

Maine *Highway News*

JUNE, 1958



Maine Highway News

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Mail all correspondence to MAINE HIGHWAY NEWS, Special Services Division, State Highway Commission, Augusta, Maine.

Volume 1

JUNE, 1958

Number 8

EMERGENCY HIGHWAY PROGRAM

Because of action taken by the Legislature on May 8, the State will be able to take advantage of a 4½ million-dollar Federal-aid emergency highway construction program on the primary, secondary and urban systems.

\$600,000 in State funds was made available from the proceeds of the 24-million-dollar bond issue approved by voters last September to provide the States matching share. Authorization was also given to obtain an advance of \$919,343 from future Federal-aid grants. The remaining \$2,975,768. of the total \$4,495,111. will also come from Federal-aid grants.

This emergency program, known as the "D" program, is to be supplementary to, and not in lieu of, other work programmed for the ABC systems.

By the time you read this several of the "D" projects will be under contract or advertised for bids. All will probably be under contract by September (most of them earlier) and must be under contract by December 1, 1958 in order to be included in the program.

Projects included in the "D" program (subject to the approval of the Bureau of Public Roads) are listed below:

Amherst, Route 9, \$100,000; Augusta, Route 201, \$250,000; Bowdoin-Bowdoinham-Richmond, Route 201, \$400,000; Corinth, Route 43, \$50,000; Dexter, Route 7, \$382,000; Ellsworth Trenton, Route 3, \$100,000; Fryeburg, Route 302, \$70,000; Gorham, Route 25, \$65,000; Gray, Route 26, \$72,000; Jonesboro, Route 1, \$400,000; Macwahoc northerly, Route 2-A, \$900,000; Guilford-Greenbush, Route 2, \$500,000; Norridgewock-Madison, Route 201-A, \$25,000; Orland, Route 1, \$80,000; Parkman, Route 150, \$80,000; Rockport, Route 1, \$245,000; Rumford, Route 2, \$50,000; Saco, Route 1, \$200,000; Saco, Route 5, \$275,000; Saco, Route 98, \$50,000; Skowhegan, Route 2, \$150,000; Standish, Route 25, \$20,000.

COVER

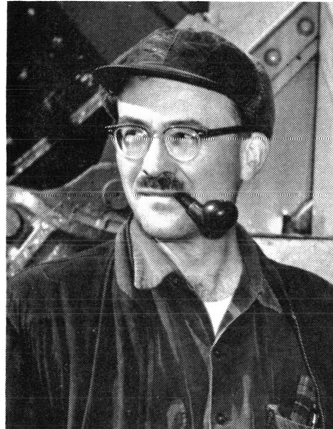
SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

This aerial view shows Interstate Route 95 as it cuts through Freeport. It also shows how a much greater degree of safety, automatically becomes incorporated in highways built to new interstate standards. Within the not too distant past, eight people were killed in violent crashes at the Pownal Road crossing. Now, the controlled access highway with the interchange and overpass have wiped out this multiple death trap. We, and all the people who use Maine Highways, can look forward to safer motoring as these roads with built-in safety become a reality.

ROCK AND BLUE GOO

by Robert Schmidtman,

Resident Engineer, Edgecomb-Newcastle Project



BOB SCHMIDTMANN

The problems presented by the 2.2 miles of road and bridge construction in Edgecomb-Newcastle are enough to stir the interest of the most bushy-tailed engineer and try the patience of the most case-hardened contractor. The combination of bog and ledge are most judiciously placed in order to challenge and confound the man who attempts to plan the movements of the materials. Blue clay, that unloved substance which kills production and mutilates the purse,

keeps popping up at the most trying times. The bogs have no bottoms and the one bridge requires piling over a hundred feet long to keep its deck above water.

Nick Del Monaco, superintendent for Thomas DiCenzo of Calais, Maine, keeps his plan of attack flexible and has managed to complete twenty-five per cent of the work required prior to the beginning of the time charge. His progress can be attributed, in part, to the sizable amount of equipment that he has at his disposal. Three 2½ yard Northwest shovels, 8 Caterpillar tractors and fifteen or more ten-wheel Mack trucks provide the backbone of the striking force. Two Joy drills cutting four inch holes are reducing the drilling time required on the 60,000 cubic yards of ledge. Sixty-six thousand cubic yards of earth excavation was estimated for the project.

