

THE "YPSI-DOODLER"

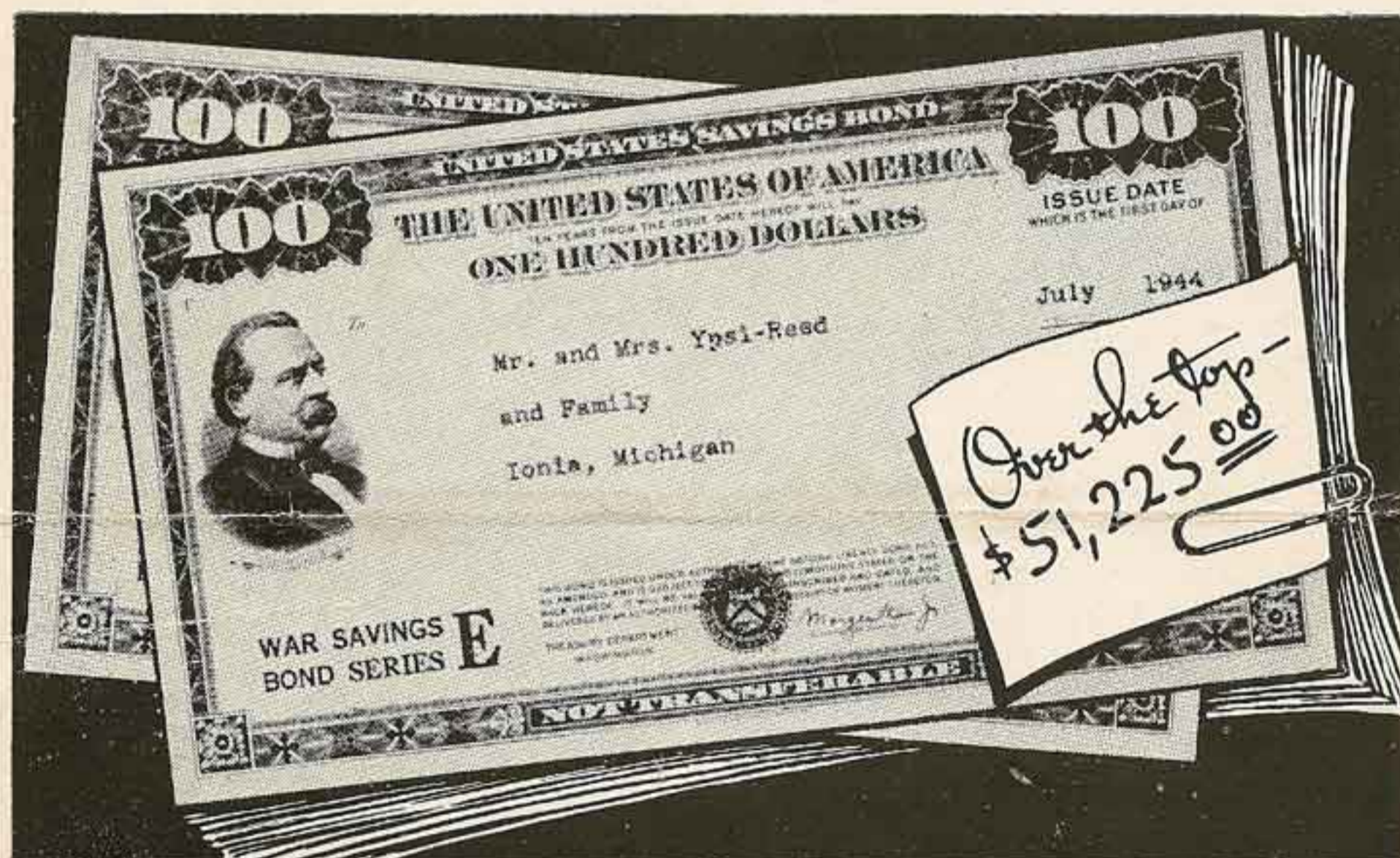
PUBLISHED THE FIRST FRIDAY IN EVERY MONTH BY AND FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE YPSILANTI REED FURNITURE COMPANY

