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Industrial Safety Bulletin November 1932

Maine Department of Labor and Industry

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INDUSTRIAL SAFETY BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 1932

YESTERDAY VERSUS TODAY

Only a few years ago in industrial plants scores of men were killed. The employer was sorry but his attitude about his men was that death was to be expected and, when a man was killed, it was just too bad. But today an employer feels it is a reflection upon him whenever he loses a man. We have raised the standard since that day and every employer should feel responsible for the safety of his workmen.

L. J. PARENT, Vice-Pres. & Gen. Mgr.
St. Croix Paper Co., Woodland, Me.

Issued by
THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
Augusta, Maine

Plant Routing:

Superintendent
Master Mechanic
Steam Supt.
Electrical Supt.
Maintenance Supt.
Safety Director
Plant Nurse
Chairman, Safety Com.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.

Please read thoroughly
and pass along promptly
according to this
routing. One idea thus
gained may save a life.

S-A-F-E-T-Y
spells
GOOD BUSINESS

We suggest that this cover
be folded back on heavy line
and clipped. Check names of
those you wish to read the
material in this Bulletin.

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY - - AUGUSTA, MAINE

CHARLES O. BEALS, Commissioner

Walter J. Brennan
Edward K. Sawyer
Minnie E. Hanley

Safety Engineer
Inspector
Woman Factory Inspector

Vol. I

November 1932

No. 16

MAINE CARRIES ON!

The whole world knows the acuteness of present day economic conditions and some industries throughout the country have retrenched even to the unsound curtailment of accident prevention activities. But the manufacturers of Maine are carrying on, seeing clearly through the fogs of temptation and despair to invest for those dividends such as accident-free operation yield.

On November 2nd, on the occasion of Maine's Fifth Annual Industrial Safety Conference, certain progressive industries packed the House of Representatives to capacity and astonished the safety world by a 30% attendance increase in a year when such affairs are experiencing a drastic cut in patronage. Two hundred and twenty-five safety engineers, nurses, industrial doctors and interested observers reflected their interest by their close attention to the program and exhibits.

There is no compliment too lofty to pay those high-minded executives who saw through and beyond hard times to appreciate the merit of safety education as a noble contribution to humanitarianism and a gesture smacking of good business. The person who came, saw, listened and left without taking home a host of profitable ideas possessed no powers of observation and represented an unhappy choice in delegates. There could be no such misfit in the intelligent group who stormed the State Capitol Building on November 2nd.

It is unfortunate that we cannot designate those whom we have saved from injury or destruction. Were we able to tag Tom, Dick and Harry with the finger of death and others with the grim shadows of total disability as well as write on the wrong side of the ledger appalling losses in lines of flaming red, our work would receive a tremendous impetus.

This happy condition is denied us. There is a certain satisfaction, however, in knowing that in industries throughout our State a great number of workers will be spared some pitiful injury because of ideas and devices gleaned from the Safety Conference just over. We will never know the names of the "might-have-beens" but so long as humanity has been served and industry made better able to compete, our job has been done.

BAR MILLS PLANT JOINS THE "365" CLUB

At the close of business on September 21st the fibreboard mill of the Rogers Fibre Company at Bar Mills completed a year without a single lost-time accident, thereby joining that select group of Maine mills that can point to such phenomenal performance.

The work the sixty-five employees of this plant do is hazardous, involving the multitudinous processes and exposures to injury so common to pulp and paper making. Many of the plants of the Rogers Fibre Company have seriously threatened a perfect year but it remained for those sterling safety workers at the Bar Mills plant to achieve the goal for which all mills aim.

Mr. Elliot Rogers, President, a safety enthusiast, recognized the accomplishment with letters for all bulletin boards setting forth his pleasure and praise and calling for a continuance of that "safety consciousness in every man—every minute" such as earned for Bar Mills a place in the sun.

Industrial Maine congratulates the Bar Mills plant and honors those executives, supervisors and men who made it possible.

