

Publications on Leclaire (Pre-1895)

Notes:

The material transcribed here is from a variety of sources, including newspapers, periodicals and N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company publications. Additional articles are added on a regular basis and are listed in chronological order of the date originally published.

The documents contain information about Leclaire, N. O. Nelson Manufacturing and its employees, and early residents of the village.

Several newspaper articles come under the heading "Leclaire Laconics" which was the name of a regular column of Leclaire news in the early 1890s for the Edwardsville Intelligencer. Many articles have no headlines, since that was a common practice in early newspapers. In the early years of Leclaire, Edwardsville had two newspapers. Besides the Intelligencer, there was the Edwardsville Democrat which often referred to Leclaire as "South Edwardsville." Editor A. L. Brown believed strongly that Edwardsville's new suburb should not be "Leclaire."

Every effort is made to ensure accuracy in the transcriptions, but if you should identify an error, please let us know. Note that articles are typed exactly as written a century ago, so "employee" is spelled "employe" and the word street or road is not capitalized, i.e. "Main street" Also, especially in later articles, the spelling of Leclaire was sometimes mistakenly listed as "LeClaire" and the spelling of Holyoake Road is written as "Holyoke road".

March 28, 1886
Chicago Tribune
Cooperative Store Proposed

A manufacturing company in St. Louis, N. O. Nelson & Co., has undertaken an important step in the interest of its employes. It proposes to them to open a cooperative store, to be run exclusively by the workers, or parties appointed by them, the firm offering to furnish a suitable place in the establishment free of charge for one year.

It also offers that, if desired, the buyer of the firm shall do the buying for the cooperative store, but only in case the cash be furnished, the business to be done strictly on a cash basis throughout. It is suggested that the formation of an association on this plan would be equivalent to adding three or four dollars per week to the wages of the employes.

Here is an example that may be followed with advantage to all concerned. Large firms that may make such an effort to improve the condition of their workers might reasonably count upon an intelligent appreciation of the fact and even an increased efficiency of services in the case of all but the ungrateful few who are incapable of a kindly feeling towards those who lend them a helping hand

But the greatest benefit would inure to the workers themselves. The firm in question states that the profits of retailers range from 15 to 50 per cent. Of course this does not mean actual profit, but the difference between wholesale and retail prices, out of which the dealer must pay the expense of conducting his business.

A large part of that difference might be saved "just as well as net" by an association which is allowed to operate rent free, and would detail competent members to take turns in performing the distribution of the goods or hire a suitable person to do it. Probably the statement of differences above noted is somewhat too large to apply to Chicago, as competition among traders in this city leads them to shave down on profits pretty closely where they can obtain cash customers.

But even here a saving of fully one dollar in every five or six might be made by purchasing the family supplies on the cooperative plan. It would be at least this if the necessary room for the handling of the goods could be obtained free of rent by the men and women who would be at the same time patrons and owners of the institution.

February 12, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Means Business

The Project of a St. Louis Manufacturing Company

The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., of St. Louis has decided to locate its manufactories in one of the towns on this side of the Mississippi river. If no suitable location can be secured near or adjoining a town the company will establish a suburban village of its own.

The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company is one of the largest institutions of its kind in the west, if not in the country. Its plants consist of machine shops, brass shops, store and shipping departments, offices and other buildings. To these are to be added an iron foundry. The plant is being operated on the co-operative plan. That is, every workman shares in the profits of the establishment in proportion to his salary or wages. It was one of the first to adopt this system in this country and has been working under it five years, during which time it has declared dividends equal to 33 per cent. On that dividend a mechanic earning \$2.50 per day for 310 days in the year would receive \$313.26 as his share; an office boy at \$5 per week, \$105.10, a traveling man at \$2,000

per year, \$808.46; a porter at \$12 per week, \$252.24, and so through the entire range of salaries. These dividends the employees receive in cash, with the privilege of investing them in stock of the company. A surplus fund, to provide for a losing year, is established and maintained by placing aside 10 per cent of the earnings each year, and a provident fund for employes in time of need in like manner on a reserve of between 5 and 10 per cent each years.

Mr. N. O. Nelson, the head of this enterprise, has been studying for a number of years past on a plan to secure a still greater unity of action and community of interest. He has studied the system as practiced by a few leading European establishments and has plans fully matured. His project is to secure 200 acres of land. On this will be located first the foundries, shops and other buildings. The remainder will be laid out into tracts of an acre or less for residents purpose of the employes. In the platting it will be attempted to retain a certain appearance of picturesqueness and roominess. The owner of each tract will be permitted to exercise his own individual taste, to an extent so as not to interfere with the general symmetry necessary to a satisfactory effect. The beautifying of grounds, streets, lanes and squares, will be encouraged as far as possible and an effort made to have the residence portion resemble a park or place of resort. In this respect the idea is after that of New Manchester, Mass., established by the Cheney family, the extensive silk manufacturers. There is a suggestion in the project of the system under which Pullman was built, but a wide difference exists between the two. Pullman is owned by the Pullman Company. Its population rents houses ready made. The N. O. Nelson Company will avoid all tendency toward the destruction of independence, and while its endeavor is to help its employes they will do so in a general way and expect the employes to buy their own homes. The basis of the undertaking is the profit sharing system, which is in practice and under which any employe will be enabled to build on time payments to be made from the profits shared by all connected with the company.