VOLUME 1

IONIA, MICHIGAN, AUGUST 4, 1944

NUMBER 7

WAR BOND DRIVE OVER THE TOP



YPSI-REEDERS ANSWER THE NATION'S CALL FOR WAR BOND DOLLARS GENEROUSLY

In response to the Fifth War Loan Drive, Ypsilanti Reed employees enthusiastically oversubscribed their quota of War Bonds to the tune of \$1225.00, making a total pledge of \$51,225.00 as of July 14th, and it is probable that by the end of the Drive this amount will be even greater. Figuring in percentages, this amount means that our total subscription was 102.45% of our quota of \$50,000 for the "Fighting Fifth."

Because we have met the quota so magnificently, Ypsi-Reeders can be justifiably proud of their part in this drive. This cooperation is evidence that we are mindful of the fact that our boys are giving their blood, limbs, and lives that we may continue to live in the democratic way of life.

With the departmental charts over the 100% mark, and with the hope that by the end of July and the Fifth War Loan Drive even more bonds will be bought, Ypsi-Reed employees can make a solemn pledge to again meet their quota in November, when another War Bond Drive is scheduled. We've done it this time, let's do it again.

What's Going On Around Here?

Yes, what is going on around here? That's what we want to know, and for that reason, the YPSI-DOODLER is adopting a revolving reporter plan which is designed to enable us to keep abreast of all the news and little daily happenings around the plant.



Letna Candiff, Society Editor (left) and her assistant, Katherine Train

These additional reporters have been selected at random throughout the factory. Each month, new reporters will replace others, thereby, giving a constantly changing coverage of news in the plant. No writing experience will be necessary for the new recruits—their job is to report news items, social notes, ideas for articles, any humorous incident that could be used as the basis for a cartoon. They will be responsible to the staff in getting in their material.

THE "YPSI-DOODLER"

Published on the first Friday of each month by the employees of Ypsilanti Reed Furniture Company, Ionia, Michigan

* * *

Editor-in-Chief.....Ardith Harris
Assistant Editor.....Dorothy L. Glasson
Society Editor.....Letha Candiff
Assistant Society Editor, Katherine Train
Sports Editor.....Mike Wizorek
Staff Photographer.....Aileen Walsh
Circulation Manager... Gladys D. Smith



FISHING PRIZES ANNOUNCED

The announcement has been made of the prizes to be awarded for the winners of the various categories in the fishing contest. Prizes awarded will total \$15.00 and the contest is open to all Ypsilanti Reed employees.

The species of fish that are eligible for entering in the contest are bass, bluegills, and perch, and the fish will be judged according to length and weight.

First prize for largest fish in each category will be \$3.50 and the second prize for the next largest fish will be \$1.50.

The contest will close October 1st, 1944. Judgment will be made on photographs—if you can't get a photo of your fish, we'll take the picture.

The accompanying photograph shows Alice Mae Walker with a nice catch of bluegills and black bass.

BRING IN YOUR VACATION PICTURES

So you had a nice vacation? We're glad of it, but why don't you share some of the recorded highlights of that vacation with your fellow Ypsi-Readers? In the September issue, we plan to run a half page or more of Reed employees' vacation pictures. We'd like a picture of you with that bear you captured single-handed as he marauded your tent in the night. Or did you join the Crop Corps or pick cherries? Hand your pictures to any member of the YPSI DOODLER staff. We would prefer that you lend us the negative rather than the finished print. We'll make the enlargement and return the film to you, so there will be no waiting for the return of your negative and no chance of the print's being lost. As many pictures as space permits will be used.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE. Available to employees, job lots of paint. Various amounts and colors. Inquire Plant Protection Desk.

