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Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier Co.

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M. W. A. K.

COLUMBIAN

SAFETY
DEPARTMENT

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

MASON CITY
WASHINGTON

Vol. 2 No. 22

M. Pete Shrauger--Editor
Safety Engineer

May 29, 1936

GRAVEL PLANT USES 20,000,000 GALLONS OF WATER DAILY—PUMPS RUN 19 HOURS

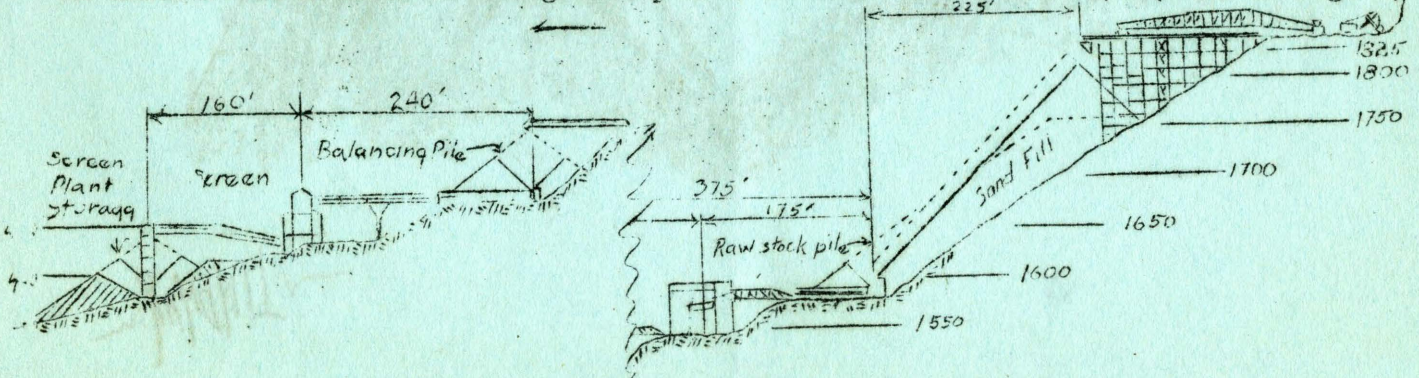
If the mixing plants are houses of magic, the plant system that uses 25 times as much water daily as the whole of Mason City is a scene of wonder. This is the scene with its 42 belts totaling more than four miles in length, 125 motors from 3 to 500 horse power, a spoilbank of waste sand eventually to compare in size with the hugeness of the completed dam. This is the place at night which suggests a playground of roller coasters, chutes, lights and subterranean passages—numerous detail that appears so complex that operation of the plant is difficult to conceive. This is a part of the gravel plant system beginning at Brett pit, one mile and one-quarter to the north of the dam site.

The system is a good example of the point that construction equipment must be fitted to the job and not the job to the equipment. To that end the MWAK set designing and structural engineers to work on innumerable details of the gravel plant.

The result is that more design work was done by the dam contractors here than on any other major construction job. (Ordinarily manufacturers take over the burden of meeting general specifications). More than 200 drawings were required for the design of the gravel plant by the MWAK.

In brief, the gravel system supplies aggregate (rock, sand, gravel) washed and graded in proper sizes for concrete mixing.

At Brett pit, scene for beginning operations, 60 acres have been uncovered. Two 4-yard shovels cut against a 40-foot bank in an arc with a radius of 230 feet. Thus a cut is 460 feet wide. Down the middle of the pit, or eastward, is a 60-inch conveyor. At right angles to the main conveyor are two lead-in conveyors from the shovels. These account for what are called the fourth and fifth cuts. (Columbian Vol. 1 No. 13). (Con. on Page 5)





LINDMAN

JAMES L. BROWN

James L. Brown, superintendent of the gravel plant for the Mason-Walsh-Atkinson-Kier company, introduced himself to construction work in 1915 as a deep sea diver for the T. A. Gillespie company at Detroit, Michigan. And on April 8, 1917, two days after the declaration of war, Jim Brown enlisted in the army of the United States. After serving 18 months as a machine gunner in France, he was discharged June 17, 1919.

On his return to the States he was employed as a diver in New York by Merrit Chapman Scott, and became mechanic foreman for the Dixie Construction company in 1921 at the Mitchell dam in Alabama. In 1923, also as mechanic foreman, he was with Sanderson & Porter at the Springdale (Pennsylvania) Steam plant.