An effort has been on foot to interest the company in Edwardsville. Mr. N. O. Nelson, the projector of this enterprise, accompanied by A. E. Barns, editor of the Age of Steel, were in the city to-day. Mr. Nelson has been considering several locations for some time. He is thoroughly posted on the advantages and disadvantages of each. He has carefully considered railroads, water, coal and other facilities indispensable to a large manufacturing plant. The visitors looked at a number of sites during the forenoon. An impromptu meeting of businessmen was held in J. A. Pritchett's bank in the afternoon. The subject was referred to a committee consisting of Co. Wm. E. Wheeler, John S. Trares, A. Gerber, A. Keller and W. F. L. Hadley

February 19, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Editorials by Charles Boeschstein, Editor

EDITORIALS

T. C. HULLMAN, book-keeper for P. Wonderly & Co.'s mines, received a letter from the firm at St. Louis, this morning, inquiring what the citizens had done toward securing the N. O. Nelson company, adding that their party would likely locate if the first has settled, and requesting him to send details. The INTELLIGENCER was applied to for information, and hence learned of the letter. Who the party is or what they intend to do is not material now. The facts, however, prove the assertion which has been made that the location of this company will draw others.

Think of it, N. O. Nelson's works, J. B. M. Kehler's mill, the Steel Truss Car Wheel shops, the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis railroad and any number of other buildings. When Alton comes over to the convention next summer it will require one policeman for every delegate to show the sights.

Speaking of the Steel Truss Car Wheel shops, Mr. N. O. Nelson said "I would like to see Edwardsville get the shops. If I become a citizen I will identify myself with her interests. I would contribute to these shops as I would to anything else that I thought would benefit the community." People who know the gentleman's business career in St. Louis understood how cordial these words were meant. Edwardsville ought to have several more like him.

February 19, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Nelson's Project

N. O. Nelson, of the Nelson Manufacturing Company, of St. Louis, was in the city yesterday to receive a proposition from the committee selected at a meeting of business men a week ago. He left for Troy shortly before the noon hour and Edwardsville is awaiting his decision in regard to her offer.

Mr. Nelson, as has been stated by this paper before, contemplates to remove his several factories and shops from St. Louis to some point on this side of the Mississippi river. He further intends to acquire land sufficient for residence purposes for the several hundred employees. The manufacturing plant which he proposes to build will consist of iron foundries, machine shops, brass shops, cabinet shops and eventually pottery works. He will in time put in a waterworks system, gas works and electric lights for his own use. Should he locate in a town or city these last enterprises will be built with sufficient capacity to supply his plant and the whole, or any part of the community which desires to avail itself of the advantages. He has been maturing plans for this undertaking in the course of years. He has traveled abroad and in this country for the purpose of inquiring into and making observations as to the most feasible system to arrive at practical results. The business he is engaged in is profitable and the plant of which he is the head is one of the largest institutions in the west and is increasing.

Mr. Nelson has been considering several sites and has been offered inducements by a number of points. He was induced to consider Edwardsville as a competitor for location, and has made several visits to the city to determine her advantages. Last week he came out to make further inquiry. A conference of business men was held and a committee, to which the subject was referred, was selected. It consists of Col. Wm. E. Wheeler, Alonzo Keller, John S. Trares, A. Gerber, and W. F. L. Hadley. This committee went to work immediately to ascertain what site or sites could be had and incidentally canvassed the field to find out how much money could be raised to purchase the land. A tract of 200 acres, or as near that number as possible, will be required. The committee priced lands and secured the refusal of some at prices ranging from \$150 to \$250. The gentlemen could see no way of raising this amount of money, and finally decided to offer a tract consisting of 46 acres, held at a purchase price of \$200 per acre, or requiring \$9,200. This offer was made to Mr. Nelson, and he consented to reply within a week, but thought it very unlikely that he might accept.

THE INTELLIGENCER has closely observed the progress of the work thus far. It believes this point will be given the preference over any other that may be offered, provided the inducements are moderately as reasonable as at other points. The location here of this plant would induce other enterprises to come. There are related industries that would naturally follow. The fact that the vast N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company came here would influence to bring more. The profits of the plant would be invested here, and Mr. Nelson's statement is that the annual addition to their investment would be not less than \$75,000.

February 26, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

It Rests With the Citizens

Mr. N. O. Nelson has been induced to make the citizens of Edwardsville a proposition. It is a straight forward, honest, business offer. He makes known definitely what he wants, and how and in what manner he is to receive it. He states precisely what he will do and what he will give in return. There is no double dealing and no deception. His statement is plain, concise and means business.