YPSILANTI REED FURNITURE COMPANY

WANTED. To buy Fly Rod, either new or second hand, 9 or 9 1/2 feet long.

GEORGE MICKS, Power Engineer

FOR SALE. Twenty gallons Dutch-Kraft white paint.

HARRY or NELLIE FELL, Jeep Department

FOR SALE. Three-year-old Guernsey cow with calf.

WM. (MOON) FRANCH, Plant Protection

CARD OF THANKS. I wish to thank the employees of the Ypsilanti Reed Furniture Co., also the Ypsi-Doodler staff and the C.I.O. for their kindness and the beautiful flowers they sent during the loss of my Dear Father and Mother.

GLADYS SMITH, Tarp Department

WANTED. Riders from vicinity of Muir—hours 8 to 5.

HAROLD SPRANK, Cost Department

Form Health and Safety Committee

Three New Members To Be Added Monthly To Reduce Accident Toll

Tremendous as are the casualties among our fighting men in widely scattered theatres of war, the daily toll of avoidable accidents on the industrial front at home reveals an even more staggering loss.

Job accidents alone killed more than 18,000 workers in 1943—almost as many deaths as the Navy, the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard suffered in the first two years and eight months of war.

Last year, there were 94,500 deaths from accidents on the home front, but since Pearl Harbor to date, there have been in all the armed services a total number of deaths of about 51,000.

Fortunately, the Ypsilanti Reed safety record is far and above the nation's average, but much remains to be done. No one here can be content as long as one single accident which might have been avoided occurs to mar an otherwise unblemished record.



It is with this in mind that a new Health and Safety Committee has been formed. The July membership, shown in the photograph above, includes Leroy Godden, Kenneth Johnson, Leon Pierce, Frank Morse, Maren Brock, R. N., Chester Gladding, Ray Crowner and L. W. Lockwood.

Each month, three new representatives from the factory employees will be added to the committee, replacing three from the previous month. In this way, many Ypsi-Reeds will have the opportunity of serving with this group.

The committee will make two inspection trips each month throughout the plant for safety and health hazards, in order to keep an accurate check on safety methods and prevent any minor or serious accidents. The group firmly believes in the old adage "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" and they feel that as soon as that thought is implanted in the minds of our employees, a great deal will be accomplished toward prevention of lost time accidents.



DIAL TELEPHONES INSTALLED

Office Gets Modern Installation To Handle Increasing Volume Of Calls

The next few weeks will see the change over in the office to the use of the dial telephone system. Due to the large volume of calls that were going through the switch board it was deemed advisable to install the system. The system to be installed will be for sixteen stations and is the very latest equipment. It is the miniature size of equipment used in large exchanges. The necessity of this system was found to be most pressing in the Purchasing Department and Merchandise Control Departments where the use of the telephone is necessary hundreds of times daily. After the installation is completed inter-office calls will be made directly and will not go through the switch board thereby giving the operator more time to handle incoming calls and factory calls.

In the Purchasing Department and Merchandise Control Departments the big job of purchasing all material is handled and the job of seeing that the material arrives on time so that production lines are kept going. The following up of orders is handled by Ronald Bliss and Royce Merrill with our suppliers and George Dockham follows-up the material after it is received. Also in this office is Veneta McDonald.

Shown in the accompanying photograph, left to right, are Fred C. Barnes, Merchandise Control Chief; Helen Faulkner, Secretary to H. M. Ross, and H. M. Ross, Purchasing Agent. Mary Shafer who is also in the purchasing department was on vacation when this picture was taken.



RECORD SHIPMENT OF CARGO BODIES

Something near a record was made recently when we had five carloads of wood cargo bodies lined up for shipment in one day. Just think how many different places on world battlefronts those bodies will be used. Here's further proof there's something of Ypsi-Reed in every theatre of operations.

