

Mid-Winter Number

Upon receiving a letter the other day from our other reader, we realized that the time had come to MAKE UP two pages of news about the winter activities of the various members of the Company. It appears from the lack of letters we have received during the last four weeks that the six crews now in the field and the entire Omaha lab have been doing nothing but work every hour of every day. Apparently not one fishing pole has been dusted off, not one bowling ball pushed down an alley. Let us once again remind you that primarily this sheet is a NEWS broadcaster. By news, we mean the account of happenings from the North, East, West and South. So ink up that typewriter ribbon and send in some gossip, scandal, or good old fashioned dirt.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Masino announce the birth of a 7 pound boy on January 29, 1939, at 5:15 P.M. The baby has been named Gerard Joseph and nicknamed Jerry. Both mother and son are at home now and are doing very well. Joe feels that the extra responsibilities placed upon him now that he is a father dictate that he exercise more care. Therefore, we now find Joe playing pool with Pop Rieber rather than spend his noon hour at the rough game of ping-pong.

On this same subject, we learn that Mr. & Mrs. Foster Thomas are expecting an image early in the Spring. Also Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Wheeler are threeing about the same time. According to our records, these two events will about wind up the Kauffman sponsored stork derby started some time ago. So far these blessed events have followed a definite schedule. Girls have been born to members of the field crews and boys to those working in the labs. Following this trend the Wheeler's can expect the stork to deliver another son while the Thomas's will probably be announcing the arrival of another girl. Whether these two couples want their particular models or not, there is probably very little they can do about it.

Our special interests department joins with the Society Editor to report the wedding of Miss Galey Waters of Denver, Colorado, to Mr. Ralph Baird, Jr., of crew #52. The wedding took place in Kansas on Feb. 16, 1939. We are all familiar with Ralph through the Prop Wash Rotogravure section but the only information we have on the bride is as follows, which we received from Del. Bullock:- Tall, dark and good-looking. Knowing Ralph, we can rely on his good judgment to pick a very acceptable Mrs. Baird and so we can congratulate them both. The Prop Wash joins the entire Company in wishing the newlyweds every success and happiness.

Now that Bachelor Ralph has left the ranks of the Aero Service Bachelors Club, we have only one crew member left. We therefore elect him as President and only sustaining member of the Bachelors Club. Of course we are referring to that Bean Brumvell of the sky, that tall, dark and handsome lady-killer, none other than Photographer Bill Bohan. Just how much longer Bill can remain in this state of freedom is a matter of speculation as he has broken many a heart in many parts of the country this past year by being transferred at just the wrong (or right - depending on how you look at it) time. It is said that if all the hearts which he has broken were laid end to end they would still beat for him.

Spurred on by Ray Kuser's prize winning letter - writing success in the recent Alemitte Contest, Fos Thomas entered the sleep-well-feel-better-tomorrow-I-use-Ovaltine-because contest. Fos was delighted with his efforts as a "because" writer and so purchased a 65¢ tin of Ovaltine and sent in the wrapper as directed. Weeks went by and finally came a letter from Mr. Ovaltine stating that he had won one of the valuable cash prizes. A check for \$1.00 was enclosed. "Rather poor pay for 4 hours literary work," says Fos.

On January 29th Aero Service was well represented at a fly-in breakfast-movie party given at the Central Airport, Camden, N. J. by Mr. & Mrs. Abby Wolf. Abby and Connie Wolf are two aviation enthusiasts who once yearly entertain their friends and acquaintances who fly. Everyone who will fly to these parties is welcome. There were 80 planes present at this year's party and after a very tasty breakfast served at the Weber's Hofbrau, the tables were cleared away and Warner Brothers presented a prevue of the latest aviation motion picture, "Wings of the Navy." Aero Service's representation arrived in #1 and also Cub and included Ray and Alice Kuser, Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman, Dean Turner, Fos Thomas and Bill Carroll. The party was judged the best yet and only a fast closing in overcase marred a perfect Sunday A. M.

