridges in that vicinity. A letter of appreciation, with the signatures of over 40 people, was sent to J. C. Perkins, Acting District Engineer, commending the District 10 maintenance force for its accomplishments.

It is a wonderful feeling to know that one's efforts are not in vain, but it is even more satisfying to be appreciatively praised. The following excerpt from this letter to Mr. Perkins echos the good will being shown by people all over the state.

"The construction of the dump which is near completion will enable us to have school without being interrupted during high water unless we have an unusual flood. Too, it means a lot to each of us in a commercial way.

"The low water bridges which have been constructed have definitely improved our highway as well as all of the work which has been done on our road.

"We would like to thank you and your staff in person. This seems impossible, so we are using this means to show our appreciation.

"Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and each member of your staff."

SO GOES THE WORK

by Edward Young, M & T
Material Inspector

Here I am sitting
in the shadow of expectancy,
Getting lazy and lazier each day;
Expecting to do some work tomorrow
But there is always...
...something in the way!

The tires on a truck are punctured
The brakes on another won't hold.
It isn't the equipment is stubborn
For it just can't help getting old.

The dragline yet is a promise,
And the bulldozer...
...old enough to be gray.
Slipping, sliding, and shaking
Can't do much stripping this way.

The bottom of the pit is so sandy
Trucks can't get in or get out.
And that poor little...
...front-end loader
Can't do very much without.

Cars on the sliding are stubborn
They are hard to push into place
With nothing but...
...manpower behind them,
So this too slows down the pace.

I'm pretty tired of resting--
I'd rather work, you see.
Say Bud, don't tell this...
...to anyone else
It's just for you and me!

CONCERNING OUR HIGHWAY FUND

There can be little doubt but that the appropriations for our Highway Fund is a topic of much interest to all Highway employees. If this were not so we would be less than human, as it is most certainly the concern of all of us. The Arkansas Legislature will convene in January and during the time they are in session the budget approvals for all the state agencies will be taken into consideration. However, this is only a portion of the many legislative actions to be promulgated, and no one can know this far in advance just when each budget will be brought up for official approval.

It would be impossible for the members of the Legislature to read and analyze each item and phase of the budgets submitted by all the various state agencies during the period when the Legislature is in session. Therefore, in order to deal fairly with each one, a Legislative Council (ALC) is appointed to go over these budgets several months in advance. The ALC discusses and "pro's and con's" even the most minute items listed in the budgets and then prepares recommendations in the best interests of all parties and presents them to the Legislature for action.

The ALC has a tremendous and, often, thankless task in making its budgetary recommendations for

the various state agencies. There is a terrific curtailment of money in the majority of these agencies and even though they are aware of the need of more money, the ALC has no choice but to slash some of the budgets. They do not like to do this but, where there is simply not enough money, what else can they do?

Fortunately, it is a little different with the appropriation of money for the Highway Department because, instead of a diminished income, our income has risen. This doesn't mean that the ALC can afford to recommend increases at large for they must maintain some degree of consistency. It does mean, however, that salaries may be raised, personnel increased, more construction and maintenance money made available, and a more adequate amount of money recommended for our Highway Fund in general.

Our success in obtaining better salaries and employee privileges depends, in large part, upon our performance. We have made great strides in accomplishments and we have performed with credit. Now it behooves each of us to try and do an even better job than we have been doing toward attaining our goal of rendering adequate highway service to the people of Arkansas. If we will expend extra effort to do this job well, the appropriations will take care of themselves.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A SUPERVISOR

by Hazel S. Erdmann
Magazine Editor

PART III CONCLUSION

In the first two parts of this series we discussed the supervisor's place in an organization, the meaning of supervision, the responsibilities which must be assumed when accepting a supervisory position, the qualities and traits to be developed in order to become a top-notch supervisor, and that all-important requisite for attaining top performance: understanding the human factor. Now we stress another essential function of the supervisor and that is, instructing the worker.

Instruction, as such, may seem to you to be inconsequential, and any thought you have given it has been with the attitude that "the employee can either do the work or he can't." It isn't that simple. And, if this mirrors your thoughts then you will completely "miss the boat" in a supervisory capacity. It is the direct responsibility of the supervisor to see that every person under his supervision receives the proper instructions and continued training.

It is a fallacy to believe that only the new employee needs training and to take for granted that

the training job is over when the new worker is instructed. Actually the training of employees is never finished. Seniority employees are constantly being moved to new and different operations which require training in methods, techniques, and, often, in higher skills.

The good supervisor does not blindly delegate the responsibility of instruction and training to a subordinate. He cannot afford to be "too busy" to know first-hand that all of his employees have received the correct instructions. It is a risky procedure to turn a new employee over to even the most experienced worker unless this man has a knowledge of the basic steps of good instruction, the ability to express himself clearly, possesses no bad work habits to pass on to the new employee, is not inclined to be domineering, has the right attitude toward teaching, and the patience to do a thorough job.

It is true that there are some supervisors who turn the training of a new employee over to an assistant with the mistaken assumption that proper coaching in the correct method of good instruction

is unnecessary. These supervisors handicap themselves. One of the reasons they are in a constant turmoil is because so many of the men under their supervision have been incorrectly trained.

The proper orientation of a new employee is of vast importance. First impressions are often lasting and it is very hard to undo the harm brought about by slipshod and careless introductions to work, policies, rules, principles, and methods. It is the supervisor's responsibility to take a new employee "under his wing" and see to it that he is properly adjusted to his surroundings and his work. Too, what better time could the supervisor have to become closely acquainted with the employee and establish friendly relationships?

In analyzing the proper adjustment of the worker in his job, the supervisor should strive to bring into focus every angle of the individual's personality. In those first few days of orientation the supervisor can pretty well size up the new employee and evaluate his capabilities. When the new worker seems to be slow in learning a job the supervisor should go over the essential steps he has used in teaching -- just to be sure that he has taught. He should remember that the tasks which are familiar to him were not quite so simple when he was first learning them. Anything is easy when you know how.

When a job entails several different phases of work, the supervisor should explain these various functions a step at a time. Then, as the worker absorbs each phase the supervisor should question: "What? Where? When? How? Why?" By using this method of instruction he can be sure the employee thoroughly understands before he proceeds to the next step. Close observation of the employee as he performs his work will enable the supervisor to correct any mistakes before harm can be done. Instruction should be repeated as many times as necessary -- and without rancor. Patience and the desire for the worker to learn is a "must" for the supervisor-instructor.

