

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Vol. II

No. 9



ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

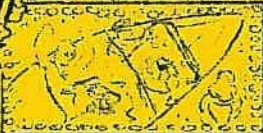
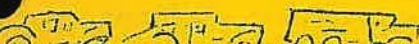


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PRESENTS

AMERICA'S  
*Newest*  
PLAYGROUND!

FIVE BIG TOURS INSIDE!



September  
1954



# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

A Monthly Magazine for Employees of the  
Arkansas State Highway Commission

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VOL II

September 1954

NO. 9

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## 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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# Congratulations DESIGN CONTEST WINNERS Jack Teasdale and Lee Marlar

Raymond F. Orr, chairman of the Highway Commission, presented the cash awards to the winners of our Service Pin Design Contest at an informal personnel meeting held in the Commission Room September 23. Both winners were present at the meeting to receive their awards in crisp new bills.

Director Herbert Eldridge opened the meeting with a short, friendly talk, praising the good job being done by the employees, and expressing appreciation for their spirit of cooperation which has enabled the Department to accomplish so much during this past year. He explained that choosing the design for the service pins and certificates was only the first phase in producing the pins. However, he assured that manufacture of the pins and printing of the certificates would be expedited just as quickly as possible.

Mr. Orr called upon the two winners to receive their awards complimenting each of them on the designs they submitted and offering his congratulations. During the presentation, he gave a brief resume of their employment service with the Department.

Mr. Eldridge and Commissioners Cecil Lynch, Glenn Wallace and Dan Portis also congratulated Messrs. Teasdale and Marlar, and praised their winning designs.

Jack E. Teasdale, winner of the lapel pin design, is the Engineering Aide of our County Program Division in the Central Office. He has been with the Department for 27 years, having served as instrument man, draftsman, Divisional office and highway engineer.

Lee Marlar, winner of the certificate of merit, is a Motor Patrol Operator from District I and has served in various maintenance capacities with the Department since 1946. Mr. Marlar submitted two certificate of merit designs which took first AND second place. He was invited to attend the presentation in Little Rock with all expenses paid, and was accompanied by Job Superintendent James Hamilton.

Mary Rose Stewart, Junior Estimate Checker, Fayetteville, ran a close second for the lapel pin design, with Letha Ramsey, District 10 Fuel Clerk, winning the third place, and George Cooley, Motor Patrol Operator of District 2, coming in fourth.



# HIGHWAY PROBLEMS—PRESENT AND FUTURE

by Cecil S. Lynch, Vice Chairman  
Arkansas Highway Commission

This article is from an address by Mr. Lynch given before the Lions Club, July 16, 1954, at Pine Bluff. It is through such informative speeches as this one that the people of Arkansas are gaining a better understanding of the problems confronting our Commission

To present a clear picture of the duties of the Highway Commission is a difficult task to accomplish in a short length of time. The field is so great that only a small part of it may be touched, so I am going to start out by listing our job by items in the order of their importance, as I see that order.

Our first duty in order of importance is to see that such roads as we have are maintained to the very best standard our funds will provide. The reason for this is simple. Any facility will quickly fall into a depreciated condition if not cared for. We cannot progress in our road building unless we can hold our highways as we build them. This statement goes for all the roads in the system, be they improved, gravel, or other. We must keep traffic moving.

Our next duty is to build all the new highways we can with the funds available to us. You are probably more interested in new roads than in maintenance. The building of new roads is extremely

important. It is the selection of roads upon which improvement is to be made that gives your Commission its most serious concern.

And then we have a third very important job that has received practically no consideration by the public and about which they have done little or no thinking. That job is looking into the future and making provision now for the roads that we must later have to care for the rapidly increasing number of cars that are coming onto our highways.

The present Commission has considerably changed the maintenance situation. Formerly, the men employed in these forces were, in many cases, those who were being rewarded for helping to wage political campaigns. The men directing their work did not hire them, could not fire them and consequently had no control over them. They were safe in their job only until the next election. One man in a gang, any gang, who will not work and is allowed to remain removes all desire of other men to work.



The Commission let it be known that those who would not work could not stay. It assured all who were willing to work that they would have a permanent job as long as they produced. It made local managements responsible to the Commission through the Director for the kind of a job their efforts produced. For those of you who drive our highways, the improved condition is so apparent it is unnecessary to discuss it. However, we are proud of the highway house-keeping and we hope that, as you travel about, you will take particular note of it.

In discussing the construction phase of our problem, it would perhaps be best to state the extent of our problem. The Arkansas Highway system contains slightly more than 10,000 miles. Of this, about 6,500 miles is paved or is in the process of construction, and 3,500 miles is unimproved except that most of it is gravel. To complete this system will require some \$450 million; and we have about \$20 million a year from all sources. From these figures you can see this is a 20-year job. It must, for financial reasons, be a piecemeal operation.

The Commission is of the opinion that all roads in the system are worthy of improvement but since all cannot be done at once it is their duty to select the roads that are to be improved. This means also that they must select

the ones that must wait. The first part of this selection is a pleasant one, while the other effect is unpleasant. Since some must wait, the Commission feels duty bound to select those roads for improvement that will yield the greatest good to the greatest number of people. We feel that the amount the road is used is one important consideration. What the road will do in the general development of the state is another. We want every road we build to develop traffic which means more money to build more roads. We do not want to neglect any area of the state, for all areas contribute to the funds for building highways. You will recognize that all these considerations are intangible and our selections must be largely a matter of informed judgment.

At practically every meeting of the Commission, delegations occupy about one-half of the day asking for improvement of certain sections of highway. We are glad to get the information they present. We hold ourselves subservient to the will of the people, but our loyalty is to all the people of the state rather than to local groups. We take on a lot of jobs that are requested and a lot of jobs where no requests are made. We must perforce look at the over-all situation while the problems of these groups involve only a specific spot on the map of special interest to them.



It would probably save answering a lot of questions in the future by detailing to you the steps of highway building -- provisional programing, programing, approvals, designs, more approvals, contracting, more approvals, and such other matters, but I believe I can do the highway program more good by discussing the third element of our duties -- namely, thinking on our highways of the future. We all feel that it is our job to do the will of the people, insofar as we can with the money allotted to us to build these roads. However, the will of the people should be based on the whole highway system -- that is, present and future. A little advanced thinking, planning, and action can do much to alleviate our future problems. By future I mean the near future and not the distant future. So, now is the time to begin. Truth to tell, we should have begun some years ago.