In 1925 Jim Brown returned to his former employing company, Dixie Construction, on office building for the Alabama Power company and upper and lower Tallassee dams. In 1931 he was employed by the Arundel corporation as machine shop foreman on the Safe Harbor dam. A year later he became heading foreman for the Silas Mason company on the Boston Traffic tunnel, and in 1933 became assistant master mechanic for the Tennessee Valley Authority at the Norris dam.

In the fall of 1934 Jim Brown came to the scene for the Grand Coulee dam and was in charge of the west conveyor system, and last November he took over his present position as gravel plant superintendent.



Customer: "Can I change these pants at this counter?"

Clerk (hasn't been here very long): "Well, I tell you, mister, we have quite a few women shoppers, so maybe you'd better go to the dressing room in the rear."

#####

Boss: "Say, what does this mean? Someone called up, said that you were sick and couldn't show up today."

Timekeeper: "Ha! Ha! The joke's on him. He wasn't supposed to call up until Saturday."

#####

MANY A WOMAN WHO CAN'T ADD CAN CERTAINLY DISTRACT.

#####

Two ladies were joy-riding down the street Sunday and went through a stop signal. A policeman on the opposite corner started blowing his whistle for them to stop, but the driver continued on her way. When her friend said, "My dear, that policeman is whistling for you to stop," the driver replied, "Oh, well, pay no attention to him. A noted professor said that only morons whistle anyhow."

#####

WALKWAYS AND RAMPS SHOULD BE SAFE--
FREE FROM SLIPPING, STUMBLING
AND OTHER DANGEROUS HAZARDS!

#####

"Let me show you something new in a snappy sedan," said the auto salesman.

"It won't do you any good," she snapped, "and I don't think you could, anyway."

#####

"Will you marry me?"

"No."

And they lived happily ever after.

#####

Mother: "Don't you want to be the kind of girl that people look up to?"

Edna: "No, I wanna be the kind of girl that people look around at."

#####

In a nationally-famous hotel, the class in service was under way. The instructor had asked several to explain the difference between courtesy and tact. The response was nil. So he turned to a little bell-hop and said: "You take a shot at it, Sam."

"Well," said Sam, "las' week Ah was in a room. An' when Ah opens de bathroom doh, Lawdy, dey's a lady in de tub. So Ah shuts de doh quick and Ah says, 'Excuse me, suh!' Now," Sam went on, "As Ah sees it, de 'Excuse me' wuz courtesy. But de 'sir' was tact!"

#####

Steno: "You had no business to kiss me."

Boss: "It wasn't business, my dear, it was pleasure."

#####

AN AMERICAN--ONE WHO MAKES MONEY IN HIS OWN BUSINESS AND LOSES IT MONKEYING WITH ANOTHER.

#####

Steel nipper: "Sir, my wife said I was to ask for a raise."

Boss: "Good, when I get married I'll ask my wife if I may give you one."

#####

"Do you work in a shirt factory?"

"Yes."

"Why aren't you working today?"

"We're making night-shirts this week."

#####

ARE YOU ONE OF THE FOREMEN WHO SAYS,
"FORGET NAILS . WE HAVEN'T GOT TIME
TO PULL THEM OUT"?

#####

She: "Swell party tonight."

He: "Yea. I'd ask you for the next dance, but all the cars are taken."

#####

"Lizah, you remind me fo' all de world of brown sugah."

"How come, Sam?"

"You am so sweet and so unrefined."

GRAVEL SYSTEM

(Continued from Page 1)

From the pit the 60-inch belt runs out on the timber trestle at the top of the hill, 600 feet higher than Mason City. The trestle dumps to what is called the raw stack pile, reaching a point 250 feet below. A timber bulkhead more than 70 feet high prevents boulders from rolling down upon the crusher house.

A reenforced concrete gallery just inside the raw stack pile leads to two vibrating feeders, and the feeders through a black tunnel to the crusher house. Here material is divided into what are called the north and south trommel screens, 6x22-foot horizontal cylinders with holes six inches in diameter. Boulders unable to pass through the screen drop into a gyrator crusher where they are reduced to a maximum diameter of six inches and then drop to a 48-inch belt containing aggregate already screened. From a steel trestle the material drops into the balancing pile, from which two 42-inch belts lead to the top floor of the five-story screening house.

