The Season's Greetings

We are indebted to the Holiday Season because it prompts us to voice to our associates those friendly sentiments which we have harbored for a time but failed to put into words. And such friendly sentiments in respect to those with whom we are engaged in a common enterprise and allied in common interests have a way of accumulating, so that the slate becomes filled, and the annual Holiday Season goodwill greeting is a welcome settling of the score.

Not merely because it is the custom, therefore, but because the custom so neatly fits the circumstance, I take this means of extending to each of the 4,640 members of our organization the wish for a generous share of the Season’s pleasures and the hope that the happiness of the New Year may outlast its full quota of 366 days.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

President and General Manager

Christmas, 1939.
It Looks Nice;

Let's See How It Works

The gas appliance is our main contact with our customers, and the principal medium by which our service is judged. It is of course necessary to keep the appliance supplied with gas, and we are all more or less familiar with the complex organization required to maintain this supply continuously and at reasonable rates. Our customers, however, are not particularly interested in gas supply as such, nor in the appliance primarily as an ornament or piece of furniture, although they naturally derive much pleasure from the beauty of the modern gas range, the Servel Electrolux refrigerator, and other gas appliances designed for use in the living quarters of the home. Actually what the customer wants and is willing to pay for is the heat service that is provided by the appliance; and gas and gas appliances will be purchased only if they supply a better service than competitive products. Obviously the appliance designed for placement in the kitchen or living quarters should harmonize with the surroundings and present an attractive appearance in keeping with modern decorative trends, but essentially it should perform its allotted task with speed, dependability and efficiency. More than a glance is necessary to evaluate or forecast performance, and so we have Testing and Research departments which say, in effect, "It Looks Nice; Let's See How It Works."

Scientific Laboratories

The modern gas appliance is now subjected to the scrutiny of scientific testing and research laboratories. The appliance originates in the manufacturer's laboratory, by virtue of a combination of research development and testing, and the variety of appliances and models built. The appliance manufacturer, like the automobile manufacturer, is constantly changing models, and it is the problem of his testing laboratory to see that new ideas and requirements of size, shape and appearance do not sacrifice speed, efficiency, cooking ability, etc. After the appearance and general performance of the model is considered satisfactory, it is sent to the American Gas Association Testing Laboratories for testing and approval.

The American Gas Association Testing Laboratories are located at Cleveland and Los Angeles. Their primary function is to test appliances to see that they conform to the minimum standards of construction and performance as set forth in the Approval Requirements. These requirements are carefully written and periodically revised, by committees representing both the manufacturers and the gas industry. Approval requirements are now developed for practically all types of domestic appliances, many of the commercial and industrial types, and numerous accessories.

The total number of tests made by the A.G.A. Laboratories on any one type of appliance is quite formidable; for instance, a gas range now has to conform to some 560 requirement items, including strength and rigidity of various parts, insulation, combustion, gas consumption, efficiency, speed, heat distribution, surface temperatures and ignition. If the appliance satisfactorily passes the approval requirements tests the manufacturer is so notified and can then display the Blue Star Seal of Approval and (in the case of certain gas ranges) the Certified Performance insignia on all reproductions of that model. It is understood that the appliances coming from the factory production line will be identical with the model as approved, and to a limited extent the A.G.A. Laboratories check this by means of field inspections.

Our Own "Lab"

In some cases utility companies maintain well-equipped testing laboratories of their own. These are in position to assist the A.G.A. laboratories by conducting tests on

Continued on page 5
Seeing "How It Works"


2. Tom Wilson prepares a range for the "lamb chop" broiler test.

3. Checking the temperature distribution and gas consumption on a hotel and restaurant oven. The observer is R. E. Albert.

4. General view of experimental flue for tests in venting of water heaters. G. L. Bruno is opening valve at bottom to see if any condensate has collected.
It Looks Nice

(Continued from page 3)

appliances which are taken from the stocks available to purchasers in the utilities' own operating territories. There are approximately a dozen regularly established and well equipped laboratories of this nature in the United States.

Our local Appliance Testing Laboratory was established a little more than three years ago, as a cooperative and jointly sponsored activity of the then three and latterly two local gas utilities. Since the “merger” it has been called the Natural Gas Bureau Appliance Testing Laboratory, supported and financed by the Southern California Gas Company and the Southern Counties Gas Company. An explanation and description of some of its activities should be of general interest.