THANKS, TOM KANE!

The Eastern Manufacturing Company has a genius in their employ who, by the wizardry of his pen and brush, can present the facts of accident prevention even out and beyond that proverb "One picture is worth ten thousand words." Mr. Tom Kane, attached to the Engineering Division at South Brewer, Maine, is the man and the outside back cover will prove the statement, as will that striking cartoon of last month.

Busy as he is and in spite of demands upon his talent such as make his spare time highly remunerative, Mr. Kane graciously makes a poster a month for this Bulletin.

Since the delegates to the last Conference saw Tom's striking exhibit industrial Maine hails a new luminary to stand beside "Ted" Fullam of the International Paper Company.

We take this opportunity and means of expressing our gratitude.

ATTENTION!

Those wishing additional information concerning any of the topics developed during the Safety Conference just over or wishing copies of papers, demonstrations and the like can have same supplied them by making a request to the Safety Engineering Service, Department of Labor, State House. A few copies of the "Work Sheets" furnished the participants in the Model Safety Meeting are available.

MAINE'S FIFTH ANNUAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

The black clouds of depression rolled away and the sun of progressiveness shone in Augusta, Maine, on November 2nd. When Commissioner of Labor, Charles O. Beals, called Maine's Fifth Annual Industrial Safety Conference to order at 9:30 A. M., the spacious House of Representatives was crowded by an attendance that numbered 225, a 30% gain over 1931 and a 125% gain over the initial Conference five years before.

Governor William Tudor Gardiner welcomed the delegates with expressions of personal satisfaction at the admirable response in the face of acute economic conditions. It indicated, he said, an appreciation of the humane and economic advantages of accident prevention and the need for bettering industry's competitive advantage in such times. Governor Gardiner dwelt briefly on the essentialness of executives furnishing the motive power and leadership; the State can supply guidance but cannot formulate policies. He expressed pleasure over the coming of seven national safety trophies to Maine this year. He closed with a story of hearing, while in the depths of a mine in the west, a loud speaker convey a 45 second safety message to workers. This was done each day.

Charles O. Beals, Commissioner of Labor, addressed the gathering on the accomplishments of the Safety Engineering Service of this Department, of the enviable safety records of many Maine mills and stressed the assistance this Department is willing and anxious to lend to Maine's industries through its Safety Engineering Service.

Mr. Gilchrest of the Simonds Saw & Steel Co., Fitchburg, Mass., spoke on the topic "Woodworking Saws—Their Conditioning and Care." He said that we must stop devoting our entire attention to the covering of saws and properly consider the essentialness of saw conditioning and care. From his point of view as a saw manufacturer he quoted case after case where nothing but trouble could be expected because of mal-adjustment or from failure to provide proper servicing. Continuing his address the speaker dwelt in detail upon the specific guards indicated for the great variety of saws in use in Maine. The importance of proper consideration of feed roll guarding was stressed particularly.

Mr. Gilchrest demonstrated a most intimate technical knowledge and touched upon the many phases of lumber manufacture and re-manufacture common in this State. He stated that the most successful plants in the woodworking industry are clean and orderly and the best safety devices are careful workers.

Mr. J. H. Burke, Maine representative of Yates-American Machine Co., Beloit, Wisconsin, spoke from thirty years of experience as he took over the Open Forum on Woodworking. He prefaced his remarks with brief comments taken from his long years of contact with the woodworking industry. His

analysis of specific instances had the undivided attention of everyone and the entire subject proved to be one of the most practical and helpful topics ever presented to safety-minded Maine.

The famous H. W. Heinrich, Asst. Supt., Travelers Insurance Company, next offered his paper "Mastery of the Machine," an exposition many had travelled a hundred miles to hear. His opening remarks were in the form of a tribute to Governor Gardiner for his admirable attitude and contributions to accident prevention.

