

8-9-1935

## M.W.A.K. Columbian, Vol. 1, No. 8

Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Co.

Follow this and additional works at: [http://dc.ewu.edu/mwak\\_columbian](http://dc.ewu.edu/mwak_columbian)

---

### Recommended Citation

Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Co., "M.W.A.K. Columbian, Vol. 1, No. 8" (1935). *Columbian (Grand Coulee Dam newsletter)*. 8.  
[http://dc.ewu.edu/mwak\\_columbian/8](http://dc.ewu.edu/mwak_columbian/8)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives & Special Collections at EWU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Columbian (Grand Coulee Dam newsletter) by an authorized administrator of EWU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [jotto@ewu.edu](mailto:jotto@ewu.edu).

# M. W. A. K. COLUMBIAN



SAFETY  
DEPARTMENT

MASON-WALSH-ATKINSON-KIER CO.  
BUILDERS OF COULEE DAM

MASON CITY  
WASHINGTON

Vol. 1 No. 8

M. Pete Shrauger--Editor  
Safety Engineer

August 9, 1935

## CEMENT PLANT

A year from this fall, the foundation of the Grand Coulee dam will begin to take a recognizable shape, built up layer by layer with the sand and gravel from the Brett pit, and the cement from the plant at the top of the hill.

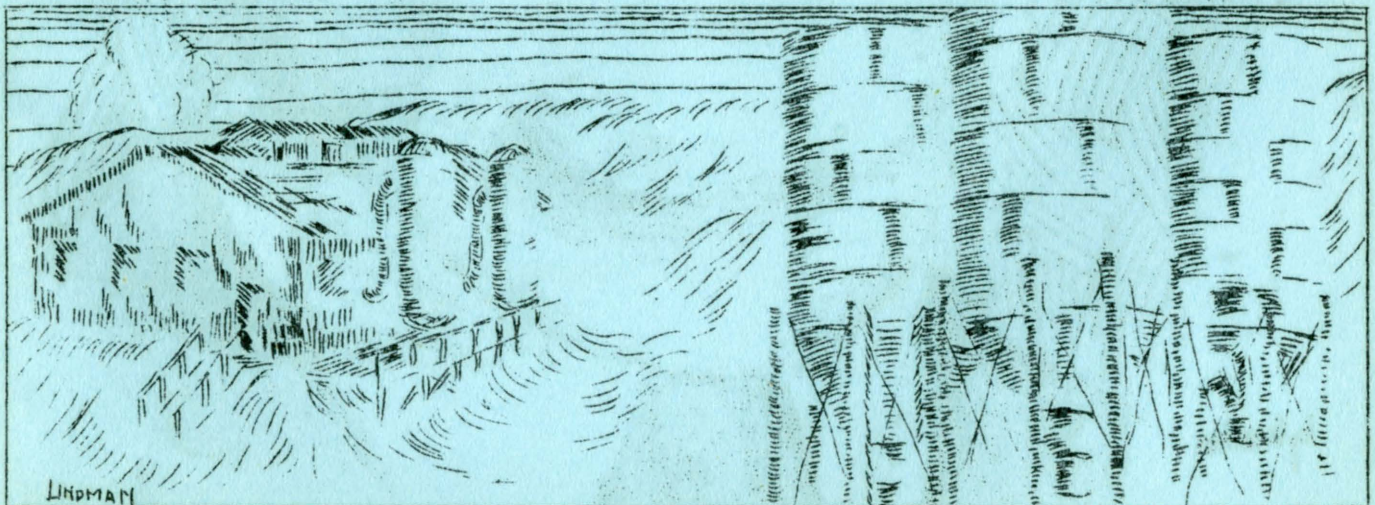
Today, elaborate preparations are being made by the MWAK to take care of this great river of cement. It must be handled with great care, to prevent its contact with moisture. Against the wall of which it will one day be a part, the river will exert a tremendous force, and the concrete must be strong.