There are a great many facets involved in this job of instructing and it would be well for the prospective supervisor to study the close relationship between good supervision and instruction. Frequently, skilled workmen and experienced technicians fail in a supervisory capacity simply because they are unable to express their know-how in a clear and understandable manner. Their capabilities do not extend to the transference of knowledge and they have never had occasion to realize the importance of acquiring the necessary training ability. The man who can instruct competently holds great promise of success as a supervisor. Can you visualize the basic pattern? Here

it is in a nutshell: The man who can instruct is a man who can lead, and the man who can lead is a man who can manage; and there you have the pulse of the supervisory job.

Has the many intangibles brought forth in this series of articles discouraged you? Don't let that happen. If you have given serious thought to the requisites mentioned herein, then you are the person who is most likely to succeed as a really top-notch supervisor. It is the ones who toss these things lightly aside as being of no consequence that should steer clear of anything bearing the resemblance of a supervisory job.

As a matter of fact, most of the elements of good supervision play a part in the drama of everyday life for all of us. When we accept a job we also accept the responsibility of doing that job to the best of our ability, of guarding the machines, material, and equipment placed in our care, and of working in harmony with our fellowmen. Whether we assume these responsibilities to a large or small degree is dependent upon our cognizance of their relative importance. This also holds true of our lives at home and in civic and social affairs.

Nine times out of ten, the employee who cannot get along with his co-workers is a person who is at odds with his neighbors, too. And the man who is interested in

things rather than people should not aspire to a supervisory capacity unless and until he can bring himself to realize the controlling influence people have in sustaining his own ego satisfaction.

Knowledge of all the component parts which make up the work performance of a departmental group is of vital importance. However, it is not necessary to be a highly skilled worker in all phases of the work unit in order to be a good supervisor. It is the ability to correlate plan and performance and attain peak productivity from the skilled workmen under your supervision which will mark you as a success or failure.

So you want to be a supervisor. Then, rest assured that you will be one and a good one, too, if you are willing to exert the necessary effort to attain your goal. There are many high-ranking executives who reached their positions in the business world through the belief that they had what it takes and were willing to assign themselves hard work in order to achieve what they considered their just due.

Believe in yourself and the battle is half won. Determination and achievement go hand in hand and the man who has a sincere desire to learn and a willingness to develop those qualities which make a good supervisor will not be deterred from his goal. Think of yourself in the role you want.

BRIDGE DEDICATION

The new St. Francis River Bridge at Parkin was officially opened to the Public with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and celebration sponsored by the Rotary Club December 15. This new concrete slab bridge is built with steel deck plate girder spans supported on concrete piers and abutments. It is a little over 562 feet in length with a 26-foot clear roadway.

Senator John L. McClellan gave the dedicatory address at the bridge and the Wynne High School Band furnished the music. After the bridge ceremony, a reception was held in the Community House where a program was presented for the entertainment of the guests. Despite the chill in the air and the high wind, people from miles around attended the celebration.

The guests included: Director Herbert Eldridge; Commissioners Cecil Lynch and Miss Willie Lawson; Ward Goodman, Engineer of Bridge Design; E. E. Mashburn, Construction Engineer; A. G. Rives, State Maintenance Engineer; G. E. Nunnally, District Maintenance Superintendent; James Hamilton, Assistant District Maintenance Superintendent; and E. P. Douglass, Resident Engineer.

To top off this gala day, the Rotary Club were hosts at a barbecue supper with Miss Lawson, Mr. Lynch, and Mr. Eldridge as after-dinner speakers.

EDITOR'S LAMENT

The following tale of woe was submitted to us through the mail by a "sympathetic employee" who did not mention the magazine from which it was clipped.

"Getting out this magazine is no picnic. If we print jokes, people say we are silly. If we don't, they say we are too serious.

"If we stick close to the office all day, we ought to be around hustling material. If we go out and try to hustle, we ought to be on the job in the office.

"If we don't print contributions we don't appreciate genius; and, if we do print them, the paper is filled with junk!

"If we edit the other fellow's write-up, we're too critical; if we don't, we're asleep.

"If we clip things from other papers, we are too lazy to write them ourselves. If we don't, we are stuck on our own stuff.

"Now, like as not, some guy will say we swiped this from some other magazine....we did! --anonymous"

BE ON THE LOOKOUT

Anyone seeing a 1951 Chevrolet, black tudor sedan, with 1954 Arkansas license No. 277-317, please report it at once to the police or the S & A Division. This car was stolen from our parking lot one night early in November.

AROUND THE BUILDING

A. E. Johnson will be honored with an "Open House" on the main floor of the Central Office Building from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on December 22. An invitation has been extended to all Highway personnel.

* * * *

On November 30, the Holly Grove Rotary Club sponsored a community group meeting to formulate plans for a ceremony celebrating the opening of the St. Charles Ferry. Approximately 200 people attended this meeting at which Mr. Eldridge was the principal speaker. Other Highway officials present were: A. G. Rives, H. R. Lucas, J. C. Perkins, and G. E. Nunnally.

* * * *

W. W. Mitchell, County Program Engineer, has successfully overcome the complications which beset him after an operation on his hip November 22 and he is making rapid progress in regaining his strength. In May 1953, Mr. Mitchell was injured in an automobile accident, breaking an elbow and several ribs. Unfortunately, the fact that his hip was also broken was not discovered until much later and the break knitted improperly. All of Mr. Mitchell's friends will be glad to know that the recent operation has been declared a success by the surgeons and Mr. Mitchell will be able to walk without the aid of crutches in the future.

WEDDING BELLS



Betty Ozment, Permit Section, and John G. Walding were united in marriage December 18 at 8:00 p.m. The ceremony was performed in the home of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Walding. The young couple are at home to their friends at 1507½ North Willow Street in North Little Rock.

Doris Parks, Construction Division, became the bride of Charles H. Hodge in a ceremony performed October 30 at the Second Baptist Church. The Hodge's are at home to their friends at 211 South Laurel Street, North Little Rock.

Wedding bells chimed for Dorothy Jean Lowery, Maintenance Division, and Harry Y. Britton III, who were married in the chapel of the First Methodist Church December 17 at 8:00 p.m. The new Mr. and Mrs. will reside at 501 Ridgeway, Little Rock, and invite all their friends to come visit them.

The marriage of Barbara Ann Price and Ralph Davis Henson, of the Central Shops at Jacksonville, was performed in Pulaski Heights Methodist Church on December 17.

We offer our warmest congratulations to all these young couples with the hope that their married life will be rich with blessings.