STATE TROOPS

The Michigan State Troops of Ionia known officially as the Service Company, 32nd Inf. Regiment, is made up of eighty men, three of whom are officers. Carl M. Seabrook of the Plant Protection Department is a 1st Lt. in the Company. On June 9th the Company was mobilized and sent to Camp Grayling for the 9th, 10th and 11th. Saturday was spent on the drill field in bayonet practice and on the rifle range where they qualified in shooting of M-I Rifles, Tommy guns and 38 pistols. Sunday morning they were given instructions in Jiu-Jitsu. On July 21, 22 and 23 the Regiment returned for small arms and gas drill.

Shown in the picture are Ypsi-Reeders who belong to the Troop. Back row left to right, Lt. Seabrook, Staff Sgt. Leo Sweet, Pvt. Herman Kamradt. Front row, left to right, Pvt. Lester Bowen, Pvt. Ora Tingley, Jr., Pvt. Clarence Jeffrey and Pvt. Harold Ruehs.



JAP PARACHUTE

We had quite a little excitement here one day when Curly Haskin, shown below, exhibited a parachute formerly belonging to a Japanese soldier.

The 'chute was sent to Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Howorth, neighbors of the Haskins, by their son, Ed. Howorth, Ph. M 1/C, serving in the U. S. Navy on an L.S.T. boat. It was picked up on an island beach somewhere in the Pacific area.

The entire kit, consisting of parachute and canvas bag, weighs seven and one-half pounds. The chute is entirely made of pure silk, and even the shrouds are of tightly braided silk cord.



☆ SERVICE NOTES ☆



Shown in the photograph above is Pvt. Frank Krhovsky, of Camp Livingston, La., with his mother, Mrs. Mary Krhovsky who works in the Bus Dept. Pvt. Krhovsky is a paratrooper attached to the Infantry, having recently transferred from the Black Hawk Division of the Infantry. His chestful of medals include Sharpshooter's ratings in the Carbine and Machine Gun, and Expert ratings in Rifle, Bayonet, and Hand Grenade. Mrs. Krhovsky has worked for Ypsilanti Reed for the last 20 years, since she was 16 years old, and Frank worked in the Jeep Dept.



The above photograph shows Charles Ball, Seaman 1/C as he visited his father Lyle at the plant. Seaman Ball is attached to the Armed Guard Division, Merchant Ships, and has seen nine months of sea duty. While returning from Italy his last trip, the convoy his ship was with underwent a submarine attack, and he was hit in the arm with flying shrapnel. He's getting all well now, tho. His service ribbons include the American Area, the European — African — Middle Eastern Area, and the Asiatic Pacific Area.



In the photograph above are Tom Ross, Pvt. Tom White, and Erwin Reed, shown where Pvt. White

formerly worked when he was employed at Ypsilanti Reed. He is stationed at Camp Abbott, Oregon, and entered the army in February. Pvt. White is attached to the Engineer Corps, and the boys discovered that Erwin has a brother-in-law stationed at the same camp with Tom.

Pvt. Frank Maynard, attached to the Medical Bn. at Camp Stewart, Ga., was at the plant recently visiting all his old friends in the Shipping Department.

Herbert L. Bennett, F 2/C writes: "I am now training at an L. S. T. Base, and read in the YPSI-DOODLER that Spencer Seabrook found Ypsilanti Reed Gun Covers on an L. S. T. So I looked at some of the guns here and they also have covers made at Ypsi Reed. It sure gives you a thrill when you are away from home and see your home town name on things."

Pvt. Clinton R. Rathburn, of Camp Carson, Colorado, spent a ten day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Rathburn, who both work in the Tarp Department.

Among other service men who toured the plant recently are S/Sgt. Arnold Balzell, just home from 2 years in Italy, Sam and Ransom Stowell, both at Great Lakes, 1st. Sgt. Sherman Pranger of Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and Dean Selleck, of Camp Grant, Ill.



