

# ILLINOIS POWER AND LIGHT CORPORATION

SAM C. SCHMULBACH  
SUPERINTENDENT

CAIRO, ILLINOIS

"Log of the S.S. Fellowship"

October 1st, 1936

It is always a pleasure to transmit news to the crew especially where it involves a new life that comes into being. Sherm Humason was the bearer of good tidings - that John J. Gillin, of our crew is the proud father of John J. Gillin, III. It seems that Sherm and Pede Pysche were on hand as a sort of welcoming committee for this future Jacian who will have the company of his little four-year old sister. To John and Marjorie Gillin we extend our genuine good wishes that this happy little family will shed its benign influence far and wide. A family like that can generate a great deal of happiness beyond the family circle.

Another fine expression of that distinct type of loyalty so evident among the crew was that of Elias Roos, of Milwaukee, who when he heard about the proposed revised roster, wrote that he would be glad to furnish this roster for the crew. When you consider that he printed 250 of these lists containing 180 names on each, you can see what a fine contribution he made to the crew. I have the 250 at the office now and as soon as we can address another set of envelopes they will be sent out so you can all have this up to date list of our fellow-mates in the crew. Thanks a million, Elias, it was swell of you to do this.

Now as soon as you get the roster add the first recruit in the person of Howard Hayden of 210 S. Poydras, Dallas, Texas. Court Otis just sent in the membership of Howard. With Harold Klein who recently came aboard it leaves only 3 out of the entire 36 officers and Directors of Court's administration that are not yet in the fold. Court has been doing a remarkable job in lining them up. Thanks, Court, and welcome, Howard. Hope you'll enjoy the cruise of our mythical ship the S.S. Fellowship and will do your part to keep it afloat.

Russ Knowland, out at Oakland, California, has started the ball a'rolling to have the 1938 convention and reunion at Oakland. He is glowing in his reports about his fair city, mentioning Lake Merritt, a natural saltwater lake in the heart of the city, the two "world's greatest" (using superlatives again) Bridges - the Oakland-San Francisco Bay Bridge and the famous Golden Gate Bridge across Golden Gate; Yosemite Valley, Lake Tahoe, Pebble Beach, Redwood Highway, etc. He really has a good article to sell. We'll hear more from Russ, I know.

Ernest Baetz writes that Walt Holman honored San Antonio with a short visit about ten days ago and the two had a chat for about an hour. When an Ex-President of the USJC gets together with the present chief you can bet they have a lot to talk about. It was fine of you two to get together, you're both such affable fellows.

Notice the letterheads this time - they're from our good friend and mate good old Sam Schmulbach, of Cairo, Illinois. Sam has been Superintendent of the Illinois Power & Light Company at Cairo for many years and was quite a wheel-horse in USJC affairs in his district before he reached the age limit. Thanks, Sam for the letterheads.

October 1, 1936

Bill Becker of Louisville has been going about a great deal. He attended the Minnesota State convention where he met Walt Holman, Walt Finke, John Gillin and others of the crew; then to Indiana State convention where he saw Walt Holman again and Rufus Putnam; and had the pleasure of a visit from Perry Pipkin. He said "Col. Duane and I were quite anxious to get Perry's feet under a table so we could give him the thrill of imbibing some real Kentucky mint juleps...we stayed so long and enjoyed it so much we almost missed Perry's train." Between Bill and Walt Holman and Harry Krusz going about so much our crew keeps pretty much in circulation. The more we see of each other the closer is woven the fine threads of friendship.

Speaking of going about it is my hope to be able to attend the United States Bldg. & Loan League convention at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York on October 14th-15th-16th; it would be fine if we could arrange to have a little session together with the crew members of New York and Brooklyn. "On Thursday evening, the 15th I understand there will be no evening meeting; maybe we could get together for an hour or so then. I'll get in touch with you fellows when I arrive.

Hope to be able to go through Washington and spend a few moments with Linton Collins; Josephine has been recuperating from a spell of sickness and I hope that she is now entirely recovered, Linton.

And we hope for you, Joni Jones, a successful career in your new field as special representative of the Connecticut Mutual Life in San Antonio. As Mr. Helland, General Agent says "Joni Jones, one of San Antonio's leading young business men, brings to his new connection a rich background of successful civic and business enterprise." Go to it, Joni.

I was glad that the New York fellows had a chance to see Hyman Stone of Sheffield. Stone wrote me enroute to Niagara Falls and among other things he said "It was a great delight to have Rollins Dunn meet me at the dock and to have a very pleasurable lunch with that cheerful party of past and present stalwarts of the JC at the Lawyer's Club. While it has always been my experience that we get out of an organization no more than what we put into it, I feel that as regards the JCC movement I am an exception to that rule. I shall never cease to have happy memories of the 1930 convention and the welcome I have received this time and the offers of assistance throw renewed light on those memories."

