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PHILCO  
*News*

MARCH, 1953

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## FORMER PRESIDENT OF PHILCO DIES

The sudden passing of James M. Skinner, Sr., former president and board chairman of Philco Corporation, is mourned by his many friends in the organization. Mr. Skinner died of a heart attack at his Chestnut Hill home on February 13.

The deep sympathy of all employees is extended to his widow, the former Frances Sayre, whom he married in 1913, a son, James M. Skinner, Jr., Philco Vice-President—Distribution, and a daughter, Mrs. Karl de Schweinitz, Jr.

Mr. Skinner, who was born in Philadelphia, was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1911, and later went to work for the Philadelphia Storage Battery Company, Philco's predecessor. The battery company at that time had 100 employees and did an annual business of less than \$1,000,000.

In 1917, Mr. Skinner became sales manager of the concern. The firm converted to the manufacture of radios in 1930. When a pay day arrived and not enough funds were on hand to meet the payroll of 12,000 workers, he induced Philadelphia banks to extend the company a credit of \$7,000,000.

The loan was paid back quickly and the company's radio sales grew to 30 per cent of the entire industry.

Active in welfare and charitable fields, Mr. Skinner served as a vice-president and executive committee chairman of the Community Chest of Philadelphia and vicinity, and secretary of the Associated Hospital Service of Philadelphia.

He received the Philadelphia (Bok) Award in 1944, in recognition of services "calculated to advance the best and largest interest of the community."

Mr. Skinner was a director of The Pennsylvania Company for Banking and Trusts, the Baldwin Locomotive Works, the Chamber of Commerce, the American Stores Company, and Germantown Hospital. He was a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania and a member of the Union League, Philadelphia Country Club, Midday Club, and the Sunday Breakfast Club.

## PHILCO NEWS NOW 10 YEARS OLD

The PHILCO NEWS, whose original first page is reproduced on page 3 of this issue, first saw the light of publication in March of 1943. It was intended, as the letter of Mr. Buckley, now chairman of the board of directors of Philco, states, for the Philco men and women in the Armed Forces of our country and was mailed to them. Later, at the end of World War II, the NEWS was enlarged and mailed to the homes of all employees in the Philadelphia area.

SEE THAT BIG SMILE on Margie's face? That's because she knows help is on the way to overcome her crippling condition. She's sitting on a pile of mail sacks full of Easter Seal letters, one of which will come to your house. Keep Margie smiling by using Easter Seals.





# PHILCO NEWS

TO THE PHILCO MEN AND WOMEN IN THE SERVICE



VOL. 1 • No. 1 • MARCH 1943

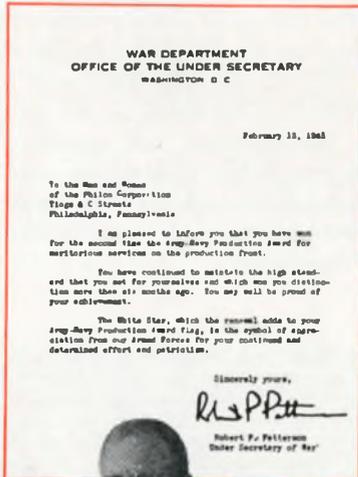


PHILCO CORPORATION

DEAR PHILCO FAMILY IN THE SERVICE:

Many of you have been away for a long time now, doing a great job, we hear, and we want you to know how much you're missed back home at Philco. Doesn't seem like the same old place any more. We also thought you'd like to know what we're doing to help you win the war.

Some months ago we completed our conversion to war work. You can imagine the size of this job when you re-call the "headaches" of converting from one year's model receiving set to the next year's model. That job is finished and now we're working 100% on the communications equipment, fuses and storage batteries needed by so many branches of the Armed Forces. Maybe you're using some of this equipment. Uncle Sam won't let us talk much about it but having worked here you can pretty well guess how important is our production.



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON D C

February 18, 1943

To the Men and Women  
of the Philco Corporation  
Tioga & C Streets  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

I am pleased to inform you that you have won  
for the second time the Army-Navy Production Award for  
meritorious services on the production front.

You have continued to maintain the high stand-  
ard that you set for yourselves and which won you distinc-  
tion more than six months ago. You may well be proud of  
your achievement.

The White Star, which the award adds to your  
Army-Navy Production Award flag, is the symbol of appre-  
ciation from our Armed Forces for your continued and  
determined effort and patriotism.