The manufacturer builds his models for national distribution, whereby, for instance, they may operate on manufactured gas in one locality and natural gas in another. Likewise the A.G.A. Laboratories have set up national standards and criteria which provide that the appliance will conform to minimum requirements in all areas. We, however, are interested in assisting the manufacturer to adapt his appliance most efficiently to the conditions which prevail in our own home area.

No Comparative Ratings

Again, the A.G.A. Laboratories, for good and sufficient reasons, merely publish a list of those appliances that have passed the requirements tests, and they do not disclose the test figures to show how high above the “passing” mark the appliance actually came, nor how it rated compared to others of its class. We, with our highly competitive situation, desire to have the best possible appliances in the customer’s home, and are greatly interested in this information from a customer satisfaction standpoint. Therefore, so as to know from which appliances we can expect the best performance under our local conditions, we go beyond the manufacturers’ and the A.G.A. Laboratories’ tests and make our own examinations for speed, efficiency and general customer appeal.

We Are Particular

We are thus able to satisfy ourselves that, in the hurry and bustle of manufacture and shipping, the product strictly conforms to the original approved model. For instance, during the Certified Performance Gas Range Campaign of last year, our Laboratory carefully tested representative models of ranges from each participating manufacturer. Our tests consisted of not only partial checking to see that the ranges conformed to the Blue Star approval requirements, but we also checked in detail each of the 22 CP Requirements. Thus we kept faith with our customers and our advertising, and actually verified that the ranges were CP in fact as well as in label. To a limited extent we again checked CP ranges during the recent campaign. Incidentally, during the development of CP Requirements, our Laboratory materially assisted the movement by supplying factual data which established that the superior performance standards established by the CP code are entirely practical.

Our Laboratory also examines appliances from the serviceman’s point of view, to determine if the controls are properly assembled and adjusted, and to see if they are reasonably accessible if they should ever need adjustment. If we find a certain accessory coming through with improper adjustment, or placed in a location very difficult to reach because of a manufacturer’s effort to streamline his product, a helpful suggestion to the manufacturer has usually secured the needed change in design, benefiting both the customer and the company. Meanwhile, the serviceman, through the Job Training Department, is informed of unusual difficulties he may encounter in adjusting appliances and the easiest ways in which they may be overcome.

Such a program of testing requires a wide variety of equipment, some of it highly “technical.” In Fig. 1 we see J. G. Williamson running a gas sample through the Iodine Pentoxide apparatus to test it for chemical character. This apparatus is even more complicated than it looks. It is the most sensitive and accurate means of analyzing for certain constituents, and is accurate within considerably less than one one-hundredth of one percent.

Lamb Chop Test

Often an improvement, highly desirable in itself, brings unexpected complications, and such was the case in the process of developing the new “speed” broiler. In speeding up the broiler, venting requirements became more exacting, and new tests had to be developed to insure that these more rigorous requirements would be met. It was found that water vapor escaping from the meat was sometimes troublesome, and a redesign of the venting arrangement was the remedy; and a test, whereby a water-sealed meat is placed in the preheated broiler to release quantities of water vapor suddenly, will show when the design is satisfactory. In practice lamb chops are used, and are stored for several days in cracked ice, in a refrigerator, until they become saturated with water. In Fig. 2 we see Tom Wilson, who developed this test, taking the chops out of the refrigerator and placing them on the broiler pan.

Incidentally, you will see that the action of Fig. 2 is taking place in a kitchen. We have a fully equipped kitchen in our Laboratory, and representatives from our Home Service Department make actual cooking Continued on page 7
5. Servel gas refrigerator test line. From to rear, R. L. Tracy and R. E. Harrington making adjustments and A. C. Lloyd filling out the records.

6. Adjustment of oven burner; also checking of oven thermostat by the pyrometer on the little table to the right. A. C. Lloyd is the operator.

7. Ten modern gas ranges—the finished product of all the experimentation and testing—under command of the cake-baking champions of ten of our local High Schools.
It Looks Nice
(Continued from page 5)

tests on all gas ranges we examine. This serves the dual purpose of furnishing practical test data, and giving advance information on new ranges to the Home Service Department.

Heavy Duty Tests

Our work is not confined to domestic appliances, and one section of the Laboratory is arranged to handle heavy duty equipment such as hotel and restaurant ranges, bake ovens, etc. Such appliances are very important to us, and we have taken considerable interest in co-operating with manufacturers in the development of design from time to time. Fig. 3 shows R. E. Albert recording data on a large Hotel and Restaurant oven. The white wires coming out of the top "deck" are thermocouple connections that are registering temperature distribution on the recording instrument immediately to the right of the oven. On the extreme right of the picture is a test meter registering gas consumption.

