

CROWN CRIER



1980

April

A Special Contribution

WHAT GOD IS LIKE

The CROWN Crier is the monthly newsletter of CROWN International, Inc., 1718 W. Mishawaka Road, Elkhart, Indiana.

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GUEST EDITORIAL.....Matthew
SPOTLIGHT.....Marcie Kidder
FLOODLIGHT.....Steve Myers
ON THE OTHER HAND.....Dave McLaughlin
KALORIE KORNER.....Kate Moore
BABY FACE.....Karen Ryckear
bernie.....bernie
TYPESETTING.....Sheryl Gingerich
SPORTS WITH GENO.....Gene Geveart
H. I. S.H. I. S.
CROWN EQUIPMENT PROFILE.....Jim Stembel
CROWN CRIER SURVEY.....Deb Berndt
EMPLOYEE COUNCIL REPORTS.....Marc Miller
PROOFREADER.....Margaret Eaton
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS.....Lynn Scholfield
Margaret Eaton
Deb Berndt

God is like Ford;
He has a better idea.
God is like Cocoa Cola;
He is the real thing.
God is like Pan Am;
He makes the going great.
God is like Bayer aspirin;
He works wonders.
God is like General Electric;
He lights your path.
God is like Hallmark cards;
He cared enough to send the very best.
God is like a Slow Poke sucker;
He lasts a long time.
God is like Pepsi;
He's got a lot to give.
God is like Tide;
He gets the stains out -- that others leave behind.
God is like a Mattel toy;
you can tell he's swell.
God is like VO₅ hairspray;
He holds through all kinds of weather.
God is like Standard;
You can expect more from Him and you get it.
God is like Ivory soap;
He is 100% pure.
God is like Lifebuoy soap;
He gives you a big lift.
God is like Dial soap;
Aren't you glad you know Him? Don't you wish everybody did?
God is like Frosted Flakes;
He makes you feel grrreat!
God is like Sears;
He has everything.
God is like Alka Seltzer;
try Him, you'll like Him!

-- submitted by Margaret Eaton



H.I.S.

Guest Editorial

After the close of the Sabbath, with the dawning of the first day of the week, came Mary Magdelene and the other Mary to look at the tomb. And a severe earthquake occurred; for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, approaching the stone, rolled it aside and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. The sentries shook for fear of him and became like corpses. But the angel said to the women, "Have no fear! I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen just as he said. Come, see the place where He lay. And, go, hasten to tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead and is preceding you into Galilee; there you will see Him. See, I have told you."

Hastily they left the tomb, in fear and with great joy, and ran to tell the news to His disciples. And behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" Going up to Him they clasped His feet and knelt before Him. Jesus then said to them, "Have no fear. Go, tell My brothers to go to Galilee; and they shall see Me there."

The eleven disciples went away to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw Him they worshipped Him, but some were in doubt. Jesus came to them and He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given Me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you. And, remember I am with you all the days until the end of the age."

Matthew

The Cross In My Pocket

I carry a cross in my pocket
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
No matter where I may be.

This little cross is not magic
Nor is it a good luck charm
It isn't meant to protect me
From every physical harm.

It's not for identification
For all the world to see
It's simply an understanding
Between my Savior and me.

When I put my hand in my pocket
To bring out a coin or key
The cross is there to remind me
Of the price He paid for me.

It reminds me, too, to be thankful
For my blessings day by day
And to strive to serve Him better
In all that I do and say.

It's also a daily reminder
Of the peace and comfort I share
With all who know my Master
And give themselves to His care.

So, I carry a cross in my pocket
Reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life
If only I'll let Him be.



bernie



dere editur

ive ben sik for a cupel weeks
wel not reelee sik i just have
spring feever

i wuz takeen a nap on the windosil
bak in receeven wun day last
week the sun wuz so warm and
pritee and it wuz so peeceful
so i got the urge to see the
beuteeful sites of spring
i wunted to go rite that minet
but i had to wate for the downtown
run in the afternoon

so i wated for bil owtside cuz i
new it wood take me awhile to
make mi way to the truk but lukee
for me i made it

and i am so glad i made that trip
the air wuz so fresh and i saw a
lot of crocuses and thay were so
pritee the yellow wunz were mi
faveret cuz thay remind me of sun
shine

i also saw three robins and that iz
another reel good sine of spring
wen i got bak to crown i told chet
and charlee all abowt mi trip and
thay were reelee mad at me cuz i
dident ask them to go along too
i felt so bad so i promised them
that we wood go the next day for
shure

well az fate goze it got cold and
raned for too daze strate so thay
desided it wuzent wurth the wate
im glad it got me off the hook and
were all stil good frends

bernie

Spotlight



In the Spotlight this month is Janet Cook. Janet has worked at CROWN over 10 years. She graduated from Jimtown High School the same year as Lois Clem and Zelma Morgan. Knowing they worked here, she stopped in and put in an application.