Sincerely yours,  
*Robert P. Patterson*

Robert P. Patterson  
Under Secretary of War



"You have continued to maintain the high standard that you set for yourselves and which won you distinction more than six months ago. You may well be proud of your achievement."

—Under Secretary of War  
ROBERT P. PATTERSON

As evidence of the tremendous job we are doing, Philco has been awarded the Army-Navy "E" flag and, just recently, the White Star for "meritorious service on the production front", was added to the flag. We're proud of these awards — proud because we're doing our part, and helping you to win the peace we all want so earnestly.

We'd like to write you from time to time giving you news of the plant and your Philco friends in the Service. Will you help us by keeping us posted on your activities and your current address?

Wishing you the best of luck and hoping we'll hear from you soon.

Cordially,

*Gas T Buckley*  
PRESIDENT

## Westinghouse Buys WPTZ, Philco TV Station

Westinghouse has arranged to purchase television station WPTZ from Philco, according to a joint announcement made by James H. Carmine, Philco Executive Vice-President, and E. V. Huggins, President, Westinghouse Radio Stations, Inc. Approval of the Federal Communications Commission is being sought. Westinghouse Radio Stations, Inc., is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

One of the oldest and best known stations in the country, WPTZ started operations on an experimental basis in 1932. It is an affiliate of the National Broadcasting Company network.

The growth of WPTZ to its leading place in the industry has taken place under the direction of Ernest B. Loveman, vice-president and general manager of Philco Television Broadcasting Division. Mr. Huggins said, "we hope to retain the station's present operating and staff organization."

Commenting on the proposed transfer of ownership, Mr. Carmine said: "Television broadcasting on an experimental basis was undertaken by Philco 20 years ago in order to gain first-hand experience in this field, and to augment the Company's early research and engineering program on television receiving sets.

"Sale of station WPTZ, at this time, will enable Philco to concentrate its activities in its principal fields of research, development and production of television receiving sets, radios and major appliances which are merchandised through its distributors and dealers, and the manufacture of electronic equipment for Government and industry."

BEST WISHES FOR the future are extended John Barr by friends in Plant 50, prior to his leaving for Plant 2, to become employment manager of the Radio and Television Division. A desk pen set is presented (below) to Mr. Barr by Matt Marr. In the picture are Joan Magarity, Sam Wright, James Crenny, Doris Rudolph, Eleanor Allison, Agnes Bennett, Joseph W. Maxwell, C. H. Rombach, Howard Reed and Robert Andrews.

LADY, WHO was rescued from drowning in the Delaware, and her owner, Chris Friel Peck, Sales Order Dept.



## Pet of Philco Couple Saved From Drowning by Tug Crew

How Lady, the pet dog of Chris and Richard Peck, both of Philco, was rescued from drowning in the Delaware River is related by George O. Sinn, Executive Vice-President of the Frankford Trust Company, in a recent issue of *The Warner News*.

"We have a small place on the river front at Echo Beach, Cornwells Heights, and directly behind us is the residence of Richard E. Peck, who owns a small dog by the name of Lady," writes Mr. Sinn. "Lady has been a frequent visitor at our house and has a special attachment to two brothers by the name of Bowes, who also live on the beach, and she has a habit of trailing behind them.

"A short time ago, the Bowes brothers went sailing in their boat, not knowing that Lady was following, and had jumped overboard after them. They were unaware that she was swimming behind them. Finally, and still unnoticed, Lady began to tire and was on the verge of drowning when a Warner tug came along with ten boats in tow. . . . Someone noticed our friend Lady and realized her plight, for they say she would swim a few yards and then go under the water, then again struggle to the surface.

"Captain Jackson swung the entire tow around against the tide and pulled up alongside Lady and picked her up. It was necessary to resuscitate her when they got her aboard. This apparently occurred just above Torresdale, and Lady came to wagging her tail.

"The skipper noticed Lady's dog license number, called his office advising that the tow would be later than schedule, and also gave the license number. The office, evidently in turn, called Doylestown to find who was the owner of the dog. After docking the boat, Captain Jackson took the dog up to the owner's house at Echo Beach and, as both Mr. and Mrs. Peck are employed, he waited from 4:30 to 6 p.m. for them to return."





GIRLS FROM Dept. 41-502, who recently spent a week-end at the Dominican Retreat House at Elkins Park. They are (left to right, front row): Danetta Berardis and Ann Raas; second row, same order: Ann Seneca, Jan Mauriza, Dolores Antonelli, Yolanda Disabato and Marge Sciarra.