Smoke Tests

Recently we conducted a series of tests to show what takes place under certain methods of venting water heaters. As a preliminary, we built an experimental set-up at our Laboratory. This entailed the erection of a flue on the outside wall, supported by scaffolding on the roof, and an assembly of water heaters, with appropriate fittings, in a room below. Fig. 4 gives a general view of this flue, with G. L. Bruno shown observing the outcome of a test. It was found, by observing the movement of the smoke through a glass window in the fitting, under what conditions the heaters would draw most satisfactorily.

Customer Reaction

There is still another phase of appliance testing that is assuming more and more importance, namely: the inspection and adjustment of new appliances immediately prior to delivery to the customer. This work is being carried on by a number of companies, including our own, to the extent of our merchandising activities. In our Company it is a function of the Distribution Department and is done in the main Santa Fe Avenue building. The thought behind this activity is that the customer's reaction to a new appliance will be best if it is in good adjustment when delivered; also that service calls will be forestalled. All Servel refrigerators sold by our Company are uncrated and placed on the test line, equipped with proper sized orifices, and put in operation, to be sure that the units are in good working condition.

A typical view of the test line is shown in Fig. 5 with (front to rear) R. L. Tracy and R. E. Harrington making adjustments and A. C. Lloyd filling out the records. On another section of the floor gas ranges are examined, checked for proper sizing of orifices, and the oven thermostats calibrated. Fig. 6 shows A. C. Lloyd adjusting an oven burner, while the oven thermostat of the range on the right is being checked by the pyrometer on the little table beside it. Other types of equipment are also examined and handled in various ways. For instance, the paint or oil on the firebox of new floor furnaces, space heaters, etc., is burned off so that the new owner will not be offended by odors the first time he lights his heating equipment.

Combination Effort

It is thus seen, from this outline of appliance testing activities as now practiced, that a great deal of thought and care is given to the production and operation of the modern gas appliance. It is a combination of effort of which the Gas Industry, both appliance manufacturers and gas companies, may well feel proud. Fig. 7 is a "working model" of the results that are achieved through such co-operation of the various elements of the gas industry. The picture shows the set-up of the ten modern gas ranges used in the high school girls' cake-baking contest, held in the auditorium of Hollywood High School, June, 1939, in which the "champion" cake baker of each of ten high schools competed for honors.

With the present tendency for increasing activity along these several lines, one cannot but feel that the predominance of gas is assured wherever and however heat is required.

Fire Causes in 1938

Based on its data on fire marshals' reports from 13 states, the National Fire Protection Association estimates that in 1938 there were 660,000 fires in the United States; 0.14 per thousand of population. The dollar fire loss is estimated at 265 million dollars. The greatest number of fires and the greatest loss occurred in dwellings.

Causes of fires, in percentages:

- Smoking .................................. 13.6
- Unknown causes ........................... 11.2
- Electrical ................................ 10.7
- Roof sparks ................................. 9.5
- Defective chimneys and flues .......... 8.2
- Gas and gas appliances .................. 6.6

(From Occasional News Letter)

That five-dollar check, instead of the usual turkey, seemed to meet the approval of almost everybody. You could get right smart of turkey for five dollars this season.

During 1938 the energy distributed in the United States in the form of gas amounted to approximately 1380 trillion B.T.U., which was more than three times the total electric sales of 420 trillion B.T.U.
New Distribution Headquarters
San Bernardino

1. Front view of buildings; offices on left, auditorium on right.
2. Trucks loading at platform.
3. Luxury! Shower stalls!
4. R. V. Davis in conference with Eastern Division Sales group in the new auditorium.
5. R. G. Putney and two assistants at work in the spacious new storeroom.
Learn First Aid for Your Family's Sake

By E. E. Ellis, Safety Engineer

We have been very slow in recognizing the importance of home accidents. Traffic and industrial accidents have been given widespread attention because they are somewhat spectacular and make good news headlines; but who cares about the fall, the cut, or the sprain received in the home? It is just another mishap, and worthless, insofar as news value is concerned. But it is of extreme concern to us in whose homes the mishap occurs. Home accidents take as many lives annually as do traffic accidents.