Janet started work on Line 2 and has stayed on that line the whole time. She does final wiring most of the time. Janet has enjoyed working with Zelma and all the others in the past and present. Why are we being so reminiscent? Because Janet's last day was March 28th!

She says she'll certainly miss the work, all the good recipes, and good ideas for crafts, the happy news about everyone's families, and being able to share in their triumphs and sorrows.

Janet and husband, Wayne, live on County Road 1 between 24 and 26. It's the only house of the east side in that mile. There is a red, white and blue windmill on a small lake near the barn. Be sure to stop in and see them!

They have many hobbies and interests which include camping, snowmobiling, cross country skiing, mushrooming, fishing, antiques, etc. They also keep busy with their six boys and 14 grandchildren.

Janet will miss us all and wants you to know, that we will be in their thoughts and prayers.

Best wishes to you, Janet, as you leave. We will also miss you, but hopefully, we will see you from time to time. Stop in and see us!



Happy Birthday



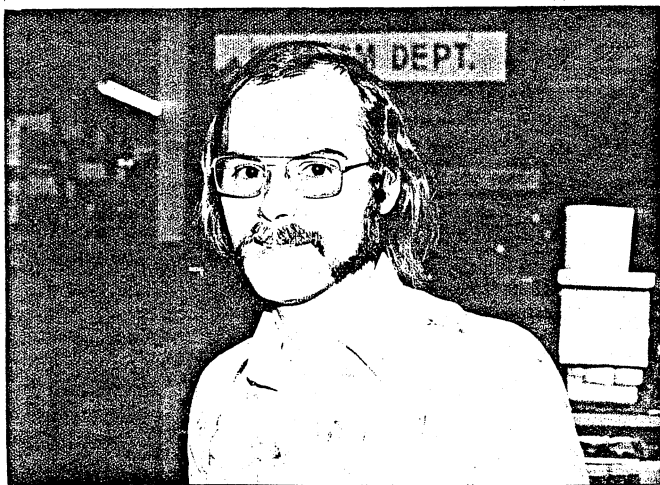
2 Arnold Smeltzer
3 Bob Kollar
17 Margaret Thompson
18 Don Curtis
21 Kingsley Becker, Helen Cosby
23 Marc Miller
25 Bill Swihart, Marilyn Bellows
26 Treva Kauffman
28 Dennis Badke

It's a good idea to keep your words soft and sweet to the taste. You may have to eat them.

The greatest of all faults is to be conscious of none.

CARLYLE

Floodlight



Dave and Steve are the "non-routine" half of the Maintenance Department. That is, they do the jobs that are "one-time" things, mainly things that won't be done every day or every week.

Here is just a partial list of things they do: Build walls and offices, tear down walls and offices. Install wiring and lights, take out wiring and lights. They also may be seen moving a desk with five different people telling them five different places to put it. They try to keep about thirty heaters and air-conditioners working. They are responsible for two air compressors, one boiler, two forklifts, a generator, about forty air drivers, a dozen electric drills, 2 postage machines, three water pumps, three water heaters, and every time something new breaks, it goes on their list.

A few of the complaints Dave & Steve hear daily are, "It's too hot in here, it's too cold in here, it's too dark in here, how about some more light, it's too noisy in here, the airline has water in it, or the pressure is too low."

Steve is responsible for all the electrical duties at CROWN, which in addition to moving and adding wires and conduit, also includes routine maintenance on all of the boxes, such as checking for loose connections and hot wires. Steve also checks the fork lift, security batteries and maintains the emergency system.

Dave is responsible for the first aid room, including supplies, OSHA reports and compliance. He also does all the snowplowing at both plants.

Steve has been the plant electrician for 3 years, and has been an employee at CROWN for six years. Dave has been doing his present job about five years, and at CROWN for a total of eleven and a half years.

Dave and Steve's jobs have no definite boundaries, but if you have a job that doesn't really fit anywhere else, or no one else wants to do, you can easily guess where it will end up.

-- Steve Myers



Kalorie Korner

I am sure everyone has their own favorite receipes for Easter time. So I am going to give you Food for Thought instead of Food for the body.

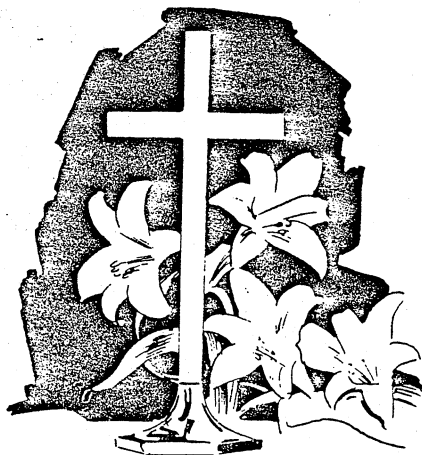
E A S T E R

HOW DO I KNOW that CHRIST is risen?
What proof have I to give?
HE touched my life one blessed day
And I began to live.

HOW DO I KNOW HE left the tomb
That resurrection long ago?
I met HIM just this morning and
My heart is all aglow.

