



Friday, June 11, 1976

THE PRICE THEY PAID

We are indebted to MRS. HARRY COLE for the following reprint that seems very appropriate for this Bicentennial summer. MRS. COLE is the wife of Retiree HARRY COLE, who was a millwright in Maintenance and retired in 1964.

Have you ever wondered what happened to those men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died, Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or the hardships of the Revolutionary War.

What kind of men were they? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners, men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers or both, looted the properties of Ellery, Clymer, Hall, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Ruttledge and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. The owner quietly urged General George Washington to open fire, which was done. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few onths.

In Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his grist mill were laid waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home after the war to find his wife dead, his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave us an independent America. Can we keep it?



LADIES GOLF LEAGUE

In spite of the fact that the weather was beautiful Tuesday the scores in the Ladies Golf League were surprisingly high, and the gals are puzzled as to why.

The three lowest net scores turned in were by DONNA KIEDAISCH 31, JANET POWER 35 and JANIS BUSS 40. DONNA and JANET tied for Low Gross honors with 48's while MARY FRINK was third with a 62.

Point standings are as follows:

| 1. DONNA KIEDAISCH | 22 - 1/2 pts. |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 2. JANET POWER | 20 pts. |
| 3. KATHY DUPUIS | 17 - 1/2 pts. |
| 4. DELMA BURKHALTER | 7 - 1/2 pts. |
| 5. KATHLEEN BENOIT | 2 - 1/2 pts. |

BLOOD PRESSURE TESTS

Three weeks ago we announced that, again this year, all employees will have the opportunity to have their blood pressure checked. The dates have now been set and the testing will be done on Monday, June 14 and Tuesday, June 15. Plans are for the nurses, MRS. RYAN and MRS. RICE to spend all day Monday in the Main Office area and all day Tuesday in the plant. If the job is not finished Tuesday all others will be tested in the First Aid Department on Wednesday.

Naturally participation is entirely voluntary, but all employees should be anxious to take advantage of this opportunity for a free blood pressure checkup.



OLD TIMER OF THE WEEK

This week's honored employee is DON REDENIUS who started his Bradley career on July 18, 1944, shortly after he had reached his sixteenth birthday. In spite of his youth he had previously worked briefly at Kroehler. DON is a second generation Bradley employee as his father FRANK retired from here in 1959 and, at eighty-two years of age, still enjoys good health. DON'S first assignment here was in the Machine Shop, followed by service in Receiving and Assembly. For the past twenty years he has been in Central Trucking where he is currently a Fork Lift Operator.

DON was too young to fight in World War II, but when the Korean conflict started he was just right and, as a result, he spent two years in the Army with one year in Korea. A combat infantryman, he was a member of the third Battalion of the seventh Division and earned three battle stars. He had attained the rank of Corporal at the time of his discharge.

DON and his wife, MARIE, have been married nineteen years and have two children. Daughter DENISE has just graduated from Eastridge High School while son BRUCE will be a senior this fall.

This Old Timer, who has quite a sense of humor, has two main hobbies: tinkering with automobiles and traveling. Each year for the past eighteen, the REDENIUS family has taken an extended motor trip and has visited most of the United States, but this year will be different as DON has decided to stay home and paint the house located on Splear Road, Rural Route 7, Kankakee. Readers of the Roper Bradley News are indebted to DON since he is the one who carries the completed papers up front each Friday to be mailed.

BLOOD PROGRAM

According to the Red Cross the following employees were recent donors:

| Gary Swathwood | D/35 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Daniel LaFond | D/35 |
| John Giertz | D/66 |
| John Cahill | D/25 |
| Dale Courville | D/35 |
| Joe Castognia | Quality Control |
| Bobby Crawford | D/70 |

MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE

The excellent weather Tuesday night brought out some equally good golf scores.

RON TANNER with a 37 (Class A) and BILL LUSTIK a 44 (Class B) led the field in Low Gross Individual honors.

Low Team Nets were ERNIE PERKINS and ANDY RIVARD with a 59, followed by STEVE SERVE and GARY KINNEY at 62, and JAY KEROUAC and GENE SEAMARK tied with L. HILL and L. KOHAN each with 67's.

In Class A individual competition RON TANNER had 31 followed by L. HILL 32 and W. NELSON a 33. H. BITTMANN shot 32 net to lead Class B individuals followed closely by E. WEISKE at 34. Four golfers, L. KOHAN, L. POWER, B. HARTLEY and B. LUSTIK all had 35's.

Birdies were abundant as E. PERKINS scored two, No. 3 and No. 5, as well as W. RASMUSSEN with his two, No. 5 and No. 7. Other birds were J. KEROUAC No. 7, G. SEAMARK No. 4, W. BISHOP No. 2, W. NELSON No. 9 and G. BINGLEY No. 11.

At the end of seven weeks the top 5 teams are:

| 1. DANKEL - LAROCHE | 227 pts. |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 2. BOULE' - POWER | 221 pts. |
| 3. COFFMAN - BLANCHETTE | 219 pts. |
| 4. MASSEY - FAENGER | 200 pts. |
| 5. TANNER - PEPIN | 195 pts. |

We extend sincere sympathy to RODNEY LEGRO, D/70, on the death of his brother.