The three bogs provide points of real interest. The first is located in Cod Cove, in the tidal reaches of the Sheepscott River. A variation on water level of about nine feet makes work here a short shift proposition. A surcharge is being



TOUGH TERRAIN in Edgecomb is studied by Schmidtman. The combination of bog and ledge makes this project both challenging and interesting. In the foreground is a bog that will require a thirty-five-foot fill, and in the background equipment can be seen working in ten, twenty-foot ledge cut.

placed on the sides of the embankment, and on the south side of the present bridge a temporary structure will be constructed to maintain traffic pending completion of the new 260-foot steel pile bridge. The ledge fill under the east bearing surface has settled five feet to date. Present settlement has slowed down and it is expected that equilibrium will soon be reached.

The second bog is a normal run-of-the-mill type requiring only the removal of two feet of muck, placement of a three-foot blanket of granular material and a maximum of eight feet of fill.

The third bog is a real daisy. A ten foot crust conceals an excess of twenty feet of blue goo. To add to the confusion a thirty-five foot fill crosses the bog where a culvert must be slipped in somewhere to provide a home for a busy little brook. We are presently engaged in coping with this problem. Relief ditches have been blown at the toe of the proposed embankment through the ten foot crust parallel to the centerline. A head of ledge more than twenty feet high is being carried across the valley. At the toe of the ledge slope dummy joints are spaced about every twenty feet. As the heading of ledge advances the crust crumbles and the blue clay extrudes through the planes of weakness provided by the relief ditches.

To add to the problem of work scheduling, there exists a fifty foot ledge cut between bog two and bog three. Prior to any dynamiting in this ledge cut, the work on bog two must be completed as repeated concussions tend to liquefy the materials originally found there.

The sizing of equipment for specific work has proven itself worthy of comment. In large earth cuts and in placing the rock from the ledge headings a D-9 Caterpillar has found work that really tests its muscles. The 600 Gyro-Flo compressors by Ingersoll-Rand operate the Joy drills without effort. D-4's and D-8's are used on backslopes and impress the traveling public with their agility and capability. A Worthington 125 is used to drive jack hammers for popping high points of ledge that nose through the subgrade. Side dumps are utilized in the cramped quarters around the bridges. Various strengths and physical characteristics of Du Pont dynamite are being utilized to cope with the blasting problems encountered.

The bridge portion of the project is being built by subcontractor Callahan Brothers, Inc., of Mechanic Falls, Maine. Seven spans of the Wiscasset bridge have been removed and replaced by fill. This provides the additional space required



THE BIG BITE of a 2½ yard shovel makes quick work of loading rock blasted from a head of ledge. 60,000 yards of ledge will have to be moved in building this 2.2 mile section of U. S. Route 1.

to raise the grade and begin a curve that will take the nasty kink out of the present alignment. The new bridge in Cod Cove will be a 260 foot structure of three spans, continuous steel I-beam construction with a reinforced concrete deck. A number 7 McKiernan-Terry will be used to drive pile through the soft sub-surface material. G. Lewis Johnson, Bridge Engineer, is on the job to insure that the bridge is aimed in the proper direction.

The project was bid for \$697,862.20 with excavation unclassified. The latter fact delights we engineers who would otherwise be spending our lunch periods and other odd moments cross-sectioning ledge.

With the continuation of present progress and the good offices of the weatherman, hot-top should be in place in July of this year. It is expected that the bridge construction will require a little more time. About the first week in June, a hot-topped detour to the temporary bridge will be constructed to speed the happy vacationists to their destination with a minimum of inconvenience.

An invitation is extended by Shorty Johnson and myself to all interested parties to stop by and take a look at this most interesting project.



NEW EQUIPMENT, part of an order for 191 units, was photographed at the Motor Transport garage before being delivered to all sections of the state. The 19 new shovels purchased during the winter replace old ones and bring the Department's shovel inventory up to date with all machines in first class condition.

THE MEN OF DIVISION 2



DIVISION 2 SUPERVISORS are shown along with Page Johnson, Division Engineer. These are the men responsible for the maintenance of roads in Hancock and Washington Counties. They are, left to right: Page Johnson; Manoel Gaspar, Supervisor in the Bucksport-Deer Isle district; Edward Cottle, Division Supervisor; Jay Hubbard, Supervisor in the Amherst-Gouldsboro area; Frank Miller, Mariaville to Southwest Harbor; Minden Perkins, Alexander to Cutler; Ernest Mushroe, Danforth-Calais district. Hollis Schoppee, Supervisor in the Jonesboro-Wesley area, was not present when the picture was taken.

RECENT CONTRACT AWARDS

APRIL 23, 1958

PARSONAGE BRIDGE — ACTON
WEBSTER BRIDGE — BERWICK
State Project No. 5709-5730
George Hemond, Minot, Maine—\$24,124.40.