HOW DO I KNOW that endless life
HE gained that day for me?
HIS life within is proof enough
Of immortality.

HOW DO I KNOW that CHRIST still lives
Rich blessings to import?
HE walks with me in converse sweet,
And LIVES within my heart.



"BECAUSE HE LIVES, I CAN FACE TOMORROW"

Baby Face



This month's Baby Face is known for his practical jokes. He can be seen wandering the halls from Engineering to Stock. He's VERRRY friendly with a single girl on one of the lines. He's worked here for so many years, and is appreciated by so many people that you'll be surprised if you don't figure out who he is on the first guess!

PEOPLE have a way of becoming what you encourage them to be, not what you nag them to be.

Classifieds

FOR SALE -- Simplicity riding lawn mower. 6 horse-power motor. 32" wide swath cut. \$100. See Jim Putz - Ext. 256.

FOUND: Pentel pencil with initials "ML". Contact Jim Marks.

FOR SALE - Harley Davidson Sportster Liberty Edition (1976), 1000 cc, 6 inch tube forks, King/Queen seats, 16 inch rear rim, extra tank, custom painted, low mileage, very clean, \$3,000.00 -- TERMS: \$1,500.00 down payment - balance in monthly payments of \$100.00 - INTEREST FREE. Contact Margaret Eaton - Ext. 0.

Employee Council Report

Balance at January 31, 1980 \$177.00

February Expenses:

Flowers	32.85	
Baby Gifts	10.56	
Ping Pong Supplies	2.90	
Concession Supplies	1.14	<u>47.45</u>

129.55

Income from A.R.A. for January 108.29

Balance at February 29, 1980 237.84

PARENTS cannot leave a better legacy to the world than well-educated children.

A YOUTH was questioning a lonely old man. "What is life's heaviest burden?" he asked.

The old fellow answered sadly, "To have nothing to carry."

Sports with "Geno"

Time for more sports news!

A big congratulations to the winners of the recent Ping Pong tournament held here at CROWN. And to all others that took part in it -- may your luck be better in the next tournament.

We will go back in time to about February 28, 1980, to be exact for this bit of news. On that night, Kingsley Becker had a good first game bowling by starting out with a 267 game. He had a total of 631 for the night. As of March 20th, the men are in 7th place with about four weeks to go. If we have a little bit of luck and fewer splits we might climb higher.

Plans are in the making to get CROWN's golf season underway. So, all you golfers out there, get ready and get your clubs swinging. It looks like our weather is on the way for us.

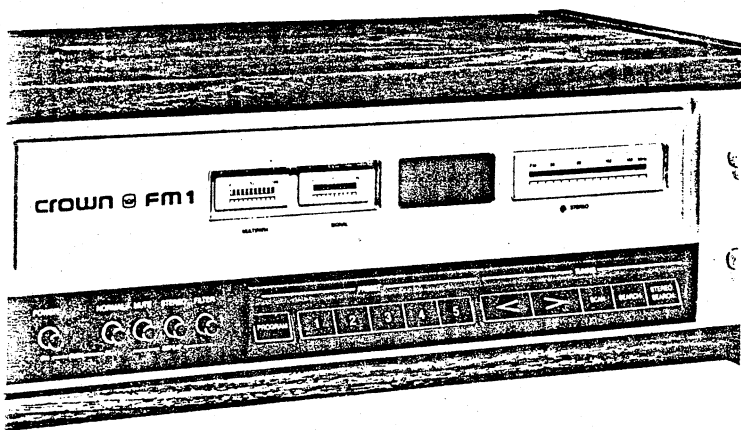
No news from the women's bowling team. I guess that they are doing all right. (Rumor has it that Lois Roberts had five strokes in a row on March 21st.)

Until next issue, that's about all the sports for now. Be a good sport and take part in a sport.

Your sports reporter,

"Geno"

Equipment Profile



In the past two months we have profiled the CROWN Straight Line One (SL-1) pre-amplifier and the Power Line One (PL-1) power amplifier. Connecting both the SL-1 and PL-1 together, you have the beginning of a great audio Hi Fi system. You have the SL-1 controlling the audio signal (volume, balance, etc.) and the PL-1 amplifier producing enough signal for your speakers. Now, we need a signal to control and amplify. This would be a tape player, phono turntable or tuner. This month we are going to use the CROWN FM-1.

I'm sure that everyone at one time or another has operated a radio. All you do is grab the knob and turn to change stations. Right? Well . . . not anymore. If you take a good look at the CROWN FM-1, you will find a lot of things that look different than any of the radios or tuners that you have used in the past. You will notice that there are no knobs at all. In the lower portion of the front panel, you will notice that there is a strip with numbers, arrows, and words on it. This strip is called a touch strip. This switch panel is very thin and sticks to the front panel. To choose a function, you simply press the desired function.

Starting on the left side of the touch strip there is the square that is labeled "Program" and then five more squares labeled 1 through 5. This function is similar to the one found on most car radios. You select five of your favorite stations and program them into the memory of the FM-1. You can then, in the future, select any of the five programmed stations at a touch of the touch strip.