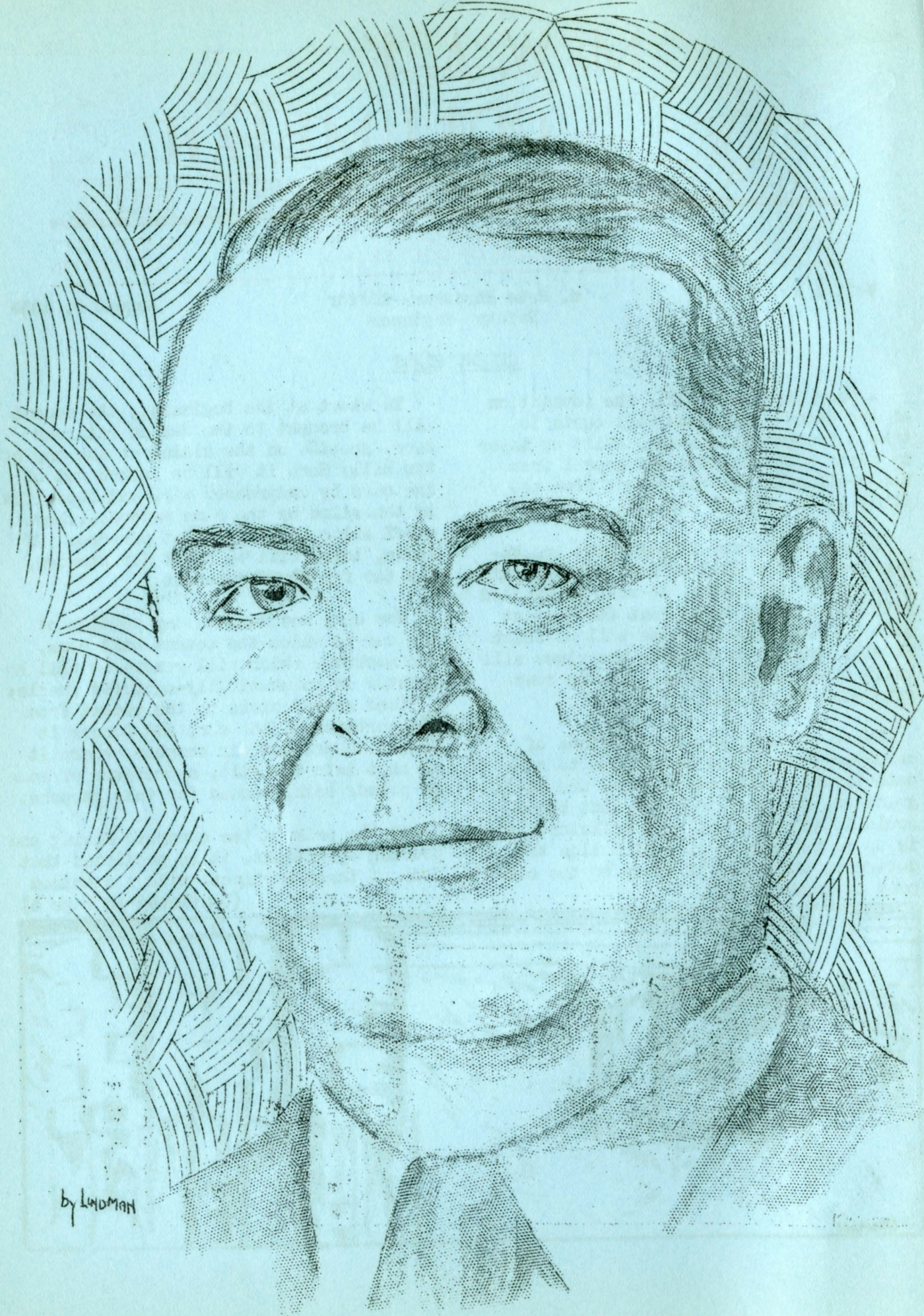
There are many grades and kinds of cement. It has been determined to some extent, and additional studies are still going on, to determine just what blend would be the best and most efficient. It is up to the bureau of reclamation to determine this, but it is up to the company to provide them.

To start at the beginning, the cement will be brought to the dam in railroad cars, spotted on the siding at the top of the hill. Here it will be sucked out of the cars by compressed air, and deposited in the silos by the same method...huge steel silos built for that purpose. Of these, there will be eight for storage, and two for blended cement.

For easy movement to any portion of the car in which the cement will come, the machines which will remove it will be mounted on pneumatically-equipped wheels; a "feed screw" picks up the cement from all portions of the car, and forces it into a compressed air chamber, where it is shot into the silo, a pressure of some 50 pounds being needed for this purpose.

At the peak of the concrete mixing and pouring operations, it is predicted that four of these machines, with a combined  
(Continued on Page 5)





by LINDMAN

## THOMAS · J · WALSH

Born with the blood of construction men in his veins, T.J. Walsh, President of the Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Co., has been associated with the contracting business for more than a score of years.

His father was P.T. Walsh, of Davenport, Iowa, and he followed the contracting game. His son was graduated from St. Mary's College, in St. Mary's Kansas, and from there went into big league baseball. He was catcher for the Chicago Cubs in 1906, when that team won the pennant. T.J. Walsh has always been closely associated with sports, especially baseball and football.