If you have ever stopped to think about it you will remember that proximity to a well-traveled highway is an excellent location for certain types of business. In fact, highways furnish the life blood of tourist courts, filling stations, restaurants, and many other types of business. The result -- businesses of this type crowd just as close to the right-of-way as they can get. This is a short-sighted policy, as you will soon see. We must never forget the

fact that our highway traffic is rapidly growing and is going to need more and more room.

Now, think of a local situation -- not that it is unusual, but because you can see it with your own eyes. I refer particularly to Highway 65 and especially as far as Dew Drop, although the same problem will soon be with us to the Pulaski County lines, and we should be thinking about it all the way. The 1953 traffic on this road as far as Dew Drop was about 10 thousand vehicles per day. If funds are available, 5 thousand vehicles per day will justify a 4-lane divided highway. This right-of-way is 80 feet wide. We must have 120 feet of right-of-way to qualify for Federal Aid money on 2 lanes of this primary road and except under very special conditions, 250 feet for 4 lanes. Now, some of you fellows tell us how to get this right-of-way without tremendous cost. It could have been built for mighty little before the present road was built. My idea is that we could easily have bought then for \$5 thousand, but now it will cost around a quarter of a million. We will probably have to abandon this stretch and seek a cheaper location unless local interests can find a way to reduce the cost of this widened facility materially. Such change will be a near calamity to some businesses on that particular highway.



The Department has not been unmindful of the nearness of this problem and have already made provision for a few miles of 4-lane right-of-way. One such reach of road is the route from Little Rock as far south as Benton. Another project is on Highway 61 north from the levee at West Memphis.

On Highway 67, which crosses the state diagonally, a number of relocations have been made parallel to the old road. As funds will permit, the old highway can be rebuilt and a 4-lane facility thereby created. Another similar situation exists on Highway 64 near Fort Smith.

But as to 4-lane highways, our position is much the same as the boy's whose mother sent him out to catch three chickens for dinner. He had been gone some time when his mother called him for a report on progress. He replied that when he caught the one he was after and two more he would have three.

The need for wide rights-of-way is now and in the immediate future. Congress recently made an appropriation for highways that will enable us to increase our annual highway construction by \$4½ million if we can supply the necessary matching money. We can supply it if the distribution of monies from gasoline tax and license fees are not disturbed but even then extremely close management of our expenditures will be necessary.

This appropriation by Congress is divided in amounts between the four classifications of highways. The Commission selects the location for spending these funds but must have the approval of the Bureau of Public Roads both as to location and design. Design requirements run to quality of pavement, steepness of grades, sight distance and width of right-of-way, and a few other factors.

The Interstate System must receive \$4,160,000 per year and except in very congested areas a 250-foot right-of-way is a must. This money becomes available just a year from now, so you can see that this problem is right on us.

It is hoped that some plan can be developed now whereby we can locate our future roads and develop some method of protecting the declared future routes from building encroachment between now and the time highway construction can start. Under present laws a city planning commission can designate future street space and protect it for street future use. No such reservations are possible, at this time for other political subdivisions. Nor can any such laws be enacted for highways until people want those laws. At present the Highway Department can lay out what they need and protect it by purchase, but road construction cannot be delayed while this money

(continued on page 27)



# HIGHWAY EXHIBIT AT LIVESTOCK SHOW

Another "first" may be chalked up for our Commission with the opening of the Highway Department exhibit at the 15th Annual Arkansas Livestock Show and Rodeo in Little Rock, October 4 through 9. The committee in charge of plans and production have succeeded in making this exhibit what we believe will prove to be one of the most attractive ones shown. The ingeniously arranged picture display and lighting effect produce an exciting and spectacular beauty to delight the viewer and gain attention. There can be little doubt but that everyone visiting the exhibit will derive both pleasure and useful information.

A great deal of thought and effort has been utilized to make this exhibit as interesting and instructive as possible with the limited funds available for the project. Plans were developed by a committee headed by F. J. Herring, assisted by C. Don Hayes, E. L. Wales, Otha Hewitt and Johnny Grey, with the Arkansas Publicity and Information Department acting in an advisory capacity. The motion picture script was written by Peter Harkins, State Publicity Department, and Harold Phelps, also of that department, assisted our staff photographer in shooting some of the movie scenes.

The exhibit will be housed in a large pavilion, about 30 by 45 feet, located just off the Midway on the south side of the commercial exhibits street. A platform in front of the tent will be used for ballyhoo and special events such as live radio or television broadcasts, weather permitting. The facade or "bally," as depicted on the front cover of our magazine, will be displayed in vivid colors and brightly lighted.

A blacktop pavement with a white center stripe, miraging our highways, will run in horseshoe shape from the street through the entrance, around the inside of the pavilion, out the exit, and back to the street. Black-and-white guard posts will be placed on both sides of the blacktopped aisle with protecting guard rails.

The entire exhibit will be a pictorial review of our highway construction activities, industry on parade, and scenic routes and recreational areas to be found on the State Highway System. A 20-minute motion picture, entitled "Happy Holiday in Arkansas," with color and sound will be shown on a 3 by 5-foot screen in the center of the exhibit in 15-minute intervals. This movie portrays the beautiful Arkansas panorama with five attractive and informative



tours through northeast, northwest, central, southeast, and southwest Arkansas. After its use in the exhibit, the film will be released for television and nation-wide showings to inform the people all over America of the attractiveness of an Arkansas vacation and the many pleasures to be derived within our Wonder State.

Selectro slide viewers will alternate with the movie, running 96 color slides on construction projects throughout the state. On each side of the movie screen, 18 magnificent murals of blown-up, black-and-white photographs of actual construction jobs will be displayed. The effective lighting arrangement enhances the beauty of these murals with a startlingly realistic quality.

There will be four glass display cases containing different types of pavement. These showcases will be placed directly under large photographs, giving the impression of a continuation of the photographed pavement. The cross sections will be revealed giving the various courses used in different types of roadway construction.