PRESENTING

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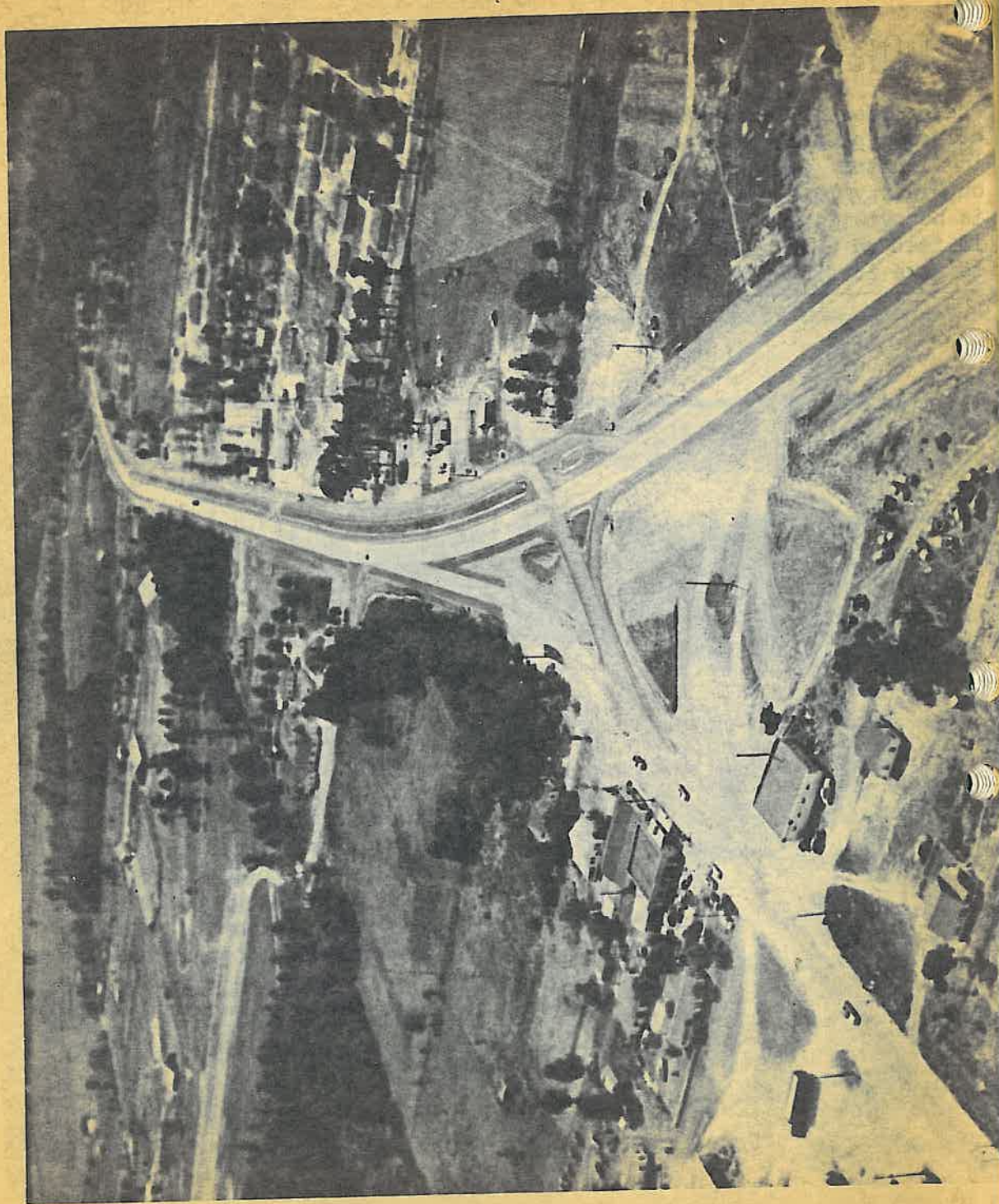
PICTORIAL