On the top floor two hoppers receive the material which is sprayed by reclaimed water with a pressure of 80 pounds per square inch. Screening begins on the fourth floor. Over each double-decked screen are 12 nozzles spraying fresh water at 90 pounds per square inch.

Aggregate not passing through screens is dumped into chutes leading to the conveyor room on the second floor. Screen mesh ranges from 6-inch to $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch. The six conveyors on the second floor conduct the four sizes of gravel to their respective piles for storage. The finest material passing through the finest mesh is washed through four steel flumes to the dewatering tank.

Although many steps are needed thus far, the procedure is comparatively simple. The water system is not so simple, however.

Fine aggregate and dirty water go from the screening house through the flumes to four dewater tanks, each in two units. As

the mix moves along in the tanks, heavier materials settle and are removed by sand rakes or endless chains with scrapers dragging sand from the bottom of the tanks. Each rake dumps into a double chute leading to two conveyors, one to the classifiers, the other to the waste dump.

The sand classifying system to the south is lumber enclosed. Ramps run in every direction in the cooler enclosure. Three bowl and rake classifiers select three sizes of sand. The water flow in the classifier allows only a certain size sand to settle. Rotating arms scrape this classified sand into a vat beneath the classifier. Dirty water and extremely fine material are sent back to clarifier tanks. The concrete vat receiving removed material washes and rakes it out into a double chute. One chute feeds to a conveyor leading to drainage bins and the other leads to the waste pile.

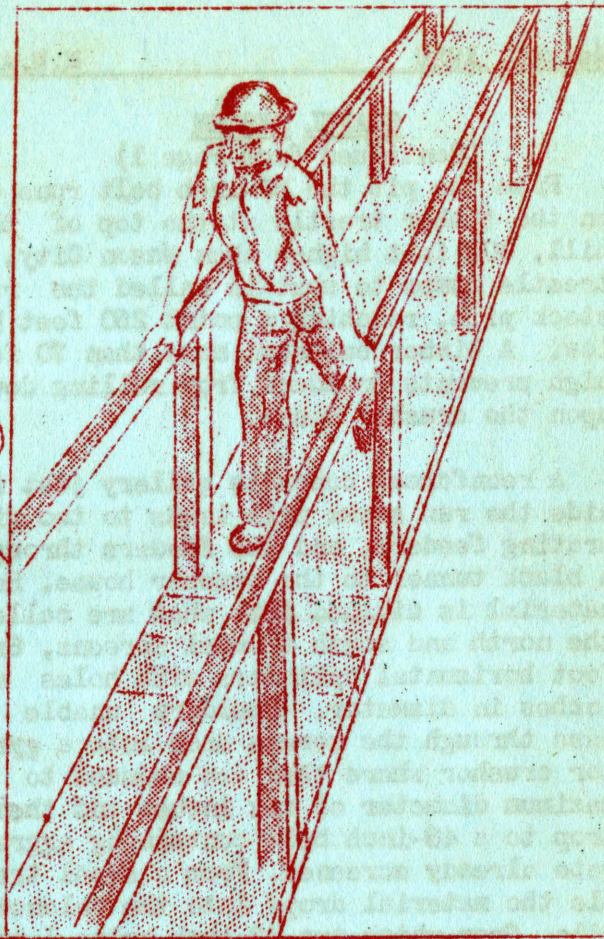
Beneath the drainage bins is a tunnel, conveyor and air jets to prevent the clogging of sand. From each bin the proper amount of sand is taken, fed onto a belt and conveyed to a sand blender and mixed. It is then conveyed to a trestle and dumped into a storage bin, the fifth for aggregate storage at the screen plant. Others contain aggregate from 6-inch down to $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch.

And beneath the storage piles is a 10x8 foot laminated timber tunnel with a 42-inch conveyor. Here are automatic feeders, controlled by a button at the storage yards near the ball park 4000 feet away. At the ball park the airplane tripper (Vol. 1 No. 23) correctly dumps the aggregate into special piles. Enough can be stored here for 16 hours of concrete mixing.

