

### Birmingham Customers Will Benefit From Summer Storage of Natural Gas

In a spectacular move to reinforce the natural gas supply of Birmingham and other Michigan communities, the Michigan Gas Storage Company, a subsidiary of Consumers Power Company, has begun injecting "trainsloads of gas" into its Winterfield storage field in northwest Clark County.

Division Manager David L. Brown of Pontiac announced today that underground storage of propane gas, something new in the gas industry, is the most important of several steps taken by Consumers

and Michigan Gas Storage to offset shortages in pipeline deliveries of gas from Texas and thus avoid the necessity of interrupting service to industrial customers during the coming winter. These special steps will cost the company \$3,000,000 which is about \$1,000,000 more than the same amount of gas would have cost under ordinary conditions.

Purpose of the storage project is to build up a reserve of gas against next winter's needs. The propane gas now going under-

ground will emerge a few months hence and travel via pipelines to communities supplied with natural gas by Consumers Power Company, of which company Michigan Gas Storage is a subsidiary. These communities include Birmingham.

However, the percentage of propane gas in the mixture delivered to the customer will be small, never exceeding 15 per cent.

**Already Arriving**

The Michigan Public Service Commission recently authorized Consumers to "use alone" this extra amount of \$1,000,000 to customers using more than 2,500 cubic feet of gas per month. It will take the form of a surcharge on monthly bills. This surcharge will apply to about 100,000 of the company's 270,000 natural gas

customers, including practically all industrial, commercial and house-heating customers. Most household customers who use gas only for cooking and water heating will not be affected.

The first of a procession of 1,200 railroad tank cars bringing liquid propane from Texas began arriving a few days ago at the company's new siding at Penneck, an old timber camp station a mile and a half north of Temple. Cars are expected at the rate of 12 per day for a 100-day period ending October 15. There will be six-weeks interval, after which three cars a day will come in throughout the winter.

A 30,000-gallon receiving tank and equipment for unloading the propane have been installed at the siding. The liquid propane is withdrawn into the receiving tank, then pumped into a 30,000-gallon tank at the company's Muskegon River Compressor Station in the Winterfield storage area.

**Liquid is Vaporized**

To this point, the propane remains in liquid form. When it leaves the second receiving tank it is pumped through heat exchangers, where its temperature is raised to the vaporization point. Then it is pumped to a tower to be mixed with heated natural gas and air. In its liquid form the propane contains 2,522 heat units per cubic foot. The standard natural gas contains 1,000 per cubic foot.

This mixture is introduced into the regular stream of natural gas flowing into the storage field through pipelines from the Hugoton field in Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma. It then is carried under pressure into the underground formation of the field. The underground storage area contains no caves or hollows. It consists of a sandstone stratum from 1,000 to 1,400 feet below the surface. This sandstone is about 15 per cent porous, and it is in the pore space that the gas is contained.

**Billion Feet More Gas**

The 1,200 railroad tank cars in the original procession will bring 12,000,000 gallons of liquid propane. This will be converted into the equivalent of a billion cubic feet of natural gas. Tank cars arriving between Dec. 1 and April 1 will bring the equivalent of an additional 300,000,000 cubic feet.

Liquid propane is being obtained from various parts of Texas. It is produced in either of two ways: by extraction from natural gas or as a by-product in oil refining processes. To keep it from turning to gas enroute to the storage field it is kept under pressure in the tank cars.

### Take it Easy, Ladies



William Bendix, playing the role of Babe Ruth in the forthcoming movie, "The Babe Ruth Story," referees a wrestling match between professional female grapplers Maxine Gates, center, 225 pounds, and Evelyn Smith, a mere 130. Ruth once refereed such a tussling bout, so this scene goes into the script.

### Mrs. Alvin Lambert Entertains Friends at Bloomfield Hills

Mrs. Alvin G. Lambert of Chesterfield road entertained a group of friends at the monthly bridge luncheon in the Bloomfield Hills Country Club last Wednesday afternoon.

Among her guests were Mrs.