As the man becomes safety-conscious on the job, he should, as a matter of protection to himself and his family, carry the tidings into the home. There is no doubt that these tidings will fall upon fertile soil, and the safety movement in the home will receive added impetus. The so-called “head of the house” may lose control of home safety, because of the more enthusiastic nature of the real head of the house. This might be a good thing, and might have a direct bearing upon job safety. It has been noted that home conditions are quite often reflected in the way the industrial job is done. Therefore, industry would welcome a “safety engineer” in each home.

Safety Aid Possible at Home

The home, being a small unit, is not equipped with first-aid rooms, and while it has quick access to needed attention and to emergency ambulances and emergency treatment, for obvious reasons they are not used with the same frequency as they are when an industrial accident occurs. However, first aid attention of the highest type can be had in the home without great expense and with a small amount of effort on the part of the housewife and her entire family.

Schools Interested

School officials and Red Cross organizations are very much interested in home safety. In fact, they are interested to the extent that courses in first aid can be had at practically all night schools; also, night classes are given by the Red Cross in locations where these classes are not available in the night school curriculum. Upon successful completion of these courses, a Certificate of Competency, signed by the Red Cross, is issued to the applicant.

The Board of Education of the city of Los Angeles offers first aid instruction at Fremont High School, Franklin, Jefferson, North Hollywood, and other high schools where night or adult courses are given. Another schedule of classes on first aid is made available by the Board of Education, beginning February 5, 1940. The dates on which Red Cross first aid classes start in towns outside of Los Angeles, and locations of the classes, may be had by calling your local Red Cross representatives.

Start the New Year Right!

Why not include in your New Year's Resolutions a resolution to carry on a campaign against home accidents? Learn why home accidents occur and after the causes of the accidents have been determined, proceed to eliminate the causes. Take a course in first aid training to protect yourself or family when some member commits a trespass on safety rules with the inevitable result. See that the home has a complete first aid kit, and that it is ready for use. See that Mother, Dad, Johny, and Sue, all know how to use it.

In industry it is said—and it is an indisputable fact—that accidents are a form of preventable waste, and therefore add to the cost of operations. If you will apply this axiom to the home, you will find that it is no less true.

Bereavement

We regret that during recent weeks several of our fellow employees have suffered the loss of someone near and dear to them. We extend to them our heartfelt sympathy.

The father of B. C. Walker, a member of the Los Angeles Street Department, passed away recently.

S. P. Lund, Redondo Distribution Department, and Van E. Britton, Beverly Hills Distribution Department, each has lost his mother.

We are sorry to report the death of A. Francis Wolf, an engineer for the Southern Counties Gas Company, and known by many of those in our own organization. Both he and his wife were killed in an automobile accident on North Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, on November 26.

Do you know that the average family uses more hot water than cold water?
Offices in Christmas Array

1. Flower Street: Exterior night view.
3. Pasadena: A corner of the lobby.
5. Daly Street: Ruth Bellaire and Mary
The accompanying photographs show a few of our fifty offices that were decorated for the Christmas season. In most every instance the trees were trimmed by the local office personnel.

Elizabeth Furnish put on the finishing touches.


7. Flower Street: Charles E. Cook plays Santa.

8. Flower Street: Relief mural in lobby.

DECEMBER, 1939

"BE AN ARTIST"

Dear Santa Claus:
By Gladys B. Price

JOHNNY writes to you every Christmas and gets such marvelous results I thought I'd try. You see, I have two children and that means plenty of cooking. Then, when the holidays come, my husband invites his mother and two sisters over for the day. Don't misunderstand! I love my home and I like company. But I'm getting mighty tired slaving just to be a social success and a dutiful mother all rolled into one.

The gift I want won't be like the lace curtains Mrs. Smith gave Mr. Smith last year. Santa, I would like one of those shiny CP gas ranges.

With a new gas range I won't have to dash to the kitchen every few minutes just to baste the turkey. And, I won't be all cross and worn out every time I get a meal.

Please remember, Santa, I'm not asking for something that I can use only a couple days of the year. This range will be used for three meals a day for 365 days a year and next year is Leap Year.

A new CP gas range will make me the happiest woman in the block.

Can you arrange it? I'm depending on you just like Johnny does.

Love,
Johnny's Mother.

P.S.—Our house is the white one with the red shutters just across the street from the Frazer's, who got the Servel last Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs.

We extend best wishes and congratulations to these happy couples who have recently become brides and grooms:

Dorothy Wight, Customers, Compton, was married Thanksgiving Day, November 23, to Dwight E. Gallagher of Long Beach.