CORPORAL JOSEPH BRZYSKI, son of Emily Brzyski, of Plant 6.

### PHILCO BLOOD PROGRAM

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Dobbins School gymnasium, 22nd and Lehigh, in connection with the Philco Blood Program, April 1 and 2. A quota of 300 pints of blood has been set. Donations of blood by Philco employees insures that every employee and his family will be guaranteed blood in time of emergency.

On its visit to the Croydon Plant on March 4, the bloodmobile collected 115 pints of blood from Company employees. Fred Marcell and Gwendolyn Adams, R.N., served as co-chairmen at Croydon. The Company goal for 1953 is 1,640 pints.



### SON OF PHILCO WOMAN TAKES PART IN HEROIC MISSION IN KOREA

Corporal Joseph J. Brzyski, the 18-year-old son of Emily Brzyski, of Dept. 42-502 at Plant 6, was a member of a recent heroic mission in the no man's land of Korea.

The story starts at an isolated spot 1,200 yards in front of the UN lines. There a white cross had been placed at the head of the body of an American sergeant. The high ground on three sides of the spot was held by Communist troops.

Over the body, on a flag, were the words: "It's a pity to die so young. Life is more precious than gold. Don't die for Ike. Demand peace. Stop war."

Brzyski, carrying an automatic rifle, was a member of the six-man patrol which crawled to the body, surrounded by barbed wire, cut the wire, pulled down the cross and carried the body back on a litter under the eyes of the Chinese Communists. The enemy had stuffed the dead man's pockets with Red propaganda.

Another son of Mrs. Brzyski, Richard, 21, was discharged from the Army last December, after 18 months' duty in the Central Pacific.

### WORDS TO REMEMBER

As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the difference, is no democracy.

Let us have faith that right makes might; and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it.—*Abraham Lincoln.*

◀ WHILE WE DO not have any statistics to prove who is the youngest grandparent at Philco, it is safe to say that Fred Claro (at left, with his grandson, James Edward, born January 7 of this year) is one of the youngest grandfathers among our employees. Claro, of the Refrigeration Engineering Dept., isn't telling his age—but he married young.



**GUEST OF HONOR, Betty Martin, is seated behind a birthday cake, presented to her by friends in Dept. 43-503 at a party in Plant 10 Cafeteria.**



**GIFTS ARE presented to Joan Gardner (with cake) at a shower in Dept. 43-503.**

**EILEEN LION, Purchasing Dept., whose engagement to Clem Phillips, Engineering Dept., has been announced. The couple plan a June wedding. ▶**



**GIFTS FOR THE new baby are received by James McGowan (right) from his supervisor, Harry Foster, on behalf of friends in Dept. 14-510. ▼**

**A WEDDING ANNIVERSARY shower is given Marion Smith by friends in Dept. 43-506. ▼**





GIFTS FOR THE new baby are received by George Martin at a shower given by Dept. 43-503.



NEWLYWEDS NANCY CORDISCO and Louis Landolfi following their marriage at St. Ann's Church, Bristol. Nancy is an assembler in the Television Section of Dept. 41-502 at Croydon.



◀ THE ENGAGEMENT and approaching marriage of Eleanor Capaldi, Mail Room, was recently announced.

A BIRTHDAY CAKE is presented to Florence Schofield by friends on the second floor of Plant 3. ▼

THE BEST OF LUCK is wished Jean Rothford at a farewell shower given in Plant 8 Cafeteria by friends in Dept. 14-509. ▼





PLANT 2 CAFETERIA is the scene of a shower for Peggy Davis (standing, center), given by friends in the Engineering Dept.



IT LOOKS LIKE a large gift for Edward Pejka (center), who is guest of honor at a wedding shower given in Plant 18 by members of Dept. 14-531.



▲ LORETTA RANZO is honoree at a shower given on the third floor of Plant 3 by members of Dept. 43-506.

PLANT 2 PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT'S loss is the Air Force's gain as Lou Molczon (center, seated) is honor guest at a party prior to his leaving for the service. ▼



▲ "JUST RESTING" is the way Herman Popp plans to spend his time from now on. The veteran employee was a member of Dept. 43-506 at the time of his recent retirement.



BEN BERGEY, who was recently made captain of the guards at the Croydon Plant. ▼



## Date of Easter

### FIXED BY ANCIENTS

The date upon which Easter Sunday shall fall—April 5, this year—was fixed in the year 325 A.D. by the Council of the Christian Churches which met in Nicea, Asia Minor, to draw up the Nicene Creed.