The committee of citizens have reported that they "consider the matter in hand as one beneficial to the people of the city, and well worth the money that it will cost to procure it." A citizens' meeting enthusiastically endorsed this decision. The question now is on raising the sum required by terms of the offer. The amount is big, but the project is big, also. The subscriptions which have already been received demonstrate that a good part of the community, at least, realize the importance of holding fast to this opportunity. It remains for others to do their share. The work must be carried forward with vigor. Whatever will be done must be done promptly. The time was limited to ten days, and to-day counts three. The citizens must say yes or no without hesitancy. Yes, means growth and progress; no, means standing still and retrogression. Between these two is the choice.

Nothing will inspire confidence among subscribers for smaller amounts as the evidence of confidence among the class which are known to be able to give. The work must be pitched on a high scale. There must be no shirking.

If you are for Edwardsville, money talks.

Footnotes

In an adjacent column THE INTELLIGENCER *printed an untitled moral imperative in verse:* "Breathes there a man with soul so dead that never to himself has said, "I must chip in to boom the town." If such there be--a man of means, with surplus money in his jeans--go mark him well, and set it down that he'll be roasted good and brown. The people will his business shun; and should he for an office run, the voters will flock out like sheep and snow him under safe and deep. Despised by those he moves among, he'll find a lash in every tongue, and die un-honored and unsung."

February 26, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

NOT SURE YET

What has been done to secure the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.

The prospects for inducing the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company to locate at Edwardsville were melancholy last Thursday. As will be remembered by the readers the citizens' committee made Mr. N. O. Nelson an offer. He agreed to give them his decision within a few days. It came on Thursday morning. A letter conveyed the information that the company regarded it better to stick to its original idea of keeping away from an existing town--get a large body of land at farm prices, instead of paying high prices for a small tract. A telegram was immediately sent to arrange for a meeting. The gentlemen who had interested themselves in the matter were not ready to let go so soon. The citizens' committee met in the afternoon and appointed a sub-committee consisting of W F. L. Hadley, E. B. Glass, and C. Boeschstein, to wait on Mr. Nelson.

They went to St. Louis on the 3:30 K.C. train and met him in his office. The next two hours were devoted to instill Mr. Nelson with the enthusiasm for Edwardsville that the committee had come abundantly supplied with. A new proposition was arranged. The citizens committee met on Friday and on Saturday. It held several meetings each day until the preliminaries were in such shape that the matter could be presented to the citizens. On Monday morning the options and other arrangements were reported to Mr. Nelson and he pronounced them satisfactory. Mayor E. B. Glass thereupon issued a call for a citizens meeting.

The citizens meeting convened in the circuit court room on Monday night. It was the largest and by far the most enthusiastic meeting of its kind held in many years. John A. Prickett called it to order. Mayor E. B. Glass was selected to preside and C. Boeschstein was chosen secretary. Co. Wm. Wheeler, for the committee, consisting of himself, Alonzo Keller, John S. Trares, A. Gerber and W. F. L. Hadley presented this report:

The committee appointed to receive and consider the proposition of Mr. N. O. Nelson to erect his works at Edwardsville upon condition that he be given 200 acres of land for that purpose, now report: That looking favorably upon the proposal we proceeded to ascertain if the lands in the designated locality could be purchased and at what price. We found the 200 acres would cost \$34,800. We then held a conference with Mr. Nelson and informed him of the prices at which these lands were held, and that it was the judgment of this committee that so large a sum could not be raised by our people. The result of the conference was that Mr. Nelson agreed that if our people would secure him a certain 158 acres, priced at about \$24,800, he would take it and pay all over \$20,000 himself: the committee to obtain for him an option on certain other lands at fixed figures. The committee now holds written options on the desired lands, and it only remains to raise the \$20,000, neither more nor less, to secure the enterprise.

This fund will have to be raised entirely by individual subscription, as Section 12, Article 9, of the constitution of our state prohibits the city government from becoming further indebted in any manner, for any purpose. We refer to this constitutional prohibition in order that any supposed aid from the city may not be made an excuse for not subscribing by those who favor the enterprise, but who think the city ought to step in and help the cause. The action of the committee has been entirely harmonious, and any delay in the matter was owing to causes beyond their control. We conclude our report by saying that we consider the matter in hand as one beneficial to the people of this city, and one well worth the money that it will cost to procure it.

This was supplemented with a letter from Mr. Nelson addressed to Wm. E. Wheeler, chairman, &c., which says:

“We are satisfied with the options reported to us by Mr. Boeschstein, amounting to 215 acres, more or less. We beg to inform you that at any time within ten days we shall be ready to pay any excess over \$20,000 which the land we decide to take may amount to.”

The rest of the letter provides terms and conditions which have no interest except as protection to the subscribers.

After the reading of these papers the chairman invited remarks. J. A. Prickett, W. F. L. Hadley, W. H. Krome, A. Keller, John G. Irwin, J. W. Terry and E. B. Glass and others held out the advantages the institution would be to the city and urged prompt and decisive action.