His paper opened with the statement that even though we live, work, play and die in a machine age we do not die because of machine fault. The machine is harmless though its potentialities astound us; the 33,000 people killed in automobile accidents, the 19,000 killed in industry and the 30,000 in homes were not victims of the machine but rather of man-failure. Man invented the machine, put it to work and man controls it. To man can be charged the terrible toll some charge to machines.

Mr. Heinrich, in his masterful way, pointed out the true and basic causes of many injuries described and continued with the truth that errors in judgment, recklessness, inattention and lack of knowledge or training with accompanying unsafe acts and narrow escapes occur THIRTY times as often as the accidents from the same causes that result in serious injury. The same unsafe acts, not accompanied by narrow escape or injury occur THREE HUNDRED times as often as they cause serious injury.

His industrial theme centered on the necessity of an intimate analysis of problems, the isolation of causes and the application of specific remedies whether mechanical or by executive order. Insistence such as brings results in production is equally essential in accident prevention. He frowned upon the adoption of a "shot gun program" and urged that plants design one such as particularly suits the peculiar needs developed by the analysis.

His stories illustrative of his topical matter were well chosen and his contribution superb. Maine will long remember him and will profit exceedingly.

"Ted" Fullam, versatile safety director at the Otis Division, International Paper Company at Chisholm, closed the program for the morning by a demonstration of the "Fundamentals of Poster Making," supplementing the blackboard work with comments such as not only showed his complete familiarity with his subject but made the demonstration doubly valuable. It proved that all should and nearly all could produce display material such as would contribute vastly to a prevention program. All learned that the necessary simplicity of subject-matter for the untrained designer added magnetism and that many are turning their backs on a powerful ally by failing to create displays.

The meeting was adjourned to the Augusta House at 12:30 where a delicious luncheon was served.

Edward C. Jacobs, District Manager of the Engineering Department of the American Mutual Liability Insurance Company, spoke at the luncheon upon the topic "Have a Heart." In part Mr. Jacobs said: "I have read in your industrial bulletin that Maine's crying safety need is for more activity toward the hunting down and correction of unsafe conditions such as can cause injury rather than a frantic improvement, after the sad story of an injury has been told." He pleaded for directional effort that would lock the gate before the horse was stolen.

Speaking of the need for intelligent organized safety work, he pointed out that more safety programs have been wrecked by attempting to make it something apart from the operating management than from any other cause. Safety as a more or less superficial accessory, carried on independently of the production program is always a failure. He pointed out that the basic need is supervision with **super-Vision** and said safety must percolate down from the top. It cannot boil up from the bottom.

He directed his hearers' attention to the cost of accidents in money, in lost time, in interruption of business activities, in unnecessary spoilage of materials, in uncompensated overhead, in labor turnover, etc., and said these are incentives that should serve to maintain safety work to the highest point of efficiency.

During the address, Mr. Jacobs used the theme "Have a Heart" to stress the various points. Many humorous stories and illustrations embellished the fine address.

Following luncheon and adjournment to the State House, Commissioner Beals introduced Mr. E. M. Hamlin, Manager, American Thread Co., Milo, as Chairman of the afternoon session, paying him a fine tribute as one whose plants are superlative and a reflection of the manager's keen enthusiasm.

When the Model General Safety Committee Meeting, a demonstration, was being presented, Dr. Clarence Thompson, Medical Director of the Pepperell Mfg. Co., was presiding over the Special Session for Doctors and Nurses held on the Fourth Floor. Dr. Louis Fallon of Augusta opened this Special Session with his paper "Physio-therapy in the Treatment of Industrial Injuries," this being supplemented by moving pictures from the Rehabilitation Clinic of the Aetna Insurance Company at Syracuse.

This contribution of Dr. Fallon's was unique to our Conferences, being an intimate review and discussion of this new phase of industrial medicine as well as an educational discourse for those who were not completely familiar with the subject and its possibilities. Too much credit cannot be given the speaker for his efforts in behalf of our delegates.