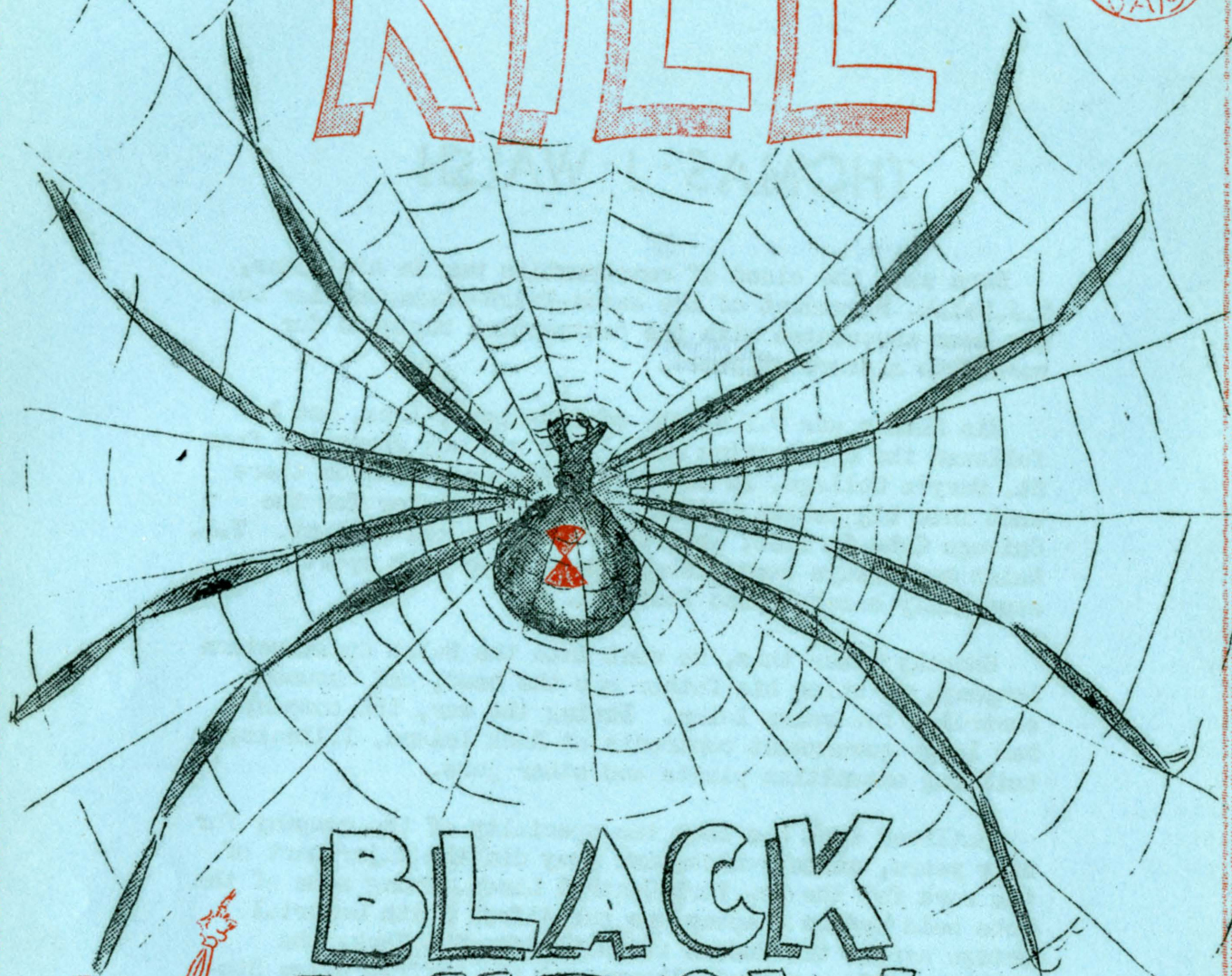
Shortly after this, he went into the Walsh Construction Company, of which his father was the head, and assumed control a few years later. During the war, the company had large government contracts at Rock Island, Illinois, building ammunition plants and other jobs.

Railroad work has been the specialty of the company for many years, during which time they did the major part of the work for the New York Central Lines. Among some of the jobs held by the company are the Alfred Smith Memorial Bridge across the Hudson at Castleton, New York; the Selkirk yards south of Albany; and the Buffalo Union Station at Buffalo.

The company now has two contracts, one for the Metropolitan Aqueduct system in California, and a job of track elevation in Syracuse, where a series of grade crossings are being eliminated.

T.J. Walsh was first associated with the Silas Mason Company on the Fort Peck project, and then on the local project when the present four-way company was formed.

# KILL



# BLACK WIDOW SPIDERS



THE POISONOUS SPECIES ARE DISTINGUISHED  
BY THE RED HOUR-GLASS(⌚) MARKING

L. HOMAN  
8-16-33

CEMENT PLANT  
(Continued from Page 1)

capacity of 600 barrels every hour, will be in steady use.