A committee to circulate lists for subscriptions was appointed. It consists of J. A. Prickett, Wm. H. Krome, E. A. Keller, A. G. Tuxhorn, Robert Hagnauer, A. A. Klingel, J. W. Terry, Mike Desmond, E. J. Jeffress, W. T. Flynn, A. S. Helsel, Charles Prange, John Stolze and Dr. E. W. Fiegenbaum. To these was added the chairman E. B. Glass. On motion of Mr. Krome the committee of five will be continued to supervise and eventually to close the negotiations.

The subscription committee divided itself into sub-committees and yesterday afternoon started on its campaign.

The Intelligencer last week stated that if the N. O. Nelson company is secured related industries will follow. Other enterprises will be drawn here. One company which manufactures wood working machinery, has already determined on such a move, and has put this desire in writing, as follows:

N. O. Nelson Manf^g. Co.,

Gentlemen, -- When you have found a suitable site in the country, we would like to join you, if agreeable.

Lattimore Machine (?) Co.

by D. J. Lattimore, Pres.

The original of this was sent by Mr. Nelson to the editor of this paper.

Saturday, March 1, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

Farmers about Edwardsville should be as much interested in the location of the Nelson Company and the Car Wheel Works as any others, for they will cause a largely increased demand for just such products as they desire to dispose of in this market. Lend a helping hand to the enterprises, gentlemen.

It was well said by Senator Hadley, in his speech before the citizens meeting, held at the court house Monday night, the location of Mr. Nelson's Co. and Mr. Dunstedter's Car Wheel Works in our midst, will in five years time, make Edwardsville the most populous town in the county. Alton not excepted. And the beauty of it is that the increase will be made up of a very desirable class of people – "skilled mechanics," if you please.

In making your subscriptions to the proposed new enterprises do not lose sight of the fact that by securing them over two hundred acres of valuable land will be added to the corporation, which will be divided into city lots, together with about \$1,000,000 invested in the plants, all of which will be subject to taxation. Figures will conclusively demonstrate that in a few years they will pay us back in revenue.

On the subject of location of the Nelson Corporative Manufacturing Co., Belleville, Lebanon and the Bridge Land Syndicate are in the condition of the steamboat captain and the old man's fiddle – they are too late.

March 5, 1890, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

TWENTY THOUSAND

A Big Subscription Made in Four Days

Edwardsville has raised the \$20,000 subscription for the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company. The committee began active work on Wednesday morning, continued its labors indefatigably for several days. A meeting was held each night at Mayor E. B. Glass' office, to compare notes and plan for next day. The figures on Saturday night touted up to over \$21,000.

The original committee of five which was empowered by the citizens meeting to close the negotiations, met on Monday. Mr. N. O. Nelson was duly notified that the subscription was raised. He came out on Tuesday noon and met the committee. Senator W. F. L. Hadley and Mayor E. B. Glass were chosen trustees. Other details were determined upon. Finally, the question of making the lands and addition to the city came up. Mr. Nelson stated that while Edwardsville's municipal government was an improvement over others, yet there was an advantage in being independent of it, and he had not thought of becoming a part of the corporation. He had to leave shortly after for his train, and the matter was not discussed further there.

It subsequently became a subject for street talk. The more it was talked about, the more significant it grew. Selfish needs predominated over good sense. People who ought to have known better, and probably did, were too obstinate to ...

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...is and should be as deeply concerned as they, in all the movements of society and they will ever lend a strong arm to help on the ever advancing tide of human improvements:

In conclusion we will say that while a country is following the paths of peaceful progress, capital, industry and enterprise are left free to select their own fields of operation and development. We may look with confidence to the extension of wheat culture and to assume at all times proportions commensurate in a good degree with the facilities available and the market to be supplied.

March 8, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

The total subscription to the Nelson bonus aggregates \$22,171.50. The over-plus \$2,171.50 should go to the Car Wheel Works. Who says aey?

Colonel Wheeler, Senator Hadley and Mr. A. Gerber, sub-committee, were in St. Louis Thursday and entered into a written memoranda with the Nelson Co-operative Manufacturing Co., which we opine will meet with the hearty approbation of our whole people. We do not believe it to be opportune to go into the details of the agreement in this issue.

March 15, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

It is a mistaken idea that Edwardsville has been on the point of starvation, and that the Nelson Co. is the Moses that has lifted it out of the wilderness, as some local newspapers would lead those residing elsewhere to infer. The truth is that there is no place in the state that has been or is in a healthier condition morally, socially, physically and financially than this same Edwardsville.

The papers have been signed, sealed and delivered in the matter of the location of the Nelson Co-operative Manufacturing Co. in this city. The substance of the agreement is that it is under bond to erect a plant to cost not less than \$50,000, work on which will begin at once, and the enterprise will be maintained until at least \$250,000 have been expended for wages. When those things are accomplished we opine that our people will be pretty well satisfied that they have received their investment and a good, big rate of interest on \$20,000.