Edward W. Rimpau, Sales, Los Angeles, announces his marriage to Betty Seaboldt, which occurred on November 15 at the Wilshire Crest Presbyterian Church.

Waltha Young, Customers, Los Angeles, became the bride of Fred M. Sievert on November 18, The ceremony was performed at Yuma.

James A. Brenton, Distribution, Central, on November 10 joined hands in marriage with Alma Segur, of Pasadena. The honeymoon was spent in San Diego.

Robert J. Liddell, Sales, Compton, exchanged vows on Armistice Day with Alyce Mae Orr, of Glendale. The wedding was held at the home of the bride's sister in San Gabriel.

Maureen Des Mukes of the Technical Supervisor's Office, left the Company on December 8 to become Mrs. L. S. Nagle. She will henceforth make her home in Oakland.

Cecilia Kessen, Customers, Los Angeles, and Albert W. Turner, General Agents, Los Angeles, pledged their troth December 2. San Francisco was their choice for the honeymoon.

J. W. Megowan, Customers, Los Angeles, was married in Las Vegas November 18 to Millie Colarossi.

Charlotte Bellinger, Customers, San Bernardino, is another Armistice Day bride. On November 11 she was married to Russell Shafter. The couple spent their honeymoon in San Francisco.

Your Prospect Book

The "Old" Prospector and the "Young" Prospector want to take this opportunity to say "A Merry Christmas" to all of the EEABB gang everywhere, and to invite any employee whose supply has become exhausted to get a new book of Prospect Slips, to find more good Prospects for new, modern gas appliances.

Our Company serves 156 towns and communities, with an estimated population January 1, 1939, of 3 million people.

On December 31, 1938, we had in service 638,950 independent active gas meters.

And during the year of 1938 we served through those meters over 75 billion (75,510,000) cubic feet of gas.
Order Section Celebrates EEABB Contest

THURSDAY evening, December 7, a group from the Central Division Customers' Department gathered at Scully's Cafe for a turkey dinner. The affair was occasioned by an EEABB contest between the two departmental groups known as "Tenderfeet" and "Sourdoughs."

A gala evening was enjoyed by all present. General introductions and speeches were made, interrupted occasionally by the flash from the "guns" of the several candid camera addicts in attendance.

Pride and Joy

Congratulations are herewith extended to parents of new arrivals in their homes:

Cecilia Diaz, seven pounds, ten ounces, was born November 12. The daddy is Rafael Diaz of the Los Angeles Distribution Department.

Annette Grossman, seven pounds, two ounces, made her debut into the world on November 18 at the California Hospital. Father, R. R. Grossman, is located in the Los Angeles Sales Department.

Janis Diane Bauer, daughter of F. E. Bauer, Distribution Department, Compton, arrived November 30 at the Bell Mission Hospital.

Billy Alan Hunning, on November 23, was welcomed into the home of C. L. Hunning of the Customers Department, Compton. Billy tipped the scales at seven pounds, one ounce.

Robert Edward Zintgraff, seven and one-half pounds, was the blessed event on October 31 for Earl Zintgraff of the San Bernardino Sales Department. Baby was born at St. Bernardine's Hospital.

Quentin Bowers, and Tristan Robert, twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Swan, were born December 11 at Fort Lupton, Colorado. Mr. Swan is a member of the Technical Engineering Staff, Los Angeles.

David Garveid Dappenbring arrived December 4 at the Glendale Sanitarium, G. G. Dappenbring, the father, is a Serviceman at Glendale.

Judith Annette Shoemaker, seven pounds, two and one-half ounces, arrived December 14 at the Hollywood Hospital. H. E. Shoemaker, the papa, is a member of the Home Planning Bureau, Los Angeles.

Patricia Ann Scheel, nine and one-quarter pounds, arrived November 22. Father, C. G. Scheel, is located in the Distribution Department, Los Angeles.

Leonard Leroy Lester was welcomed November 24 into the home of H. D. Lester of the M. C. and B. Department, Los Angeles. Leonard makes the ninth child in the Lester family—just right for a baseball team.

Joan Patricia Bodman, seven pounds, ten ounces, arrived the day before Thanksgiving at the home of R. D. Bodman, Serviceman at Banning.
In Plaster

A SCALE model of one of our Company trucks now graces the desk of C. E. Mearckmann, Paint Shop Foreman, Los Angeles. The car was specially constructed in plastic by the Ditzler Color Company, of Detroit. It measures twenty-four inches long and eight inches high, and is finished in dark green, with a hand painted Company emblem on each door of the cab.