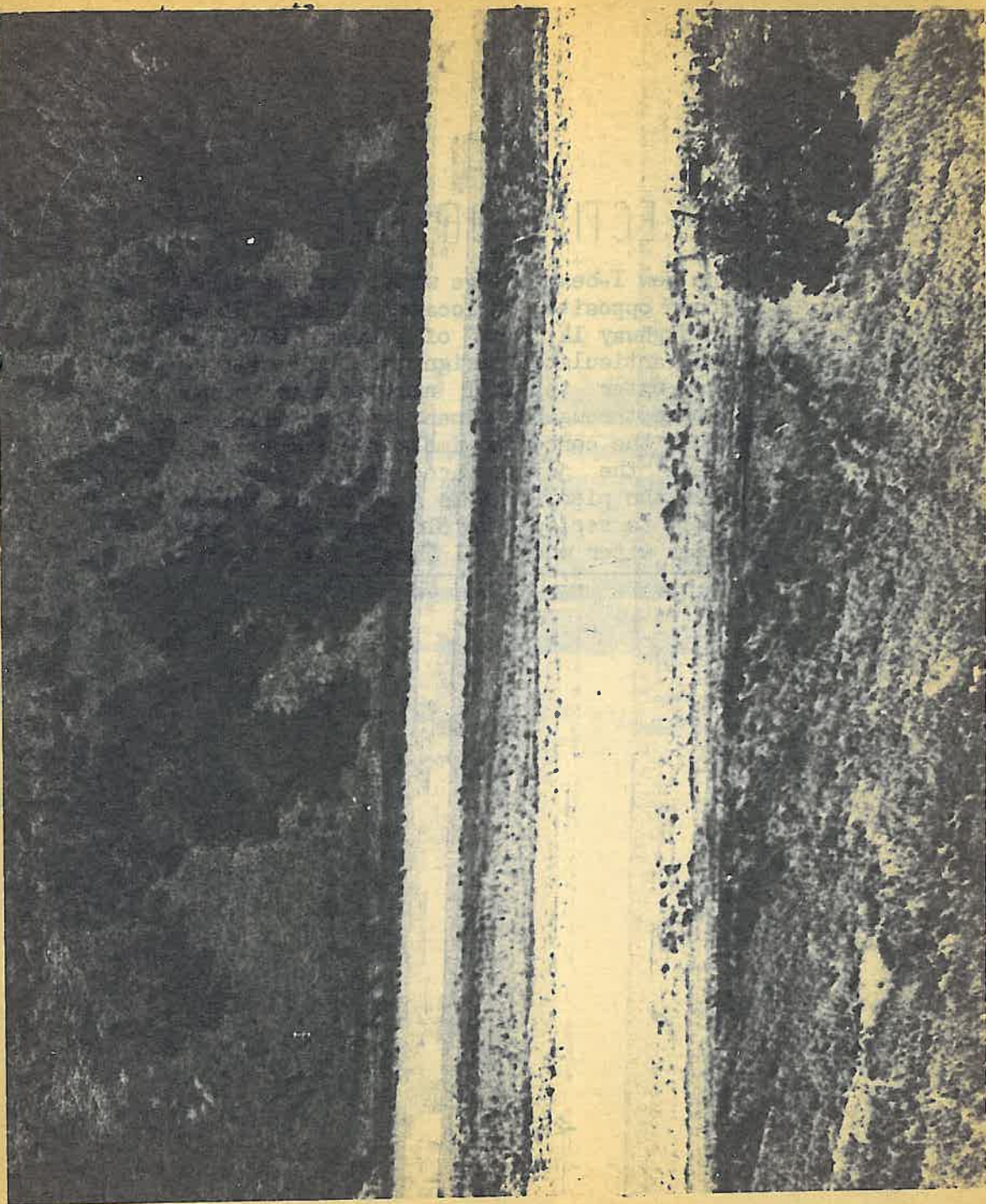
REVIEW



REPLACING THE OLD WITH THE NEW

The picture shown opposite was taken during the construction of a prefab bridge, which replaces an old timber bridge, on Highway 8 west of Dalark. Two spans are completed and the men are starting to place a 19-foot prefab curbed section on the third span. A handrail will be bolted to the sections on both sides of the bridge





REJUVENATION

The scene on the opposite page depicts an old treated timber bridge with timber floor on which the workmen are placing a 4-inch concrete wearing surface. This bridge was first built in 1928 and is one of five bridges within a half-mile stretch in Cache River Bottom on Highway 64, near Patterson, which are in the process of construction. These bridges vary in length from 77 feet to 500 feet

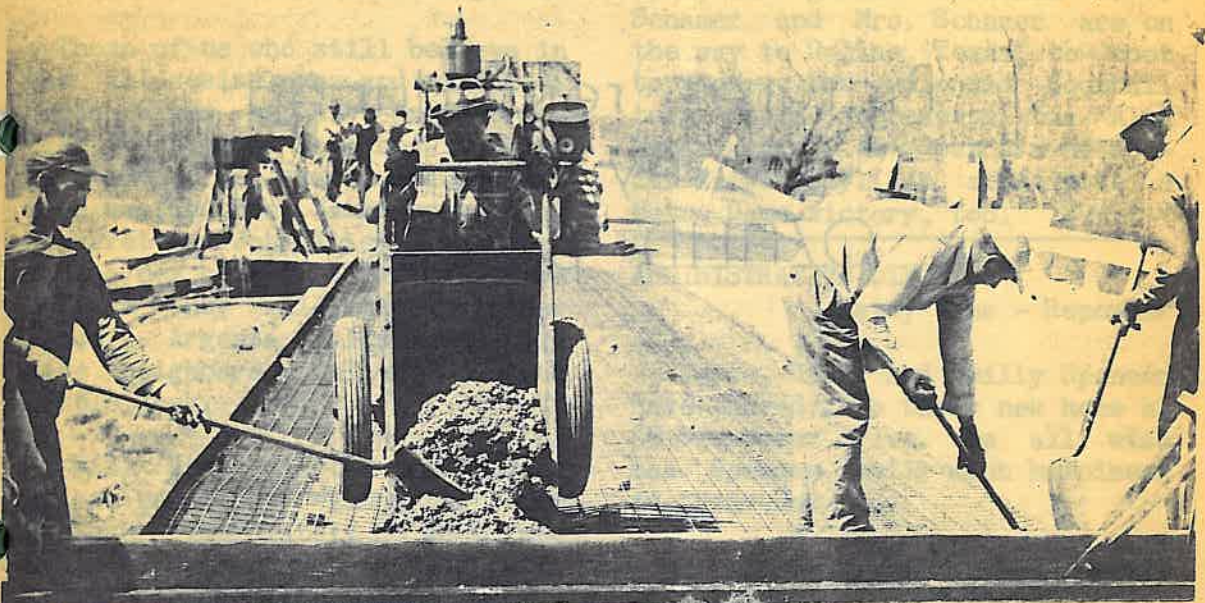
Party Line Parade

— HEADQUARTERS —

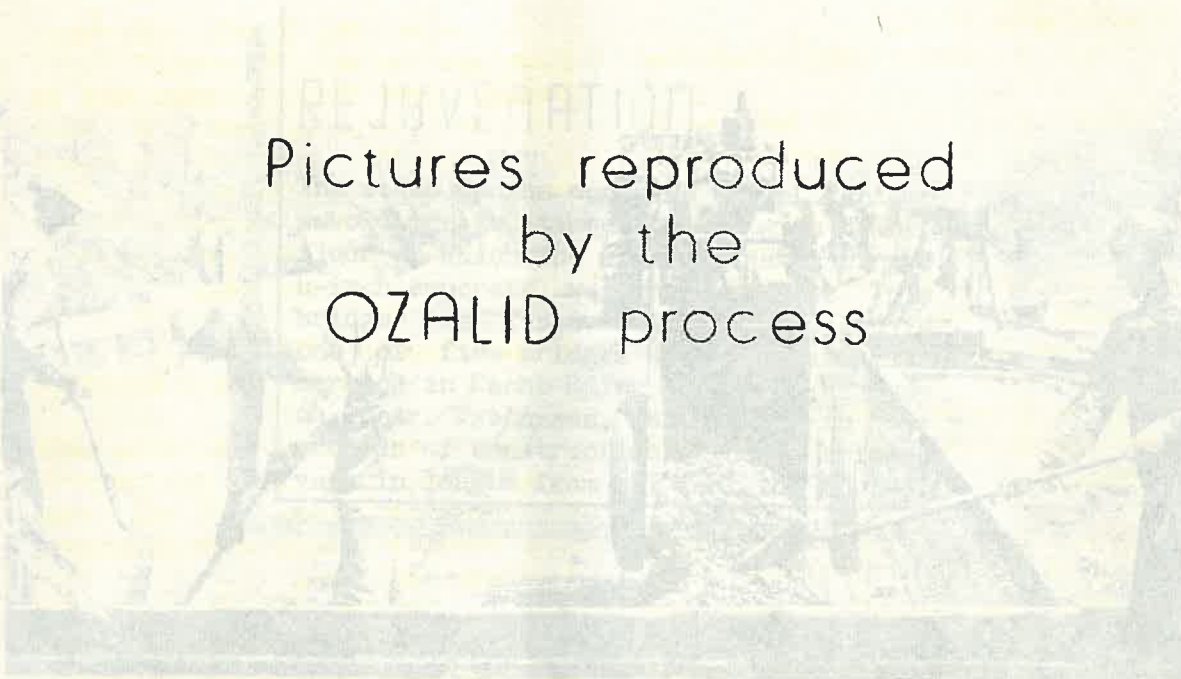
ACCOUNTS DIVISION

Wing Zinn - Manager

As we hasten to make the count-
down our special "Open-man" J. J.
Benson and Mrs. Johnson are at



PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES GAY
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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PHOTOGRAPHS by Johnnie Gray
Staff Photographer

Party Line Parade

HEADQUARTERS

ACCOUNTING DIVISION

Jimmy Zinn - Reporter

Those of us who still believe in the all-seeing eyes and wisdom of Santa Claus may have an opportunity to check on some results this Yuletide. We shall learn more when we find that Santa knows that Margaret and John Allen have moved into a new home in Park Hill. We believe they will like their new place -- Argenta folks are very nice neighbors. Welcome to North Little Rock.

* * * *

Bill Hayes is the proud owner of a brand-new Winchester Pump shotgun. Immediately he went into action to prove to his pals he is a hunter of some note. He bagged his limit of ducks first off. Yep, that old Winchester is quite a shootin' iron...which reminds me; since the wild cat episode I now entertain grave doubt that I'll ever share that squirrel mulligan stew our friend Gus Powell once so glibly talked of offering us.

* * * *

We of the Accounting Division wish to take this occasion to offer our heartiest Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each and every Department employee.

As we hasten to make the deadline, our genial "boss-man" J. J. Schamer and Mrs. Schamer are on the way to Dallas, Texas, to root to victory the splendid football team which represents his Alma Mater against the Southern Methodist University. We anticipate a Notre Dame victory, too.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Betty Lane - Reporter

Joyce, Gick, and Billy Spencer have moved into their new home at 55 Broadmoor Drive. We all wish the Spencer family much happiness in their new home.

* * * *

Our Mr. Scott has expanded again and now has two offices adjoining each other. We spread the welcome mat to Pat Denson, who joined our department recently. Pat is information clerk in Mr. Scott's office.

* * * *

Since Barbara Taylor has left the Highway Department to await the "Blessed Event," she has had several of the girls to her house for lunch and to see all the pretty baby things that she has. We enjoy these "get-together's" very much and certainly enjoyed Barbara's hospitality.

Party Line Parade

STATISTICS AND ANALYSES

Bill Headrick - Reporter

We are happy to spread the welcome mat to Ann Signoracci, cartographer, who recently joined our office force.

* * * *

Bea Davis is planning to spend the Christmas Holidays visiting friends and relatives in Dallas and Temple, Texas.

* * * *

Jim Carvell plans their annual family vacation over the Christmas Holidays so that they may enjoy the Yule at their leisure, while the rest of us are frantically trying to get everything done in the last minute rush -- by the way, only a few more shopping days 'til Christmas. Better hurry.

* * * *

Dorothy and Fred Simmons and their son, Freddy, plan to spend the week end before the Christmas Holidays in Vicksburg and Jackson, Mississippi, visiting relatives.

* * * *

Mary Ruth and Leroy Beckett and children will spend the Holidays with Mary Ruth's family in Dallas, Sherman, and Tom Bean, Texas.

* * * *

Has anyone seen Margie Turner whizzing around town in that pretty little blue coupe? It sure sets off her Sigma Chi looks.

Professor Bissitt of the University of Arkansas dished out a rough examination to his Highway Engineering class recently according to Y. W. Whelchel and Jim Yarbrough but Johnnie Beavers assures them it can't touch algebra for ruggedness.

* * * *

Will Richardson plans to spend Christmas week in Texarkana with his sons and their families playing Santa Claus and enjoying the role of doting granddad.

* * * *

The following people have notified us of their plans to see the Hogs play in the Cotton Bowl on New Years: Johnnie Beavers, Mayo White, Asa McCord, Jim Yarbrough, Frank Pratt Jr., and Archie Wyatt.

* * * *

L. D. Huchingson is coming along nicely in his convalescence and will be back at work soon -- this is news we are all glad to hear.

* * * *

"Pappy" Baird, the champion of the "daily domino demons," has drafted a new member in the club, Henry Mercer, a newcomer to S & A, whom we all welcome.

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Ruth Cantley will kill 2 birds with 1 stone -- a New Years' visit to see her son, Russell, and his wife in Dallas, and the Cotton Bowl game.

Party Line Parade

MATERIALS AND TESTS

Frances Roller - Reporter

We are sorry to report that James Garner's son broke his leg in a fall at the school ground. He is in the Cross County Hospital at Wynne. We offer our very best wishes for a speedy recovery.

* * * *

Mr. Cape is the proud owner of a new electric pump in his service station and a new tank that holds twice as much as the old one.

* * * *

We extend our sincere sympathies to Regel Cotton and his family in the loss of Regel's mother, Mrs. Cotton of Sheridan, and to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schneider in the loss of Mrs. Schneider's mother, Mrs. Fletcher of Little Rock.

* * * *

We are proud to report that we had another wonderful Christmas party at Tia Wanna. We were happy to have our Highway Director and Mrs. Eldridge as our guests. It was also nice to get acquainted with the wives of some of our co-workers. Nancy Snapp acted as our M. C. and take it from us she is one of the best. We had 30 present and a good time was had by all.

* * * *

We are sorry to report Billie Wood's mother-in-law is ill and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Thornton Rowe has spent a lot of time with his favorite dentist lately. A few more trips and his toothache worries will be over.

* * * *

Julia Halliburton spent Thanksgiving in Heber Springs, visiting her father.

* * * *

Those celebrating birthdays this month are: Thornton Rowe, Edmund A. Rauch, B. F. Strange and Tom White. Happy Birthday boys!

* * * *

We were glad to see Horace Cox, former employee of this Division, who paid us a recent visit. Horace is now employed in Mississippi.

REPRODUCTION

Mamie Fanning - Reporter

Lucille and Roy Huffstutlar announce the marriage of their daughter, Mary Irene, to William A. Birdsong at Geyer Springs Methodist Church. The young couple are at home to their friends at Newport, where William is employed at Victor Metals. Congratulations to the new Mr. and Mrs. with our best wishes for a happy future.