Two young ladies from the Department offices will be stationed in an enclosed area across from the movie screen where they will pass out Arkansas Highway maps. Post cards and a drop box will be provided for those people desiring specific information. These cards

will be answered by the Division or Section having the necessary authoritative data.

The official opening of our exhibit will take place at 9:00 a.m. October 4 on the platform in front of the exhibit pavilion. Speakers will be introduced by Mr. Herring. Col. T.H. Barton, president of the Arkansas Livestock Show Association will welcome the Highway Department as a new exhibitor, and he will be accompanied by Senator Clyde E. Byrd, secretary-manager of the Association. Cecil S. Lynch, vice chairman of the Highway Commission will reply to Col. Barton and make a short talk. Director Herbert Eldridge will address the group, giving the background data on the exhibit and crediting the members of the Exhibit Committee for their work. He will close his talk with an invitation to the group to come in and see the exhibit.

The Highway exhibit will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. and will be manned by volunteers working in two shifts. Don't miss our exhibit when you visit the Livestock Show, and be sure to invite all of your friends to see it. You'll enjoy it! --HSE

*Reporters* DEADLINE  
is  
October 12



# ON BEING A MEMBER OF THE TEAM

by Dennison F. Yates  
Personnel Director

The Arkansas Highway Department constitutes a team playing the game of planning, building, and maintaining Highways in the State of Arkansas. The Department as a whole constitutes one member of a larger team playing the game of planning, constructing, and maintaining highways for all of the United States.

We are all familiar with the old adage, "a chain is no stronger than its weakest link." It may well be said that a team is no stronger than its weakest member. That brings us face to face with a fundamental problem which all of us who are employed by the Arkansas Highway Department must successfully deal with if we desire that our Highway Department reach its potential strength as a team.

It becomes obvious to us when we look at this problem of being a member of a team that the welfare of each individual member or employee depends entirely upon the success of the team as a whole. No one member or employee can succeed ultimately if the team fails.

It is exceedingly important at all times that each individual employee, each section, and each Division of the Department realize that the work they are doing is

team work. We must all be aware that we are doing only one part of the total job.

It is also necessary that we refrain from evaluating the importance of the work we are doing individually or as a Division out of its relationship to the Department as a whole. No single job or the work of any single Division could exist or have significance without its relation to the Department. Therefore, the work of each single position and the work of each Division is important because of its contribution to the total job which the Department is trying to accomplish.

The Commission, the Director, and the Chief Engineer have not only to formulate and direct the policies of our Department. They must also properly relate our work to the work of the other 47 State Highway Departments. This makes necessary their attending many meetings and conferences all over the United States. Let us, whose responsibility it is to do one job in our Division or Section, not be guilty of saying that the officials of our Department "sure have it soft going around over the country to attend meetings."



## HOW TO GET ALONG

Submitted by J. J. Schamer  
Assistant Chief Accountant

Let us not be too hasty in our criticism of the work of other Divisions. If we were responsible for their work we might discover that they too have difficult problems to solve. When a person in one Division indulges himself in uninformed or unjust criticism of the methods or procedures of people in other Divisions he is hurting another member of his own team.

Criticism is a necessary tool in the work we are trying to do as a team, but the criticism that will help is constructive and informed, and given with a sincere desire to improve the efficiency of the team.

Last but not least, the team of which we are members belongs to the people of Arkansas. Each and every job in the Arkansas Highway Department represents a public trust. If we cannot work as members of a team, if we can feel no loyalty to the Highway Department or to the people of Arkansas, if we can find no good reason for having pride in our work, and for being proud of our positions, perhaps the best thing we could do is to seek employment where these things are possible. For without pride, loyalty, and wholehearted interest in the welfare of the Department as a whole, no employee can find happiness in his work; nor can he maintain the efficiency of which he is capable, thus doing himself an injustice as well as the Highway Department.

1. Keep skid chains on your tongue. Cultivate a low, persuasive voice. How you say it often counts more than what you say.

2. Make promises sparingly and keep them faithfully, no matter what it costs.

3. Never let an opportunity pass to say a kind and encouraging thing to or about somebody. Praise good work done; regardless of who did it. If criticism is merited, always criticize helpfully, but never spitefully.

4. Be interested in others, interested in their pursuits, their welfare, their homes and families. Make merry with those who rejoice and mourn with those who weep. Let everyone you meet, however humble, feel that you regard him as a person of importance.

5. Be cheerful. Keep the corners of your mouth turned up. Hide your pains, your worries, and your disappointments under a pleasant smile. Laugh at good stories and learn to tell them. Pleasant dispositions make life a joy.

6. Preserve an open mind on all debatable questions. Discuss but don't argue. It is a mark of superior minds to disagree and yet be friendly. In other words, disagree without being disagreeable.



# APPRECIATION DINNER

by Lottie Brown  
District No. 10

"TWO, FOUR, SIX, EIGHT! WHO DO WE APPRECIATE...THE ARKANSAS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT...!!" That was the general feeling which prevailed on the night of September 9, 1954, at the Philadelphia Community School in Craighead County where several hundred people gathered together for a celebration to mark the completion of the 5-mile strip of blacktop road from the city limits of Jonesboro to Sterling Springs.

This heartwarming demonstration of appreciation was sponsored by the Highway 141 Association and the people participating were those who live along the newly paved route. To them that beautiful stretch of blacktop meant an end to the dust clouds which enveloped their houses every time a vehicle passed. It represented the realization of their fondest dreams. No wonder they turned out in such force and with such enthusiasm to express their appreciation to the Highway Department in a manner which we all understand: FOOD!!

And what food it was! Everything good to eat that you could think of was there in great quantities. Every kind of meat and vegetable and 79 different desserts (understatement?), deliciously prepared

by the ladies from Philadelphia, Caldwell's Chapel, Lorado, Shiloh, and Walcott, was spread out buffet style on long tables.

The work on this road was done by the District 10 employees with maintenance funds at a minimum cost and without programing or letting a contract. There is 17 more miles of Highway 141 which this group hopes to have paved in the near future.

