

# THE "YPSI-DOODLER"

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

VOLUME 1

IONIA, MICHIGAN, DECEMBER 1, 1944

NUMBER 11

## IMPRESSIVE "E" AWARD CEREMONIES



Shown seated on the rostrum during the Award ceremonies, are, left to right, Lt. Comdr. F. S. Bartlett, Harold Howe, Mary Christensen, Lyle Ball, Ray Crowner, James Poole, Vance Kauffman, Lawrence Kane, Harry Storch, and P.c. Waris.

"E" Day in Ionia is over, but the memories will be with us for a long time to come. In spite of slightly inclement weather, there was a large crowd on hand to take part in the presentation ceremonies.

Many notables in the industrial world were our guests, as were men high in the Army and Navy, and the State of Michigan. Lt. Col. Frank Couzens, Chief of the Production Service Branch, Detroit Ordnance District, and Lt. Comdr. F. S. Bartlett, Director of the Navy V-12 program at W. M. C. E. Kalamazoo, presented the flag and pins.

In accepting the flag for the Company, President D. R. Mitchell said, in part, "To all of us it has been a job that must be done, a responsibility that must be faced, production schedules which must be met, and specifications which must be religiously adhered to. There's never been a thought of shifting the burden, or shirking a duty. You've done your part—every man and woman who make up the Ypsilanti Reed organization. Yes, you've done it so well, you've accomplished such an outstandingly fine job, that the Army and Navy felt impelled to say: "Well done." and their way of saying it jointly is the Army-Navy Production Award."

Harold Howe, President of Local 420, accepted the "E" pins in behalf of the employees, saying, "We are justly proud of our achievement here. This award is not easily won; it must be earned. Just as the soldier, the airman, the sailor, and the marine are awarded for services above and beyond the call of duty, so too are you production soldiers singled out for distinguished service. The fighting man doesn't set out to be a hero. He sees a chance to get in a few extra licks and he does it, as Americans always have."

Now, our job is to remember that the war isn't won yet, and we shall have to continue to do our fighting on the production line to win it.

### ACHIEVEMENT

By R. I. Gates

Now folks, remember, you're just tops  
So the Army and Navy agree,  
When sons and daughters, moms and  
pops  
Received their coveted "E".

We hope you folks all realize  
How proud our gang should be.  
And wear our letter to advertise  
So the whole wide world can see.

Awards like this are seldom won  
We hope it's cherished by all.  
For this is war and not much fun  
So keep on hitting the ball.

Our fame will reach from coast  
to coast  
They'll all be proud of you,  
So all stand up and drink a toast  
To our old Red, White, and Blue.

**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  
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**Christmas ... 1944**

It will not be an old-fashioned Christmas this year. The ground may be white with snow and children's eyes will sparkle, but for every home with a service star in the window there will be a void that memories alone cannot fill. Spread out across the face of the world, millions of Americans will look up from steaming tropical jungles, from water-filled fox-holes, from desert sands, from Arctic wastes, from the cold steel decks of battleships, from turrets of planes . . . look up into the same star-filled sky that spreads its peaceful canopy over home and loved ones far away. Theirs is a strange, unwonted Christmas. We here at home, by bending to our task, can bring them back the sooner—back to a world at peace, and good will among men.

**DO YOUR PART IN "6th" BOND DRIVE**

**Ypsi-Reed Pledged To Exceed Its Quota Again**



Shown in the photograph above are part of the department first over the top in the Sixth War Loan Drive. Standing left to right are Sam Loveland, John McPherson, Otis Linderman, Merritt Ketner. Seated on the left is Charles London, and on the right is William Welsh.

On November 20th the 14 billion dollar Sixth War Loan Drive got under way. By December 16th it must be subscribed if America is to give a ringing answer to the appeals of our nation's military leaders for more arms, more planes, more ships, more tanks for the mounting fury of the battles still ahead.

Michigan's share of the national quota is \$472,000,000. Of this, 141 millions is earmarked for E bond purchases.

Here at Ypsi-Reed, enthusiasm is running high and first reports give every indication that the 100% mark will be reached well before the closing days of

the drive. Several departments have already gone over their quota.

The first department to exceed their quota was the Lumber Storage Department, whose quota was \$950.00, and the figures as of November 20th are \$1000 solicited. Sam Ostrander, department steward, is the man who sold the bonds and brought his department in first.

The importance of this drive cannot be over-emphasized. The Army's Services of Supply has broadcast an appeal to every American wage-earner to help supply much-needed material for the crucial stages of the war ahead, both on the European and the Pacific fronts.

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Combination coal and gas range.

MARION CASE, UPH. Dept.

FOR SALE: Umbrella Tent, 7x9. Call after 5 P. M. or Saturday.

BERTHA NYE, Tent. Dept.