Because of the huge amount of water necessary for gravel plant operations, two clarifier tanks are used. (Vol. 1 No. 13) Rakes, revolving about once every two minutes in the tanks remove materials from dirty water. Water is reclaimed into a 120,000 gallon tank. Twenty million gallons of water are used daily at the gravel plant. Of this amount more than 14 million gallons are reclaimed for use.



RISK



SAFETY

OR

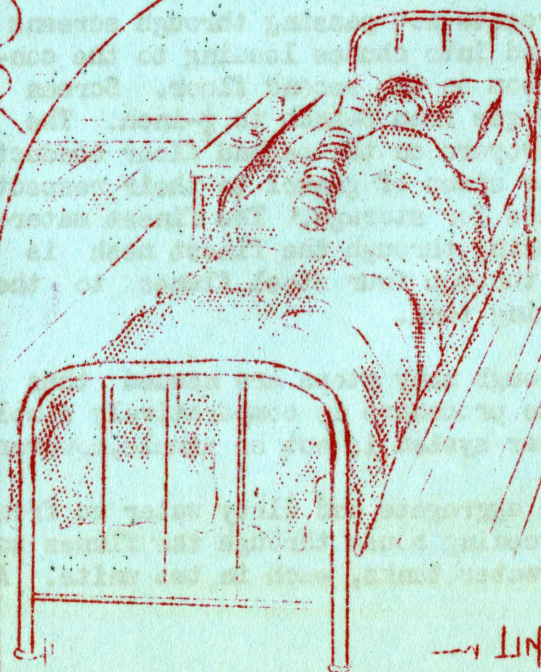
FOR

HAPPINESS



MISERY

OR



LINDMAN

YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN

The report of an accident in a quarry shows how a safety recommendation can prevent serious injury:::

"Workman prepared to bar rock into a large crusher; placed bar under a good-sized rock; rock probably fell into crusher at this time, causing handle to fly up violently and strike workman's chin. He was seen to fall against bonnet of crusher, but was caught and held by safety belt. He cannot remember precisely what happened, although not unconscious."

This accident resulted merely in a slight head injury. But for the safety belt it might have resulted seriously or even fatally, because the crusher was amply large for a man's body to pass through.

The illustration is valuable because it shows the wide value of the more than 600 safety belts on the job here. It shows that even though some accidents are unlike others that have happened before, it is often possible to prevent injuries by taking no chances--by using protective equipment when recommended. It sums up to the point that accidents are not made to order; that whenever there is protective equipment available, use it, because neither you nor anyone else knows when you could use it.

-oOo-

Nearly 700,000 pounds of cable, 350 tons have been used thus far on the Coulee dam.

HOLDS SALE

The Ladies Altar Society of the Catholic church will hold a food sale at the H. S. Hurlburt home, 611 Pine, Mason City, Saturday, June 6, beginning at 10 a.m.

-oOo-

The camp office warehouse went for a ride Thursday of last week. Moved from the east edge of the bunkhouse area and across from Walsh stadium, it now rests alongside the camp office.

-oOo-

"SHOW BOAT" IS COMING!

-oOo-

ONE YEAR AGO--

The Mason City Community club was organized...Three feeders were moving 33 yards per minute from the west side up the main conveyor, 2000 yards an hour; 5 1/2 million yards moved from west side... Guy F. Atkinson company moving 84,000 yards weekly from east side...Shaft E for the slide area, 274 feet deep, completed...Install Boy Scout troop No. 24... Complete railroad tunnel...Beavers stop Inland Motor Freight 10-2...1042 shade trees planted in Mason City.

-oOo-

COLUMBUS TOOK NO CHANCE WITH AN ACCIDENT.

MANY FINE GIFTS FOR HIS



GRADUATION LUDWIG JEWELRY

MASON CITY

Phone 72

LAUNDRY

Phone 72

DO YOU KNOW....

- THAT each washing goes through from six to nine suds and rinses?
 - THAT only the mildest soap and washing supplies are used by us--much less injurious to fabrics than many of the preparations sold for home work?
 - THAT soap and hot water is one of the best disinfectants known, and that the surgeon considers the soap and water scrub the primary disinfectant for his hands before an operation?
 - THAT we wash your clothes at a temperature seldom reached by home laundering, except the fine silks and wools, which are gently cleansed with special mild soap at moderate temperatures?
- FOR ECONOMY, FOR HEALTH'S SAKE, FOR SANITARY reasons, send your laundry to us
Your Clothes Will Last Longer
 "VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME"

Mason City Theatre

F
R
I
&
S
A
T



THEIR
FIRST
FULL-LENGTH
FEATURE
PICTURE!