APRIL 30, 1958

INTERSTATE 95 — PORTLAND
Tukey's Bridge
F. A. Project I-B95-3(4) 50
W. H. Hinman, Inc., North Anson, Maine—\$2,350,337.50.
Linwood Cotton, Resident Engineer

MAY 7, 1958

INTERSTATE 95 — SIDNEY-WATERVILLE
2,008 Miles Grading, Drainage and Base Project
F. A. Project No. I-95-6(9) 116
Frank Rossi, Gardiner, Maine—\$472,954.50.

A MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM

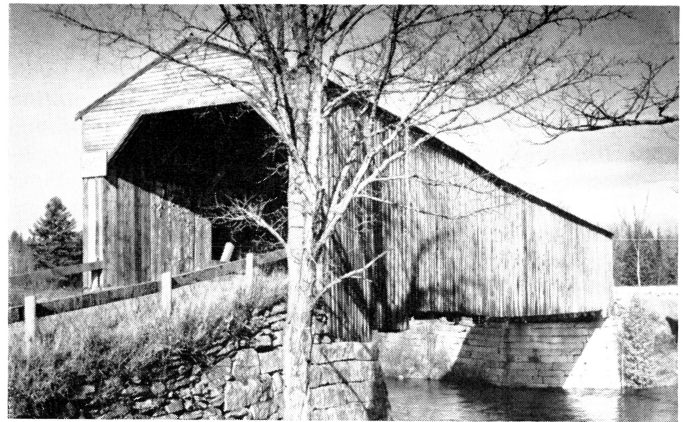
The sum of two numbers is 22, and half the difference of the square is 22. What are the numbers?

The name of all persons submitting the correct written solutions will appear in the next issue of the NEWS. We will also welcome any mathematical problems for use in future issues.



ELLSWORTH CLERKS, Juanita Walker and Rosa West. Rosa is the magazine correspondent for the Hancock County section of Division 2. Eleanor Garnett, clerk in the Machias office, is correspondent for the Washington County area. Eleanor's picture will appear in an early issue.

YOU NAME IT AND YOU CAN HAVE IT!



CAN YOU NAME IT? If you can, and send us your answer on a card with the earliest postmark, we will send you an 8 x 10 original print of the above reproduction. Send your answer to: Maine Highway News, Division of Special Services, State Office Building, Augusta, Maine. The picture last month was of the Orono Bridge on U. S. Route 2. The winner was Horace F. Clukey, Carmel, Maine.

RETIREMENTS

EDWARD J. BUTLER of Skowhegan, Supervisor in Division 4, retired on April 30, at the age of 70. He first came to the Department in 1923 as a Timekeeper and was made Foreman in 1931 and District Supervisor in January of 1946.

ROBERT D. STEPHENSON of Houlton, Laborer II, retired on April 30, at the age of 70. He has been employed in the Bridge Division since May 7, 1951.

OSCAR YOUNG of Warren, Patrolman in Division 5, retired on January 24, at the age of 64. He had been with the Department since May 1, 1923.



SAFE WORKERS enjoyed a dinner held on April 23rd at the Knox Hotel in Thomaston as an award for completing a year without a lost time accident. It was the second successive year for the Div. 5 crew of Ellery Prescott to hold this fine record. Those attending the dinner were: Ellery Prescott, George Hendsbee, Harvey Lunden, Benjamin Kaler, John Kuljie, Clayton Pushaw, Uno Ilvonen, Herbert McLain, Lewis Robinson, Kenneth Krah, Dyson Jameson, Floyd Mauk, Vaughn Peaslee, Raymond Waltz, Earl Snow, John Altonen and George Murphy, Safety Supervisor.

FIRST AID CERTIFICATE PRESENTED



A First Aid Certificate was presented by Ray Amiro of the American National Red Cross to George Murphy who accepted it on behalf of the Commission. The certificate stated that it was given "in grateful appreciation of outstanding cooperation in the conduct of Red

Cross first aid courses for employees."

The Standard Red Cross First Aid Course was successfully completed by 1,366 Highway employees and already there have been several times when this training has "paid off." This is testimony to the value of the program as set up by the Red Cross and carried out by George Murphy and his excellent group of instructors.

OBITUARIES

JOHN B. CHURCH



Highway Department associates were shocked to learn of the sudden death of John Church, Superintendent of Maintenance on Sunday, May 11th.

Born on November 28, 1893, John was a life-long resident of the State of Maine. He first entered the employ of the State on July 1, 1913, as a rodman for the Highway Commission. Aside from military service during World War I, he continued his services with the Department until his untimely death. He was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Maintenance in 1935 continuing in that capacity until January 1, 1940 at which time he was promoted to Superintendent of Maintenance, a position which he has held since that time.