Guests at this "Appreciation Dinner" included many of the highway personnel from District 10 and their families. Special guests at the speakers table from the Department were Highway Director Herbert Eldridge; A.G. "Lanky" Rives, State Maintenance Engineer; J.C. Perkins, Acting District Engineer; Jess M. Rush, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; and Paul Bridger, Area Foreman. Claude Gregory, Jonesboro banker and a member of the Chamber of Commerce Highway Committee, acted as master of ceremonies, and Rev. L. C. Castleman, pastor of the Philadelphia Baptist Church, gave the welcome address. Senator Marvin Melton introduced our Highway Director and praised the progress which is being made under his able direction.



Mr. Eldridge spoke to the group and contended that, "this is the finest demonstration of appreciation of a road I have ever seen. It is inspirational to me, and when you talk about completion of this road, you are assuring it by a demonstration such as this, because I believe it will inspire your District highway officials to do the job."

Our Director gave the District office credit for this accomplishment and averred, "This reflects their ingenuity. They have done a lot with a little money."

He spoke of a bright future for Arkansas road systems in becoming one of the nation's best. "I believe we will have a complete system that we can be proud of in 5 to 10 years," he declared. "The Mack-Blackwell Amendment has made it possible to build roads according to need. We have been faced with a severe shortage of funds and we have to make them go just

as far as possible. That's why we decided to ask those who benefit most from a road to donate the right-of-way to allow for paving. This program is working out fine now and is saving lots of money to do still more work."

Senator Melton informed the assemblage that, "we didn't ask a single politician to help us. We went right to the Highway Department and they made the decision without having to go ask any politician if it would be all right." The senator pledged his "service and energies" to the Association until the route is completed as a paved road from Jonesboro to Highway 25 north of Walcott.

Spontaneous and sincere expressions such as this certainly make our job a pleasant one. We will not soon forget those fine citizens of Philadelphia Community who provided us with such an enjoyable evening -- and, we must admit that the "appreciation" was mutual.

## 20-YEAR EMPLOYEE RETIRES

Charles E. Shackelford, 67, of Okalona, retired September 1 with 20 years' service with the Arkansas Highway Department.

Mr. Shackelford has worked in various capacities in the Maintenance Division during his many years with the Department. When the Arkansas State Highway Employees Retirement System made it

possible for the employees to file service earnings made prior to the establishment of the System, this member filed his record and will now reap the benefits of a salaried retirement through our Employees Retirement System.

Mr. Shackelford is the twenty-fourth member of the State Highway Department to receive retirement.



# AROUND THE BUILDING

Miss Willie Lawson and Herbert Eldridge addressed two large groups at community meetings held in Egypt and Knobel August 17. Community meetings such as these reflect the interest being evoked by Arkansas citizens and their willingness to learn more about our highway system and how they may give their assistance and cooperation.

\* \* \* \*

Y. W. Welchel, S & A, conducted an all-day staff meeting and work conference of the field men in the Traffic Analysis Section September 23 in the Conference Room of the Educational Building. These meetings are held quarterly to discuss and iron out various difficulties encountered in the working methods being used by the field men and ways to improve these methods. Through this means, many obstacles are overcome before they become major problems.

\* \* \* \*

Our "movie starlets" Doris Parks and Betty Allen of the Construction Division, spent August 24 at Narrow's Lake with Staff Photographer Johnnie Grey, making the motion picture which will be shown at our Exhibit in the Arkansas Livestock Show. Both girls came back with a slight sunburn but declared it was worth it. The day's work included a motorboat ride and a trip to Diamond Mines.

Your editor was a guest at the Statistics and Analyses Division supper party at the Junior Deputy Sheriff's Playground September 23, and can state most emphatically that a "goodly crowd was there." Commissioner Cecil Lynch and Mr. and Mrs. Dennison Yates were special guests for the occasion. The party was scheduled for this date so that the field men, in town for a staff meeting, and their wives could attend. The food was "out of this world." Barbecued beef and pork, the kind that tastes as good as it smells, barbecued beans, potato chips, slaw, pickles, bread and hot coffee, made up the menu and anyone failing to partake in a second helping must have been feeling awfully "puny." It was all so deliciously prepared that I, frankly, ate too much! Everyone seemed to enjoy the party -- and if they didn't, it was their own fault, for no one could ask for a friendlier, more congenial group. Now I know why the S & A personnel look forward to each of these get-togethers so eagerly...and I must compliment them on their marvelous hospitality -- it's hard to beat!

\* \* \* \*

Mr. Eldridge and A. G. Rives, State Maintenance Engineer, were the guests of Dan Portis, Highway Commissioner, for luncheon at the Lepanto Rotary Club September 9.



# Party Line Parade

## — HEADQUARTERS —

### BRIDGE DESIGN DIVISION

Norma Monroe - Reporter

Our very best congratulations to Helen and Frank Battisto who celebrated their wedding anniversary September 3. Many, many more happily married years to you both. AND, there is more good news of the Battistos....have you seen the new green Pontiac that they are driving these days? It's a beauty!

\* \* \* \*

Many happy returns of the day to W. E. Wilson who celebrated his birthday on September 19.

\* \* \* \*

We also offer our best wishes to Veales Hudspeth who celebrated his birthday September 1. We were sorry to lose Veales who left our office September 10 to continue his studies at Yale. We enjoyed having you work with us, Veales, and wish you success and the best of luck in the future.

\* \* \* \*

Since Jake Knott has returned to the office after a super-duper 2 weeks of fishing and relaxing on Lake Hamilton, the tall fish tales have really been flipping back and forth.....The problem is to figure out just which tale is "tall" and which is true????

### REPRODUCTION

Mamie Fanning - Reporter

We were sorry to lose our mimeograph operator, Billie McHughes, who left us to work full-time as a homemaker for "Mac" and the boys.. AND await the "Blessed Event." Let us hear from you often, Billie.

\* \* \* \*

After tirelessly placing roll after roll of blueprint paper on his machine, Newt Carter inadvertently let one go! The result? A smashed toe and "stitches" in his back which kept him pretty uncomfortable for a few days -- but still on the job. Our sympathies, Boss, and here's hoping for a much better aim next time.

\* \* \* \*

We are very happy to have Patsy Hebb back on the job with us again after her recent illness.