Next, on the touch strip, you find two arrows. One is pointing left and the other right. These are used for manual tuning. You push the square with the arrow pointing towards the direction you wish to tune. After the arrows, you will find three more squares. They are labeled "Scan", "Search" and "Stereo Search". When you push "Scan", the FM-1 starts scanning the FM broadcast band until a station of pre-set strength appears. The tuner then stops scanning and remains on that frequency. If you want to listen to that station, you push the "Scan" square once again. If you don't want to listen to that station, you wait seven seconds and the FM-1 will continue to scan. This cycle will continue indefinitely until you find a station you prefer and push the "Scan" square the second time, or until the FM-1 is turned off. When the "Search" square is pressed, the FM-1 automatically scans until it reaches a station of a pre-set level. It will

then stop scanning and will not continue. The last square is "Stereo Search". When this square is pressed, the FM-1 automatically scans to the next stereo station of a pre-set level. When this station is tuned, the FM-1 then stops and scanning will not continue.

Now that the functions of the FM-1 are covered, we move up further on the front panel. You can see three half inch numbers in the center. This is the display of the frequency that the tuner is tuned to. To the right of the numbers you find a long green (LED) bar of dots. This display is called an analog display. This is for those of us who are more comfortable with being able to see where we are on the FM dial instead of just seeing the numbers. A dot travels across this display to show where you are in reference to other stations.

To the left of the half inch digital display (frequency numbers) there are two more shorter displays. These displays are also LED (Light Emitting Diode) bars. One is labeled "Signal" and the other "Multipath". The one marked "Signal" indicates how strong a station is compared to other stations at your antenna. The other marked "Multipath" is a bit more complicated. This display shows a form of distortion called multipath distortion (makes sense). Multipath occurs when a signal from a radio station goes directly to the FM-1 antenna, added to the signal from the same station bounced off of some object like a building or a watertower or other things and then hits the same antenna as the direct signal, but later. This causes a distortion easily heard through speakers. The reason this indicator was included with the other displays was for people who have their FM antennas mounted on a rotor (motor). They are better able to point their antenna towards the station that they want to listen to. The multipath display helps them position their antenna to the proper spot.

The last, but definitely not least of the CROWN FM-1, is the stereo indicator. This is a round red LED that illuminates when a stereo station is tuned in. Looking at all of the controls and features of the CROWN FM-1, I'm sure that you will agree that this is not a "regular" tuner. The FM-1 is truly an advanced piece of audio equipment that will bring many hours of enjoyment to those who take that one step closer to the "perfect" system.

-- James I. Stembel



Crown Crier Survey: What Are Some Of Your Easter Traditions?

Starting out on my CROWN Crier Survey, I was once again met by blank stares and sad shaking of heads. My confidence shaken and afraid I had come up with another bummer question, I pressed on. By the time my journey was over I was laughing and my faith in myself was restored. So, instead of resigning my position, I present this month's survey -- "What are some of your family's Easter traditions?"

We always go out of state to visit relatives.

My Mom always made up special Easter baskets.

Every year we would go to an Easter egg hunt, but I never found a gold or wooden egg that would have won a bike.

All of my relatives get together at my Mom's and we have a big dinner.

We get up and go to sunrise service.

I always bought my kids a toy to go with their baskets.

We always had an Easter egg hunt at home.

I eat candy until I get sick.

We made Easter baskets with our names on them.

My folks always hid our baskets and after church we had to find them.

We always got a new Easter bonnet.

We have an Easter egg hunt at Grandma's.

Mom dresses up in a bunny suit and Dad throws eggs at her. The kids keep score.

We go to Grandma's on Easter. Also, my Mom always decorates our house and sometimes has an egg tree.

I always received a paddle with a ball on the end of it in my Easter basket. I get the same gift for my granddaughter.

We hid Easter eggs in the backyard for the kids to find.

My husband's family always get together for dinner.

We have an Easter hunt at our house for all of the family. If it rains, we have the hunt in the barn and then all year long my husband would find the candy they missed.

I hide chocolate eggs in the house for my grandson.

We would go shopping the Saturday before Easter. We'd always get hats and gloves -- the whole works -- and we'd always look real nice on Easter Sunday.

Mom always let us kids color our own eggs.

We made an Easter tree with real egg shells. We'd crack the eggs in half and put grass and chicks in them.

My folks hid our Easter baskets on the edge of the woods and we had to find them.

We had a family reunion and all the kids had to hunt for candy eggs.

My Mom always bought me a new dress and a headband with flowers on it.

I remember on the Monday following Easter all the girls at school had on their new Easter dresses.

My Mom always got us straw cowboy hats, turned them upside down and used them for our "Easter basket". This way we had a present that lasted after the candy was gone.

I always got my husband something he wanted or needed and used it as the "basket". Last year I got him a pan to drain oil in.

We had an Easter egg hunt outside and I remember once that there was a pair of jeans on the clothesline and they had eggs in them.