Aside from his vast knowledge of conditions covering the great network of roads and highways throughout the state, John, as he was familiarly called by all who knew him, was most informal and as one might say—a member of the old school. Possessing an amusing dry wit he was ever ready with an answer to fit any situation. His many friends and co-workers throughout the state will miss his original and entertaining bits of conversation. The Department has lost one of its ablest members.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Albert D. Burton of Augusta; two stepdaughters, Mary Williams of Van Nuys, California, and Rachel Williams of Reseda, California; one sister, Mrs. Thomas Ramsdell of Augusta; two half-sisters, Mrs. Daniel Clark of Coopers Mills, and Mrs. Pauline Nichols of Hallowell; one granddaughter, Kathy Burton of Augusta; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, May 14th, at the Penney Memorial Church in Augusta.

AROUND THE AUGUSTA OFFICE

MAIN OFFICE

Gertrude Lunt

Mr. Alan M. Thompson, Assistant Treasurer of New England Road Builders Association and Editor of NERBA Magazine, was a visitor at the State Highway Department on April 10, 1958.

Others who have visited the Department recently are former Commissioner Clarence S. Crosby, and Mr. A. R. Curtis of Esso Standard Oil Company.

David H. Stevens, Chairman, and Vaughan M. Daggett, Chief Engineer, attended a meeting of the Rockland Business and Professional Women's Club on the evening of April 23rd, at which meeting Mr. Stevens was a speaker.

Former Chief Engineer Lucius D. Barrows informed us on April 16th that he and Mrs. Barrows were leaving the next morning for a five-weeks trip to California. Cards received at this office indicate that they are having a nice trip.

Chairman Stevens and Chief Engineer Daggett attended a meeting of Chief Administrative Officers and Chief Engineers of Highway Departments of all the states and territories of the United States, and officials of the Federal Bureau of Public Roads, in Chicago on April 28 and 29 for a discussion of the 1958 Federal Aid Highway Act.

PLANNING

Frances Lishness

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Morgan are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter. The little newcomer has been named Debra Helen and weighed in at six pounds and one ounce.

Mrs. Dorothy Bell has terminated her employment with the division on April 26th. We have enjoyed having Dorothy with us and we shall all miss her.

Philip Sprague and Larry Glynn are now sojourning in the wilds of Somerset County. Summer inventory is the objective but from the reports received from these hardy adventurers it is still a long way from summer up there.

Pauline Staciva is with us again after being on a two months' leave of absence because of an injured elbow. Nice to have you back, Polly.

Earle Gary and Gilles Gilbert, who were slated for a fishing trip, tell me that it is postponed to a future date. They refused to disclose the date.

Frances Lishness, correspondent for the Division, is on her annual vacation. In company with four others she plans to visit in Cleveland, Ohio; Toronto, Ontario, see Niagara Falls, and Washington, D. C.

James Whalen has recently taken part in two concerts given by the Gardiner Choral Society at Augusta State Hospital and Gardiner High School. Jim also took part in a minstrel show put on in Windsor.

We have the impression that a large portion of the time during Ned Metcalf's recent vacation trip to New York was spent in the theaters. He reports seeing *My Fair Lady*, *The Bells are Ringing*, and *New Girl in Town*.

George Locke is devoting some of his spare time to searching for valuable minerals on the Interstate project in the vicinity of the Townsend Road. Judging by samples brought in, he should be receiving many inquiries for further details.

ACCOUNTING

Irene Marsden

Frank Wilson of our Machine Accounting Room has enlisted in the U. S. Army and is now on Military Leave. He plans to study machine accounting and after basic training at Fort Dix will take special courses at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, in the Machine Records Unit.

Mrs. Dorothy Erickson is a new employee in our office.

Morris Allen has had his annual week-end fishing trip, this year at Rangeley Lakes, and although Morris wasn't as lucky as last year, several of the party caught beautiful salmon—even had their pictures in the "Kennebec Journal."

Mrs. Leona Grant is now infanticipating at her home. The office just isn't the same without her unfailing sense of humor. If the baby is a girl, Leona, we hope she turns out to be just like you. And how we miss those chemise dresses!

John Arata and Miss Avis Richards were married in Winthrop, Thursday evening, May 1st. They spent a few days in Connecticut visiting with friends there, and when they returned to their respective offices, their announcement that they were married took us all by surprise. Best wishes for a long, happy marriage, Avis and John.

FEDERAL AID SECONDARY

Bob Croswell

Wes Clark is back to work again after his accident.

Lionel E. St. Pierre is back in the office again after being out two weeks with the flu.

Tom Skofield was home from the Army on furlough the last of April.