Dionne **QUINTUPLETS**

THE COUNTRY DOCTOR
JEAN HERSHOLT

S
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M
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N

SUTTER'S GOLD



THE
PICTURE
THAT CAN
NEVER
DIE!

EDWARD ARNOLD



CHURCH

COMMUNITY CHURCH-The Rev.W.W.Sloan,pastor

Services for Sunday, May 31::

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School.
- 11:00 a.m. Worship service; subject, "Suffering, A Challenge." Special guests will be eighth grade pupils.
- 11:00 a.m. Junior society.
- 6:00 p.m. Junior high society.
- 8:00 p.m. Young People's Forum, the third in a series of meetings entitled "Learning to Live with Machines."

Beginning next Tuesday night at 8 will be the first of five classes on "Christianity and the Problems of Bread and Butter" conducted by the Rev. Roy H. Murray, pastor of the Grand Coulee Community church.

A choir of 32 voices from the cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Spokane, will give a concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13. Professor Anthony Plastino will conduct.

CATHOLIC CHURCH-Father A. Farrelly,pastor

Sunday mass will be said in St. Benedict's church, Mason City, at 8:00 a.m. and in Grand Coulee at 10:00 a.m. Instructions for children will be given Saturday and confessions will be heard Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS will conduct Sunday School in the high school building at 10:30 a.m.

-oOo-

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for vacancies as Assistant Inspector, tunnel construction, at Fort Peck, Montana. Information may be obtained from your local post office; U.S. Engineer Department at Large, Fort Peck; or Manager, 11th U.S. Civil Service District, Seattle. The application deadline is June 12.

SPORTS

AFTER HOLDING THEIR OPPOSITION TO 17 CONSECUTIVE SCORELESS INNINGS IN THE LAST TWO SUNDAY GAMES, THE MASON CITY BEAVERS WILL FACE ROSALIA IN A LEAGUE GAME HERE IN WALSH STADIUM, MASON CITY, AT 1:30 P.M. SUNDAY. THIS GAME WILL FOLLOW A DECORATION DAY GAME AT LEWISTON, IDAHO, SATURDAY. HYDORN AND FRANCISCO ARE EXPECTED TO HANDLE THE PITCHING ASSIGNMENTS.

Francisco, young right hander formerly in the Pacific Coast league, held the Spokane Inland Motor Freight scoreless until the ninth inning last Sunday, when the Freighters bunched four runs to trail the Beavers by one run, 4 to 5. In the sixth Ed Evans poled a homer over the deep center field fence. This was the second of the year for the Beavers.

Mason City high school ended its athletic season by two baseball victories over Hartline Friday and Monday 17 to 22 and 9 to 24. The first game was played away from home.

Apparently tired of tie games, the CCC camp finally pulled ahead of the USBR last Friday 6 to 3.

The Coulee Dam golf club will have completed its work on the 9-hole Elmerton gold course within 10 days. Membership, which permits one guest to play, is \$10. Arthur Dysart, Government Camp, is president of the club. W. G. Butler is a Mason City representative.

