

Section Two. Page Two.

## FOR THE GIRLS

The Elex Club Organized in 1915 at Fort Wayne Works Has

OVER 500 MEMBERS

Club is Affiliated With Y. W. C. A.—Is Active in Social Way

Since there are to be girls employed at the G. E. Decatur plant, it will no doubt be of some interest to them, as well as to the general public, to know of some of the big things that are being carried on by the girls of the Fort Wayne Works, through a girl's organization known as the Elex club.

This club was organized in 1915 with a membership of about 40 girls. The fact that the present membership numbers almost 500 girls is conclusive evidence that it is really something worth while. Membership campaigns are inaugurated at the beginning of each fall term.

The Elex Club is affiliated with the Y. W. C. A. and together with four other clubs have organized the Federation of Industrial Clubs of the Y. W. C. A. Two other clubs expect to come into the Federation in the near future. Similar clubs have been organized by the Associations all over the country and the Fort Wayne Federation is the second largest in the Central Field, which includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. So you can readily see what a large organization a girl becomes a part of when she joins a Y. W. C. A. Industrial Club. Miss Minnie Blue, a member of the Elex Club, is president of the Central Field Federation.

The purpose of the club is to promote social and educational activities to foster the spirit of friendly service, and to stand for the highest ideals of womanhood.

Regular club meetings are held every Tuesday evening immediately after working hours, in the Works club rooms.

Supper is served in the cafeteria for a nominal sum of twenty cents, the menu being prepared by a special committee.

Educational classes such as sewing, basketry, character study, music, gift making and interior decorating. English and "Home care of the sick," follow the supper hour. Some of these classes are offered through the Vocational School and others are paid classes. The class in "Home care of the sick" is offered through the Red Cross. It is taught by a Red Cross nurse and is proving very successful.

There are seven standing committees, which are membership, educational, publicity, social, service, editorial committee for the Works News and the "Lookout" committee. The chairman of these committees, together with the club officers and the representative to the Federation Council form the executive body. Special committees are appointed by the president from time to time as becomes necessary. All executive meetings and special or standing committee meetings are attended by the Y. W. C. A. secretary and the club advisers.

Business meetings are held once a month either before or after classes and are always well attended.

On the alternate Tuesday a social affair of some kind is given. One would have to witness one of these affairs to realize the lot of fun and real recreation they afford. Although all other regular meetings are suspended during the summer months, the social activities are continued. Some of the summer activities in the past have been picnics, for which trucks were furnished by the company to carry the crowd to a shady spot along some creek, wienie and marshmallow bakes, picnic suppers at nearby parks, and last summer a crowd of girls even spent three days at Clear Lake, chaperoned by Mrs. Mabel Whitbeck, Industrial Secretary of the Y. W. C. A. No need to explain this trip as anyone can use his imagination to the extent of what forty some girls would do when given the privilege of three days of camp life.

Another interesting feature of this club is the service work which it is interested in. Every year at Christmas time a donation of new garments and money is turned over to the Needlework Guild, for the destitute children of the city. Last year almost 200 children at the State School were made happy with bright colored stockings, filled with candy, nuts and popcorn. Service work requires funds as well as willing hands and hearts, so money making affairs are given occasionally for the purpose of financing the "Lookout" committee. Those duty it is to take care of all worthy cases brought to their attention. They also visit the sick and send flowers to those patients suffering from an extended illness. If upon investigation a case of poverty or misfortune is found too large and impossible for this committee to handle, it is immediately turned over to some larger charitable organization of the city. While the "Lookout" committee has only been in existence for several months, it has already accomplished a great deal of good and expects to do even more in the future.

The success of this club is the direct result of some very hard work and careful planning on the part of the Y. W. C. A. secretaries, as well as the different officers, committee members and the club advisers. But it is pleasant work after all because of the wonderful results obtained.



JOHN T. MYERS

Who gave most of his time for many weeks to secure the new industries for Decatur and who is always to be depended on.

### A FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP EXISTS

(Continued from page 1, section 2.)

courage them to come first to us with their troubles of all kinds.

We maintain a works band which is conceded to be one of the best industrial bands in the country. Every member of this band is an employee of our works, and in most cases an expert in some mechanical line.

Athletics are looked upon with favor. This develops a clean, manly spirit among our younger employees who feel that as long as the management is interested and back of their enterprises they have an additional incentive to show their prowess in their different seasonal activities.

Last but not least we have our clubs. The Quarter Century club consists of employees who have been with the company over twenty-five years. There are sixty-eight members in this club.

There is the Electro Technic club which consists of young men in the shop, and formed for educational, athletics and other kindred achievements. This club has a membership of about 1200.

The foremen, of which there are about 150 engaged at our plant, have their foremen's association—the ob-

ject being to work together for the interest of themselves and their employer as well as to promote discussions on modern topics of interest.