After memoographing the first sheet it occured to me that by limiting this issue of the Log to 2 pages I'd be able to send the roster in the same envelope, so to save extra postage I'll do this, so I'll sign off now with those excerpts from a prayer printed in a recent magazine

"...grant us understanding hearts, Thou hast placed us in neighborhoods and homes, churches and schools and in various places of ~~time~~ and leisure; it is Thy purpose that we live together. Help us to understand each other so that we may be comrades and friends. Endow us with sympathetic insight that with untiring patience, we may make our circles of life precincts of friendship and good will..."

Truly each city is a "precinct of friendship and good will" among the crew's members.

Sincerely,



Keeper of the Log.

The Security Mutual Life Insurance Company  
of  
Lincoln, Nebraska

E. A. FRERICHS, C. L. U.  
ASS'T SUPT. OF AGENTS

October 20, 1936

"Log of the S.S. Fellowship"

The Log was delayed this time due to my visit to New York to attend a convention, but the news from our New York members of the crew will repay you for the wait.

What a pleasant three days we had - chuck full of "goings-on" but I managed to take time off enough to visit the crew, especially Ed Steinbuehler that genial host. Harry Krusz came up from Atlantic City and we palled around a lot, too. Ed arranged for a trip aboard one of the Coast Guard cutters - a most delightful trip all around the harbor passing such noteworthy spots as the Statue of Liberty, Governor's Island Quarantine, Ellis Island, etc. and the majestic view of the skyscrapers from the boat was an awe-inspiring sight I don't think Harry and Ed and I will ever forget. The Commander of the boat treated us to "afternoon tea" in the shape of coffee and doughnuts and the way we "dunked" the doughnuts proved that all of us have had past experience. Ed, we want to thank you and your side-kick, Charley, for this fine treat.

And the dinner meeting at the Lexington where Emerson Thomas (the new father), George McGlynn, Rolly Dunn, Ed, Harry and I augmented by my guest Walter Sherry of Ottowa, Ills. and Harry's guest from Des Moines, Mr. Peterson, enjoyed a couple of hours swapping stories and speaking of a lot of you fellows in the crew. It was an exceedingly fine reunion and we regretted that Court Otis wasn't able to come due to some political engagement that required his evening; that Senator Joe Esquirol was detained on the same account and Allen Seed was tied up on a similar election duty. Court, you know, is Treasurer of the Republican Campaign Fund; Joe Esquirol is up for re-election as the Democratic Senator from his district, and Allen is Director of the Speakers Bureau of the Citizens Charter Campaign Committee that is trying to bring about the adopting of a new charter.

I did get to talk to Joe over the phone; Harry and I went down to Court's office only to miss him again; stopped in for a few moments with Allen, who incidently is also Secretary of the City Club; stopped in for a few moments with Spencer Greason who by the way has climbed another rung of the ladder having recently been elected Treasurer of Brooks Bros. One of the first things he asked was how Ed. Popkess was - you see Ed., Spencer remembers you very well. Stopped in at Bob Condon's office only to find him out, too, and also stopped in to see Ros Ehrmantroutt another old-timer who should be in the crew. Court, I expect you to bring him in as he was a National Councillor or National Recorder during your administration. He'll make a good mate in our crew.

Wish all of you could have been with us; Greason has a fine private office tucked away on an upper floor; showed us the picture of his two fine sons - handsome like their father. It tickled me a lot to hear his Secretary say when I told her who I was "Oh you're the man that sends out the Log" - which shows how famous our little sheet is. Wish you could also have gone with us up to the 30th floor of Rockefeller Plaza (Radio City) and look out over the amazing sky line from the windows of his suite. Bob, you should know is how Executive Chairman of the Mayor's Citizens' Committee in charge of arranging the Legion's 1937 Convention. Sorry we missed you Bob. Let us hear from you about this 1937 affair - many of our men are Legionaires.

October 20, 1936

We found Tom Sweeney was on the sick list and hope he is now recovered; we found that Geo. McGlynn lives within a few blocks of Ed. Steinbuohler and if Harry and I hadn't brought them together at the little dinner party they wouldn't have known it; that Emerson Thomas, Junior, is doing fine and so is his mother; that all these New Yorkers are really swell fellows. We out in the middle West had an idea that perhaps the New Yorkers were different, but we found that like "Judy O'Grady and the Captain's Lady they're all the same under their skin." It was a treat to visit with all of you - hope you can return the visit.