* * * *

Patsy and Arch Hebb visited their grandmother in Camden recently. A new addition to the Hebb family is a honey-colored cocker spaniel, their pride and joy.

Party Line Parade

COUNTY PROGRAM

Zelda M. Riggs - Reporter

Our very best wishes go to W. W. Mitchell who underwent surgery November 22. We all miss him very much and are anxiously awaiting his recovery and hope he will be back with us before long.

* * * *

Patricia Allen of Houston, Texas, arrived November 30 for a visit with her parents, Jack and Mary Teasdale. "Pat" will return to her home in time to spend Christmas with her husband, Joe.

* * * *

We are happy to report that Mary Lou Day has returned to work after undergoing surgery at the Baptist Hospital. We are all glad to have you back with us, Mary Lou.

* * * *

Katherine Jones and son, Tracy, visited her mother and brother in Melbourne recently. Katherine's mother, Mrs. Ashley, accompanied them home for a few days.

* * * *

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Cobb motored to Greenwood, Mississippi, recently for a visit with their children and grandchildren.

* * * *

Naomi and Freeman Johnson, with daughter, Martha Sue, have been recent guests of Zelda Mae and family. Freeman took the Professional

Engineer's examination and they also attended the Rice-Razorback football game. The Johnson's will return December 22 for the Christmas Holidays, and all signs point to a wonderful family reunion with little Martha Sue celebrating her very first Christmas.

PURCHASING DIVISION

Mildred Sanderson - Reporter

We are all very proud of Jim Meredith who has recently become a 32nd Degree Mason. A lot of hard work went into this achievement for it takes a long time to obtain this honor. Congratulations to our favorite boss!

* * * *

The Dunham family, Jackie, A. J., and Barry, have just returned from a most enjoyable holiday in Oklahoma City visiting relatives and friends. They spent Thanksgiving with Jackie's grandmother and from all reports had a wonderful week's vacation--especially the 2-year-old Barry who was, of course, center of his relatives' attention at all times.

* * * *

The football fans in our office have really been rooting for the Razorbacks this year. Bob Landfair, Jon and Jim Shaw, and Willine Gray were among the ardent fans who went to Shreveport for

Party Line Parade

the L.S.U. game. A good time was had by all. John and Sue Plegge also have been traveling. They drove up to Fayetteville for the homecoming game and although they couldn't report a victory for Arkansas, they still had a wonderful time.

* * * *

All of our group seemed to have enjoyed a very happy and bountiful Thanksgiving as I gathered from the general conversation the day after. Everyone seemed to feel the same way about not wanting to look at another piece of turkey for a long while. Well, anyway, at least until lunch time when those turkey sandwiches looked mighty good.



BRIDGE DESIGN DIVISION

Norma Monroe - Reporter

Congratulations to L. P. Carlson who celebrated his birthday December 6. Happy birthday Collie.

* * * *

Hazel and Harold Bastian celebrated their wedding anniversary December 22. Best wishes for many more happily married years.

* * * *

We are sorry to report that W. E. Wilson's wife has been in the hospital. We extend our best wishes to Mrs. Wilson for a very speedy recovery.

* * * *

Congratulations to Flo and John Hall, who celebrated their wedding anniversary November 19. We wish them many more happily married years. November was a special month for John since he also celebrated his birthday November 28. Many happy returns of the day, John.

* * * *

Bert Rownd reports that during 4 days of duck hunting last month in Arkansas County, he killed 2 ducks. (This is, by the way, the so-called "Duck Hunter's Paradise") Better luck next time, Bert.

* * * *

Bob and Adell Mattox's son celebrated his birthday November 10. "Mike" was one year old and proud papa reports he's growing fast.

Party Line Parade

EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT

L. O. "Jack" Brown - Reporter

DEER HUNTERS REPORT. Asa L. Duncan was out 1 day and killed an 85-pound buck; W. K. Heard and his gang were gone a week and killed 3 deer; Amos Bell bagged 30 rabbits during a week's hunt; C. Don Hayes and J. W. Berryman declare no luck.

* * * *

The following employees have been enjoying 10-day vacations: James N. Baker, Bruce Hardcastle, Nymph Jones, Charles Green, Joe Stinson, Marvin Robinson, William Rosamond and Martin V. Jackson.

* * * *

May and J. T. Shaw spent their vacation at Hoisington, Kansas. J. T. reports having had good luck while pheasant hunting....however, we hear that May is the better shot of the two. How about that?

* * * *

Thurman Payne returned November 18 from Xenia, Ohio, bringing a new Center-Striping machine back with him. It looks good.

* * * *

C. Don Hayes went to DeWitt for a duck hunt November 20 but he reported not enough water for ducks.

* * * *

We offer "get-well-quick" wishes to Charlie Stewart who is recovering from pneumonia at his home. Take care of yourself, Charlie.

Nymph Jones dropped a large casting on his foot November 30 and broke one of his toes. Our best wishes for a "quick-healing" process, Nymph.

* * * *

We miss Patsy Navens and Joy Douglass who have been on the sick list with very bad colds.

* * * *

The office personnel of the Procurement Division have exchanged names and will have a party December 22 with a Christmas tree and light refreshments.

* * * *


Frances Schroeder is spending the Christmas Holidays with her sister and husband at Biggs Air Force Base, El Paso, Texas. Happy vacationing, Frances.

* * * *

We were sorry to lose Reuben A. O'Neal, foreman of the carpenter shop, who resigned his job November 1. Reuben said he was going to Oregon to work in the timber business and we all wish him success in his new undertaking.

REPORTERS

Deadline is
JANUARY 5th



Party Line Parade

DISTRICT 1

WYNNE

Mildred Stacy - Reporter

We were sorry to lose Marion Curtner, clerk-stenographer, who resigned November 1 to join the forces of the First National Bank in Wynne. We enjoyed working with Marion and wish her every success in her new job. "Yours truly" wishes to thank Marion for doing a splendid job of carrying on the news reporting while I was on leave of absence. (It's certainly nice to be back with the old gang.)

* * * *

We extend a hearty welcome to Dick Ethridge, who joined our office group December 1. We are very happy to have you with us, Dick.

* * * *

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Pittman, who are the proud parents of a son, Carl Steven, born November 22.

* * * *

Albert Rodgers, our maintenance foreman in Crittenden County, reports the arrival of a new grandson born to Willie and Myrtle Gregory November 29. This wonderful little fellow weighed in at 9 pounds 4 ounces but his name had not been selected at the time the proud grandfather reported.