South Edwardsville is the name by which the Nelson Co's addition will be known.

In the matter of the location of the Nelson Co. in our midst, the Gillespie boys are on top. They started the ball rolling, and the soliciting committee, aided by the local press, went to their rescue and successfully consummated the enterprise. Hurray for all of them!

March 19, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Alton Sentinel-Democrat Article (editorial)

EDITORIAL

The Alton Sentinel-Democrat, commenting on the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.'s plant, makes this startling statement:

“It will be a regular co-operative concern, with its own village government, and will be no more connected with Edwardsville than is Hamel or new Douglas.”

This is about as near correct as an Alton paper gets in anything that pertains to a subject outside of Alton. The enterprise is a co-operative concern in that it is conducted on the profit-sharing system. It will not have its own village government. It will be connected with Edwardsville in everything that concerns Edwardsville, excepting strictly city governmental affairs. No stone wall will mark the like where Edwardsville cuts off and its new suburb begins. The two will be attached one to the other, because each can get along better with the other's assistance. However, since Alton's "\$25,000 and land at \$100 per acre" did not secure this enterprise for Alton against Edwardsville, if it will afford her papers any amusement, we are quite willing to let them make faces at us.

March 19, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Nelson Nuggets

A party of employes of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. were out Sunday to look at the lands and see the city. They went over town generally, and expressed themselves well pleased with the idea of becoming residents. The party included G. W. Felton, foreman of one of the departments: G.E., C.N, A.P., Jr., and Harry Predock, Jos. H. Miller and B. F. Smith.

The first transfer of land for the enterprise was made Monday. Wm. F. Holle and wife deeded to W. F. L. Hadley and E. B. Glass, trustees, 49.34 acres; consideration, \$7,500. The papers for the Wolf tracts are also ready, and as soon as sufficient money has been collected to make the payment, the papers will be filed.

The INTELLIGENCER has been requested to urge those subscribers who have not yet paid to do so at once, so that the negotiations may be closed.

March 22, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

A party of the employees of the Nelson Manufacturing Co. visited this city last Sunday to take a look at their prospective houses. The party consisted of gentlemen, all well dressed. If the other employes of the concern show up equal to them then Edwardsville loses nothing by such accessions to its population. They all expressed themselves highly pleased with this city and its environs.

Mail matter is already arriving and addressed to "N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., Edwardsville, Ill." How does it sound at Collinsville and Alton?

March 26, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat
Architect visits Leclaire

BREVITIES

N. O. Nelson and his architect, E. A. Cameron, and civil engineer, Julius Pitzman, of St. Louis, were here Wednesday, arranging the preliminaries for immediate work on the big plant. We understand that the architect will reside here permanently.

March 26, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

A New Industrial City. (The Age of Steel.)

In a previous edition we announced that the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company would establish a large industrial enterprise in the immediate vicinity of Edwardsville, Ill, and in the same connection promised the particulars upon the conclusion of the final negotiations for the transfer of the realty to the St. Louis company. We are now authorized to say that the matter is definitely settled in all its details.

The property acquired by the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company consists of 215 acres of land, lying immediately south of Edwardsville, and distant only 20 miles from this city. The Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City railroad runs through, and has its depot upon the tract; the Wabash has a switch to it, and also connects, at a distance of eight miles, with the Chicago & Alton, the Indianapolis & St. Louis and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy. Furthermore, the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis railroad is now within two miles of Edwardsville and will go through or near the property. The Wolf coal mine is immediately adjoining. The land is level, but slightly undulating.

The company will immediately begin the erection of buildings thereon for their bath tub, tank and cabinet works, the same to occupy about 350 feet square, or something over a city block. These are expected to be completed, and fitted with machinery ready for starting, by June 1st next. The company will also begin the construction of dwelling houses, and count upon having fifty completed by fall. A first-class St. Louis civil engineer has been employed to assist in carrying out these and other plans connected with the improvement of the property, and will lay out avenues, a park and water works.

The company have also engaged an architect -- a pupil of the famous Boston architect, H. H. Richardson -- who will serve them by the year. He will reside on the spot, draw plans and superintend the erection of all

buildings. Houses, it is needless to say, will be built in the best and most artistic manner, and sold to employees on easy installment payments. In the fall trees will be planted along the proposed avenues, over the entire tract.

Next year other manufacturing departments beside those referred to will be moved to the new site; but the store and office will always be continued in St. Louis.

In explanation of their new venture, the company say it was prompted by an increase of business, such as demands not only a large extension of factory space, but the carrying of heavier stocks here, and consequently a greater amount of store room. The floors now occupied by factories in the main building, Eighth and St. Charles Streets, will be utilized for store purposes as soon as the manufacturing departments can be moved.

Untitled item in adjacent column:

Edwardsville as a city is live, stirring, progressive and full of the spirit of cordiality and cheerfulness. Those individuals who are not of this kind mistake the town, that is all. They may have been born and raised here, but they never should have been. People who are sordid, selfish, non-progressive, jealous, and ill-natured were never intended for this community. They are mistaken when they think they are.