It was decided that the commemoration of the Resurrection of Christ should be observed on the first Sunday following the Paschal Full Moon which happens upon or next after the twenty-first day of March. (The Paschal Full Moon is the fourteenth day of a lunar month, reckoned according to an ancient ecclesiastical computation.) Should it fall upon a Sunday, then Easter is the Sunday following.

In fixing a date for Easter, the ancients sought to provide a period of bright moonlight for the benefit of the pilgrims who would be traveling to services celebrating the Risen Christ. For many years and in many Christian congregations, thought has been given to ways of working out a fixed date for Easter, instead of having it vary over a period of 35 days between March 22 and April 25.

**FRANCIS HEIL**, Dept. 43-573, who recently left Philco for service in the United States Army.



**EDWIN S. KOSTRO**, who has been named executive vice-chairman of Safety Services of Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter, American Red Cross. Active in Red Cross safety work for 15 years, Kostro has been serving as chapter chairman of first aid and vice-chairman of safety services. He is also vice-chairman of the Northeast Philadelphia branch of the Red Cross. He is former president of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Materials Handling Society.

### GOOD AND HONEST

The old Greek who took a lantern to hunt for an honest man should have gone to Lathemtown, Ga. Seven years ago Tom Smith, owner of Lathemtown's general store, suffered a stroke, and told his customers to open up the store, serve themselves, and ring up the money in the cash register. Smith can get around in a wheel chair now, but his customers still serve themselves, to spare him the effort. Smith hasn't missed a penny yet.

**A PARTY HONORING** Dan Mulhern, who is the proud father of a baby boy, is given in the Television Tuner Section of Dept. 41-502 at Croydon.





A MATERIAL-SAVING SUGGESTION wins a Philco check for Margaret Beaumont and the congratulations of her supervisor, James Johnson, of Dept. 43-506.

## Philco Microwave Purchased by Mexico

Philco Corporation has been selected by the Secretary of Communications and Public Works of the Republic of Mexico to provide a microwave radio relay communications system between the government overseas radio receiving station at Escalera and the communications control center on Calle de Tacuba, Mexico City, D.F.

The system, which is scheduled for installation during 1953, will provide 35 simplex and 4 duplex voice channels, 12 simplex teletype channels and 4 wide-band channels capable of receiving and transmitting facsimile or radio programs.

These services will be made possible through the installation of two parallel RF paths utilizing Philco Model CLR-6 microwave relay equipment, diplexed over a single antenna assembly, plus Philco Model CMT-4 Time Division Multiplex equipment and telegraph subcarriers.

The Secretaria de Comunicaciones y Obras Publicas (SCOP) chose Philco microwave equipment because it provides communications channels at a cost far less than overhead pole and wire lines. SCOP states that the use of microwave communications systems not only is economical from the standpoint of initial and operating costs, but provides maximum reliability under adverse weather conditions.

The equipment being supplied to the Mexican Government is the same type as is currently being furnished to American industry to meet their communications requirements. Other operating Philco systems have been supplied to the American Telephone and Telegraph, Santa Fe and Rock Island Railroads, the Bonneville Power Administration of the U. S. Department of Interior, the U. S. Armed Forces, Radio-television "El Mundo," S. A., and Circuito CMQ, S. A., in Cuba.



MONEY FOR LABOR-SAVING suggestions is paid by Philco to three employees in Dept. 43-506. On the left, Clarence Hedrick, foreman in the department, presents John Slane with his check; while to the right, Russell Ziegler, department supervisor, presents a check to Joe Wahl. William Rea (center) had already received his suggestion-award check when the picture was taken.

## MOTHER A MANAGER

What is management?

Well, every home has a manager, just like every business, large or small. When mother gets her husband off to work, sees the children on the way to school, and buys food and household supplies from the stores, she is a part of "management." The prosperity and happiness of the home depends largely upon how well she does her managing.

THE FIRST BABY for the Merlino family, Mary and Mike, is admired by the proud father, Dept. 14-511. The infant is named Nicholas Alfonse Merlino.



## TechRep, G and I Divisions Stage Joint Show of Products

An exhibit of Philco services and materials furnished by both the TechRep and Government and Industrial Divisions was held for visitors representing the military and industry last month at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. Invitations were tendered interested communications people jointly by Robert F. Herr, vice-president, TechRep Division, and Joseph H. Gillies, vice-president, Government and Industrial Division. As in preceding years, Philco is continuing its program of acquainting outside organizations with the services and materials available through the medium of an exhibit.