Mom and Dad always hid our Easter baskets in places that were hard to find. Like one year they hid my basket in the dryer.

My husband always does something special. One year he dropped a trail of jellybeans leading to my present. Another year he gave me a big stuffed frog that was as tall as he.

My kids always hid the eggs, but would forget where they put them.

We have an early morning breakfast for the youth in our Sunday School class.

Our family always has hot cross buns and pickled eggs every year.

My Mom always made us Easter dresses and hats.

We always received Sees candy, which is similar to Fanny May's. It was a big chocolate egg with chocolate cream and walnuts inside.

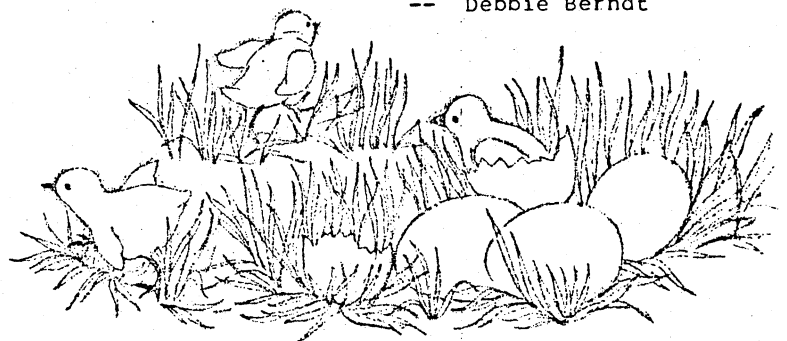
My Mom made a new dress every year.

I always got a new bonnet.

For my fellow friends who felt they didn't do anything special or different, think of it this way. Just "going to church" and having a family dinner IS a special tradition for it shows that Easter is at least on your conscience. For if it weren't for those things, Easter would just be another day. Try to make this Easter special so it won't be just another day or just another Easter. Jesus couldn't have said it any better as he did at the last supper, "Do this in remembrance of me."

God bless you all!

-- Debbie Berndt



The Legend of the Easter Egg

The following poem was contributed by Deb Berndt. Her mother found the newspaper clipping of this poem in a Bible that was 102 years old. Deb does not know when the poem was written, or who the author was.

Cathedral bells with their hollow lungs,
Their vibrant lips and their brazen tongues,
Over the roof of the city pour
Their Easter music with joyous roar,
Till the soaring notes to the sun are rolled,
As he swings along in his path of gold.

"Dearest Papa", says my boy to me,
As he merrily climbs on his father's knee.
"Why are these eggs that you see me hold
Colored so finely with blue and gold?
And what is the beautiful bird that lays
Such beautiful eggs on Easter days?"

Tenderly shine the April skies
Like laughter and tears in my child's blue eyes,
And every face in the street is gay,
Why cloud my boy's by saying nay?
So I cudgeled my brain for the story he begs,
And tell him the story of the Easter eggs:

"You have heard, my boy, of the One who died,
Crowned with keen thorns and crucified:
and how Joseph the wealthy, whom God reward,
Cared for the corpse of his martyred Lord,
And piously tombed it within the rock,
And closed the gate with a mighty block?"

"Now close by the tomb a fair tree grew,
With pendulous leaves and blossoms of blue;
And deep in the green tree's shadowy breast
A beautiful songbird sat on her nest,
Which was bordered with mosses like malachite
And held four eggs of an ivory white."

"Now when the bird from her dim recess
Beheld the Lord in His burial dress,
And looked on the Heavenly face so pale,
And the dear feet pierced with the cruel nail,
Her heart nigh broke with a sudden pang,
And out of the depth of her sorrow she sang."