Each of the eight steel storage silos will be filled with a separate blend or make of cement, and the total capacity of all eight will be 50,000 barrels. Screw conveyors, fed by variable speed feeders, make it possible to draw materials from each of the eight tanks separately and simultaneously, and in any proportion desired, to get the mixture specified by the bureau. The blended or completed mixture is stored in the two end tanks, where it is available to the mixing stations on either side of the river.

A "cement pump" is located under the two silos used for storing the blended materials. This machine consists of two tanks into which the cement may be drawn and discharged by air pressure, running around 100 pounds. The tanks fill and discharge automatically, forcing the mixture of cement and air into the 11 inch pipe line, that will carry it to the mixing plants. The pipe line feeding the eastmix will be carried across the river on the cable suspension bridge. A valve at the westmix will control the flow to the desired plant.

Considerable air is required to move the immense amount of material required for the dam construction. Three compressors have been installed for the purpose of unloading and moving the powder, with a combined capacity of 5500 cubic feet of air per minute.

A compressor house has been erected at one end of the area where the silos stand, and is filled with machines to which compress the air to the high pressures necessary for the operation of the plant. Four huge tanks stand at one end of the plant. And almost in the shadow of the spoilbank started by Crick & Kuney in the early days of construction here, and added to by David H. Ryan in cutting back the slide area, stand the huge ten silos, constructed from steel girders and

sheet steel, riveted in place, that will one day handle every foot of cement that is put into the project.

---O---

COOL AS CUCUMBERS !!

If you don't think sprinkling does any good these hot days, just ask some of the boys in the bunkhouses...they'll tell you that the dorms are the finest places to live in the dam area these hot days. Just one more example of how the company is trying to make Mason City the most pleasant place to hang your hat.

---O---

BEWARE OF (BLACK) WIDOWS

It has come to the attention of the Safety Department that there are many black widow spiders in Mason City.

We suggest and urge you to keep all trash and rubbish cleaned out from under porches. Destroy all spider webs, and be on the lookout for black widows. Get a can of good fly spray and douse all the places in your home where spiders might be found.

Remember, the black widow can be identified by the red hour-glass on its stomach. The rest of its coat is a glossy, shiny black.

---O---

WATCH FOR NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE  
COMPLETE RESCUE AND RESPIRATION PICTURES  
DON'T MISS IT !

---O---

SPORTSMEN MEET

Several enthusiastic nimrods from Mason City attended the Sportsmen's meeting at McCaslin's Castle in Grand Coulee Center Wednesday night.

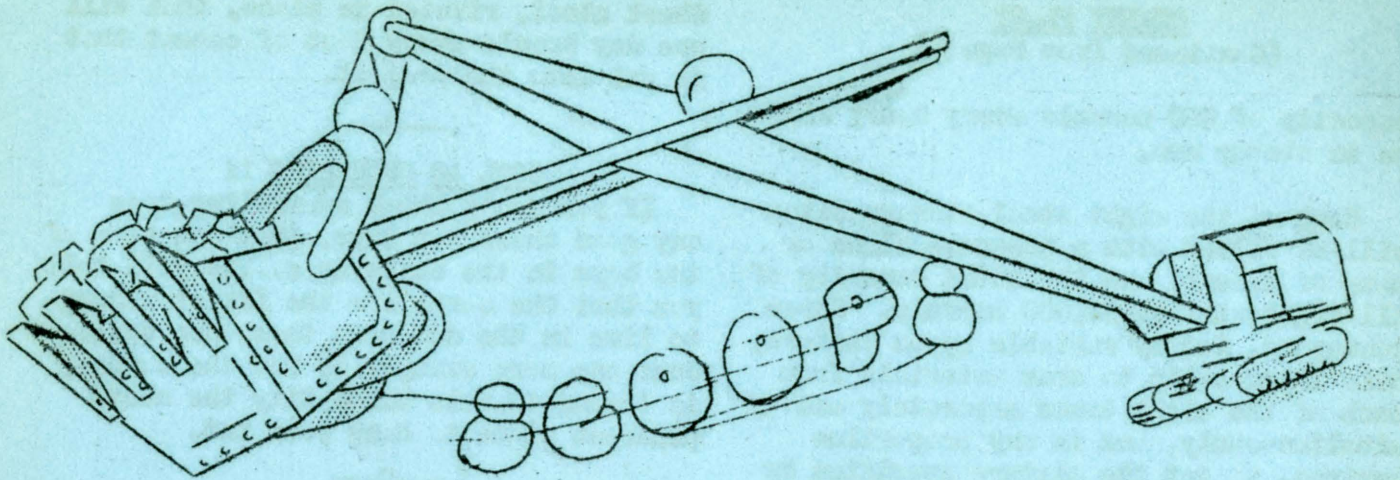
---O---

TO HOLD DEMONSTRATION

A special demonstration of knit wear has been arranged by the Coulee Trading Company for August 16, Friday, with a factory representative to show the new goods.

---O---

THINK SAFETY !!