Easily transported, the exhibit is a boon to demonstrators and lecturers. An interesting theme was devised for the springtime exhibit in "For Want of a Nail," which is carried out symbolically through the horseshoe and hammer. This symbol appears predominantly on many display pieces. The showing followed closely on the heels of the supervisory convention. A preview of the exhibit was held especially for visiting field administrators and supervisors the previous evening.

Following the showing in Philadelphia, the exhibit was taken to Dayton, Ohio; Rome and Garden City, New York; and Fort Monmouth. Early next month, the exhibit will be shown in Washington, D. C., and then swing south on the first leg of a nation-wide showing of the Division's activities. This is the second year the revamped Philco exhibit will have been taken on a nation-wide tour. It will be shown in southern cities, on the West Coast and through the Mid-West. The exhibit shows the services and products made available to the Armed Forces through the TechRep and G and I Divisions.

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### DIFFERENT TUNE

There are juke boxes, and juke boxes. There is one in a church in Harrison, N. J. (looks just like the one in the town tavern)—only it plays nothing but hymns, psalms and short sermons. For free, to anyone who enters the church.

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Our engineers today have the know-how to produce a rocket engine having a power output equivalent to the combined electrical power output of all the industrial and utility companies in Michigan.

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**NEWS:** Women are better than men at learning to drive cars, in the age ranges 18 to 35 and 61 to 65, the Automobile Club of New York reports.



CHIEF O. T. CUSTALOW, Philco dealer with the Mattaponi Indians since the early days of radios, looks over the Philadelphia television and radio plants of the Company with E. M. Kirkpatrick (left), general production superintendent, and John J. Moran, sales manager, Radio Division. Helen Haag (seated) enjoys the visit of the chief, whose headquarters are at Sweet Hall, Virginia.

### GAS STATIONS NOW "CRACKER BARRELS"

Guess what has replaced the cracker barrel and pot-bellied stove of the old-time rural general store as the center of country community life and gossip?

It's the service station, according to the Oil Industry Information Committee, which also reports that 19 out of every 20 of our country's 200,000 service stations are owned or operated by independent businessmen and are typical small business enterprises.

MEMBERS OF THE Croydon Plant who have recently returned from service with the Armed Forces and are now back on their old jobs are (standing, left to right): Morris Harkins, John Mixner, Robert Thompson, Howard Weakley, Ellwood Huffman; (same order, front): Davis Rogers, John Palermo, Frank Cavanaugh and Edward Gannon.





FRANK LOVELL presents Sam Lavenberg with an envelope containing money to buy himself a gift from members of the group in the Television Tuning Section of Dept. 41-502 at Croydon, prior to Sam's departure for the Armed Forces.



ANGELO GIOVANNANGELO (center, wearing coat), of the Refrigeration Engineering Division at Plant 6, was honoree at a party given by his co-workers prior to his leaving for the Army.

## PHILCO EMPLOYEES IN THE ARMED FORCES

A/1c James Adair, AF 33334645  
91st Strat. Recon. Wing  
Detachment #1  
APO 22, c/o Postmaster  
New York, N. Y.

Harvey C. Carr, US 51019387  
APO 107, c/o Postmaster  
New York, N. Y.

Ensign Barbara A. Decker, USNR  
U. S. Naval Training Station  
W. O. Q.—Bldg. 113  
Newport, Rhode Island

John A. Doody, FN  
Dept. 90-20, Public Works Office  
Elliott Annex, U. S. N.  
San Diego 44, California

Joseph H. Flanagan  
28th Division  
APO 111, c/o Postmaster  
New York City, N. Y.

Pfc. John Gallagher, AF 13392659  
3459 Squadron  
Francis E. Warren, A. S. B.  
Wyoming

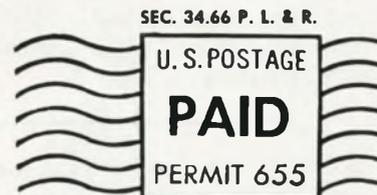
Pfc. Jules R. Goetz, RA 13402072  
516th Military Police Service  
Platoon  
Quarry Heights  
Canal Zone, Panama

Cpl. John Granger, 612358,  
U.S.M.C.R.  
MGC 15, #3, 1st MAW  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

Francis H. Grill, 23821898  
Company C, 103rd Eng. C Bn.  
28th Division  
APO 111, c/o Postmaster  
New York, N. Y.

Carl T. Heller, GM3  
U.S.S. Niobrara, A O-72  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
New York, N. Y.

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