The Social Whirl

Redondo

A house-warming was the occasion for a gathering of folks from the Redondo Beach Office at the new home of Al Medlicott. A pleasant evening's entertainment furnished by the guests was climax by the presentation of an ornate fireplace set.

Compton

Two new brides were the inspiration for an informal dinner party given by the girls of the Compton Office, honoring Virginia McNew and Dorothy Gallagher. Following dinner at the White Gate Tea Room, the girls gathered at the home of Margaret Morrison to view a color film of Hawaii, New Zealand, and Australia, which was presented by Ethel Morrison.

Glendale

A cake-cutting episode was enjoyed at the Glendale Office on October 28. The occasion was the birthday of Vic Colburn, Chief Clerk, and the cake was baked by Fay McAvoy, Billing Machine Operator.

Alhambra

Gladys Westbrook was recently honored at a farewell dinner given by the women employees of the Alhambra Office. The table

Popular Sports

Bowling

Bowling is again in full swing in almost every Division of the Company. The Northern Division reports that sixty seasoned pinsmashers are keeping the alleys busy each Thursday evening at the Glendale Recreation Center. Fred Van Deroof's Commercial team is leading the contest, with sixteen wins and two losses.

Bowling

Riverside has now joined the Eastern Division Bowling League. Although this team has been slow in forming, it has won eight games and lost four. The San Bernardino Office team is high in this league, with fourteen wins and two losses.

Golf

B. O. Edwards, Serviceman, at Los Angeles, is displaying a gold golfer's trophy which he won at the Rio Hondo Country Club on November 18, when his score of 73, 70, 69 and 73 for four rounds proved him best golfer, and winner of the second flight in the Club's annual tournament.

Basketball

In addition to the usual sporting activities of baseball and bowling, members of the Southern Division are forming a basketball team. Their first practice game ended in a 60 to 15 victory for the opponents, which, when you consider that Hank Lusetti was among them, isn't nearly so bad. Among the Southern Division players are: G. R. Christiansen, R. L. Smith, J. P. McGowan, B. L. Neely, G. A. Flamery, C. M. O'Bryan, L. C. McMahon, and E. F. Suryich.

Moths and Silverfish

B. F. McMahon, of the Beverly Hills Distribution Department, offers this "never fail" remedy for moths and silverfish:

2 ounces Glycerine
2 ounces Honey
2 tablespoons Arsenie
1 quart Boiling Water

Mix ingredients in a pan, then dip sheets of tissue paper in the mixture. Place the paper on a mat or the lawn to dry. Distribute the papers under the rugs or in any location that is infected by moths or silverfish.

was set before a huge fireplace at the Colonial Club, and was attractive in its floral decorations. After dinner a gift was presented to Gladys in behalf of all those present.
Obituary

WITh sincere sorrow and regret we report the passing of four of our fellow employees. During their years of faithful service they earned the respect and affection of those of us who were associated with them. Sympathy is extended to the families of these men:

Carl T. Haack died suddenly December 4, from a heart ailment following an appendectomy. He had been with the Company since 1925, and last served in the capacity of Gang Foreman at Van Nuys. Mr. Haack died at age 40, leaving a wife and three sons.

Charles F. Pooley passed away December 12. He had been on the Disability Payroll since April, 1939, having served in the M. C. and S. Department since August, 1921. Mr. Pooley was born March 24, 1889. He leaves a wife.

John Sullivan died December 8, at age 77. He first became an employee of the Company in April, 1905, and worked in the Distribution Department in Los Angeles until May, 1929, at which time he was retired. Mr. Sullivan leaves a wife and son.

Thomas L. Tucker was killed in an automobile accident December 1. He was born September 4, 1889, and entered the employ of the Company January 7, 1911. He was engaged in work at our Print Shop and was well known and loved by those who had occasion to stop in there. He leaves a daughter who is now living in Houston, Texas.

GAS NEWS for 1939

With the publication of this issue, Volume XVI of GAS NEWS is complete and within a few days will have passed into the oblivion of your various files or the ignominy of your various incinerators.

Volume XVI was worth a careful reading as it came to your hand. And might be worth keeping for reference.