Carmen Cyr went to the hospital May 7th for an operation on her wrist.

There are many signs of spring this month. We have one clean window thanks to h.e.b.

John Alley has been on vacation.

Stan McDonald, Leland Haywood and Alan Hart left for the winterland of New Sweden on May 5th. Roland St. Pierre substituted for Hart.

Leroy McCormack is on the Hartland-St. Albans project. Frank Brown, Dick Landerkin, Bill Haley, and Vint Savage, Jr., are on the Augusta project on North Belfast Avenue. Mitt Dyer and George Whitehouse are on the Dresden-Pitts- ton project, and Dick Fallon and Don Rollins are on the Farmington project.

On April 11th a son, Stephen, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wood. Mother, son and father are doing fine.

On May 5th an 8 lb., 6 oz., daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hinds. All are doing well.

Due to speedup of the highway program, Sim Gregoire didn't take the vacation reported last month. He had his wife do the painting.

Jerry Irons from South Paris is a new employee with us for the summer. Jerry was formerly at Northrup Aeronautical Institute at Los Angeles. He plans to go to the U. of M. this fall.

H. Vance Hallet, Eminent Commander of Trinity Commandery No. 7, attended the Grand Commandery Session in Portland May 4th, 5th. He also attended Blue Lodge and Chapter meetings.

The garden planting vacation which Vance Hallet planned to take was cut short due to inclement weather.

MAINTENANCE

Georgianna Patten

The Maintenance Division has suffered a great loss in the sudden death of John B. Church. Not only the Highway Department but the State of Maine has lost a man who will be hard to replace.

We in the Maintenance Division feel that we have lost a real friend. The shock of his passing is so great that writing a column for the Highway News for the month is an impossible task.

STATE AID

Josephine Whalen

Jay L. Robbins has lost seven more teeth—more to follow. He is anticipating new choppers next Fall. "Spoon vittles" for him all Summer. He says that he expects to starve when dandelion greens go out of season.

Josephine Whalen was absent three days recently with the flu.

As the State Aid Division has only a few
It is really a problem to write something new.

But there's one in our midst who would so slender be
That she now eats no food, only capsules and tea.

She has lost many pounds in the last month or so
And still on her diet—It's Marguerite, as you know.

The other two females would like to be thin
But Alas and Alack to resist food—It's a sin.

But if anyone desires to lose half his weight
See Marguerite for the formula and resist a full plate.

BRIDGE

Burleigh Boyd

In spite of the frigid weather, signs of spring keep cropping out. First came the robins, then Charles Allen, who wintered in Florida and California. Dan Harding has a 1958 Chevy and George Stangel a 1958 Buick. Two of the boys took advantage of the buyers market in used cars: Charles Whitten has an Olds 98 Holiday Sedan and Oscar Bunker has an Olds 98 Convertible. Pat Partridge waxed his car. Jerry Clark reports his lion hound, Kim, has returned from a honeymoon of sorts sans bride. With all these portents, we can surely anticipate a few days of summer even though Vint Smith still skis every weekend at Sugarloaf.

Wilfred Pinette has transferred from Motor Transport to Bridge Maintenance.

William Allen, drawtender at South Bristol, is on his honeymoon. Larry Kelsey will tend the boat traffic in his absence.

Charles Seavey of Fred Potter's crew has moved into the Winslow trailer park and now commutes.

Phil Libby transferred from Skowhegan to Bath to replace Frank Foster who left us for the Army Engineers.

Don Hoxie of East Winthrop has started work in the Division.

Verne Grant, who acted as Safety Engineer on the Bath job last winter, has returned as Paint Foreman.

Young Bill Harris' recent European itinerary reads: Seville, Lisbon, Paris, London, and the Brussels World's Fair.

Charles Savage has gone to Blaine, George Gormley to Oxford, and Ed Coffin to Kennebunk.

George Stangel is building a new ranch house on Second Avenue.

RIGHT OF WAY

Charlotte Blumenthal

That beautiful tan which Arnold Cooper, Right of Way Attorney, acquired while attending the Mardi Gras in New Orleans, has just about faded out.

Morris and I were in Boston May 3rd weekend where we expected to watch the Red Sox take Detroit, but the game was rained out after three innings, so now we are looking forward to watching it July 20th.

Jack Maasen, Right of Way Agent, has returned to work after being absent on Military Leave. Seemed real pleased to be back.

Arnold Cooper has been elected senior New England Chapter member of the American Right of Way Association. Harlan P. Newton, chapter president, made the announcement at Boston recently. Cooper has been a Right of Way Attorney for the Maine State Highway Commission for the past three and one-half years.