A certain local business man is noted for his thriftiness, and strangely is of Scotch descent. At a dinner recently, however, he was heard to call for the check in a strange voice. He blushed as he looked at it, but paid it like a man. The next day's papers carried the headline: "Scot Murders Ventriloquist."

"Would you mind walking the other way and not passing the 'orse," said a London cabby to the fat lady who had just dismounted without tipping him.

"Why?" she inquired.

"Because if 'e sees what he's been carryin' for a shillin' 'e'll have a fit."

He: Where is your husband?

She: On the road.

He: Can't he get away from his work and visit you?

She: Oh, no. There are men with rifles watching him all the time.

Caller: Won't you walk to the street car with me, Tommy?

Tommy (five): I can't.

Caller: Why not?

Tommy: 'Cause we're going to have dinner as soon as you leave.

She: Why so sad, Agnes?

Her: That big sap I was going to sue for breach of promise wants to marry me.

Sis: Gee, I made a terrible blunder last night.

Boy Friend: How was that?

Sis: Mother asked me if I'd have some corn and I passed my glass.

He: (As they drive along a lonely road) "You look lovelier every minute. Do you know what that's a sign of?"

She: Sure. You're about to run out of gasoline.

And then there's the one about the man who kept a scrapbook. Every time he had a fight with his wife he made an entry.

One of the clothing store clerks had lost his wallet, but had it returned to him three days later by the police. Hewwas asked to examine it to see if the money was all there.

"Sure, it's there," he said. "But you've had it three days, and shouldn't I get some interest?"

The cat skinner had stood up to the bar several times too often. Finally he weaved his way over to the telephone booth lifted the receiver, and dropped his nickle.

"Number Please," said the operator.

"Number?" queried the man. "What I want-ish my peanuts."

The wife was unpacking her husband's bags after his trip, when she came on a bottle of whisky.

"George," she roared, "What's this."

"Oh, that? Oh, I just took it along to stick a candle in when it gets empty."

Sandy was about to take a drink when the parish priest walked by.

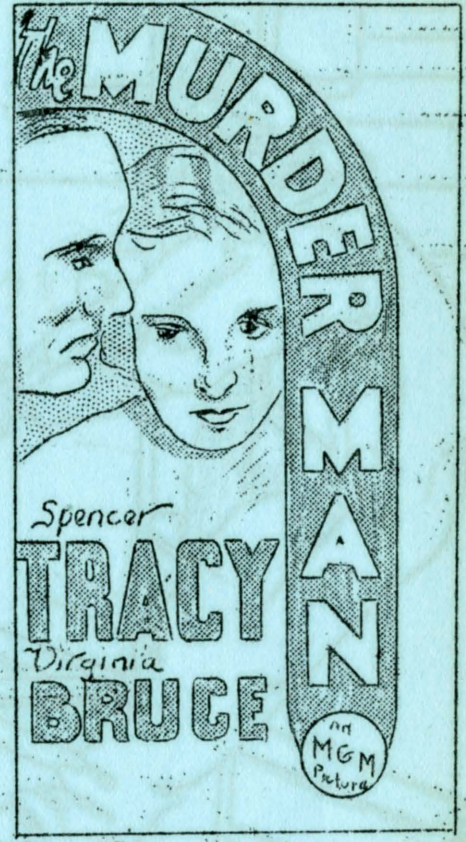
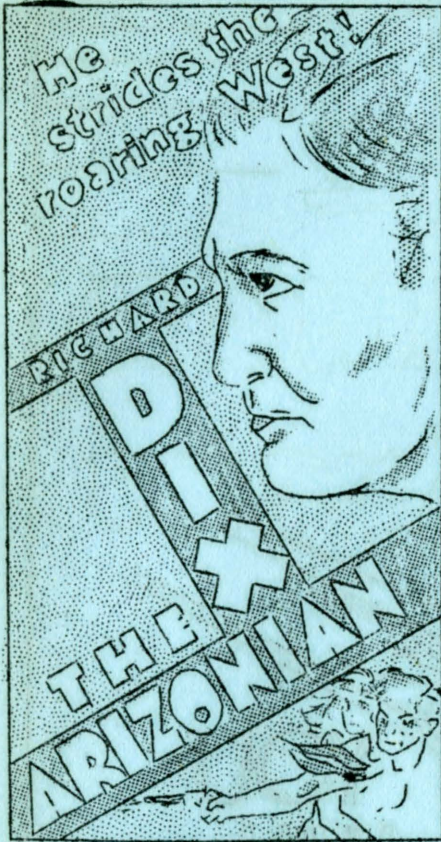
"I'm 65 years old, and never touched that stuff," said the reverend.