\* \* \* \*

And NOW!! Yours truly, Mamie Fanning, spent a wonderful 2-week vacation visiting relatives and friends in Durham and Roxboro, North Carolina. Aren't vacations grand? But it is always good to be home again and back on the job. "People are funny" is right! Long to get away from it all, then just can't wait to get back!



# Party Line Parade

## STATISTICS AND ANALYSES

Bill Headrick - Reporter

We are very happy to report that H.A. Schmeiding has recovered from his recent illness and will be back with us October 1.

\* \* \* \*

Iva Hemphill spent a very enjoyable vacation in Oklahoma visiting her mother-in-law recently.

\* \* \* \*

Dodson Leonard spent a nice quite vacation at home recently resting and relaxing.

\* \* \* \*

We are sorry to lose William C. Dawson, Billy Coffman, James McKinney, Harold Guthrie, and Fred Dudek, who have recently returned to college. We wish them a happy and successful school year and hope they will be back to help us in the future.

\* \* \* \*

Dorothy and Fred Summers, and their son, Freddy, visited friends and relatives in Jackson and Vicksburg, Mississippi, over the Labor Day week end.

\* \* \* \*

We are sorry to report Elbert Stewart, a most willing worker in the Traffic Section, has been quite ill and in the new V. A. Hospital. We send our "get-well-quick" wishes and hope you will be back with us soon, Elbert.

John Hume drove with friends to Mexico City on his vacation and can vouch for the truth of the warning about the curves on the mountain section of the Pan American Highway being as exciting as the curves on the senoritas in Mexico. All kidding aside, John can really wax enthusiastic about his wonderful trip, and tells us that he hopes to be able to make a return visit to Mexico sometime.

\* \* \* \*

"Gran-pappy" Baird reports that he thoroughly enjoyed a very restful vacation...staying at home and working in his yard.

\* \* \* \*

Jim Yarbrough, who left the first of September to join our Armed Forces, is (happily) back with us again for another 3 months before Uncle Sam will require his services.

\* \* \* \*

EXTRA EXTRA. Rain!! 0.21 inch rain fell in Little Rock September 6, the first shower since May 2. Keep your fingers crossed we should get more. We hope!

## FEDERAL AID DIVISION

Jack L. Keilch - Reporter

We are happy to spread our best welcome mat to Bill Hays who has joined our office force. Bill is a University of Arkansas graduate.



# Party Line Parade

Pat and Jack Keilch, accompanied by Pat's mother and father, Dr. and Mrs. F. E. Galvas of Dardanelle, have returned from an extended vacation trip. They motored to Washington, D.C., where they toured the city, seeing the many major places of interest. They visited relatives in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and on the return trip, made a stop at Greenville, South Carolina, to visit other relatives. They all reported having had a most enjoyable vacation.

\* \* \* \*

Virginia Keating took a week of her vacation to be with that wonderful guy, Corporal Ed Jones of Fort Hood, Texas. Don't look now but it could be that there is a possibility of wedding bells in the future???

\* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. J. Q. Boen spent an enjoyable week vacationing in Florida. We understand J. Q. came back with a very nice sun tan. The Boen's report having had a wonderful trip.

\* \* \* \*

Blanche Smith reports that she spent her vacation on a most enjoyable visit with her daughter, Mrs. Jerome Blanton, and family at Midland, Texas. Blanche was in Midland in time to witness the arrival of her fifth, and very precious, granddaughter.

## CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

Doris Parks - Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Carter celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary August 31. Congratulations to our "Pappy" and Mrs. Carter and our warmest wishes for many, many more years of happiness.

\* \* \* \*

Our belated birthday wishes to Lucille Schmidt who celebrated her birthday August 23. Many happy returns to you, Lucille.

\* \* \* \*

Sue Gipson is back at work after spending a wonderful week vacationing at Rockaway Beach, Missouri, Eureka Springs and the Ozarks.

\* \* \* \*

Bobbie and Raymond Jones and family spent a wonderful 2-week vacation with relatives and friends in Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio.

\* \* \* \*

Margarette and Edwin Rogers and family, recently returned from an enjoyable vacation in Mississippi.

\* \* \* \*

Gladys, Judy, and "Fat" Matthews enjoyed a recent visit with relatives in Bernice, Louisiana. His mother and nephew accompanied them.

\* \* \* \*

Good luck to Jim Milner who has returned to University of Arkansas for his senior year. We enjoyed working with you this summer, Jim.



# Party Line Parade

## ACCOUNTING DIVISION

Jimmy Zinn - Reporter

We will all miss Wilma Keating, who left the Department September 17, to complete her study with Central Air Lines in Kansas City. Wilma will receive 6 weeks' training in preparation for her new occupation with Central Air Lines. Good luck and we wish you the greatest success in your new work.

\* \* \* \*

Earl Stuart took his annual vacation at the same time his son, Charles, would be home on furlough from Camp Hanford, Washington. This made a happy family reunion and a wonderful time for everyone.

\* \* \* \*

Margaret Allen's father-in-law, John Allen, of Marianna, has been quite ill and in the hospital. We extend our best wishes to him.

\* \* \* \*

Sarah and W. B. Neel covered a lot of territory on their 2-week vacation. In North Carolina they visited Mt. Gilead, Ashville, the Cherokee Reservation, Gatlinburg, Lake Junaluska, Lake Lure, Chimney Rock, Smoky Mountain National Park; Myrtle Beach and Brookgreen Gardens in South Carolina. It was Sarah's first time to see the Atlantic and she reports being most impressed. It was a wonderful trip all around and the weather was delightful.

## MATERIALS AND TESTS

Julia Mae Halliburton - Reporter

Georgette and R. C. Turney enjoyed a recent visit with his brother in Clayton, Missouri.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations and many happy returns of the day to the following who are celebrating birthdays this month: James G. Darwin, James Garner, Raymond Lynch, Bill Wano and J. T. Pendergrass.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Granville Roark, who is the proud owner of a new green Chevrolet.

\* \* \* \*

We were sorry to lose the students who were with us for the summer. They were good workers and we enjoyed having them in our midst. Bob Slaughter and Martin Crow went back to the University Medical School in Little Rock, J.G. Darwin to the Louisiana State University, and Ancil Reed to the University of Arkansas. We wish for them the very best of luck in their school work and all future undertakings.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Tookie and Allen Grimes, who are the proud parents of a 8-pound baby girl, Brenda Louise, born September 10 at St. Vincents. Tookie is the sister of our Frances Roller.