* * * *

Walter Lindley, son of Jeff and Helen Lindley, and a former

employee of the Highway Department, will receive his discharge from the Army Air Force December 3 after serving 4 years. He will be met in Memphis by his parents on December 4.

* * * *

Bert Smith and his brother, Bill, are looking forward to spending a few days with their brother, Brice, and his family in St. Louis the latter part of December.

* * * *

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Kelly spent the Thanksgiving holidays in Wichita, Kansas, with their son, Lindy, and daughter, Theresa, and their families.

* * * *

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to Ralph Gardner and his family in the loss of his father, Jimmy Gardner, who passed away November 22 after a long illness. The funeral services were held November 24.

* * * *

News from the deer hunters -- Fred Tacker reports killing a 10-point buck a few hours after the season opened. He said it ruined his vacation since he had planned to spend the week hunting. Dan Morris also killed one. (You should have given us the details Dan!) Tom Ellis wasn't quite as lucky. He seems to think he just killed time! Better luck next time, Tom.

Party Line Parade

DISTRICT 2 PINE BLUFF
Inez Royston - Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Piper have moved into their attractive new home in the Greenhill community, south of Monticello. N. C. is employed in our District-wide crew.

* * * *

Joe Tice is the recipient of a grand looking bamboo casting rod from his son, Sgt. James D. Tice, who is stationed in Korea. This is Joe's prize possession and we expect to hear of a BIG catch most any week end. Joe is also very proud of the following excerpt from the Army publication, "Stars and Strips." "Sgt. Tice was recently selected by Lt. Col. James A. Poindexter, Div. Arty. S-3, to train a group of Republic of Korea soldiers in Seoul. The ROK soldiers are to form an honor guard to function as a 105mm howitzer saluting battery. Sgt. Tice conducted training for 10 days in 'service of the piece' and 'fire on command' which are used in firing salutes. Lt. Co. Thomas St. John Arnold, 49th Commander, congratulated Sgt. Tice for displaying high standards in his training."

* * * *

Chlotiel Work is taking her annual leave to be with her husband, James, who is employed by the Cotton Belt Railway in Texarkana.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Premo Regenelli, who are the proud parents of a wonderful baby girl. As yet we haven't been able to obtain the name of this new citizen.

* * * *

Guy Crook and Robert Holdefield of Cleveland County are, to say the least, very industrious. They both used their annual leave to a good advantage. Guy built himself a barn and Robert made extensive repairs to his home.

* * * *

GOOD NEWS from our deer hunters! R. B. Waller bagged his first deer this season, a big 10-point buck; W. J. Ryals killed a 5-point buck; and Ralph Morrison returned home with a 6-point buck. Jewell Taylor unhappily missed his deer but we know he will have better luck next time. Needless to say, they were a mighty proud bunch of fellows, and we congratulate them.

* * * *

We will probably hear some fabulous yarns from our duck hunters most any time now and will report them in our next month's magazine.

* * * *

It is with genuine regret that we announce the retirement of J. W. Thomas, better known as "Bill" from our Ashley County crew. Bill has been employed by the Highway Department since September 1933. He is leaving because of ill health.

Party Line Parade

Brewster Shalmy used a few days of his vacation during the Thanksgiving holidays and took his wife, "Sunny," their sons, Michael, Pat, and John Thomas, to Lake Village to visit Brewster's mother. I know the table groaned with good food, as mother Shalmy is a master in culinary art.

* * * *

On December 3, your reporter has been with the Arkansas State Highway Department, in District 2, exactly 31 years. A lot of changes have taken place, a lot of work has been done, but as a whole it has all been enjoyable.

* * * *

Our congratulations go to Bill Breech, mechanic, who did NOT go deer hunting but had better luck than many who did go. He was visiting his parents in Faith, Arkansas, and had hunted with his father all day Friday without any success --- then Saturday morning, while working on his mother's car, his father called attention to a young deer strolling down the road. Bill lost no time in exchanging his wrench for a shotgun and bagged that deer in a hurry! Bill's wife, Ruthie, is an excellent cook and really "did herself proud" in preparing a wonderful venison dinner. This can be verified by Russell Gaddy who rendered able assistance in consuming some venison steaks.

We offer our deep and sincere sympathies to the following people who have recently lost a loved one: Mr. and Mrs. Will S. Rabb in the loss of her father, T. D. McGaugh, of Monticello, who passed away on October 14....Ralph Morrison, of Rison, in the loss of his father, M. A. "Dick" Morrison, a retired farmer and merchant.....Russell Gaddy and his brother, Guy, in the loss of their mother who passed away the latter part of October after a long illness. Our hearts go out to these friends and their families in their bereavement.

DISTRICT 3 HOPE

Olive Jackson - Reporter

Sgt. and Mrs. J. J. Guidous, Jr. of Fort Smith will arrive the middle of December for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clovis Tittle. Clovis is mechanic in our District Shop.

* * * *

Kenneth V. Stovall, bridge carpenter, who is in the Air Force Reserves, has returned after a 2-week military leave. Kenneth was stationed in Texarkana during his encampment.

* * * *

Among those who have gone deer hunting and reported having had good luck were Hiram Hatfield, Hoyitt Archer, and Edgar Andrews.

Party Line Parade

W. T. (Bill) Jeter, Jr., son of our District Maintenance Superintendent, who is stationed at the Naval Air Station at Pensacola, Florida, was in an automobile accident during the Thanksgiving week end. Bill was returning to his base after spending the holidays with his family. He received a broken back and a foot injury and is now in the Naval Hospital in Pensacola. All employees join in wishing Bill the very best of luck with the hope that he will soon be on the road to complete recovery.

* * * *

Congratulations to lovely Carolyn Sue Andrews, daughter of Edgar Andrews, Prescott, who was chosen Homecoming Queen by the Prescott High School football team. Carolyn Ann received her queenly crown in regal style in a gala ceremony preceding the Prescott-Hope football game.

* * * *

We are very sorry to report that Barham Cox, one of our employees in Nevada County, was severely burned on December 6. Barham was heating asphalt in an asphalt pot when it suddenly caught on fire, and he received serious burns on his face and arms. We offer our best wishes to you, Barham, with the hope that you will improve rapidly and be back with us soon.

DISTRICT 4 FT. SMITH
Faye Carter - Reporter

Pvt. Frank McLaughlin left December 2 for Fort Sam Houston, where he will study medicine at the Brooks General Hospital. Frank just completed his basic training at Camp Gordon, Georgia, and enjoyed a 10-day furlough enroute with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred McLaughlin. Good luck, Frank.