-oOo-

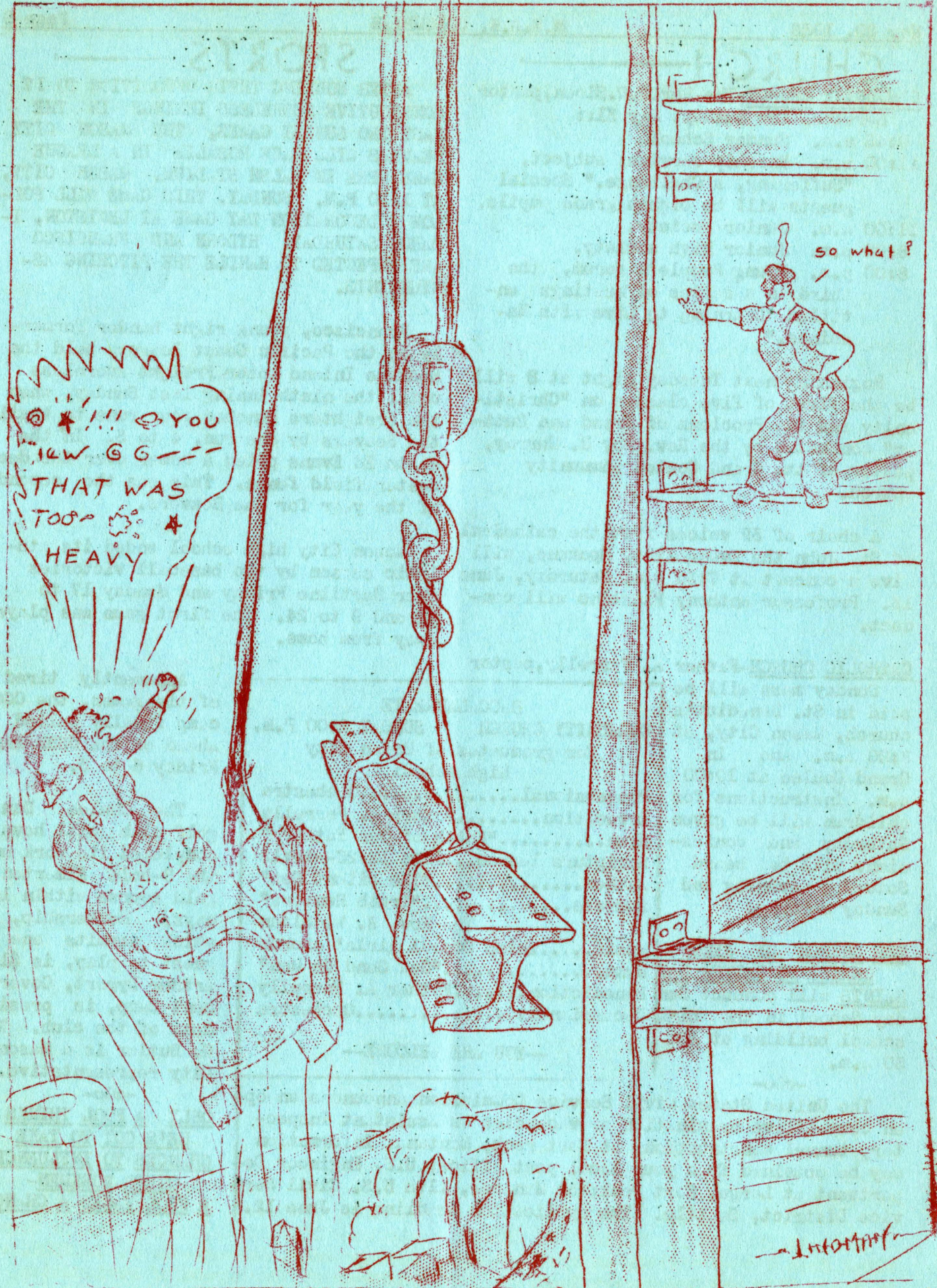
ONLY A FOOL THINKS HE'S GOT TO TAKE CHANCES TO INFLUENCE OTHER WORKMEN- A FOOL TAKES A CHANCE

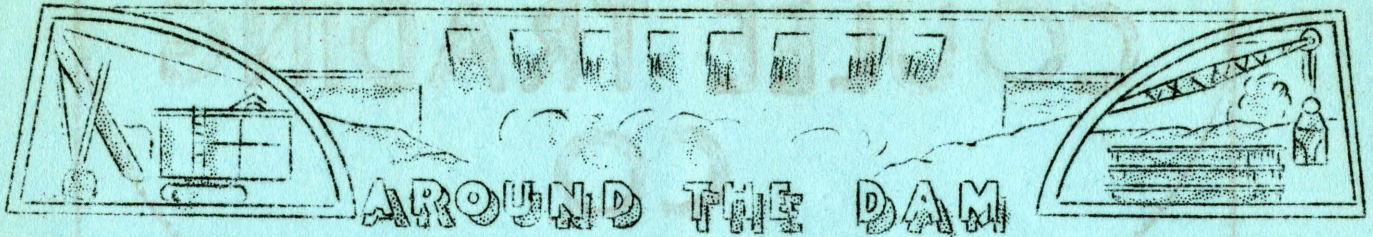
BACCALAUREATE	
COMMUNITY CHURCH	SUNDAY 8:00 P.M.
for graduates of Mason City high school	
Processional.....	Orchestra
Invocation.....	Father A. Farrelly
Hymn.....	"Faith of Our Fathers"
Scripture lesson...	John 15:26--16:13
Anthem.....	"The Silent Sea"
Address.....	"Truth Hunters"
The Rev. W. W. Sloan	
Music.....	High School girls' chorus
Hymn.....	"God Send Us Men"
Benediction.....	Father A. Farrelly
Recessional.....	Orchestra
---YOU ARE WELCOME---	