William H. Bradford, Right of Way Engineer, and John Appleton, Right of Way Agent, attended the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers, New England Appraisal Conference, held in Connecticut April 24-26. Mr. Bradford also attended the American Right of Way Association monthly meeting in Boston, April 10th.

Ann Varney, along with her husband, "Pete," spent two days in Connecticut recently visiting relatives.

FEDERAL AID PRIMARY

Nellie Chase

Fellow workers are welcoming Earl Bartlett back from the South. Earl is working for the Highway Department in a different bracket this year. He is working for himself under the name of Bartlett Engineering Co., Inc.

Helen Davis went to Wakefield, Massachusetts, recently to visit her cousin and family.

Norman Worthing, David Griffin and Dana Bartlett are back from military leave.

Henry Campbell has an addition to his sheep fold. A daughter, "Mary," was born last Sunday, May 4th. He will soon have quite a sheep ranch if he doesn't watch out.

Wilford Litchfield took his cat to the veterinary recently to have its teeth cleaned. Thomas is now back home doing fine.

Congratulations have been extended to William A. Sandblom recently upon the arrival of a new son at his house.

I understand that Moan Libby fell down stairs the other day—no bones broken and not even a black and blue mark.

Dave Smith is back working full time now.

The following Engineering Aides have recently been hired for the summer months: Ernest E. Baker, Robert B. Blake, Donald G. Clark, Meylont G. Kenney, Harold M. Meader, Jr., and Ronald Powers.

Kenneth Cram came to work April 14th as an Engineering Technician II.

Larry Murphy, member of the National Advisory Committee, visited the AASHO Test Road site at LaSalle, Illinois, on April 17, 18 and 19. Larry just recently returned from a fishing trip at Rangeley. The ice was too thin for ice fishing, too thick for open water fishing, so Murphy returned with a skunk.

On April 18th Vinton Savage attended a meeting of the Joint Oral Examination Board for the purpose of examining civil engineers IV and V.

MOTOR TRANSPORT

Clarence Madden

Charles Pelton became a grandfather April 10th when his daughter, Myrna Pelton Baker, gave birth to a son, Charles Orin.

Ernest Bartlett was called to Danforth upon the death of his mother, Izetta Robinson, born in New Brunswick, Canada, 84 years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. John Margesson, Caribou, vacationed with their son in Stuben recently. Word received here was that John's "preacher son" had accepted a call to a church in western New York state. Let's join with the Margessons in wishing his son and wife good luck.

Elmer "Titus" Moody is anticipating a good run of tinker mackerel this spring. Mr. Moody has indicated that if the run is as good as last year he will continue to sell them six for a dollar.

We are glad to report that Charles Hadley, who has had a most miserable case of bursitis, has now returned to work.

New cars have been purchased by Bill Thomas and Bill Bessey. Bessey chose a 1958 Plymouth, while Thomas chose a 1958 Chevy.

The C. D. alert was answered by complete cooperation in the Augusta garage. True, we were uncertain what all the whistles meant, but we all dug in at the sound of the warning. Elaine Badershall, Irene Hayden and Ernest Caldwell took over their respective jobs at the airport.

Before another issue of the NEWS can be published, Herbert "Ray" Fuller will have retired. Ray, now 70, says he won't know what to do with himself. A well earned retirement, Ray. Make the most of it, but don't forget your friends at Motor Transport.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Humphrey attended the "Capping and Lighting of Lamps" ceremony for their daughter, at Keuka College, New York. Miss Betty was one of 34 student nurses to receive the honor, an historical moment in their professional lives.

On Monday, April 21st, Motor Transport Director Alton Blaisdell called a meeting in Augusta of the equipment superintendents from the field and the three other garages. Protective maintenance was his concern while matters of personnel, such as classifications of employees, was given over to George Smith of Highway personnel. Matters of safety were turned over to George Murphy, safety director. Attending the meeting from outside the Augusta garage were Alton Purvis from Caribou, Millard Purvis from Scarboro, Charles Davis, Field Superintendent, and Kenneth Purvis, Foreman of the Ellsworth garage.



NEWS FROM THE DIVISIONS



DIVISION 1—Presque Isle

Janice Beals

This season of the year seems to be the time when vacations are in order or perhaps more exact, necessary, to forestall the loss of vacation credits because the maximum has accrued. For most employees, it is the time for a "breather" between the winter and summer program activities—and if you don't take advantage of it, you may find yourself pretty well out of breath before the next opportunity rolls around. It is also a great time to start the fishing season off or, if you prefer, help your wife with the spring cleaning.