* * * *

The Eugene Symonds' family spent Thanksgiving in Jefferson City, Missouri, visiting relatives. He tells us they had a wonderful time but I think he had some trouble with his stomach. Could it be from eating so much good food, Symonds??

* * * *

If you are wondering about the big, broad grin on Bill Mitchell's face these days, it's because his son, 1/Sgt. R.L. Mitchell has just arrived home from Okinawa. R. L.'s home was in Denver but he is moving his family to Nebraska where he will be stationed after his 30-day furlough is over.

* * * *

Grif and Beatrice Liles are the proud owners of a new home. Grif tells us he did all the moving by himself, because on moving day Bea just had to work. He seems to think it was a cooked-up deal. Now Grif, talk yourself out of that!

Party Line Parade

We are sorry to report that G. A. Raines is ill with Tick Fever. We offer our best wishes for a quick recovery and hope that he will be back at work with us soon.

* * * *

Our congratulations go to Homer Hill's brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. J. Q. Hill, of Jacksonville, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary November 6. They received lots of nice gifts, and friends from over the state visited them between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Mr. Hill is the father of Dr. Lyle Hill of the Reasor-Hill Chemical Corporation. Before Dr. Hill became associated with this Corporation, he was County Judge of Pope County for 6 years. Mr. and Mrs. Homer Hill attended the celebration and they tell us that everyone had a very enjoyable time.

DISTRICT 6

Edith Greene - Reporter

Jim McCook, our district maintenance foreman and Mrs. McCook motored to Chicago recently to visit his brother. They made stops in St. Louis and Joliet Illinois.

* * * *

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Ingle of Hazen, who are the proud parents of a new son, born on November 2.

Congratulations to the "Jones family," who are proud owners of a home at 204 E. 15th, North Little Rock. Billie is a member of Equipment Stock Office. Their big problem is removing a tree from the front yard. A "yard hint" was given by one of our old timers: drill a hole in the stump, fill with buttermilk and in 60 days it will rot out. We are waiting...to C???

* * * *

DEER TALK! Vacations were saved for this big event by most of our hunters. The luckiest one turned out to be Homer Atchely of Malvern. While most of the hunters had 5 days' start he was only out 30 minutes and got his first deer. It was reported that M. C. Keedy's camp rated 15 halves and 1 collie dog. Charlie Emrick came in with a good story and a cut finger??? Space is too limited for the list of the short-tail shirts!!

* * * *

If you get a chance to see Mr. Tinsley, our boss, ask him about the smartest dogs in Arkansas.

* * * *

We are sorry to report that Charles Emrick, our first aid instructor, is ill and will spend a few days in St. Vincents Hospital for a check up. We extend our very best "get-well-quick" wishes and hope that you will be back on the job with us soon, Charles.

Party Line Parade

DISTRICT 8

Margaret Hamm - Reporter

Congratulations to Wilma and Clindon D. Bagwell, who are the proud parents of a lovely 7-pound 3-ounce daughter, Patricia Ann, born November 13. The very proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Arch Waldo of Russellville, and Mr. and Mrs. Seeb Bagwell of Ola. Clindon, who is stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, is now at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, attending a mechanics school.

* * * *

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Turner who celebrated their 45th Wedding Anniversary on Thanksgiving day with their immediate family. May your coming years be as happy and rich in blessings as those that are behind you, Mr. and Mrs. Turner.

* * * *

We are sorry to report that Earl "Doc" Hankins, suffered a broken ankle when his foot was caught under the wheel while changing a dual tire. Our best wishes to you "Doc" for a very speedy recovery.

* * * *

We are very happy to report that William I. Hutchins was recently dismissed from the Sparks Memorial Hospital, in Fort Smith, where he underwent surgery on November 2. It's good to have you back with us, William.

Tom Fiser and Sturl Cowan, our sign men, are to be commended for their quick thinking in the automobile accident involving two Russellville women. (What happened?)

* * * *

Jim Phillips, his wife, and son, spent the week of November 15 visiting his mother, Mrs. A. Phillips in Utica, Michigan. They drove to Detroit to see Lake Erie and Belle Isle and then down to South Bend, Indiana, for a visit with his brother. Jim commented that the weather there was as warm and pleasant as it was here in early November. He brought two bushels of Michigan apples back home.

* * * *

Sid Parks went deer hunting during his vacation, which started November 15, and said he did not see one single deer. Better luck next time, Sid. Could it be that you were hunting the wrong deer??

* * * *

We, in District 8, wish to extend our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all State Highway employees and their families.



Party Line Parade

DISTRICT 10

PARAGOULD

Lottie Brown - Reporter

The bituminous sealing operation at the State College, under the very able supervision of Jess Russ, will be completed the second week of December.

* * * *

Charles James and his fleet crew have completed raising the fill on the section of road at the Eleven Point River at Dalton. Also, they have done extensive grading and placing base course on Highways 90 and 93 in Randolph County.

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A precast slab bridge on Highway 77 in Mississippi County is nearing completion. Lester Wycoff and his crew of carpenters report they expect to finish it December 10.

* * * *

The last 7 miles of bituminous surfacing has been completed on 69-6 in Poinsett County. This completes the entire stretch going west from Trumann to Highway 1.

* * * *

We were happy to have Director of Highways Herbert Eldridge visit with us this past month. He inspected the highways in the eastern part of our District. Other prominent visitors were Walter Carter, G. E. Mashburn, and E. C. Simmins. A. G. Rives spent 2 days with us while inspecting roads.

That notorious half-slab which has harassed motorists from Paragould to Walnut Ridge for the past several years is rapidly fading from the Arkansas scene. The bituminous surfacing is progressing nicely and we hope that this project will be completed some time during December.

* * * *

Joe Burroughs was married November 27 at Hernando, Mississippi. The bride is the former Betty Lou Weaver. The young couple will make their home in Paragould. We offer our best wishes for a very happy future together.

* * * *

J. C. Perkins spent the Thanksgiving holiday in Harrison with his wife who is teaching school there. The turkey dinner really agreed with him.

* * * *

Our own Ebb White and his champion setter are vacationing on a 4-day hunting spree. We hope to report some good results and possibly some good eating in the next issue of the magazine.

* * * *

We are happy to report District 10's mechanic shed is currently sporting a brand-new coat of silver paint. Hamp "Bumsted" Fletcher and his paint-slinging crew pride themselves on their work of art--and why not?