# Party Line Parade

Russell M. Newsom enjoyed the Labor Day week end visiting his mother and father in Wynne.

\* \* \* \*

James, the son of Lois and Neil Roach of Plummerville was hit by a car near his home September 8 but fortunately was not seriously hurt.

\* \* \* \*

Odis Sneed, one of our materials inspectors, visited with relatives and friends in Flagstaff, recently.

\* \* \* \*

Albert E. Guthrie, materials inspector, enjoyed having his mother, of Mansfield, spend a few days with him in Harrisburg recently.

## PERSONNEL DIVISION

Hazel Norman - Reporter

Hess Gordon went to Prescott over the Labor Day week end, where she was met by her son, Clarence, and his wife, Babs. She saw her 2-month-old granddaughter for the first time, who is, of course, the most wonderful baby in the world. Corporal Gordon is stationed in Fort Hood, Texas.

\* \* \* \*

Hazel Norman and children, enjoyed a recent trip to St. Louis, where she visited with relatives.

\* \* \* \*

Happy birthday wishes to Jackie Wallace and Dennison Yates, who celebrated birthdays this month.

## ROADWAY DESIGN DIVISION

Peggy Beck - Reporter

Marie and Babe Williams have returned from a Northern Wisconsin vacation. While we were suffering from 105-degree temperature they were sleeping under blankets! That must be a splendid vacation spot. They report making several fishing trips with good results. In fact, the entire vacation was wonderful!

\* \* \* \*

Our best "get-well-quick" wishes to A. O. Flowers who has been released from the hospital and is recuperating beautifully. We hope you'll be back with us soon, A. O.

\* \* \* \*

Glen Trammel and family motored to California for their vacation. They report the trip was wonderful and they had fun while there.

\* \* \* \*

Lillian and Sidney Lee and children made a recent trip to Washington, D.C. While there, they went on a tour which took them past Lincoln Memorial across the Potomac River to Arlington Cemetery and on to Alexandria. They saw the National Airport and Pentagon Building, then to Mt. Vernon, where they viewed the tomb of George and Martha Washington. They returned via of the Potomac River aboard the S. S. Mt. Vernon. The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



# Party Line Parade

Peggy Beck made a recent trip to Alexandria, Louisiana, to visit her parents and get her two little daughters, who spent a wonderful summer with their grandparents. On their departure, there were four very long faces, namely, two little girls and the grandparents.

## IBM SECTION

Irma Jetton - Reporter

Gladys and Fred Plunkett, accompanied by their daughter and son, spent two weeks vacationing in Clearwater Beach, Florida. They report having had a wonderful time.

\* \* \* \*

We are happy to spread the welcome mat to Katie Jackson, key punch operator, who joined our office force September 1.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations and best wishes to Virginia Tisdale and James Finnley, who became Mr. and Mrs. September 4, when their marriage ceremony was solemnized at the Pulaski Heights Methodist Church. The newlyweds left for an extended honeymoon tour immediately after the reception. They will make their home in San Francisco.

\* \* \* \*

Our heartiest congratulations to Betty and Don Dare, who are the proud parents of a son, born at St. Vincents Hospital, September 18.

## EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT

L. O. "Jack" Brown - Reporter

We are happy to spread the welcome mat to the following new employees, who recently joined our Division. W. C. Mize, Eva Sue Fuller, Ralph Henson, Shirley Sue Summer, L. O. "Jack" Brown, and John Stipe.

\* \* \* \*

Lem Kirkpatrick has been released from the Baptist Hospital after recovering from a recent illness. We are glad to have you back on the job with us, Kirk.

\* \* \* \*

We will miss Fred Cazort and David Stewart, who left our Division recently to enroll in College. Fred is attending Little Rock Junior College and David a college in Memphis. Good luck to you both.

\* \* \* \*

We are happy to report W. P. Vanderburg is back on the job after a recent illness.

\* \* \* \*

We are happy to report that Henry Kirchoff has recovered from a recent illness, which kept him away from work for 2 weeks. Glad to have you back with us, Henry.

\* \* \* \*

Frank Caple spent an enjoyable vacation at home with his family recently and reports having done a lot of work around the house.



# Party Line Parade

C. M. Potter was ill and away from the office for a few days, and we are glad to have him back.

\* \* \* \*

James Baker has returned from a vacation in Colorado. He reports having had a wonderful trip.

\* \* \* \*

Bernie Burks really took advantage of our Labor Day week end. He went on a wonderful fishing trip to Escronges Lake, in the White River National Wildlife Refuge.

\* \* \* \*

Allen Pannell spent a most enjoyable vacation in Mineral Wells, Texas, recently.

\* \* \* \*

John Stipe is back at his desk after a 2-week Military Leave at Camp Polk, Louisiana.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Bernie L. Cox, who was promoted to Assistant Director of Procurement for Equipment at Jacksonville.

\* \* \* \*

Tom Eby bruised his heel in jumping from a truck. Since he quit smoking, Tom had gained some weight between jumps.

\* \* \* \*

We are very proud to report that since January 1, 1954, the Equipment Department has replaced obsolete equipment in the ten Districts and at Central Shops with 586 pieces of new equipment.

DISTRICT 2

PINE BLUFF

Inez Royston - Reporter

Ralph Morrison, our area foreman in Cleveland County, reports that the MORRISON CLAN had their annual picnic in Monticello, recently. There were 71 present for the get-together, with more than plenty of delicious food for everyone.

\* \* \* \*

We are glad to report that Osro E. Jones of our Cleveland County crew has returned to work after being absent due to some trouble with one of his legs.

\* \* \* \*

Our heartfelt sympathies are extended to N. M. Mitchell and his family in the loss of his father, who died recently.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Vick of Star City, recently returned from a vacation trip to Compton, California, where they visited their son, James and family. On the return trip they visited June Vick and her family in Tickerfield, Oklahoma, and friends in Fort Worth, Texas. They report having thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Green, of Star City, was happy to have their son, Charles, home for a visit recently. Charles is in the Army, stationed in Fort Hood, Texas.