Among those taking advantage of the opportunity during the past month were Paul Sawyer, Victor Peterson, "Bob" Anderson, Vaughn Knight, Thurber Durost, James Stone, Floyd Braley, Sherman Daigle, and Wallace Chase.

Eugene Sawyer substituted for District Supervisor Victor Peterson and Thurber Durost while they were on vacation. Thurber spent his vacation remodeling his home on Benjamin Street, Mars Hill. Rather a strenuous vacation but they say a change is as good as a rest.

"Bill" Washburn filled in for "Bob" Anderson while he was on leave.

Our Division Engineer and his family spent a few days visiting friends and relatives in Portsmouth, N. H., and Boston, Mass.

George Murphy, representing the Commission, was host Tuesday evening, April 29th, to 35 employees from Supervisor Peterson's district at a supper given at the Log Cabin in Caribou in recognition of their fine safety record of one year without a lost time accident. George serves a pretty good meal so more of you fellows should be taking advantage of it. Just follow the motto: "Work safe 365 days then you eat and George pays."

Ben Dube, patrolman helper in the St. Francis area, returned to work April 12th.

Sam McNally was confined to his home in Patten because of sickness from April 23rd to May 1st.

DIVISION 2—Ellsworth

Rosa West

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Mason and Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Gup-till recently spent the weekend in Boston.

Jay Hubbard was in West Medway, Massachusetts, recently, visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Neale are the parents of a daughter, Heather Jane, born April 23rd.

Manny Gaspar killed a large bobcat on the Toddy Pond Road. The cat weighed twenty-eight pounds.

We are happy to welcome Leon Johnson of Machias to our engineering department. He came to us from the Bureau of Public Roads.

John Carter, patrolman, has been on the sick list. Hope he is better soon.

DIVISION 2—Machias

Eleanor Garnett

William Saddler of Machias has returned home after being a surgical patient in the Veterans Hospital at Togus. Our wishes for a speedy recovery, Red.

Lewis Lovejoy of Addison has been out sick with the flu for a few days.

Our get-well wishes are extended to Harry Dennison of Lubec, who is a patient in the Veterans Hospital at Togus.

Sympathy is extended to Eldred Bryant of Machias in the loss of his wife, Pearl.

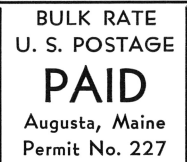
Supervisor and Mrs. Hollis Schoppee spent a few days' vacation in Lewiston and Wilton.

Levi Lancaster was a recent visitor in the office.

State aid construction has started in Township #30. Arthur Look, foreman; Whitneyville, Oscar Mawhinney, foreman; and Edmunds, Elmer Graham, foreman, are on the job.

Mr. and Mrs. Myron Peaslee of Calais, recently visited his family in Jefferson and also spent some time in Boston.

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED — Postmaster: If addressee has removed and new address is known, notify sender on form 3547, Maine State Highway Commission, State Office Building, Augusta, Maine, giving new address, postage for which is guaranteed.



DIVISION 3—Bangor

Reita Townsend

We just found out that Ford Bowden is the proud grandfather of twins born February 21st. A boy Larry Allen, a girl Lori-Ann. Their mother is Mrs. Philip Eckert.

Our Right-of-Way Agent Robert Doe has been transferred to the Augusta office. We certainly miss him around here.

S. B. Dickson is another one who received the Safe Driver Award.

During the recent floods we certainly had all the water we want for a while. Route 2 through Costigan was closed for a while. Someone told us they saw a bass going across the road up there. Funny things you see when you haven't got a fishing rod. By the way, how far down that road did Mr. Deane go in the Buick? Crosby Buick—here he comes.

Never did hear how the fellow made out whose immediate superior was his wife, now we're wondering what the present standing is of the fellow who wrote "marital status" truck driver.

Wonder what Lloyd Roberts meant when he asked Jay Robbins if he was familiar up around Greenbush?

Allen Fleming had a few days off and went to Connecticut. You know, Allen, that when you have a flat tire and put on the spare, you should go have that tire fixed so that when you have another flat you have a spare. Bet you will next time.

Mel Roberts had a few days off last week and got his garden ready. Should have nice early peas and corn if the seeds don't rot. Good luck, Mel.

S. B. Dickson took a few days off recently. He didn't consider it a vacation as he remodeled his kitchen and the boss (Mrs. Dickson) was right there to see that it was done right.

Harold Russell, District Supervisor in the Millinocket area, is retiring after more than 27 years of service. He is retiring as of June 6th. Harold and his Mrs. are moving to Linneus where Harold can enjoy his farm. No radio to listen to, no roads to worry about. We certainly hope Harold enjoys his retirement. Retirement is when you have nothing to do all day and go to bed at night with it half done.