March 26, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

EDWARDSVILLE ENTERPRISE

What Neighboring Newspapers Say

Edwardsville is on a boom and expects to put up half a million dollars worth of buildings this year -- *Bunker Hill Advance*.

Edwardsville's building improvements during the year A. D. 1890, will aggregate a half million dollars or over -- *Salem Herald-Advocate*.

Edwardsville gets the N. O. Nelson works, but she had to put up for them. But no place can expect to get something for nothing. -- *Waterloo Times*.

\$20,000, raised in four days, should be an earnest of the No. O. Nelson Co.'s welcome to Edwardsville, that the latter should appreciate. -- *Bunker Hill Advance*.

The INTELLIGENCER claims that N. O. Nelson has concluded to locate at Edwardsville. If this will help the live, prosperous city of Edwardsville any, it is to be congratulated. -- *East St. Louis Gazette*.

The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. will remove their mammoth establishment from St. Louis to Edwardsville. Edwardsville people are hustlers; they have made a fine investment and will reap immense benefit. -- *Chester Clarion*.

Negotiations have been concluded by which Edwardsville secures the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company. Edwardsville's good fortune is largely due to the push and enterprise of the INTELLIGENCER. -- *Carrollton Patriot*.

When the people in a town like Nashville are enterprising, energetic and public spirited, the town flourishes in spite of drawbacks. This is proven by the fact that Edwardsville will get the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing plant, and Mt. Vernon will get a large car works concern. -- *Nashville Democrat*.

March 29, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

N. O. Nelson and his architect, E. A. Cameron, and civil engineer Julius Pitzman, of St. Louis, were here Wednesday, arranging the preliminaries for immediate work on the big plant. We understand that the architect will reside here permanently.

In four days Edwardsville subscribed and paid \$22,000 for an enterprise. Alton has been endeavoring to raise \$15,000 for a like purpose, but has failed to make connection in something over a month's effort.

April 2, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Editorial – Nelson Subscribes

EDITORIAL PAGE

N. O. Nelson set a commendable example to-day by subscribing \$25 yearly toward the Public Library expenses.

Edwardsville has about made back the subscription to the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., by the increase in the value of real estate.

Saturday, April 12, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

Julius Neustadt, cashier and Geo. W. Felton, a department superintendent of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., of St. Louis, soon to be of this city, Sundayed in Edwardsville. Mr. Neustadt desires to secure a residence here to be occupied at once, or he would take board with a private family for himself, wife and two small children. Information in relation thereto may be left at the DEMOCRAT office. Mr. Felton will make his headquarters temporarily at the Windsor. The department of which he is chief is the first one, of the three, to be erected and its arrangement is under his direction. It will cost over \$50,000. From the gentlemen we learn that our proposed enterprise is going to be a bigger thing on ice than was anticipated by even its most assiduous local promoters, that is if a million dollars worth of business annually means anything.

April 19, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

It ceased raining yesterday long enough for the ground to be broken for the Nelson buildings to be erected in South Edwardsville. Geo. J. Webb is the contractor and has a large force of men and teams engaged on the work.

Saturday, May 3, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

Hadley and Glass, trustees, have conveyed to N. O. Nelson that portion of South Edwardsville upon which the plants are to be erected.

May 14, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

STARTING WORK

Ground has been broken for the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.'s plant. N. O. Nelson, accompanied by W. A. Reid, master mechanic, and C. A. Cameron, the architect, were out Saturday. On Monday morning contractor Tom Morton started to work with a force of men. Another week will witness work under full headway.

The Steel Truss Car Wheel Works are being pushed forward as rapidly as can be. Secretary A. G. Lindemuth, accompanied by E. C. Janssen, the architect, were out Monday, and with President Jacob Dunstedter arranged for letting out contracts.

Wednesday, May 21, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Work Progresses

BREVITIES

Work on the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. plant and the Steel Truss Car Wheel Shops is being pushed forward as rapidly as material can be brought to the grounds. It will be under full headway within a few days.

May 28, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Nelson will visit Edwardsville

WILL MAKE A VISIT

N. O. Nelson was in the city Monday to give instructions concerning matters regarding the work which is now in progress. He has just returned from a trip East, where he had gone to get ideas and points which may be applied in the construction of his plant here.

A number of the employees of the Company have asked to make a visit here, and in order to give all an opportunity to do so, Mr. Nelson has decided to provide them with a special train on Saturday, June 7th. The train will leave St. Louis at noon, and arrive over the K.C. about one o'clock. One of the local bands will meet the visitors.

Saturday, May 31, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

N. O. Nelson of St. Louis was out Monday looking over the work in South Edwardsville.

The men employed by the Nelson Manufacturing Co. are arranging for a private picnic to be held in this city next Saturday, June 7th. They will arrive here at one p.m., by the Clover Leaf. The Knights of Labor, of East St. Louis, are making efforts to secure privileges for their annual outing which they propose to hold here also at an early day.