# Party Line Parade

We are happy to report George A. Heflin, motor patrol operator, is rapidly improving after a recent tonsillectomy.

\* \* \* \*

We are proud of Woodrow Wilson and his crew who have certainly been making splendid progress with the sealing operations throughout our District.

\* \* \* \*

The bridge crew stayed a wonderful fish dinner, with all the trimmings September 8 at the bridge site on Highway 153. Special guests for the occasion included: A. G. Rives, Charlie Holderbaum, H. R. Lucas, Brewster Shalmy and John Sanders. The meal was prepared and served by ladies from DeWitt. Our bridge crew have previously proved their skill in serving fish dinners and are well versed in such affairs.

\* \* \* \*

Robert Rinehart, motor patrol operator, suffered a severe head injury recently, while operating his machine on Highway 79. A car coming up behind him at terrific speed collided with the roller which he was operating at the time, the impact throwing him several feet. Bob is in Davis Hospital in Pine Bluff in a critical condition. We are all pulling for you, Bob, and extend our warmest wishes for a complete recovery soon.

DISTRICT 3

HOPE

Olive Jackson - Reporter

Bob G. Haynie, son of our Job Superintendent, Loyd Haynie, was married to Ida Rae Hamilton in a ceremony performed at the First Methodist Church at Prescott on August 14. The bride was given in marriage by her cousin, James Hamilton Dill of Nashville, and Loyd served his son as best man. We extend our very best wishes for many years of happiness to the young couple.

\* \* \* \*

The District office enjoyed having little Nancy Jeter of Fort Smith, as a guest recently. Nancy is the daughter of W.T. Jeter, our district maintenance superintendent.

\* \* \* \*

Many happy returns of the day to Edna Lewallen, our payroll clerk, who celebrated her birthday on September 8.

\* \* \* \*

David Holt, son of P. C. Holt, enlisted in the United States Navy on August 10, and is now at San Diego, California, for his boot training. David's parents are very proud of the record he has made in his examinations.

\* \* \* \*

P. C. Holt plans on spending most of his vacation visiting with his daughters in Little Rock.



# Party Line Parade

Roy Ballard, bridge carpenter, has just returned from a motor trip to Missouri, where he visited points of interest.

\* \* \* \*

Our congratulations and best wishes to Lester Garrett and his bride, the former Eileen Shelton of Prescott. Vows were exchanged in the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. Otis Honea.

DISTRICT 4 FT. SMITH  
Faye Carter - Reporter

We are happy to spread the welcome mat to the following new employees: Shirley Sue Sumner, Eva Sue Fuller, John Stipe, L.O. "Jack" Brown, Ralph Henson and W.C. Mize.

\* \* \* \*

Violet and Locke Williams report a really wonderful vacation this year. First of all, they went to Chicago for 2 days; then to Flint, Michigan; and from there to Canada. After a 2-week trip like that, no wonder Locke is feeling so smug.

\* \* \* \*

Tony Nummy is on his vacation, and he informs us that he isn't going to do anything the whole time but fish. Good luck, Tony.

\* \* \* \*

We are glad to see U. P. Hamer up and around again after spending several weeks in the hospital. He tells us he feels much better.

Faye and Lawrence Carter spent a wonderful week in New Orleans seeing the sights, and their little daughter, Debbie, thinks the big boats down there are out of this world. On their return trip they spent a day in Vicksburg, Mississippi, where they explored the "Old Battlefields."

\* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mitchell spent their vacation in Pecos, Texas, visiting their daughter and her family. During the stay in Pecos they motored to Carlsbad Caverns.

\* \* \* \*

We miss Howard Bass since he left us to return to school. Our best wishes go with you, Howard.

\* \* \* \*

Clarence Lafleur and his family have recently returned from a week's vacation in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where they visited with Clarence's relatives.

\* \* \* \*

Celure and Seldon Cope report that they spent their vacation in Wichita, Atchison, and Leavenworth, Kansas. Among other things.....a fishing trip was enjoyed, catching enough for a family fish fry.

\* \* \* \*

We extend to Harvie Johnson and Elmo Mathews and their families our heartfelt sympathies in the loss of their beloved grandmothers who passed away in August.



# Party Line Parade

DISTRICT 5 BATESVILLE

Mary Lee McCown - Reporter

Ray Faulkenberry and his wife have recently returned from Kansas City, Missouri, where they spent their vacation. Ray is employed in Fulton County.

\* \* \* \*

Hillman Watkins, job superintendent, has been transferred to Henderson Ferry. Best wishes on your new job, Hillman.

\* \* \* \*

Ruby and Bernice Masner, spent the week end recently visiting in Ada, Oklahoma. Ruby is our District fuel clerk.

\* \* \* \*

Charles Houston and his wife are spending the month of September in California....a gift from their children for their Golden Wedding Anniversary. What a lovely gesture! We offer our warmest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Houston with best wishes for many more happily married years together.

\* \* \* \*

The student employees who were with us during the summer months have returned to school. They are: Robert Baker, Ted Beaverson, J. C. Frazier Jr., Howard Thompson, Paul Bone and Billy K. Cooper. Our very best wishes go with each of them for their future success. We were happy to have all of them with us.

DISTRICT 7 CAMDEN

Sula Burnham - Reporter

E. J. Lindsey, job superintendent, is taking a well earned vacation. We hope the scenery around Fort Worth and Dallas is more pleasing to the eye than the four miles of sealing E.J. has averaged daily for the past few weeks.

\* \* \* \*

Freda Sue Cook resigned August 31, to enroll at Arkansas State Teachers College at Conway. Good luck to you, Freda.

\* \* \* \*

John Strom, bridge maintenance engineer of Little Rock, will supervise the construction soon to begin on 4 precast slab bridges, between Magnolia and Waldo, on Highway 82.

\* \* \* \*

We offer our deepest sympathies to R. H. Laney and his family in the loss of his sister-in-law, Mrs. E. E. Laney.

\* \* \* \*

Back from vacations are: Evelyn and W.E. Hicks with daughter Judy, who spent a few days at Harrison and Fayetteville...Sula and Harland Burnham and Susan spent their time on Lake Hamilton...W. A. Herring went to Houston, Texas, to visit his brother...and William H. Nelson's trip took him to Old Mexico and he also visited Carlsbad Caverns.