YOU
KNEW IT
THAT WAS
TOO HEAVY

so what?

Intertone





BEGIN TUNNEL LINING

The grout-inspection-drainage tunnel extending 475 feet back into the west abutment from level 950 will be completely lined with concrete. This was the announced decision of the bureau of reclamation Tuesday. Before the decision there was some question as to whether only the floor and the portal would be lined. With the floor now poured, arch forms are being brought in for the walls and ceiling. Concrete will cut the 6x8-foot tunnel down to 5x7.

-oOo-

GOVERNOR CLARENCE D. MARTIN WILL DELIVER THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS FOR THE GRADUATING CLASS OF THE MASON CITY HIGH SCHOOL IN THE GOVERNMENT CAMP SCHOOL SATURDAY, JUNE 6.

-oOo-

RIVER HALTS!!

The Columbia river hesitated Thursday of last week and then began settling downward but never more than four inches daily. The water is little more than one foot lower than its 967½ for the middle of last week.



- May 21, to Mr. and Mrs. McLachlan of Coontzville, a daughter.
- May 23, to Mr. and Mrs. Leo Kinsey of Nespelem, a son.
- May 27, to Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Smith of Coulee Center, a daughter.

-oOo-

PLAY SAFE--AND LIVE LONGER

-oOo-

A 30x30 corrugated warehouse has been added to the rigging loft side for the cat shop.

-oOo-

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND OPEN HOUSE TODAY from 1 to 4 o'clock at the schools in Mason City and Government Camp.

-oOo-

PUMP HOUSE DRILLING SOON READY

Within two weeks blasting will be under way on the west abutment above level 1150 for the pump house. Completion of drilling for the block 31-39 section on bedrock will determine the time. Rock will be placed upon the west slide area from which Goodfellow Brothers are taking loose dirt to the Vista point near Crillo's observation porch. About 300,000 yards of rock will be moved.

-oOo-

Temperatures Tuesday, from 57 to 100 degrees.

-oOo-

B grout drilling has begun near block 40.

-oOo-

The "guillotine" or grout stop bending machine has been moved to the west side of the machine shop. A shed to enclose it is under construction.

-oOo-

VISITORS OF THE WEEK

STELLA BURKE MAY and her husband, EARL CHAPIN MAY, nationally-known writers--- DEAN C. E. MAGNUSSON, University of Washington engineering department--- H. McC. LARMOUR, Merced, Calif., chief chemist, Portland Cement company---DR. H. A. TERRY Tampico, Ill.---GENERAL C. H. CONRAD, district commander, Fort Lewis---O. W. FREEMAN, professor and head of science and mathematics, Cheney Normal, and students on semi-annual tour---the HONORABLE J. C. Mc DONALD, comptroller of water rights, Victoria, B.C.---O. S. WORDEN, president of reclamation association, Great Falls, Montana, and party of 40 from MWAK and local bureau of reclamation, guests at mess hall ---J. H. BARTHOLET, supervisor, department of hydraulics and LARS LANGLOE, engineer in charge of flood control, Olympia---ROSS TIFFANY, secretary of state planning commission---STANLEY G. HARRIS, Harris Trust & Savings bank, Chicago---R. F. WALTERS, chief engineer of the bureau of reclamation, Denver office.

COULEE TRADING CO SPECIALS

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

LAST CHANCE!

DON'T FORGET TO PUT
YOUR GUESS IN ON THE
SUMMER SAUSAGE AND
WIN ONE OF THE GRAND
PRIZES TO BE GIVEN AWAY
SATURDAY MAY 30

$\frac{1}{2}$ SECTION HAM 25¢ LB.

$\frac{1}{2}$ SLAB BACON 23¢ LB.

MEAT DEPT