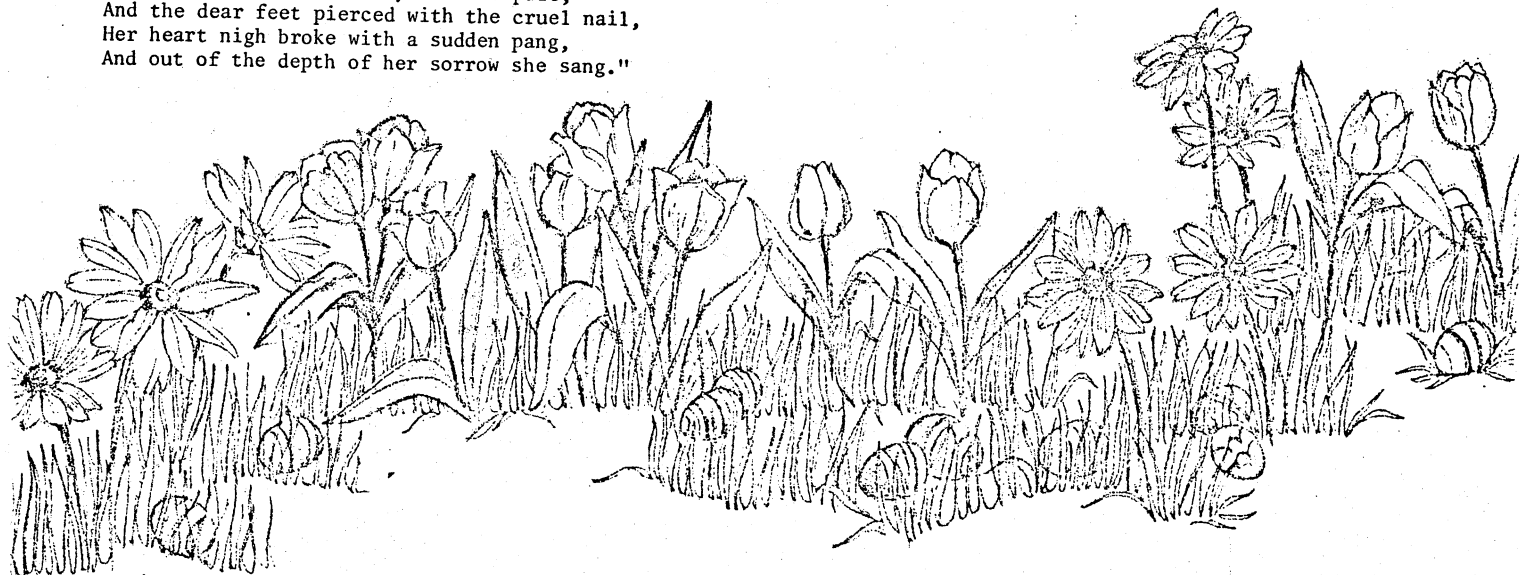
"All night long till the morn was up,
She sat and sang in her moss-wreathed cup.
A song of sorrow as wild and thrill
As the homeless wind when it roams the hill,
So full of tears, so loud and long,
That the grief of the world seemed turned to song."

"But soon there came through the weeping night
A glimmering angel, clothes in white,
And he rolled the stone from the tomb away,
Where the Lord of the earth and heavens lay:
And Christ arose in the cavern's gloom,
And in living luster came from the tomb."

"Now the bird that sat in the heart of the tree
Beheld the celestial mystery,
And its heart was filled with a sweet delight,
And it poured its song on the sleeping night;
Note followed note, till higher, higher.
They shot to heaven like spears of fire."

"When the glittering, white robed angel heard
The sorrowing song of the grieving bird,
And heard her low, sweet chant of mirth
That hailed Christ risen from the earth,
He said, 'Sweet bird be forever blest;
Thyself, thy eggs and thy moss wreathed nest.'"

"And ever, my child, since that blessed night,
When death bowed down to the Lord of Light,
The eggs of that sweet bird changed their hue,
And burn with gold, and red, and blue;
Reminding us all, like the morning ray,
Of the Holy Immanuel of Easter Day."



Puzzle of the Month

Norman Rockwell's Nostalgic Salute to April Fools: What's Wrong With This Picture?/



Personnel Paraphernalia

A group of BOB RYMAN'S (Boardroom) friends are taking up a collection so he can start Karate lessons.

Congratulations to PAM HIPSHER (Incoming Inspection) on the birth of Angela Marie on March 5th and to DIANE GRANGER (Modules) on the birth of Darrin David on March 14th.

We're glad to have CHRIS DEAK (Lit) back on the job after a month's vacation in Arizona.

STEVE HISEY (Service) is expecting a little Hisey in October. Congratulations!

LINDA O'NEILL (Line 1) went to Tennessee on vacation.

Ask DALE PARROTT (Service) what he's saving in his garage.

LOIS ROBERTS (Stockroom) is planning on spending some time in Florida during April.

CINDA PITTMAN and KAREN RYCKEART (Sales) spent a sunny week away from it all in California.

STEVE MYERS (Maintenance) is taking a couple of weeks off to do some odd jobs at home.

JOHN BACHMAN is making a move from Service to Engineering in the near future (hopefully, soon!).

RUTH OVERHULSER (Wire Cut) just stepped over to the other side as she became a grandmother on March 16th.

This is a picture of Line 5. They are all promoting the new CROWN T-shirt. Aren't they cute -- the shirts that is?



DAVE TROUP (Line 1) went to Phoenix on vacation.

DEB (Shipping) and WALT (Drafting) BERNDT were fully initiated on their farm venture when a skunk visited them.

KATHERINE WILLIAMS and LINDA VEST from Line 4 have new cars. TONI SIERACKI of Line 1 and ALLAN SCHRADER of Line 2 are driving new ones also.

DAN CRIPE (Stockroom) lost his car one day at work.

JANE BONTRAGER moved to Line 1.

CHERYL CROW (Line 6) was busy at home on her two week leave of absence.

JANET COOK (Line 2) was feted to an honorary farewell as she began her retirement on March 28th.

EVELYN MILLSAPS and RUTHANNE HERSHBERGER from Line 6 are both on leave of absences.



PRESKEL GAYHEART (Credit Manager) had quite a surprise when he showed up for work the day after his birthday.