Shown above is Bob Howe, Welding Room, with his two sons Pfc. Robert and Gordon, S 1/C, who were home together recently on leave. Young Bob is stationed at the Richmond, Va., Army Air Base, and trains pilots for high altitude flying. He worked in the Welding Dept. for one year. Gordon is stationed at the St. Albans Naval Hospital, Long Island, N. Y., and has been in the Navy for nine months. While at the Reed, he worked on the Police force and in the Reed Room.

Sgt. "Red" Martin of Camp Benning, Ga., former employee of the Tarp Dept. was a week end guest of Clinton Kline of the Jeep Dept. while home on an 18 day furlough.

We were all glad to see Kenneth Claycomb, former employee of the Jeep Dept. who now serves in Uncle Sammy's Navy.

Furniture Dept. Men Meet Field Salesmen In Chicago

Members of the furniture department from the plant who attended the recent furniture show in Chicago were E. J. Houghton, W. J. Smith, Ralph Blesing, W. C. Allison, and our salesman in charge of our permanent exhibition in Chicago, Walter Patton. Field salesmen who attended, and their territories are John Fenske, New England states, Edgar VanDamm, South Eastern U. S., King Ambler, Southwestern U. S., David Gray, Michigan and Indiana, Walter Patton, Chicago, Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Herman Leverenz, Iowa, Nebraska, Southern Illinois, and L. A. Forbes, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.



Home On Furlough

Shown in the accompanying picture are Jelo Rice with his son and grandson, both members of the United States Army. Rice has worked here for the past three years in Gott's Department with the exception of three months spent in the Gun Cover Department. On the right is Pfc. Robert Rice who is stationed at Camp Phillips, Kansas. Rice has been in the Army for the past 2½ years. Pfc. Don Yoder is stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., and has been in the Army for thirteen months. Both boys were spending ten day furloughs with their families.

SOCIAL NOTES

Mary Snafer of the Purchasing Dept. who has been on her vacation the past two weeks had to spend some time at the Ionia County Hospital after she had a tooth extracted because of complications. Not such a pleasant way to spend a vacation but everything is going along fine now and we're looking forward to Mary's return.

☆ ☆

By the time this issue is out Nell Brown will be at Point Look-Out on Lake Huron spending a two weeks vacation, fishing, swimming and picnicing.

☆ ☆

Mrs. Margaret Dean is now working in the Order Dept. Mrs. Dean's husband is in the Army and is somewhere in England.

☆ ☆

Miss Ruth Grieve is helping out for the summer in the time office. In the fall she will go to Flushing where she will teach Tenth Grade English. Miss Gieves has been a teacher in the Ionia schools for several years.

☆ ☆

Martha Lou Kuehn left Sunday, July 16th to join her husband who is stationed at Camp Siebert, Ala. Mrs. Kuehn has worked for the past few weeks in the time office. The Kuehns have a four month old daughter.

☆ ☆

Frances Pierce is back on the job in the Tarp Department after spending the past few weeks caring for her husband who has been seriously ill.

☆ ☆

Miss Yolanda Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Smith, has enrolled as a Nurse's Aide in the St. Mary's Hospital. Mrs. Smith is employed in the Tarp Department and Mr. Smith works in the main stockroom.

☆ ☆

Mrs. Gertrude Dolley, poor girl, is going to Chicago. It's a long way from home without a bell on.