The Elex club is a club exclusively for young women employed in the office and factory. The membership at the present time is over 500. These girls have a club room and meet in the winter time about twice a week, getting together for a good time with basketry, sewing, music lessons, and stunts of all kinds.

The firemen also have arrangements for sports, good times and debates, physical training, pool, cards, etc., four years ago the company provided the firemen with headquarters in which pool tables, card tables, shuffle-board and other games were installed.

About five years ago the General Electric company installed in the basement of one of its new buildings an up-to-date rifle range with five separate shooting points. This range is equipped with equipment for retrieving the targets, lights for spotting the hits, and other features that characterize a modern, indoor rifle and revolver range. This range is not only for the use of our employees, but

the Fort Wayne Rifle & Revolver club, a city organization, have the privilege of using this range for practice and competitive matches any time outside of working hours.

We are at present installing a modern restaurant, and are equipping two floors of a building for cafeteria meals, and by arrangements banquets for our employees are being arranged. The advantage of these department banquets is being recognized by our employees who are availing themselves to the fullest extent of the facilities offered by this works restaurant, which is organized to provide meals for 2500 people, and furnishes breakfast, dinner and supper to a large number at the present time.

In other words, our employees have themselves come forward and promoted these clubs. The management backs them up and encourages them to the limit, but is interesting to reiterate that these clubs have their inception and are managed by the employees themselves, and they have, in no sense of the word, been suggested to or forced upon our employees.

Many of these clubs and kindred associations should be considered and

started later on by the Decatur employees. The advantages of such clubs and associations will be recognized, together with the mutual benefit, service bonuses and other rewards for time of service. And finally our watchman or policeman will get you if you don't watch out, as he is there for some purpose.

The people of Decatur, and especially the employees of the General Electric company of Decatur will, therefore, appreciate that they are working for an institution that has their every interest in mind,—first, last and all the time. In the last analysis their employer is their best friend, and they should always consider his interests and feelings, as long as the machinery is provided whereby suggestions, complaints and questions of all kinds can be taken up quickly and conscientiously with the management. Our employees should certainly not overlook this vital point, nor allow themselves to be influenced by advisers who cannot possibly have the same interest in their welfare as have their employers, with whom they work.

E. H. BARNES, General Supt.

## Blue Ribbon

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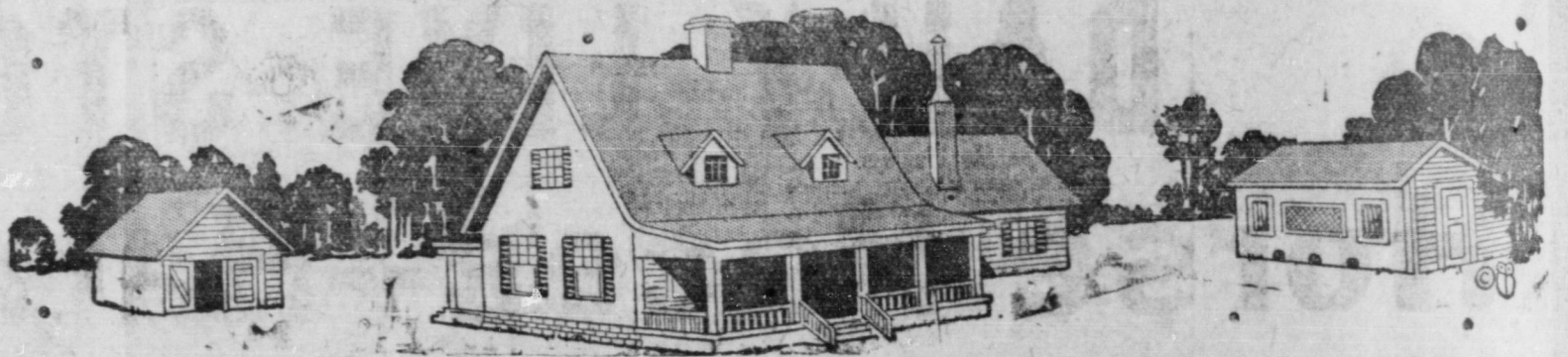
702 W. Monroe St.

'Phone 108



CLARK J. LUTZ

Attorney who has rendered splendid service in securing the factories for Decatur and working out the details.



## Let Us Help You With Your BUILDING PROBLEMS

Standing on the threshold of Decatur's greatest prosperity, with the memory of the highly satisfactory business which the past has brought us, we announce that the liberal policies which have actuated our institution in the past shall continue in force.

We shall endeavor to meet the requirements of old customers and new customers just as satisfactorily in the future as we have done in the years gone by. May we help you with your Building Problems?

## DECATUR LUMBER COMPANY

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