"Well," said Sandy, "you're not startin' now," and tilted the bottle.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY

SUNDAY-MONDAY

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY



The Week at the

THEATRE

A typical mushroom city, similar to those around the dam, is the setting for Richard Dix's new picture, "The Arizonian," playing at the Mason City theatre Friday and Saturday. Dix is cast as a Western sheriff.

Katharine Hepburn, dynamic star of "Morning Glory," "Little Women," "Little Minister," and many others, comes to the screen here Sunday and Monday in "Break of Hearts," a powerful love story.

"The Murder Man," starring Spencer Tracy, shows Wednesday and Thursday, is the story of a pair of newspaper people who get tangled up in a murder mystery.

Lots of talent is being uncovered by "amateur night," and people are getting a great kick out of some of the acts. It is scheduled every Tuesday.

SUSPENSION BRIDGE

With work started on the construction of the first tower for the big suspension bridge, here are some interesting facts about the structure:::

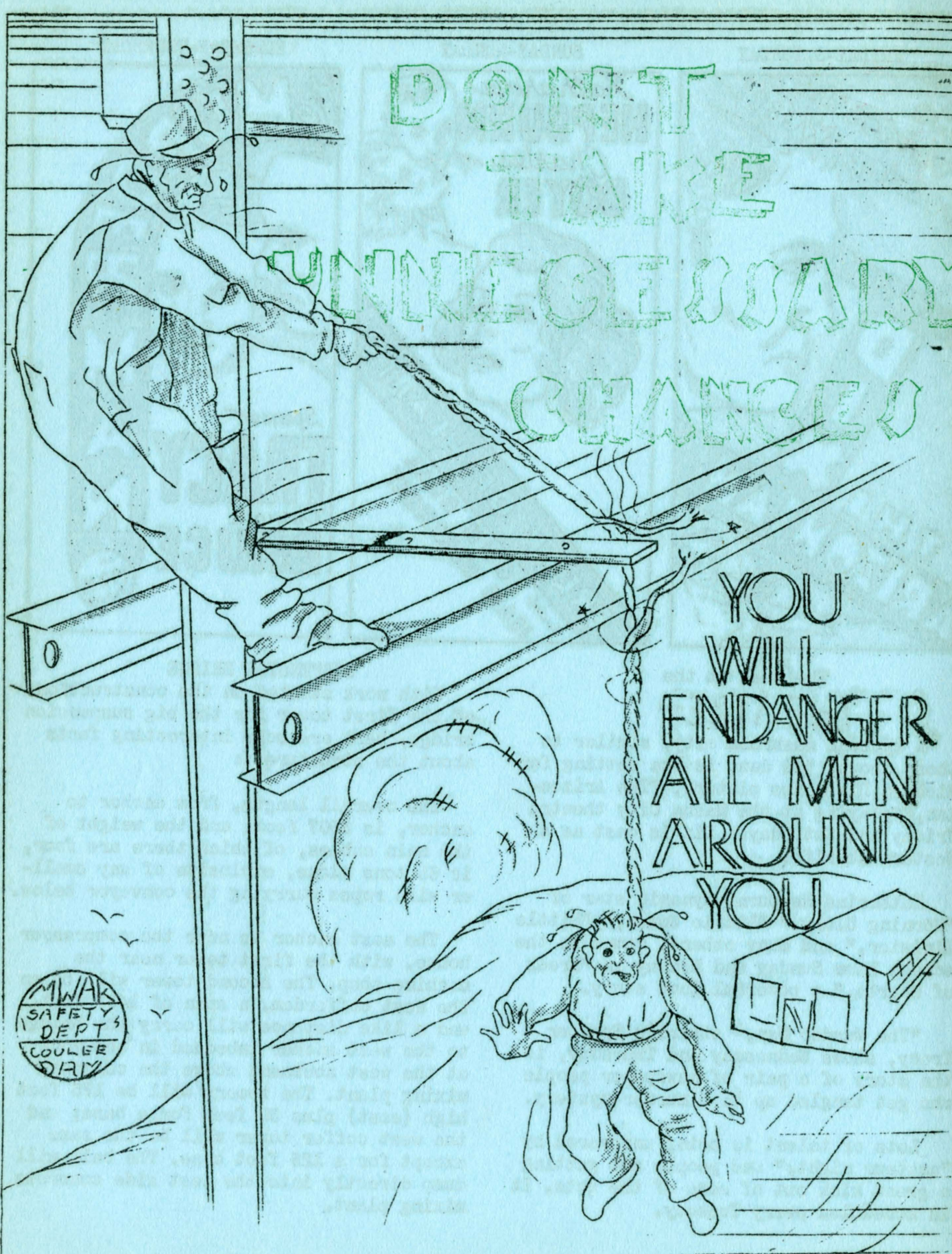
The overall length, from anchor to anchor, is 3507 feet, and the weight of the main cables, of which there are four, is 65 tons alone, exclusive of any smaller wire ropes carrying the conveyor below.