CARD OF THANKS: I wish to thank the friends of the Ypsilanti Reed for the flowers, cards, and gift sent me during my illness.

AL. SLOWINSKI

**SOCIAL NOTES**

The Reed Room was treated to candy a short time ago by one of the winders who changed her name from Edith Smith to Edith Joy. Good luck to her.

☆ ☆

New employees added to the Jeep Dept. are Reva Fancett, Frances Young, Dorothy Anderson, Sidney Snow, and Bill Burras.

☆ ☆

Louie Young, foreman of Dept. 42, has a lot of explaining to do. If he can tell us how deer come to have fins, we're good listeners.

☆ ☆

Congratulations on your recent birthday, Nettie Stark. Sorry we couldn't give you the "Spat Count."

Harry Storch, steward of the Reed Room, has been home for several weeks sick with the flu.

☆ ☆

Jelo Rice reports that his son, Robert, now with the Army in Germany is receiving his paper regularly.

☆ ☆

Among the deer hunters from the Rough and Finish Mill are Bird Woodard and Gus Martin, who are hunting at Trout Lake, in the Upper Peninsula.

☆ ☆

"Chief" Marshall sure was conceited when he came back smelling so sweet. No wonder the girls wanted to greet him. What was the reason for this, Chief?

(Continued on page 4)