For instance, of permanent value to members of our organization may be these articles, to list only a few:

"Taking the Brink out of 'Gas Savers,'" by Lee Holtz (February).
"That's Right, Mr. Hess," by H. P. George (June).
"They Took the Guess Out of the Gas Bill," by Frank S. Henberger (October-November).
"It Looks Nice; Let's See How It Works," by Gay Corfield (December).

The various "Operating Hurdle" articles.
The "Safety" articles by E. E. Ellis.


New "Use" for Gas

DON C. MYERS, of the Los Angeles Sales Department, is the proud possessor of a new "Rube Goldberg" creation—the "Vesuvius Gas Fired Razor," presented to him by the Pasadena Architectural Club, of which Don is a member. The "rare appliance" is shown in the above illustration, with its owner demonstrating its novel features.

The inventor of this gadget claims that it will remove the toughest whiskers known to mankind, and that if once tried no other will ever be used.

Directions for using are as follows: Cover the face, except area to be shaved, with air-cell asbestos. Anoint the chin whiskers with high test gasoline and proceed as if making a lead joint in a two inch waste line. Do not use while wearing a celluloid collar or horn-rimmed glasses.

 Richards Hit-and-Run Victim

C. P. Richards, Chief Clerk at the Pasadena Office, was struck down by a hit-and-run driver while on his way to an early morning Christmas breakfast on December 22. News of this mishap somewhat dampened the festive spirit of his fellow-workers who attended the breakfast party.

Mr. Richards, it is reported, was not seriously hurt. He received several pavement burns and abrasions about the face and arms.

—C. A. Peterson.

Our gas is hurried along through the mains under the urge of 4 field compressor stations and 16 distribution stations.
At Flower Street Garage


Center: Cars in storage in Flower St. unit. Three units—Flower St., Figueroa St., and Basement of Flower St. Bldg.—house 100 cars which travel 100,000 miles per month.

Lower Left: Giving a car a “shampoo.” After wetting the car with a hose, soap-suds is sprayed on at 110 lbs. pressure, and then sprayed off at 700 lbs. pressure, followed by a chamois finish.

Lower Right: Servicing a car. Crew does all repair work except major overhauls.
We Play LEISURE

TAKE time out this evening to skim over your file of GAS NEWS for 1939, looking for the accounts therein appearing of the organized sports and recreations which have claimed the time and enthusiasm of the members of our Company; the softball, the bowling, the golf, the basketball, etc.

Add the solo sports and hobbies; the hunting, the fishing, the sailing, the horsemanship, the week-end travel, the camping. Go on; count 'em for yourself! We have left behind those times and conditions which "make Jack a dull boy."

We are living!

EEABB Christmas Money

EIGHT hundred sixty-eight employees out of 4760 earned EEABB cash awards for effective prospects turned in during the fourth quarter of 1938. This averaged one point each out of each 5.4 employees on the payroll. There's no report from the other 4.4.

Twenty-four of these folk won position in Group AA by earning 300 or more points, the range being from 391 points to 560. Their names and scores will appear in GAS NEWS later.

Hasty Conclusion

JIMMY, who had been climbing trees, came in for the second time within the week with his trousers torn.

"This time you can go upstairs and mend them yourself," ordered the harassed mother.

Some time later she went upstairs to see how he was getting along. She found the trousers there, but no Jimmy.

Puzzled, she came downstairs, still looking for Jimmy. She noticed, as she passed, that the cellar door, usually shut, was open. She went to the door and called down loudly and angrily, "Are you running around down there without your trousers on?"

The reply came in a stern and heavy masculine voice: "No, madam, I'm reading the gas meter."

—Exchange.

With the Alumni

MRS. A. P. REED, writing for her husband, says "We are anticipating a very pleasant Christmas in company with our children, grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Enjoying our stay here." (594 62nd Street, Oakland.)

J. C. Guilinger expresses best wishes for his friends. Says "I'm improving slowly; have been out for a ride several times." He lives at 6639 Middleton, Huntington Park.

The gas industry exhibit at the San Francisco World's Fair was visited by not less than two million people.

Left: William Avis
Right: Katherine Kemper

Three Members Retire

AS ANNUITANTS under our Uniform Pension and Benefit Plan, three more members of our Company join the alumni: January 1. We are sorry that no photograph of Mr. Berryman was available to print in this issue. Our good wishes for many more years of happiness and enjoyment of life go with these three employees who start the new year in a retired capacity.

William Avis entered the employ of the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation October 7, 1904. He served in the capacity of Chief Pressureman at the Gas Works until July 1, 1937, when he was promoted to Plant Foreman. On September 7, 1938, he was transferred to the Pension and Disability Payroll. Mr. Avis leaves us with a fine record of thirty-five years of service.