JULIE TOWNS (Engineering) and family will soon be neighbors of CHRIS (Stockroom) and JIM (Tech Service) STENBEL.

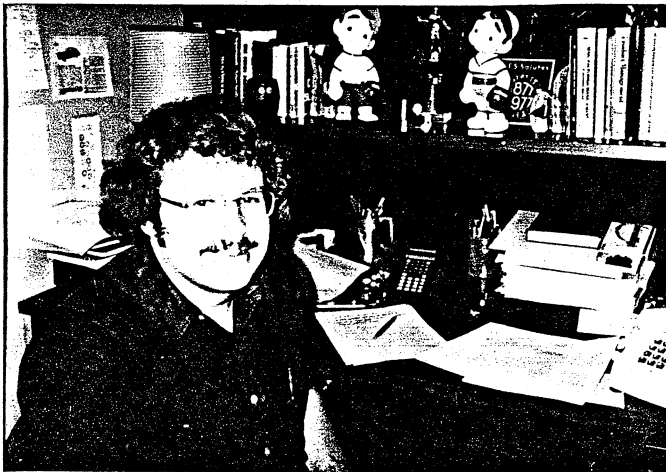
TIM BOCK (Drafting) is moving into a new trailer where he will be joined in August by his new bride.

ARLINE BONTRAGER (Administrative Assistant) knocked very timidly on the back door at CROWN late one night. Well, I mean really late one night. In fact, SO LATE that she dressed in her housecoat.

Congratulations to PAUL GERARD (Line 6) on the birth of his son, Paul Michael!



On the Other Hand



Among my forebears are the Scotch-Irish. I have no idea whom the other three were. The Scots are cheap and like golf. The Irish are hot-tempered and like Hurling, a gentle game which calls to mind some of the more graphic scenes from "The Godfather". I am particularly interested in the Irish part. On top of the other benefits this illustrious history has offered me, it has made it possible for me to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a clear conscience. I normally respond to this privilege by ignoring it.

I do this because it is inherently unfair to honor the life and name of a man who collected snakes for export, while excluding celebrations that might be carried out in honor of numerous other deserving historical personages.

Consider some of these. You will agree, if you are a fair person at all, that our observational habits are sadly limited.

We do not, as an example, honor Animal 2. Husbandry, the man who carried water and shovelled manure to make possible the first zoo. Without zoos most animals would never get to see the human race in its natural habitat; making faces, gaping, throwing bits of food, and making fun of creatures more civilized than themselves. Without this view and the comic relief provided to the animals, the animal kingdom would not have remained tolerant of our behaviour for all these years, and might well have thrown us off the planet long ago.

The man who invented the parking lot is similarly ignored. His name was Gravel T. Asphalt. The mind trembles at the prospect of our vehicle -- addicted culture trying to exist with no parking lots. Very simply put, we would not exist long. We would drive all over but never go anywhere due to the lack of parking space. Come to think of it, most drivers less than 19 years old do this now, though for different reasons. If the rest of us joined them, the whole operation would fold.

The creation of the first door is another on the list of our worldwide ignorees. Were it not for the determined efforts of this man, Storing Brasshinge, we would live perpetually in a state of half-private, half-public indifference. We would have no place to knock and nothing

to lock. What would we slam when we got mad? What could we shut in the face of an unwelcome visitor? Nothing could happen behind closed doors, and in fact nothing much at all would happen since we couldn't break life up into manageable sections separated by doors. We never would get the hang of it.

You have heard of Dixel Wheelright, the person who thought up the wheel. You haven't heard, unless you are an extremely unusual person, of Asbestos P. Brakeshoe, the man who invented a way to stop the wheel. A civilization without brakes for its wheels would be substantially worse off than one with no wheels at all. The defects of this situation can be observed in any playground where small children maneuver about in small vehicles with no brakes. They hit things a lot. Give them bigger and faster vehicles without brakes as they grow older, and all of the landscape, persons included, will be flatter than your wallet.

One final example will have to do. If you are not convinced by then, we must assume you are not paying attention.

We speak fondly of Orville and Wilbur Wright, who invented an airplane that worked. It remained for Slipstream Airflush, a little-known plumbing salesman, to add a privy to the airplane, without which all flights would still be about the length of Orville's and Wilbur's. We would be hard-pressed to fly non-stop across Elkhart County, let alone across countries and oceans.

The next time you feel sentimental and generally appreciative (or in 6 weeks, whichever shows up first), observe a few moments of silence for the numerous worthies of history who are scarcely remembered. It may not make you feel much better, and it certainly won't do any of them any good, but it will help pad the celebration schedule while we all wait for another President whose birthday is worth remembering.