Quite a few of the summer employees are checking with the office to see when the summer starts.

Paul Byard was "Johnny on the spot" this week when he came upon an accident in the Carmel area. Driver had gone asleep and the car went off the road and rolled over. The driver apparently decided he wanted to get out in a hurry so kicked the window out and in doing so cut a deep gash in his leg. Paul took him to the Dr. in Carmel to get him patched up.

DIVISION 5—Rockland

Ruth L. Davenport

Ralph Stevens, Engineer, recently finished closing in the back yard at his new home in Rockland with 100 or more small evergreen trees.

For keeping free of accidents for a period of one year, the men in Ellery Prescott's District were rewarded with a steak dinner at the Knox Hotel in Thomaston on April 23rd. Arrangements were made by George Murphy, Safety Director, who also attended.

George Overlock, Foreman in the Liberty area, recently spent a week vacationing.

J. Henry Foley, Division Engineer, and David H. Stevens, SHC Chairman, were guests of the Rockland BPW Club on Wednesday evening, April 23rd.

Clarence Ellis, Engineer, of Augusta has re-joined us on the Rockport job.

Supervisor Farley Weeks and Lloyd Woodbury recently enjoyed a week-end fishing at Moosehead Lake. Better luck next time. On this trip, Farley christened his new boat, the "Vern M.," which he just finished building.

Harvey Lunden, Foreman in the Rockland area, has a new green and tan Buick.

Supervisor Carleton Hughes has been renovating his home in Dresden, during his spare time.

Oscar Young, Patrolman, recently retired after 40 years of service.

It has just been divulged that Ralph Stevens celebrated a birthday in April. Which one, he will not say.

Mrs. Paul (Priscilla) Barnes of the office staff is knitting tiny garments.

DIVISION 6—Portland

Beverly R. Cox

Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Hearn have been busy these past few weeks getting their recently purchased cottage at Saco ready for summer occupancy. With the weather we've been having, there is no need to hurry, Mr. Hearn. We believe summer came and went, one day back in April.

Mr. Greenleaf has been planting shrubs at his new home and between showers is trying to have a blacktop drive put in.

Yours Truly and Dick have the foundation for their new ranch home partially up and hope that by fall the house will be ready for occupancy.

We have an addition to make to the list of new car owners in the Bridge Division. Arnold R. Eames, Bridge Supervisor, recently purchased a blue 1958 Ford.

After many weeks and months of denying his intentions, Merton F. Brackett took Carolyn Margison's hand in marriage April 19th. Mert returned to work May 5th a bit tanned, and with a very happy look about him after spending two wonderful weeks at Hollywood Beach, Florida, with his bride. Mert has taken a lot of kidding from all those with whom he works, but all kidding aside, we hope most sincerely that Mert and Carolyn spend many wonderful, happy years together.

We'd like also to mention that Mert Brackett observed his birthday May 3rd.

Mrs. Dorothy Howe motored to Rye, New Hampshire, May 2nd, where she visited with relatives.

DIVISION 7—Rumford

Kathryn Dickson

Charlene Bauer, granddaughter of Robert Douglas, Supervisor, has been selected from the base school at N.A.S. Subic Bay, P. I., as the Junior Red Cross representative from that area and is going to Tokyo, Japan, in July for 10 days, all expenses paid. She will be going to the Red Cross Training Center to take a training course so that she can go back and offer plans, etc., for the next school year. Charlene will be met in Manila by a boy or girl from Clark Field and they will fly to Tokyo and be met by a Red Cross representative there. Boys and girls from all over the Far East will be there.

A daughter, Ruth Elizabeth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Jenkins at the Rumford Community Hospital. She weighed 6 lbs., 5 oz. Both mother and daughter are doing fine.

Rose Gaccetta, Yvette Cormier and your correspondent were visiting the State offices one day last week and had supper at McNamarra's before leaving for home.

Arthur Gogan, Red Cross Instructor, was operated on at Togus for a back injury recently and is coming along fine.

It looks like Mr. McLay is going to make the goof sheet; he scratched the bumper of his new four-day old Ford. Of course he plans to blame it on a woman driver.

Joseph Holman, patrolman, has been out sick with pneumonia for four weeks.

Ed Berry of Rangeley was out sick one day recently, a case of too much smelting!

We believe we have one of the most unusual patrolmen in our division in regard to mode of travel. Blynn Townsend lives on the further side of Chain of Ponds and has to use a row boat to get back and forth to work. In the spring when the ice is getting soft, he always carries a pick pole.

Mr. and Mrs. Townsend are caretakers for a sporting camp on Chain of Ponds.