Dr. Norman B. Murphy next was introduced, he delivering a paper entitled "Concerning our Common First Aid Solutions." Beginning with a well-prepared historical background both for

first aid work and germicidal solutions and developing the topic logically to a classification of antiseptics, their peculiarities and outstanding advantages, Dr. Murphy won the closest attention of his audience and their gratitude. The technical facts, amplified by the observations of a busy, successful practitioner made this topic a highlight of the day.

The Model General Safety Committee Meeting was intended to depict a set-up such as the successful plant might use, the part of Plant Manager being taken by Walter J. Brennan, Safety Engineer, Department of Labor and Industry. The subordinate executives were represented by prominent safety engineers from Maine mills. The personnel was as follows: O. E. Wishman, Safety Engineer and Secretary; Clifford Chase, Master Mechanic; John Pomeroy, Electrical Supt., Edw. L. McManus, Chairman Works Committee; C. H. Lavigne, First Aid Attendant; E. P. Noyes, Lecturer. Other Department Heads were represented by Arthur Winslow, Frank Irvin, H. G. Gilson, W. E. P. Fullam, Frank Farrington and James Hogan.

There is a regrettable superficiality about many of our so-called "safety meetings" and this aimlessness of purpose and failure to "carry through" is no small obstacle to safety success. This Model Meeting was designed to demonstrate the potentialities when such meetings are properly adapted to plant safety needs and when led by the only person who can lead—the organization's highest authority.

The subject matter was classified as follows: Roll Call and Minutes of Previous Meeting, Progress Reports, New Business, Educational Subject and Adjournment. Under "Progress Reports" the subject matter was divided into: A. Previous Suggestions, B. Special Committees, and C. Unfinished Business; under "New Business" the subject matter was divided into: A. Injuries of the Month, B. Current Suggestions, C. Plans for the Coming Month, and D. Review of Literature.

Each topic was included that the delegates might learn a lesson from it. Whether it be Arthur Winslow's report on Chemical Hazards or Clifford Chase's masterful contribution regarding scaffolding, the hour and a half fairly bristled with useful pointers.

To those men who so willingly and so capably discharged their duties in this connection we owe a debt of gratitude. Without rehearsals and with but a few days to review the manuscript they acquitted themselves nobly.

A feature of the afternoon was the paper by C. H. Sonntag, General Manager, Lawrence Portland Cement Co., the topic being "Management's Essential Part." Mr. Sonntag pointed out those essential contributions which necessarily must come from the office of the plant's chief executive and represented himself as that pivot between the directorate and the personnel of the plant. His address was a frank exposition of policies and methods he has found effective. Being the Manager of a plant

honored by a National Cement Association Trophy emblematic of a year of no lost-time accident operation his remarks carried all manner of weight and lent authenticity to his paper. Those executives who do for the work that which Mr. Sonntag has done will be guaranteed success.

Closing the sessions, an informal discussion of problems was held under the title of "What's Worrying You," a question box affair, to which the delegates contributed and received their answers from others in attendance. The report and recommendation of Walter J. Brennan, Safety Engineer, Department of Labor and Industry, closed the meeting.

The Conference was featured by a display of safety equipment sent to Augusta from as far west as Chicago. Whether it be linemen's gloves, first aid equipment or poison gas detectors it could be found in the booths which bordered the hall. The exhibits alone were an education and a tremendous interest was manifested by the large crowd that studied them.

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

Civic Opera Building—20 North Wacker Drive

CHICAGO

October 29, 1932

Mr. W. J. Brennan, Safety Engineer
Department of Labor, State of Maine
Augusta, Maine

Dear Mr. Brennan:

Please accept the greetings and best wishes of the National Safety Council for a successful Fifth State Safety Conference.

You know, of course, that the organized safety movement is a constructive social force dependent upon the quality of its leadership for strength and influence. These Annual Safety Conventions give your State officials an opportunity to emphasize the possibilities of reducing accidents to a minimum and bringing to the attention of your good citizens the up-to-date methods that should be known by every employer and employee in your State.