A farewell party at Kuser's on January 28 and the Wolf's party the following day about wound up the Mid-Winter social season in this locality and on Monday the 30th, a general back to work movement started. Ray and Alice Kuser left in their car and headed for Knoxville, Tennessee, followed the same day by Dean Turner and George Stuebing in one of the Company station wagons. Upon their arrival in the warmer climate the gentlemen dressed for real hard work and proceeded to replace the

On Feb. 8th Ray and Dean moved in #3 to Clarksville, Tennessee, equipped with a Brock camera and prepared to do some precision flying. The Brock camera, you will remember, uses a magazine of 48 plates and the crew develops these plates, makes the contact prints and checks the flying right on the job. A new departure for Ray but an old routine for Dean who worked these plate cameras ten years ago when he was with Brock and Weymouth, Inc.

George Stuebing remained in Knoxville and rubbed down Tom Page's Fairchild #2 and Steu Reiss's Cessna #11. From there he went to Birmingham, Ala. to complete the repairs on the Bellanca and then swung back through Spartanburg, S.C., to visit Bill and Marge Burgess and Bill Bohan (Crew #10). After many Mint Juleps George was once again on the trail and after a brief stop in Knoxville, proceeded to Winston-Salem, N. C. to call on Bob Jefferson and MacMcCormick (Crew #5). Upon George's return to Philadelphia on payday (15) he reported that all the crews were in high gear and all were looking forward to an even bigger year in 1939.

In our last issue we mentioned V. K.'s trip to Ottawa, Canada. The trip was very interesting and instructive and he learned many angles on how the Canadians do aerial mapping. The high light of his visit, however, was the moment that he stepped into the business end of a pair of skis. With a minimum of dual, the boss took off on his first solo jaunt. Beginner's luck carried him through the preliminary slopes and he quickly advanced to the steeper runs. The pay off came on the last run when the right ski crossed on the path of the left ski at a 33 degree angle and he strained many a muscle as a reminder of a weak moment.

The only crew changes since our last issue are as follows: Crew #3 - Kuser and Turner, now located at Clarksville, Tenn.; Crew #10 - Burgess and Bohan now located at Spartansburg, S.C.; Crew #52 - Bullock and Baird, now located in Hutchinson, Kans.

You will all be interested to know that 1938 was Aero Service's biggest year, putting in a total of over 3300 hours. January of this year showed 80 hours had been flown, which is about the same as the same month of last year which should indicate that another big year is coming up. Time will tell - however.

A card from Paris, France, reads as follows: "Oh! Boy! Marge and Clarke." That is the only word we have had from our European representatives so far, so we assume that they are having such a good time that they cannot find time to write. They will be back very soon so we will have all the news for our next issue. *** Salesmanager Charlie Hodell and his wife returned to this cold climate of ours on the third of February, bringing to a close a most successful and enjoyable trip. Charlie is convinced that a 4 weeks trip to Florida in the middle of an extra cold winter is well worth the effort. *** We wish to correct an error of our last issue. We incorrectly mentioned Mrs. McCoy as Helen when her name is actually Virginia. Kindly excuse it, Mrs. M., and thanks for not suing us. *** Again we are forced to report - no news from or of the Swans. However, we are still hoping that one or the other of them will come out of hiding and drop us a line.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT! ! !

(We hope to be able to assemble enough correct information for each issue about the members of the Company to keep this column as a regular event. Your help is solicited.)

Mr. Kauffman, who has been a pilot for some 20 years, a photographer for 25 years, and associated with Aero Service for over 15 years, was at one time a clerk doing the most exacting, detailed, routine work on a typewriter in a pottery. Believe it or not!

Henry Dotzenroth, who has been with Aero Service for over 11 years as a handy man, film developer, contact printer, aerial photographer, mosaic expert, and who is now vice-president and director of the Company, was once a jeweler. Believe it or not!

Ray Kuser, who has been an ace aerial photographic pilot for the Company for six years, and who is an excellent mechanic, not to mention an expert making color movies, was once a milk man making nightly house to house deliveries. Believe it or not!

Miss Jennie Durland, who worked up from the one and only Aero Service stenog to become secretary of the Company, was once a private secretary to a bank official and came with this Company because she felt the future of the Aero Service offered more than the future of the bank. Believe it or not!

Dean Turner, who has been known over the entire country as an expert aerial photographer for some 20 years, is and has been for 18 years an airplane pilot and has the distinction of having spun in a Janny and actually walking away from the wreck without a scratch. Believe it or not!

The weather report is as follows -

Chili today - Hot tamale.