Clay S. Berryman came with us May 26, 1924, and served as Meterman in the Distribution Department until April, 1938. He then was transferred in the capacity of Pipeman. For the past year Mr. Berryman has also been listed on the Disability Payroll.

Katherine Kemper was employed June 6, 1929. She has been connected with the Customers' Department in several clerical capacities since that time. Miss Kemper tells us she intends to enjoy just taking things easy at home away from the hum of the business world.

Correction

On the page of pictures taken "At Flower Street Garage," the item giving the names of the garage staff is headed "At Right." Of course, it should be "At Left."
Above: Carroll Graham, District Agent at Banning, besides being a mighty hunter and successful fisherman, is also a builder of boats. The 12-foot craft shown above is ready to be launched on Lake Henshaw.

—Laura Drummond

At Right: Earl Sams, Chief Clerk, Redlands Office, together with Mrs. Sams, is a grower of champion dahlias and originator of new varieties. Blue ribbon (first place) at Los Angeles County Fair for four best formal decorative dahlias. A second place award, same fair, in 1938; third place in 1937. Also, in 1937, fourth place in national contest conducted by Zant's Dahlia Gardens, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

—Helen Lockhart

Below: K. C. Zinn, Meter Record Bureau, Santa Fe, and daughter Dorothy, sail the 12-foot Dee Zee on Alamitos Bay. "Admiral Casey" built the boat in his spare time.

—E. H. McDermott
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Edited by Daniel L. Scott

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THIS MONTH'S COVER
Front Cover. A camera account of the Christmas tree placed in the lobby at Flower Street by our Display staff under supervision of Harold F. Lougee. The young fellow standing by the Servel Electrolux was accompanying his mother, who happened at the moment to have come into the office to pay the month's score for Dependable gas service. He looks so large, compared with the Servel, because the latter is only a small scale model, by the Display Shop, as is also the gas range in the left background. The picture is a photoflash by Mel Jones.

Back Cover. This is a relief mural in Flower Street lobby, by Dave Davis, of our Display Shop. It is faced, on the opposite wall, with a comparable mural of the Madonna and Child.

ANTICIPATING PEAK DEMANDS
Two previous issues of GAS NEWS gave accounts of what is done on several fronts of our organization to anticipate those "peak demands" for gas service which occur when the weather gets cold in winter.

Well, they haven't occurred yet, this season.

November sales of gas per meter were 21 per cent below those of November, 1938, and 12 1/2 per cent below the November normal.

SNAPSHOTS OF NEW HOMES
Snapshots of homes newly occupied by Employees during 1939 have been coming to the Editor in pleasing numbers—for the New Homes issue which it is planned to publish early in the new year. If yours is not yet in, “now is the time.”

Please send along a slip of paper bearing this information: (1) Your name and address, (2) Job classification and department, (3) Date you first occupied the new home.

Also, please do not ask us to return snapshots unless you do not have the negative from which to procure additional prints. We have to paste the pictures on large sheets of cardboard, which does not leave them in very good condition for future use. Of course, we can manage, if you have no negative; but it involves time and expense many times greater than the cost of an additional print. Thank you.

Several good-sized enlargements have been sent in. Prints not larger than 4x5" would be much more suitable for our purpose.

Send pictures and data to the Editor of GAS NEWS, Flower Street Building.

BEAUMONT’S GIFT
Charles Beaumont, former retired employee, passed away not long ago, having bequeathed all his property to the Employees’ pension fund of Southern California Gas Company.

Mr. Beaumont had no relatives, and prior to his death announced his intention with respect to his estate, saying that he was taking that step in appreciation of the prosperity and security which he had enjoyed because of steady employment prior to retirement and his pension after retirement.

Mr. Beaumont had been in the service at Station 40, at Taft.

Improvements

THE Storeroom at 1700 Santa Fe has recently undergone improvements, which include the enclosing of the first floor with steel and glass partitions along the north loading platform, and a new office for the Storeroom Foreman. Contemplated rearrangement of stock items will place automotive parts in the north end and appliance parts in the south end of the building.

Beverly Hills Office employees on December 9 moved into temporary quarters at 3612 Brighton Way and are looking forward to returning to their regular office at 368 North Bedford Drive after it has been completely rebuilt and modernized.

"for We Have Seen His Star in the East"