Earl A. Thompson, Mrs. Albert J. Scriven, Mrs. Chad Ritchie, Mrs. Charles J. O'Connor, Mrs. Edward Wheelock, Mrs. George Thomas, Mrs. Richard Young, Mrs. John R. Earle and Mrs. Martin Archangel.

A "power recorder" has been developed to eliminate guesswork in measuring engine usage and wear. It will tell commercial airlines when to have engines serviced.

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### Around the Cracker Barrel

Had a visit from a Pessimist today. He didn't know he belonged to that group of men who could see trouble lurking behind every tree and catastrophe behind every wall. He thought himself a real conservative, who thought things through, whose conclusions were based on all the facts. But he was just a Pessimist, and I felt sorry for him.

We are on the verge of a great upheaval, he said, where values of all sorts will be swept away. The only thing which can prevent a real blow-up is another war. He had everything figured out so that you and I were in for years of trouble and poverty, whether we kept out or got into war. Everything he owned was in order for whatever would come; he owned nothing speculative; he was taking no chances.

There is no chance for an orderly retreat from this inflation, he told me. There never has been an orderly retreat; it was always headlin. Even Napoleon, the master strategist of them all, could not conduct an orderly retreat from Moscow. His armies fled in mass hysteria. That's what we'll all face soon. . . . This was the tenor of his argument, and you've all heard the same stuff before.

And as he walked out of the store I couldn't help but think of another character who had made an impression upon me as a boy. He was some sort of a relative of my Father's, was an oil speculator in Texas. He came to our home in Detroit in about 1914 in a big Locomobile. You who are older will remember this big car with the huge wheels. He received three speeding tickets for doing 50 miles an hour on Woodward Avenue, all of which he tore up. He told the cops his car wouldn't go any slower, and this after he had given them a terrific chase for many blocks.

He was a big, powerful man, with a great chuckle. He firmly believed there was oil under every inch of Texas soil, especially under soil where he owned the top leases. He was a millionaire two or three different times, but in between was in debt. I can't even remember whether or not, he died rich or poor. But I do remember what a wonderful time he had, with what enthusiasm he went at things, and how often he was right.

My father used to tell how he spread the reputation of the "typical American" in Europe. Had quite a fling in Monte Carlo, and after he found that he couldn't beat the wheel, he tried to organize a syndicate to take over the joint. His motto always was, "If you can't beat them, join 'em."

And I wondered, when my Pessimist friend left, which kind of man had the fullest life. And I wondered whether this country was built by those careful calculators, who moved not for fear of failure. I wondered where we'd be today if we all tried to take care of our own, regardless of our responsibilities to others.

And then a third character crept into my reverie. He's a younger man who believes there is no opportunity for youth. The day when a man can own his own business is gone, he recently told me. You can't beat the big corporations.

Well, by this time the store was crowded with customers, and I went to wait on them. They were wonderful people. They were laughing, kidding me about the fact that we had no cheese, and were accepting feed coffee as a substitute. Many were going on vacations. They needed this and they needed that. Some of the things we had, some we didn't. So on these later items we told 'em to go to Mulholland's, or Peck's, or Kay Baum's.

They kept coming and going all afternoon. They all had needs to be filled. They didn't expect you to be able to work miracles, but they did really appreciate it when you had slacks shortened in a few hours. And I began to wonder just what the total needs of all these people really are. How much we all need to live, how much help, how much service, how much of everything. And there is no answer to such a question. And there is no doubt that the man who gets this business is the man who earns the right to it.

So, whether you're running a store, a factory, an insurance agency, or what not, there is no limit to the needs you can fill. Even if our Pessimist friend is partly right, what do we need to worry about? There are always rocks in every path, hurdles in every race. Obstacles are to be overcome; they cannot become our Masters.

We've had a wonderful time during these first three months in the Village Store. It's been so much fun that the hard work—and obstacles—haven't seemed to amount to much. Sure, we've bought some stuff we'd have better off without, we've bought too much of this, and too little of that. We've been criticized for staying open on Wednesday afternoons, but not by our customers. We've been kidded about our advertising, by professionals as well as amateurs. We've been asked why we didn't do this, and why we didn't stock that. It seemed that every man in Birmingham had to have extra long pajamas—Longjams, they're called—until we got them in. Now, those long boys have disappeared. And so it goes.