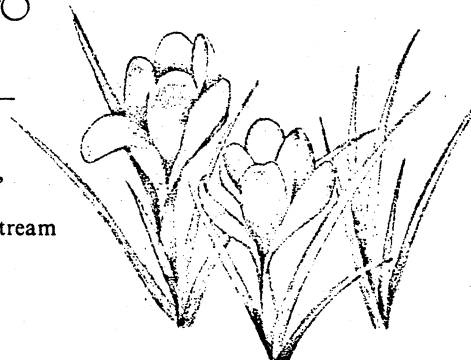


Spirit of Spring

Joy is just around the bend,
Spring is on the way.
Need I tell you how I know—
A robin chirped today!

Crocus showed its loveliness,
Tulips came in view,
Down along the woodland stream
Breezes whispered, too!

Joy is just around the bend,
Spring is on the way,
April brought the sunbeams
For my heart today!



A Special Contribution

TWO TYPES OF BEGGING

Some have painted a picture of the Almighty God, who created everything, as begging and, therefore, begging man to turn from their rebellion against Him so He won't have to destroy them. God is merciful and longsuffering, yes, but to call Him a beggar is simply not true.

The records show that on one occasion one third of God's created orders rebelled against Him and God condemned them to eternal torture with no repentance. At another time, when man became very rebellious and wicked, God destroyed the whole population with a flood saving only eight people. At other times, God is seen destroying one's and two's, thousands and ten thousands, and even whole nations with sudden death, fires, plagues, snakes, wars, and even by opening the ground to swallow men alive.

The records also see into the future to tell of a period of seven years in which the earth will experience terrible destruction, plagues, famine, fires, pollutions, meteorite showers and world war. During this earthshaking period, man is seen as not giving up his rebellion, but rather he grows stronger in his cursing of God.

There is even one place in the record where man is seen crying out to God, "Let us break their bands asunder and cast away their cords from us." This is to say, "We don't like God's ways of doing things, we want to do our own thing, and we're tired of having anyone ruin our fun by condemning us." It may be surprising to see how God responds to such a cry from man. His response is to laugh at man, declaring the time will come when His Son will be set up as the Sovereign King of the earth and He (God's Son) will destroy all nations. If anyone wants mercy, they better bow down to the Son right away before His wrath sparks up just a little. (Psalms 2)

It was no doubt upon seeing this side of God that one writer wrote, "Since I know what the fear of God can do, I am trying to win men." (II Cor. 5:11) In another place that same writer wrote, "As one representing Christ, I beg you, be reconciled to God."

And this is the other type of begging. This is the begging that we, as men who have been reconciled to God, do. We, too, rebelled and were worthy of eternal torturous death; yet one day we heard of a way to be made in good standing again with God. We took the offer and now find ourselves in communication with the God of the universe and have been given the position, "adopted sons".

After our short test and pilgrimage in this life, we have been granted resurrection and a place on a new earth, which will appear after this present earth is destroyed by fire. Because we know the fear of God, yes, even the terror of God, and yet also know the love of God and the good things He's promised for those who are reconciled to him -- we beg. We beg men not to continue on in rebellion. We beg men not to choose such a horrible death. We beg men because we know it's possible to be reconciled to God.

We, as but men, cannot change God's requirements and penalty for rebellion; so we do all we can. That is to beg men to turn around, choose life and not death. Be reconciled to God. There's only one way to be reconciled to God and that is to bow down to His Son. And that Son is -- Jesus.

-- Lynn Scholfield

The Saturday Evening Post ran the following "Puzzle" when the illustration first appeared on its cover thirty-six April Fools' Days ago. A few of the items listed may not seem at all incongruous to contemporary readers, which just goes to show how times have changed. "There are at least forty-five major April fooleries in Norman Rockwell's April Fool cover. If you can find twenty-five of them you are shooting par. If you can find thirty-five you're bogey-plus, and if you find more than that, you ought to start discovering new stars with the naked eye. "To check your score, the principal April fooleries in the painting are: the trout, the fishhook and the water, all on the stairway; the stairway running behind the fireplace, an architectural impossibility; the mailbox; the faucet; wallpaper upside down; wallpaper has two designs; the scissors candlestick; silhouette upside down; bacon and egg on the decorative plates; the April Fool clock; the portraits; ducks in the living room; zebra looking out of the frame; mouse looking out of the mantelpiece; a tire for the iron rim of the mantelpiece; medicine bottle and glass floating in the air; fork instead of a spoon on the bottle; the old lady's hip pocket; the newspaper in her pocket; her wedding ring on the wrong hand; buttons on the wrong side of her sweater; crown on her head. Still-son wrench for a nutcracker in her hand; skunk on her lap; she is wearing trousers; she has on ice skates; no checkers on checkerboard; wrong number of squares on checkerboard; too many fingers on old man's hand; erasers on both ends of his pencil; he is wearing a skirt; he has a bird in his pocket; he is wearing roller skates; he has a hoe for a cane; billfold on string tied to his finger; milkweed growing in room; milk bottle on milkweed; deer under chair; dog's paw on deer; mushrooms; woodpecker pecking chair; buckle on man's slipper; artist's signature in reverse."

BABY FACE THIS MONTH -- April Fool's!!!!!!
And there's no fool like an April Fool!

1980 Ping Pong Champs