It was a great pleasure also to have a few moments chat with Linton Collins at Washington on our way to New York. Linton who you know is Assistant to the Attorney General of the United States has a beautiful office in the Department of Justice building and when I say beautiful I mean just that. After getting past several secretaries you finally got in to see him and when he rushes at you with open arms and the broad smile on his face you'll forget the difficulty in reaching him in the warmth of his greeting. He's a great fellow. Glad to have seen you, Linton, and I wish you'd thank your most efficient Secretary, Miss Kimball, for the kindnesses she showed Eleanor and I.

Other members of the crew are travelling about and seeing people - Royal Irwin of Denver made a trip through Texas and says "We arrived at Fort Worth at about noon and went directly to the Worth Hotel in the attempt to get accommodations. The first person that I saw upon entering the lobby was big George Wilson from Houston. I had a very pleasant chat with George and his lovely wife." When one member of the crew meets another member of the crew they're bound to have a pleasant chat. After visiting in Houston and the Fair at Dallas and then to Galveston, Royal spent two weeks at Fort Sam Houston at San Antonio where he was on active duty training in the Judge Advocate General's Department of the U.S. Army. He said he called on Henry Lutz but was unable to catch him in. That's where you missed out Henry. Royal says he was sorry not to have had more time to see more of the fellows. We know how it is when a fellow has only a limited amount of time.

Dick Wood had some business to attend to in Chicago and had a pleasant visit with Ed. Dahlin, Bill Saltiel and Don Abel. (I wish Ed that you'd get Don in the crew because he's eligible), all old-timers like himself. He talked to Bob Corcoran over the phone - sort of using Herb McCulla's method.

And Walter Finko has been in circulation - having business in Providence, R.I. he made the trip by way of Toronto and Montreal stopping at both cities to enjoy brief visits with members of their respective Junior Boards of Trade; while he was in Newark, N.J. he spent a half day with Nat'l Vice-President John Grammer; in Washington D.C. he had lunch with Ted Wingo, National Director, President Conradus of the Washington JC and Bill Press, Washington representative of the USJC whom he praises highly for his fine co-operation. Enroute home he stopped off in Chicago and discussed a few matters with George Bray who, he said, despite a terrific cold was still the same good natured and affable gentleman we all know so well.

Vorne Vance said he and John Gillin got to see Allen Whitfield and Shorn Humason and Luther Williams at the Nebraska State Convention. Vorne also says Larry Brierly of Newton, Iowa, was in Omaha recently and he had a short visit with him. He supposed Larry had been a member of the crew as he was a National Director some years ago. He isn't a member yet, Vorne, but you may add your personal invitation to the one I sent him sometime ago, to come in.

October 20, 1936

Speaking of new members we've been fortunate in adding quite a few lately. While I was in New York who should I run across at the Bldg. & Loan Convention but Cliff Hendrix of Atlanta, Ga. Cliff is attorney for an Atlanta Bldg. & Loan Association and joined the crew without delay. Add his name to the Roster - Clifford Hendrix, attorney, firm Hendrix & Buchanan, Hurt Bldg. Atlanta, Georgia. Welcome, Cliff, to our ever increasing circle.

Then Court Otis who has been going after recruits like the Yankoes went after the pennant, just sent in the membership of Raymond J. Bonini of Grand Rapids, Michigan who should be addressed care of the JC there. This leaves only 2 of Court's administration still missing and he says he'll try to have them all out of the trenches by Christmas. Thanks, Court. Welcome Raymond to the crew.

We also have taken on two passengers - Dick West sent in a dollar for a year's cruise for Charles Davies who was one of the first JCs on the Pacific Coast. He organized the original group at San Diego and was also instrumental in organizing the Los Angeles JC. Add his name to the roster with address c/o San Diego Consolidated Gas & Electric Co. 6th Ave. and

Verne Vance also sends in the fare for Ray F. Stryker of Omaha. While he was never a National Officer he was for many years one of the stalwarts of the Omaha JC and took a prominent part in the Convention at Omaha. He is now Secretary of George & Co. one of the largest real estate firms there. I remember you, Ray, very well and glad that you are taking sail with us on our mythical ship. Thanks Verne for bringing him in.

Did you notice the letterheads - they're from Ed. Frerichs of Lincoln. Ed is one of the genial group of fellows who have made that town famous for its JC hospitality. I have had occasion to enjoy it several times and whenever any of you are at Lincoln be sure to see Ed and Herb and Carl Junge and Bob Van Pelt and the other old timers.

The whole crew is just "one big happy family" and I get a big kick out of reporting their varied activities.

The other day I happened to glance at the definition of a friend and was pleased to note that Webster defines it thus:

"One who entertains for another such sentiments of esteem, respect, and affection, that he seeks his society and welfare."

Isn't that an excellent definition? And it is so true of the members of the crew. Each one seems to be so glad to be in each other's company - to enjoy meeting each other and so interested in each other's welfare. It is a joy to serve this group for that very reason.

Sincerely,

  
Keeper of the Log.