June 4, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
A Train Load of Visitors

A TRAINLOAD OF VISITORS

The employees of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. will be provided with a special train on the K. C. on Saturday, June 14th, for an excursion to this city. The train will leave St. Louis at noon and arrive here about one o'clock.

Mayor E. B. Glass on Wednesday appointed a committee to receive the visitors. It consists of Wm E. Wheeler, J. A. Prickett, A. W. Metcalfe, Judge C. L. Cook, Henry Riniker, Robert Hagnauer, A. Klingel, Wm. H. Krome, Cyrus Happy, A. L. Brown, Wm. R. Crossman and C. Boeschstein.

June 7, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

No one sincerely interested in this city will permit themselves to refer to the Manufacturing Co's project as "Nelsonville." If it must be otherwise designated, let it be South Edwardsville. The former name don't go here. This is official. The newspapers published in the "Limestone Village" will please make a note of it before they begin to harp on that string.

The visit to this city today arranged for employes of the Nelson Manufacturing Co., has been postponed until next Saturday 14th. On the occasion it is expected that between three and five hundred of them will be here, and they will be accompanied hither by a large delegation of prominent St. Louis gentlemen as guests of the company. The party will arrive on a special train over the Clover Leaf. Mayor Glass has appointed the following gentlemen to act as a special reception committee, whose duty it will be to see that the excursionists have a good time while here: Col. W. E. Wheeler, Jno A. Prickett, Hon. A. W. Metcalfe, Judge Cyrus L. Cook, Henry Riniker, Robt. Hagnauer, G. B. Crane, A. Gerber, Judge H. C. Gerke, A. Klingel, Hom. W. H. Krome, Cyrus Happy, A. L. Brown, C. Boeschstein and W. R. Crossman. The DEMOCRAT is requested to

announce that the committee will meet in the county judge's office at 8 o'clock, sharp, tonight to organize and lay out a programme for entertainment of the visitors.

June 11, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

N. O. Nelson Company Excursion

The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. has been arranging the past week for an excursion for its employes which was to take place next Saturday.

Mayor E. B. Glass last week appointed a committee to receive the visitors. This committee has made arrangements with the National band for music, and will look after the other details.

The INTELLIGENCER received a telephone message this afternoon that owing to the scarcity of coaches it may be necessary to postpone the excursion for a week. The Company has made application during the past five days to every railroad whose lines enter St. Louis, but the excursion season has made such a heavy demand on equipment that they can get no more than three coaches, which would not be one-half of what is needed. The circumstances are a disappointment not only to the citizens, but also to the N. O. Nelson people. Another effort will be made to overcome the difficulty, and if unsuccessful, the enterprise will have to be abandoned for a week, and the visitors will come on Saturday, June 21st.

June 14, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

N. O. Nelson was up Thursday looking over the work on the numerous buildings being erected in South Edwardsville.

The mayor's committee of fifteen appointed to arrange for reception of the employes and their families of the Nelson Manufacturing Co., and prominent residents of St. Louis, met and organized by selecting Judge Cook chairman of the general committee. Col. W. E. Wheeler, G. B. Crane and A. L. Brown were appointed a sub-committee to confer with Mr. Nelson on the subject, and on their report to a subsequent meeting A. Gerber, W. R. Crossman and A. L. Brown were appointed a special committee to arrange for the reception, with power to act. It was expected that the affair would take place today, but owing to the scarcity of passenger coaches, at this time, on account for the immense travel west, it is postponed, indefinitely, though an effort will be made to have the excursion to this place made Saturday next, 21st instant, due notice which, however, will be given.

June 18, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Saturday Next Sure

Saturday Next Sure

The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. will give its employes an excursion to Edwardsville next Saturday. A train has been engaged which will leave St. Louis at 12:30 and arrive over the K. C. shortly after 1 o'clock. A committee of citizens and the National band will meet the train at the depot. Mayor E. B. Glass will deliver a few words of welcome. The visitors will then be taken in charge and afforded an opportunity to see the city and become acquainted with the citizens.

The reception committee will meet at the City Park at 12:30 o'clock sharp and proceed to the depot, escorted by the National band. The committee consists of Wm. E. Wheeler, J. A. Prickett, A. W. Metcalfe, Judge C. L. Cook, Henry Riniker, Robert Hagnauer, G. B. Crane, A. Gerber, H. C. Gerke, A. Klinge, Wm. H. Krome, Cyrus Happy, A. L. Brown, Wm. R. Crossman, and C. Boeschstein.

June 21, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

The Nelson Manufacturing Co. will give its employes an excursion to Edwardsville today. A train has been engaged which will leave St. Louis at 12:30, and arrive over the K. C. shortly after 1 o'clock. A committee of citizens and the National band will meet the train at the depot. Mayor Glass will deliver a few words of welcome. The visitors will then be taken in charge and afforded an opportunity to see the city and become acquainted with the citizens.