(Continued on Page 5)

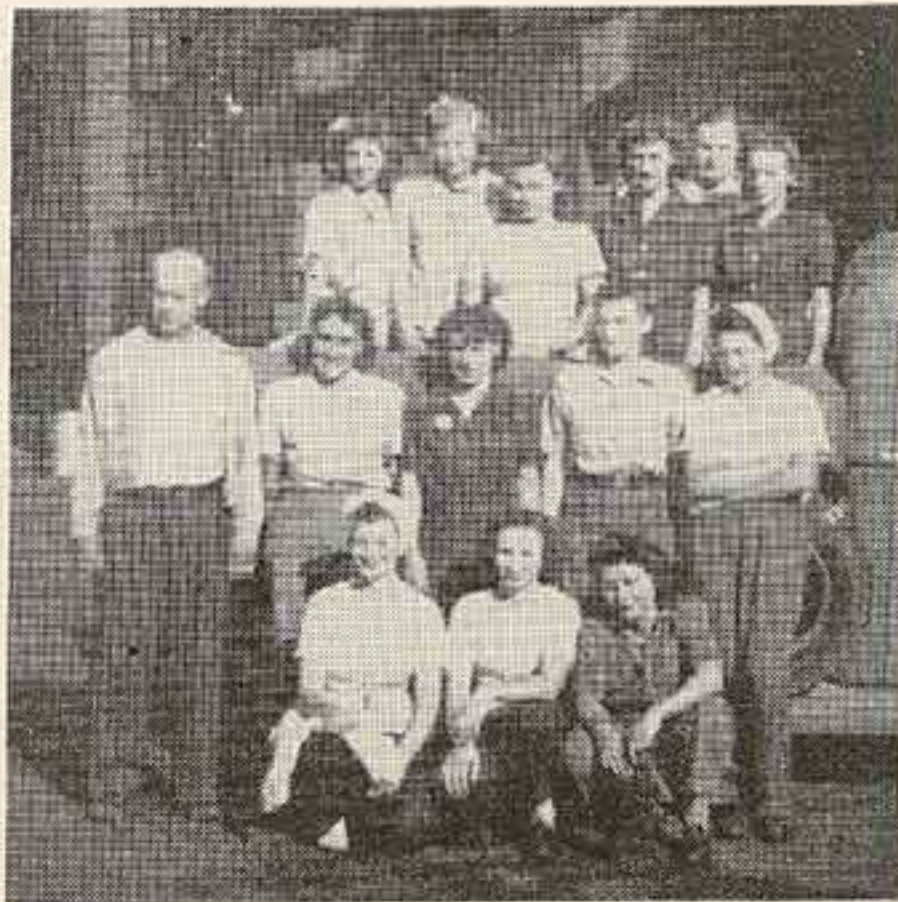
YPSI-REED SPORTS

By Mike Wizorek, Sports Editor

Well, our baseball team has finally got started. In the first game, the battery for Ypsi Reed, Jack Font and Catcher Wizorek, had a game all their own, as well as with the Gibson team from Greenville. Battery for Greenville was Sullivan, pitcher, and Burgess catching. Both teams played spectacular ball and the final score was Greenville 4, Ionia 2. Total hits for Greenville 4, Ionia 3.



The Ionia boys seem to be jinxed as another game was played at Greenville and was a thriller all the way. The game was on even keel for five innings. Finally Greenville broke in the winning column by a lead of one to nothing. This was the score until the final inning of the game when Greenville put across another marker to put the game on ice. It was a pitcher's duel with Dick Warden doing the chucking for Ionia and Peanut Wizorek catching, while for Greenville we had Burgess catching and Richie pitching. The final score was Greenville 2, Ionia 0. Greenville had 4 hits, Ionia had 2 hits.



Then we thought maybe we needed a change of competition, and on July 9th took on the Fowler team. Fowler had the edge and won by a score of 4 to 3. Batteries for Ionia were Warden and Wizorek, and H. Miller pitched for Fowler.

Now it's time for the girls softball team, who played the St. Patrick's girls from Portland on July 13th. Lorraine Chapin and Janet Lillie were on the mound for Ionia, while Lucille Rice caught. Our girls lost 14 to 3. However, after a little practice, we expect them to mop up anything that takes the field against them.

Also on July 13th, our men's baseball team again played Greenville at Ionia. This score was even worse than any of the previous ones. Richie and Burgess of Greenville was the winning combination, and Warden and Wizorek the losing. Final score, Greenville 17, Ionia 4. Greenville had 17 hits and Ionia had 10.