# JEEPS AHEAD IN BOWLING WAR

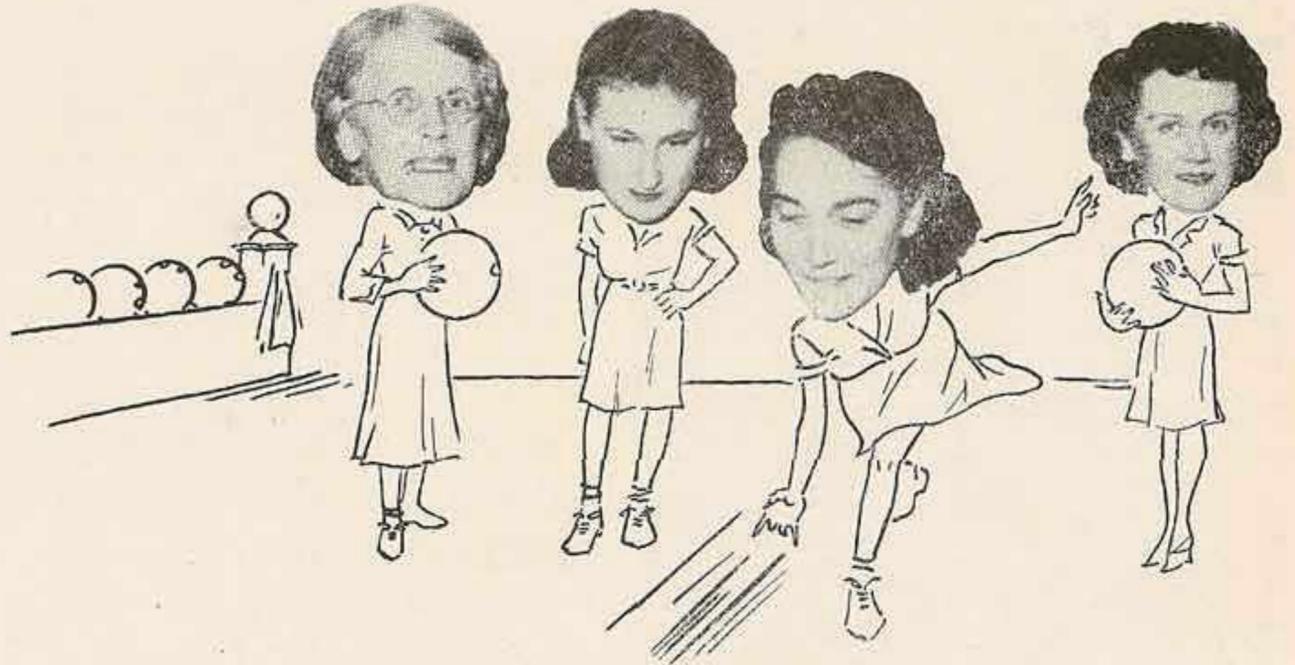
by MIKE WIZOREK  
Sports Editor

Well, folks, the race is on. After nine weeks of bowling, the Jeeps are out in front with 14 wins and 10 lost. Holding last place are the Misfits and Shippers with 10 wins and 14 lost. Let's see what the boys are doing. Paul Warden is leading the pack with a high score of 202. Some people try to roll their weight. Series high is little Peanuts Wizorek with a 536. Just one of my boys. Here comes another one, Joe Lockwood, with a high average of 161. Hugh Hartley has a 157 average. Hughie claims to do better just as soon as he gets serious about this bowling game. Now he's just fooling around and being sociable. Well, it looks as if Pa Lockwood would have to talk to son Joe and get the lowdown on how it's done. Better yet, Lock, sell your Charley Horse. Oh, I thought somebody fell down, but it was just Leo Sweet going through his dance. The fellow with the big chest is the Swede, better known as Hans Christensen. And here is little Elmer McClow the man with the sneak-up ball. Just call him "Dead-Eye Elmer". As for Ivan Clark, he is wondering just what is wrong. I would suggest that you use a little more Body English and do that little step. One thing we enjoy, Ivan, is that little lock of hair. That is, when it's up. Next issue, we'll tell you about our prize find. Baseball has its Babe Ruth, but we have a bowling genius,—Mr. Don Mitchell, who claims a regular 299 score. Watch this space for results.



Now for the feminine sex. Dorothy Glasson with an average of 86, but claims the title of 9-pin Annie. Our solution is that you see the pin boy and remove 1 pin. Here comes Miss 5x5, better known as Mrs. Culp. Now all is quiet, Marie Coates, better known as the Silent One, believes that if you concentrate you have a better score. More noise and less ac-

tion is the motto of Lorraine Chapin. Marguerite Mason wishes that Mr. Sherman would raise the floor so that she wouldn't have to bend over so far. And here we have Nellie Comer, who always has better luck bowling with some other team. Petty Holliday says, "I sure bowl a good game at home, but at the alleys all I can seem to roll is an 87 average."



The leading high scorer for the Women's single game is Helen Cottrell with 173, followed close by Virginia Zick with 164. Nellie Comer has a slight margin on the individual high 3 games with a score of 442. Lucille Wilson claims some one

has been using her ball. Maybe it's just lost; we'll have to ask Virginia Zick as we hear that there is going to be another sale. Jerry Moore still wears that smile. Is it the score of the letters?

## ORGANIZE IONIA COUNTY FOX CLUB HERE

The Club intends to help the farmers out by destroying predatory foxes, who are spoiling the small game hunting and are a bother to farmers' chickens. They are going to purchase two foxhounds and hold regular hunts. Shown in the photographs below are (seated, left to right) Frank Hall, George Spratto, acting presi-

dent; Lawrence Kane, and Tom Blackmore. Standing (left to right) are Lawrence Friend, Martin Wilder, Al Slowinski, and Ray Reister. The fox in the picture was shot by Ray Reister. Other members of the club who do not appear in the picture are Ivan Clark, Leon Burns, and Gus Gott.



The photograph at left shows the newly organized Ionia County Fox Club, who have banded together for purposes of sport and humanity.



## SERVICE NOTES



The photograph above shows Pfc. Sidney (Jack) Ball, a former employee of the Tarp Department, who was killed in action in Germany on September 29th. Pfc. Ball entered service in March, 1943, and went overseas in October of that year. He received his basic training at Camp Robinson, Ark., and Camp Peary, Va.

Sgt. Edward Repik, of the Air Corps, who has spent the last 34 months in New Guinea and Dutch East Indies, writes he receives the YPSI-DOODLER regularly and enjoys the paper a lot. Sgt. Repik formerly worked in the Pattern Room.

☆ ☆

Ken Johnson, Jeep Dept., received a letter from a former employee, Bill Hanline, who writes, "Please change my address as I enjoy the paper very much and it takes too long to arrive now." We'll take care of that.

☆ ☆

Inez Misner, winder in the Reed Room, has received word from the War Department that her son, Frank, was wounded again. She has our sympathies, for we all have loved ones over there.

☆ ☆

Mr. and Mrs. George Comer have received the Purple Heart Medal awarded to their son, George, Jr., who is in the Netherlands East Indies. Another son, Merle, has also been awarded this medal.

☆ ☆

Mrs. Emma Bensinger was recently notified that her son, Bill, is listed as missing in action in the European theatre. Bill worked in the Jeep Department and Mrs. Bensinger is working there now.

Pfc. and Mrs. Warner Nash are expected home soon to visit his mother, Fern Nash, who works in the Tent Department.

☆ ☆

Shown in the photograph below are S/Sgt. Leo Shephard and his mother, Luella Shephard, who works in the Furniture Sewing Department. Leo left Ionia with Company H in October, 1940, and took his training with them in Camp Devens, Louisiana. He left San Francisco bound for Australia. After a period there, he was involved in the New Guinea campaign. It was in this action that he was injured, following which he was transferred to Australia, where he has been until he returned to the States. S/Sgt. Shephard is stationed at Hines Hospital in Illinois.



L. W. Lockwood, Personnel Director, was the speaker at the meeting of the Industrial Division of the Greater Grand Rapids Safety Council program on Tuesday evening, November 28th. His talk was entitled "Personnel Problems Between Management and Men."