We've tried our first sale. I guess it will still be going on when this paper is published. We gave some real, honest values in merchandise on which we were over-stocked. Nothing bought for the sale, just rock bottom prices on first-rate merchandise. I didn't know how to advertise a sale, so I just listed a lot of stuff under that big word "sale". That word is magic. People swarmed in, and last Saturday got up near the volume before Father's Day.

Well, my friends, the Village Store is the wrong habitat for the Pessimists. But you Optimists, you who are full of dreams of great days ahead, this is the place for you. The world is full of opportunity for men of vision, and Birmingham is just dripping with it.

So come in with your pipe dreams. There may be more to them than you think. There can be no room for pessimism when plans are being made for the future. There are great days ahead for those who believe. And so endeth this week's sermon.

ROSS S. CAMPBELL, Proprietor.

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### MICHIGAN Motoring

**Be a Good Teacher**

A good driving instructor teaches students to keep an eye peeled for trouble. So often when Dad teaches the children to drive, he's apt to overlook the "little things" that actually may mean the difference between life and death.



Here are some pointers for every driver — especially important to impress upon the beginner. First — don't depend entirely on the rear view mirror! It only shows about three-fourths of the road. Never pull away from the curb without first looking through the back window as well as the front. Make it a habit to watch every other car and keep the lookout for little clues that tell the experienced good driver what the other fellow is planning to do. Suppose a car approaches an intersection opposite you. He slows down and his wheels turn just an inch. That's your cue — the fellow is going to turn — so take it easy. If necessary, come to a full stop and let him get out of your way. Remember, anything on wheels is a potential danger — an automobile, a train, a bicycle — watch out for all of them. Slow down at all intersections — slow down at railroad crossings, and if the sign says "stop", then STOP! You may lose 45 seconds and save your life. Remember, make it a habit to drive carefully yourself — that habit will be reflected in your teaching — so take it good as an example to the other fellow!

**Rebuked**

A Quaker, while taking a walk along an English road, was accosted by a tramp.

"Guv'nor," said the wanderer, "This ain't the road to London, is it?"

"Friend," quoth the Quaker, "first thou tellest a lie, and then thou askest a question. This is the road to London."

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### "I Can Trust A&P..."

"We live in a pretty nice neighborhood. We aren't rich, and neither are many of our neighbors. Our income is what might be called 'comfortable' and we have most of the things we really want as well as some money in the bank, and we've never cashed our war bonds."

"We've come along in the world from a modest start not by skipping but by trying to spend wisely what we've had to spend and I've noticed that most folks who have a little something are folks who believe in getting their money's worth."

"I do all my shopping for food at A&P. I do it because I can trust them."

"I can trust them to buy the best that the market affords and to guard its quality and freshness until I come for it."

"For instance, when they mark eggs 'Grade A' I know they'll be 'Grade A' when I buy them (Grade A eggs, you know, will be B or C if they stand around the store too long or aren't properly refrigerated)."

"When I buy a steak at A&P I know it's beef from a grain fed steer, expertly selected in the first place, and trimmed closely to give me my money's worth in meat, without too much fat and bone."

"I know that I can trust their fruits and vegetables to be fresh and crisp—not leftovers from the day before."

"I can trust A&P's advertising to be straightforward and frank. When they list the price of cauliflower, I know I can select the best head in the bin for that price. There's never a 'We're sorry there are no more left at that price, how about one of these for more.' And when they advertise hamburger at this-and-so, that's the price of their best hamburger, not of a second 'come-on' grade."

"I trust their prices throughout the store and know I wouldn't save by shopping around the town."

"I don't mean that someone doesn't have a 'special' on something some time at a lower price than A&P. I mean that when I do all my shopping there, week in and week out, I'll save money and have the best that money can buy."

"Yes, I can trust A&P... and it's a mighty comfortable feeling."

The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company