# Party Line Parade

R. H. Laney's grandson, Eddie Woodriff of Houston, Texas, has been visiting in Arkansas for two weeks and is the first Texan to find things in Arkansas bigger than in Texas! Eddie's visit was interrupted to begin his first year in school.

\* \* \* \*

Paul D. Holmes has returned from two weeks of Military Leave with the National Guard Reserves at Camp Polk, Louisiana.

\* \* \* \*

F. A. Lansdale, area foreman, is constructing approaches to new concrete bridges in Dallas County.

\* \* \* \*

Twofold congratulations are in order for Mr. and Mrs. John Stowe, and Mr. and Mrs. James Butler who are the proud parents of twin boys born in August.

\* \* \* \*

Our District 7 equipment was called out September 4 to fight a 10,000-acre forest fire north of Arkadelphia. Our dozer operators, Hal B. Woodson and Louis Toland, worked continuously from midnight Saturday until 3:00 p.m. Sunday when the fire was finally brought under control. We were glad that we had the equipment to help in this emergency, and are very proud of the tireless and courageous work of our men in fighting this dangerous enemy of all men..FIRE!!

## DISTRICT 8 RUSSELLVILLE

Margaret Hamm - Reporter

We are happy to welcome Elza Owens and Roy Burris, who recently joined our Highway family.

\* \* \* \*

Many happy returns of the day to Virgil Eggleston, Ed Gardner and Turk Woods, who are celebrating birthdays this month.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Ivory Haston of Yell County, who are the proud parents of a son.

\* \* \* \*

Melvin Hull, who is stationed at Biloxi, Mississippi, in the Air Force, has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Hull. The Hull's were also very happy to have their daughter, Mrs. E. S. Tomlinson, and little granddaughter, Mildred Marie, from Baltimore, Maryland.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Johnson spent the week end recently in DeWitt visiting their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Williamson and Rojean. Floyd says prospects for duck hunting this season is not very promising, due to an extremely dry summer.

\* \* \* \*

Owen T. Turner reports having really enjoyed his first paid vacation with the Department.



# Party Line Parade

## FLOYD T. MASON

Floyd T. Mason, 44, Russellville, was accidentally killed August 30 when he stepped into the path of a Highway truck which was backing up to the spreader box on a sealing job in Yell County, between Ola and Danville.

Mr. Mason had been employed with the Highway Department as a roller operator for about 8 years. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

We join the District 8 employees in offering our sincere and heartfelt sympathies to Mrs. Mason and her sons. May it comfort them to know that many hearts go out to them in their bereavement.

DISTRICT 9 HARRISON  
Shirley Morton - Reporter

J. H. Tucker has successfully completed the First Aid classes in our District. We are certain "Dr. Tucker" was a very efficient instructor, because all of the men agree that the training will be of great help to them.

\* \* \* \*

Many of our hourly employees have enjoyed their first paid vacations with the Department this summer and express their appreciation. Some of us who have not yet had vacations hope we can arrange them during the fall.

Congratulations to Troy Cowdrey who has, and I quote, "A wonderful and darling new granddaughter."

\* \* \* \*

The Newt Nicholson's recently returned from a motor trip to Checotah, Oklahoma, where they enjoyed visiting with relatives and friends. They report having had a wonderful time.

\* \* \* \*

We offer our heartfelt sympathies to Theo Walker in the loss of his wife, Inez, who died at Berryville in August.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to the following who celebrated birthdays in August: "Slim" Porter, J. C. Perkins, Jr., Edris Hulsey, and Rex Villines. Our very best wishes to all.

\* \* \* \*

Paul Byron wants everyone to get their fishin' done this month, because he hasn't been all summer and is going to set sail the first of October. So look out, neighbors!

\* \* \* \*

We were all glad to see R. B. Winfrey, our former District engineer, who dropped in the office to see us recently.

\* \* \* \*

EXTRA! EXTRA! Did you hear about the big hold-up on Main Street in Mountain View on September 3??? If not, be sure to get details from Hale Hayden and James Hawkins.



# Party Line Parade

DISTRICT 10

PARAGOULD

Lottie Brown - Reporter

Hooray for Lester Wycoff, bridge foreman, and his very able crew, who have completed a 3-span pre-slab concrete bridge in Mississippi County, Route 158.

\* \* \* \*

We in District 10 are proud of our safety record, but accidents will happen occasionally despite all precautionary measures. Such an accident occurred last week when Charlie Burke broke two ribs and a finger when the truck he was driving capsized. We are happy to report that he is progressing rapidly. Our best wishes are with you, Charlie.

\* \* \* \*

Our congratulations to H. O. McFall, whose chest has expanded several inches since he was notified about being grandpa for the first time. Too bad this reporter doesn't smoke cigars!

\* \* \* \*

We are happy to report that the wife of Lester Wycoff, who has been ill, is improving and we send her our best wishes.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Perkins drove to their home in Harrison recently. Mrs. Perkins remained in Harrison where she will teach in the public school this term.

PROBLEMS - continued from page 7

is tied up in rights-of-way for future use. Most certainly such a program will save the tax payers millions of dollars in the cost of these necessary facilities.

If the citizenry were aware of this situation and realized how much earlier and how much cheaper they would get the roads they want and need, a way could be worked out to accomplish this aim. Of course, the adoption of such a radical idea is a matter of education -- and education is slow, but the idea is sound and I feel certain that a way can be found eventually to attain our goal. I think it is time to start now.

---

Letha Ramsey is back on the job after a week's vacation which she spent "just resting and relaxing." Her cadet son, Guy, breezed into town from Florida to see her during the week making it perfect.

\* \* \* \*

Red Lovelace's wife is still in the hospital after undergoing two serious operations. Red wishes to express his thanks for the many kindnesses of friends. We offer Mrs. Lovelace our best wishes for her continued improvement.

\* \* \* \*

HERO OF THE WEEK: Owen Cummins extinguished a small blaze from the gas tank and, by said act of heroism, extricated himself from his wife's doghouse.



IT'S GOOD TO BE

ON TIME!

BUT BETTER

TO BE SAFE---

DRIVE

CAREFULLY