The girls who participated in the Portland game are L. Chapin, J. Lillie, L. Rice, O. Beebe, N. Tyler, H. Cottrell, D. McConnell, M. Longdyke, G. Cottrell, B. Heath, W. Durkee, and I. Trumbull.

But the high spot of the season so far has been the softball game between the "old men" and the young men. The young men beat the old ones 25 to 9, but the old men had a home run made by the catcher, Ronald Burrows.



Baby Shower

You're right, it's a stork shower, and the guest of honor is none other than our own timekeeper, Eddie Ruehs. The employees of the Jeep Dept. believe it to be the first stork shower on the father. But with the shortages and everything, it was impossible for us to get the Mother.

With all the stammering and stuttering, we know it made him very happy, and now he's the proud, proud father of James Edward.

The Tent Dept. presented the Ruehs' with a beautiful bassinet. We certainly hope Eddie doesn't forget some night and let Jimmy do the walking while he sleeps among that pretty pink lining.

As we end this, may we extend our hearty congratulations to the Ruehs.

SOCIAL NOTES

(Continued from Page 4)

When she comes back, she'll have lots to talk about.

☆ ☆

All the smiles from Joe Krueger of the Bus Department are due to that new son born July 12th.

☆ ☆

The Squad Tent Department were very sorry to lose Jim Banhagel who was forced to leave because of ill health. He was presented with a gift of money as a farewell present.

☆ ☆

Marlene Kay is the name of the daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Rowley. Marlene really has the relatives working at Ypsilanti Reed—grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Henry Knapp, grandmother, Mrs. Martha Rowley, and grand-aunt Marie Royston.

☆ ☆

We record with regret the passing of Mr. and Mrs. Alanson Stowell, mother and father of our Circulation Manager, Gladys Smith. We also extend our sympathy to their sons Jay Grummet of Dept. 41, and Sam Stowell, formerly of the employee roster who is now training at Great Lakes.

☆ ☆

Gerard Perry, inspector of leather, is the proud father of a daughter, Patricia Irene.

☆ ☆

Congratulations are in order for Lorraine Greenhoe and her new groom, Stanley Edwards. Lorraine worked in the office and is now making her home in Denver, Colorado. Her father, Nort, is the foreman of the Pattern Shop.

☆ ☆

Myrtle Kreiger of the Jeep Dept. has spent a few days home entertaining that new granddaughter Diana Gladding.

☆ ☆

We all join in extending congratulations and best wishes to Betty Chapin of the Tent Dept. whose marriage to George Brooks took place June 24th.

☆ ☆

The announcement has been made of the engagement of Merle Comer, son of George and Nellie Comer of departments 39 and 41 to Miss Eleanor Clark of Flint.

☆ ☆

Wava Pulsipher and Letha Candiff spent the week end of July 8th. in Ann Arbor visiting a friend who is a patient in the University Hospital.

☆ ☆

Andy Gilhooly is vacationing in Gardner, Massachusetts, visiting his nephew, Tom.

☆ ☆

Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Reed, and Art and Genivieve Knichrehn spent their vacation at Half Moon Lake, and to hear them tell about it, they caught at least two-thirds of the fish in southern Michigan.

☆ ☆

George Micks came back from his vacation at Town Line Lake very nicely browned.

☆ ☆

We wish to express our sincere sympathy to Mike, Ed, and Stanley Wizorek, whose sister, Mrs. Anna Teufel passed away July 14th.

☆ ☆

Arthur Hansbarger of the Finish Mill Dept. has returned to work after being ill since last Dec. 22.

☆ ☆

Martin Wilder, of Finish Mill Dept. is back after a week's vacation. Fishing? ? ?

FURNITURE MARKET SUCCESS

Ypsilanti Reed's mid-summer showing included the interesting and varied assortment of pieces shown in the photo at the right.