☆ ☆

We record with regret the sudden passing of Frank Ritenburgh, who was an Ypsilanti Reed employee for many years. His friends here are many, and his willing cooperation will be sorely missed.

## SOCIAL NOTES

(Continued from page 2)

Members of Local 420, U.F.W.A.-C.I. O., find no better way to express their sincere thanks to their officers, Harold Howe, President; James Poole, Vice-President; Vance Kauffman, Secretary; Minto Wiczorek, Treasurer; Lyle Ball Recording Treasurer; and Ray Crowner, Chief Steward, who have done such splendid work in making our Union a success for us and our plant.

Among the lucky nimrods who were after the buck were Ray Reister, Art Brown, Van Dye, Emil Lalone and Eliza Ward. The unlucky ones are too numerous to mention here.

☆ ☆

Mr. and Mrs. Hazen Joslyn bought a \$100.00 bond in honor of their son's 21st. birthday, November 29th. Jack is serving in the Special Service Troops with the Engineers in India.

☆ ☆

We have been asked to express the appreciation of many of the employees for the mail box placed in the clock-room. They all say it's very handy.

# "E" AWARD VICTORY DANCE CLIMAXED ARMY-NAVY "E AWARD" CEREMONIES

# OCTOBER SETS RECORD



It is everyone's opinion that the high spot of the evening was the square dance, part of which is shown in an accompanying photograph. That's George Bartlett, of the Machine Shop, up there on the stage, calling the dances.

To music by Red Drennan, of Lansing, and to eats by Frank Gazella and the Union Committee, Ypsi Reed employees danced and ate to their hearts content at the E award family party, following the presentation ceremonies. The rainy weather didn't dampen any spirits, however, and everybody came prepared for a good time.

The picture above shows the square dances, but that was not the only kind of dancing there was. The kids jitterbugged and the oldsters waltzed, and each group was in its element.

When they were out-of-breath, they stepped downstairs to the refreshment

room, where the food was piled almost ceiling-high, with every kind of soft drinks, coffee, sandwiches, pickles, relishes, etc., etc.

The Armory was beautifully decorated with buntings in red, white, and blue, commemorating the event of the day, and the stage was set with the floral offerings and congratulatory messages from various firms with which we do business.

Ypsilanti Reed family parties were always very popular in the past, and if appearances aren't deceiving any more, we will have hit a new high in enjoyment.

A new record was set last month when it was noted that there were no lost time accidents for the month of October. This record is a real achievement, and we are all to be congratulated. Industrial accidents in which time is lost are serious saboteurs of the war effort, and the less we have of these accidents, the better off we'll be.

# UNION TO ELECT NEW OFFICERS

At a meeting held November 10th., Local 420 held nominations for officers for the coming year. The election will be held December 1st. Following are the officers and nominees for that position: President, Lyle Ball and James Poole; Vice President, Donald Ferguson and Maxwell Smith; Recording Secretary, Merritt Ketner, William Cooley, and Mary Christensen; Financial Secretary, Lawrence Kane; Treasurer, Ada Moon; Sergeant-At-Arms, Pat Wiczorek; Trustee (3 years), Paul Leslie; Chief Steward, Sam Ostrander, Bert Burton, and Isaac Marshall; Executive Board, Harry Cuttle, Jay Grummet, and Victor Cottrell; and Top Committee, Harold Howe, Lyle Ball, Alma Kennedy, Louisa Rich, Lawrence Kane, Donald Ferguson, James Poole, and Merritt Ketner.

Let's everybody get out and vote!

Shown at the right are some of the people who partook of the refreshments and served them. Shown left to right are William Trumble, Mary Christensen, Jim Poole, Frank Gazella, and Tony Smith. Tony looks right at home in that white apron, doesn't he?



# ANYONE INTERESTED IN ARCHERY?

Harold Orwig, of the Bus Department, has been instrumental in organizing the Hiawatha Arrow Club, which features recreation, sportsmanship, and hunting. Meetings are held each Sunday at 2:00 P. M. and ladies are invited. For further information, see Harold Orwig, and he'll be glad to tell you all about it.

# PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF "E DAY" FESTIVITIES



The Ionia High School Band, under the direction of Don Crane, played before and during the ceremonies.



Presidents D. P. Mitchell and Harold Howe receiving the congratulations of Lt. Col. Frank Couzens and Lt. Comdr. F. S. Bartlett.



Lt. Col. Couzens, Chief of the Production Service Branch Detroit Ordnance District, as he presents the "E" Flag, shown below.



Just part of the crowd that assembled to witness the presentation of the award.

To the right, there's nothing like a good old-fashioned square dance to keep everybody happy.



At the opening of the E day festivities, the ones who got there earliest had the vantage point right in the front lines.