The east anchor is near the compressor house, with the first tower near the machine shop. The second tower will be on the west cofferdam, a span of 1437 feet, and a like distance will carry the bridge to the west anchor imbedded in the rock at the west abutment above the concrete mixing plant. The towers will be 175 feet high (east) plus 50 feet for a base; and the west coffer tower will be the same except for a 125 foot base. The belt will dump directly into the west side concrete mixing plant.

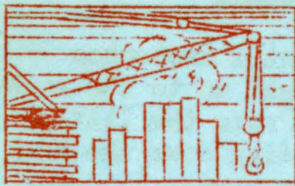


DON'T  
TAKE  
UNNECESSARY  
CHANCES

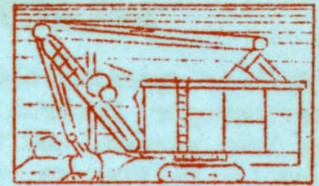
YOU  
WILL  
ENDANGER  
ALL MEN  
AROUND  
YOU



MWAK  
SAFETY  
DEPT.  
COULÉE  
D'AR



## AROUND THE DAM



### FEEDER MOVED

One of the huge feeders formerly used in the west excavation area, Monday was moved to the east side and taken down into the east pit by the big Walters truck. It will be set up immediately, and with the completion of the conveyor across the trestle bridge next week, will soon be shoving out the muck again.

The conveyor will cut in to the main belt just south of the central feeder.

---0---

### BRIDGE STARTED

The first tower for the suspension bridge to carry the aggregates across the pond, has been started at the south end of the machine shop. The east anchor is in and ready for the 2½ inch cables, of which there will be four.

---0---

### BASEBALL HOPES FADE

The MWAK Beavers, although they won the first half championship, were hooked 9 to 5 last Sunday by the team from Lewiston, which cinched the last half banner for the Idaho boys, and cost the Beavers any chance at the league top.

The Beavers made an excellent record in the first half, as did Lewiston in the second, and there should be a possibility of a post-season series. What say, Evans?

---0---

### TAP DANCE WINS

Francis Feldhahn, daughter of Harry Feldhahn, city hall, was the winner of last week's amateur night at the theatre.

---0---

BE CAREFUL, EVEN IF IT TAKES AN EXTRA MINUTE--IT MIGHT SAVE A LIFE !!

### DONKEY BASEBALL ???

When ball players start riding to their work, it should be something worth seeing and that's just what will take place at Walsh stadium on August 22 and 23.

Two "Donkey baseball" games have been scheduled for those dates, and even such clowns as the House of David teams will have to take back seats for these boys.

---0---

### NUMBER CHANGES

Walter Mutz, who was the first man to be hired by the MWAK, and whose number was 100, is still on the payrolls, but his number is in the 3500's now. He claims to have had nearly a dozen different tags.

---0---

### TWENTY-FIVE MILE SWIM

Roland Tegtmeier, long distance swimmer, Sunday plunged into the river at Keller, about 25 miles upstream, and landed near the railroad bridge three hours and three minutes later. A strong swimmer, Tag had no difficulty in making the water voyage.

---0---

### MERCURY

A belated heat wave struck the dam this week, sending the thermometers rocketing up to hundred-plus marks. Monday recorded 102, with Tuesday nearly the same.

---0---

### OFFICIAL ILL

E. Pat Kelly, director of the State Department of Labor & Industries, is ill in the hospital in Olympia. He has been in bed for an extended period.

REMEMBER SAFETY

EAST CONVEYOR

Work is speeding along on the east side conveyor. Several sections of belt have been placed, and the rollers are ready for belting on other sections.

SAFETY REPORT FOR JULY

Compensable accidents.....15  
Non-compensable accidents.....184  
Fatal accidents.....0  
Total accidents.....199

The Safety report for July shows a good improvement over some of the previous months, but it can be bettered if all of us keep an eye on all those little things that cause accidents.

COULEE CENTER FIRE

Three buildings were razed to the ground at Coulee Center Wednesday afternoon, when a fire swept part of a block in the Center. The blaze apparently started from an explosion in a cleaning and pressing plant. The Mason City department answered a call to the conflagration.

EXCAVATION SPEED

The rate of muck-moving in the west side pit has slowed from the day when better than 50,000 yards were run over the belt to Rattlesnake canyon, due to the fact that only two feeders are working, and that the space in which the trucks and shovels are working is much smaller. The belt from the east pit will be cut in soon, possibly next week.

MASON CITY  
**HOTEL**

Tom Greenwood, Mgr.

Modern

Prices Reasonable

RAILROAD GRADE

It won't be long until choo-choo trains are puffing right up to the machine shop flat, at the rate the little Bucyrus shovel is cutting down the bank above for the railroad grade.