With cordial best wishes for your continuing success,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) W. H. Cameron,
Managing Director.

WHC:CM.

THE OUNCE OF PREVENTION

A shoe worker was terribly burned when shoe cement, with which he was working, exploded. Small quantities of cement exposed, clean surroundings, elimination of open flame and grounding of static charges are a few approaches to the prevention of a re-occurrence.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE

The delay in opening the sessions was compensated for by the pleasant sight of a throng of delegates standing in line to register.

Governor Wm. Tudor Gardiner displayed an astonishing knowledge of Maine's safety problems and incidently received compliments throughout the day from various speakers.

The famous H. W. Heinrich, Asst. Supt., Travelers Insurance Co., proved to be the practical engineer and brilliant student of safety engineering problems his literary contributions suggest. Dozens of his listeners felt well repaid for their journeys by his sterling "Mastery of the Machine."

The exhibitors who honored the sessions with their presence ran true to form. The mere selling of goods was ever secondary to their desire to educate their listeners in good practice and in the sometimes obscure super-protection built into their products.

The dozens of striking examples of "Ted" Fullam's genius, hanging on exhibition about the hall as he lectured on poster-making lent a certain authenticity to his remarks so frequently absent in the usual run of such topics.

Casual passersby who stopped to look at the colorful displays and the crowded House of Representatives knew when they turned away that Safety had come to stay in Maine.

Never in Maine's safety history has an audience faced a speaker whose ability to combine rare wit and sound engineering principles with a magnetic personality equalled that of Mr. E. C. Jacobs, Dist. Engineering Manager, American Mut. Liab. Ins. Co., Providence, R. I. We have persisted in attempting to secure Mr. Jacobs again since his appearance at the Textile Safety Conference in 1931, at which time he carried the meeting by storm.

Those successful safety men who took the parts in the Model Committee Meeting acquitted themselves nobly, they having had no rehearsals and having had the subject matter but a few days. Their willingness and versatility characterizes their successes.

What a delightful experience to have a Plant Manager speak of his safety responsibilities as a normal demand of his position, abandoning the cut-and-dried platitudes and time-worn phraseology, to develop new perspectives. Mr. C. H. Sonntag, General Manager, Lawrence Portland Cement Co., sets the safety pace—which perhaps explains the cast stone trophy before his office building.

To the Industries of Maine:

On November 2nd, certain of our industrial leaders threw down the gauntlet to depression and manifested their keen sense of values by either bringing or sending representation such as smashed all attendance records for Maine's Safety Conferences by 30%. I feel it my duty to recognize this and laud those men of vision who made it possible.

This gesture of confidence not only places industry's stamp of approval upon the unique Safety Service this Department offers our mills but substantiates as well our faith in their humanitarianism and business acumen. A sweeping retrenchment policy such as includes and wrecks accident prevention structures we have builded seems destructive. No other investment can offer dividends in dollars saved and at the same time guarantee the extra dividends of efficiency and a reduced by-product of crippled humans.

We of the Department of Labor and Industry are grateful and we extend our thanks for this remarkable cooperation. The entire nation will learn a lesson in values from the attendance gain had at this Fifth Safety Conference just over. While other such affairs suffer a drastic falling off in attendance and some abandon such plans, Maine goes forward.

I re-affirm my congratulations and appreciation. Our success is humanity's gain; let us go forward, therefore, to bigger, better and safer years.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES O. BEALS,

Commissioner of Labor.

COB:BEM



The
FOUR MARX BROTHERS
are making fortunes by

MONKEY BUSINESS

**BUT WHY MAKE
A MONKEY OF
YOURSELF FOR
NOTHING**

Many lost time accidents are the result of fooling or "horse play" on the job and unfortunately the person injured is usually the innocent party. If you would not injure a fellow workman causing him suffering and loss of wages --
CUT OUT FOOLING ON THE JOB

Tom Kane