6

Summer and recreation room furniture evidenced Ypsilanti Reed's trend to a combination of the practical with the attractive.



The 1944 Midsummer Furniture Market was hot—very hot—in more ways than one. The temperature hovered around the hundred mark, and occasionally tempers did, also. Buyers flocked in from all sections of the country, hungry for merchandise. Some manufacturers had nothing to sell, and did not even open their salesrooms. The majority had limited quantities to offer.

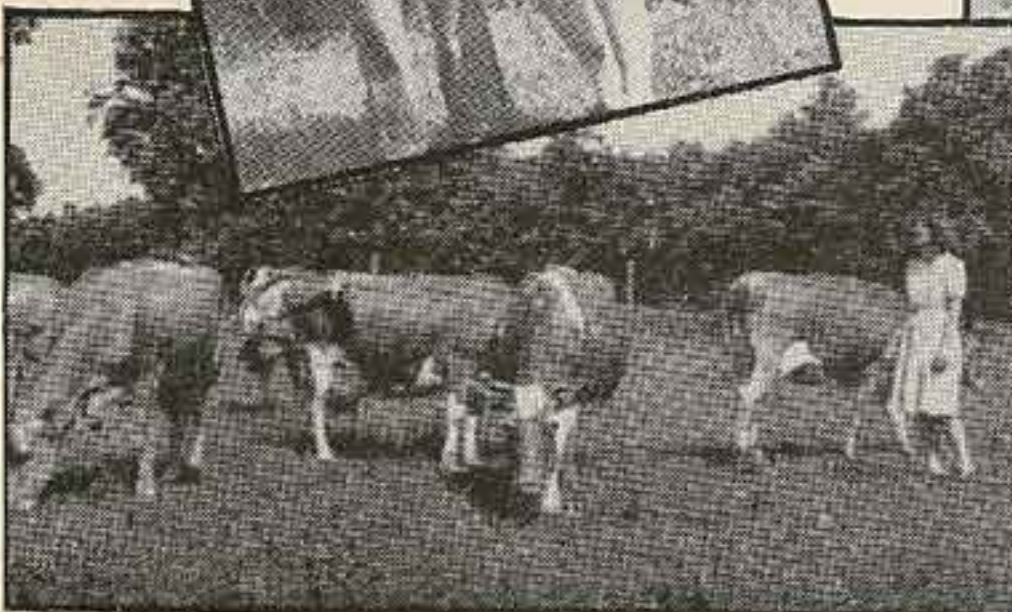
Our salesmen were instructed to observe their quota sheets closely and to allot the merchandise as widely as possible. With post-war conditions in view, it was desirable to preserve as many contacts as possible. We did not offer any hackberry or upholstered patterns—only summer, recreation room, and maple furniture. The salesmen worked hard and really did themselves proud, with the result that in spite of our limited production we will maintain a nationwide distribution. We had to "turn down" even some old friends of the house. Most of the retail furniture buyers understood the situation and accepted it philosophically, but some evidenced their disappointment and others were just plain mad.

The market was a splendid success. It created lots of good will among our dealers, and our loyal customers gave us an overwhelming vote of thanks.

A specially selected group of our most loyal and important customers were given the privilege of reviewing with us our post-war designs. Their reaction was marvelous, and in turn it gave us enthusiasm that when the world conflict is over, we will have a line of furniture that will prove to be one of the best selling in the business.

FOOD WILL WIN THE WAR

These photographs show how Mrs. Ethel Schelter spent her time on the leave of absence she took from the Tent Dept. to help on her farm because of the shortage of farm laborers. She has 156 baby chicks, 172 laying hens, and eight cows. She also has a calf called "Ypsi" in honor of the Ypsi-Doodler. The man with her is Mr. Schelter, without whose cooperation these pictures could not have been taken.



Congratulations, Ethel, for your work on the food front—Editor