Steel has been laid down to the bridge on the west side, and across the structure, and as soon as the grade is completed, materials can be transported right to the door of the warehouse and machine shop.

SUSPENSION BRIDGE

Work was resumed Wednesday on the erection of the first tower for the suspension bridge, located close to the machine shop.

CHANCES ARE DANGEROUS  
BE CAREFUL AND BE SAFE!

Phone 72 **MASON CITY LAUNDRY** Phone 72

Restore the original newness, lustre and sheen to your summer garments with our improved

DRY CLEANING  
methods

Suits, cleaned and pressed \$1.00  
Suits, sponged and pressed .50  
Men's hats, cleaned, blocked 1.00  
Ladies' hats, cleaned, blocked .50 up  
Dresses, cleaned, pressed 1.00 up  
Minor repairs free with these services

"We Call and Deliver"

MASON CITY  
**RECREATION HALL**  
The RECREATION CENTER of Mason City

Cards Cigarettes Candy  
Beer Pool  
Kodak Films Billiards Post Cards  
"You'll Meet All Your Friends Here"

CHURCH NOTICES

Following is the regular Catholic Church schedule for the remainder of the month:

Third Sunday: Mason City, 8:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday: Mason City, 8:00 a.m.

Grand Coulee, 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Fr. Farrelly, Pastor

---0---

"A man of Decision," will be the subject of the sermon by the Rev. Albert N. Park, Jr., at the Mason City Community Church Sunday at 11 a.m. Earlier, the Sunday school will study "Martha, the Home Maker," at 9:45 a.m. Young People of the community will meet to consider two subjects. "Prayer," and "Ancient Wisdom for Present Day Subjects."

---0---

SAFETY PAYS THE BEST DIVIDENDS

---0---

DISMANTLE SHOVELS

Two of the big Marion four-yard shovels, used until recently in the west excavation area, are being dismantled for moving to the east side.

It was planned at first to "ship" them on one of the big barges, but the latter proved unable to handle the big loads. Now they will be taken apart, the booms and treads removed, and carted to the west side by the big Walters and the steel trailer.

---0---

EAST EXCAVATION

The first of the big feeders has been set in place in the east excavation pit, in the bottom of a trench dredged out by a dragline and a dozer. Another is ready close by when the time comes to make a change.

---0---

COMPLETELY EQUIPPED

**BODY & FENDER SHOP**

FOR ALL CLASSES OF

B O D Y   A N D   F E N D E R  
R E P A I R I N G

WRECKED CARS REBUILT  
REASONABLE PRICES

**MASON CITY GARAGE**

Mort Lederer, Manager

For the HOME.....

- Fly Spray
- Floor Wax and Polish
- Furniture Polish
- Dust Cloths (treated)
- Cleaning Fluids
- Household Lubricants

MASON CITY

**SERVICE STATION**

Open Daily

Seven to Eleven

X-ray

X-ray

Drs. Albright and Beasley  
Dentists

Mason City Hospital  
North Wing  
Ground Floor

No Connection  
With Washington  
Hospital Ass'n.

---0---

This is your invitation to bring in your watch for free inspection and regulation.

If it requires cleaning, adjusting, or new parts we'll tell you and quote reasonable prices.....no obligation.

Our repair department with modern equipment will give you prompt and efficient service on any jewelry item.

FRED N. LUDWIG



Watch  
Repairing

JEWELER

Stone  
Setting  
Engraving

# SUMMER CLEARANCE

## LADIES WASH SLACKS

PRE-SHRUNK

REGULAR \$1.75 &amp; \$1.95

~~\$~~ 1.25

## MEN'S WASH PANTS

CRASH COVERT

WHIPCORD WHITE

~~\$~~ 1.39

## LADIES SUMMER HATS

CHOICE OF ANY

SUMMER HAT

~~\$~~ 1.00

## MENS FLANNEL SLACKS

PLEATED FRONT

ZIPPER STYLE

~~\$~~ 4.95

## LADIES BLOUSE

ASSORTMENT OF

BETTER ONES

~~79~~¢

## LADIES SHOES

SHORT LOTS OF

\$2.95 to \$4.95

~~\$~~ 1.98

## MEN'S SUMMER CAPS

IN WHITE

AND COLORS

~~25~~¢

## MEN'S SUMMER UNDERWEAR

ATHLETIC STYLE

DIMITY

~~49~~¢

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. S. T. Doyas, with the Star Knit and the Lincoln Knit Dress Mfg. Companies, will be here in our store on Friday, August 16, for the entire day, with a full sample line of dresses, suits, and coats of the newest styles and colors, from which you may make your selection.

Everything for Milady

These knit suits and dresses are of the finest yarns made. They come at every price to suit every pocketbook.

# COULLEE TRADING CO.