June 25, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire is named

Near Neighbors

The N. O. Nelson Co. People Have an Outing and Christen Their New Home "Leclaire"

Saturday was an ideal day for an outing, if a little heat and dust are necessary accompaniments of a day's enjoyment in the country. The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company after several fruitless endeavors, succeeded in securing the necessary means for transportation and selected the day for an excursion of its employees and their families to Edwardsville.

Eight coaches carrying 400 people left the Union depot about one o'clock and after an hour's ride over the K. C. Road, arrived in this city. The engine and coaches were gaily decorated and on each side of one of the coaches was a streamer bearing in big letters the words, "N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, St. Louis and Edwardsville."

The train was met on arriving by Mayor E. B. Glass and a reception committee, who were assisted by numerous citizens and the National band. The visitors were conducted to the shade of an orchard on the grounds where the new plant is rising, and through Mayor Glass, extended a welcome. Mr. N. O. Nelson replied, and spoke as follows:

"Some years since, our company decided upon a plan by which all who share in its work should also share in its earnings. It has always been claimed that free work was more efficient than slave labor. By the same reasoning, men who have a contingent interest in earnings should be more efficient than those who are paid for time only. Then, too, it seemed to us that it was fair to let everyone have a share in the results

of his work--and fairness is not out of place in business. So we said, we'll go on with our business in the ordinary way, pay the usual wages and salaries, charge interest (now 6 per cent) for our money, and divide the remainder equally between wages and capital. Thus, a man whose wages were \$1,000, would receive the same dividend as the owner of \$1,000 in stock.

As all of our stock, except a few shares, is owned by employees, we are all interested together in doing our best. As all society is based on associations, it is evident that by carrying association into business--and especially productive business--better results will be obtained than by following the uncivilized methods of each man for himself. That man must be stupid, as well as base, who will consciously rob not only his fellow workman, but himself.

But as we had in mind a little more than merely increasing the product of dollars, we set aside one-tenth of the net profits of each year for a provident fund to care for our sick and helpless. A few hundred of us could surely afford to take proper care of our own unfortunate. All civilized society aims to do this, why not a small but able bodied society do it for itself? This fund does not come out of wages, but out of dividends--and is thus contributed equally by capitalists and workmen.

The fund is under the exclusive control of a committee of five employes, one from each department, elected annually by ballot. To them are submitted all claims, and their drafts are paid by the treasurer. Then, in order to conduct business in a conservative manner, we follow the tenor of the national banking act, by setting aside one-tenth of the profits for a surplus fund. Heretofore the dividends have been made in cash--the option at the same time being given to invest it in stock of the company. We now have over 70 stockholders whose stock has been paid for out of dividends. Hereafter the directors reserve the right to pay dividends in cash or in stock.

We have never exacted any contract, conditions or terms, either of harder work, lower pay or longer hours. On the contrary, we have reduced working hours--first, from 60 to 57 a week, and now 54. Somehow, we have found no falling off in business or in profits.

At our annual meeting in January, 1889, we submitted the question of building in country or city. There was an overwhelming and enthusiastic preference for the country.

We needed more room for factories and many of our best people were getting in shape to acquire homes. We looked around for over a year for a location which would as nearly as possible combine all the economies for business along with all the advantages for living. We pay a just compliment to the social as well as the material attractions of Edwardsville, in saying that we found no place approximately its equal. Here we found an intelligent, orderly and affluent community, and one which reached its cordial hands out to us in liberal appreciation--not alone of our numbers but of the good character of our people.

We found here a most beautiful and healthful location, ample and liberal railroad facilities, coal and water at our doors. This tract of 150 acres has been laid out for a complete village, on the plan of a park. The railroad frontage of several thousand feet will be reserved for factories, and the remainder laid out in winding roads and set with trees. Houses of good design will be built on liberal lots, and owned by employes.

Building lots of from one third of an acre to an acre will be sold at a fair valuation, but as this land costs us practically nothing, and as we have not come here for speculative purposes, the entire proceeds of the lots will pass into a public improvement fund. By the time all this tract is occupied the proceeds will have supplied us with streets, sewers, trees, water, light, school, library, laundry, park and play grounds. We are outside of the corporate limits of Edwardsville and may choose to remain so. But this, by no means, implies that we shall pull apart. We shall be neighbors and our endeavor will be to be good neighbors.

We desire to take to ourselves a name, but that name shall not dispute honors with you--it will rather seek to add luster to your name. In laying the foundation for a village, in which association rather than competition will be the keynote, in which liberty and a living, rather than slavish toil and money making, will be cultivated--we desire to link it with the name of an illustrious Frenchman, who, so far back as 1842, inaugurated profit-sharing with his workmen. That foundation has survived for nearly 50 years, every vicissitude of the Parisian people. The founder died 18 years ago, but the famous house lives on. Its 1,000 workmen are the nobility of their trade.

Through him co-operation received a permanent and illustrious example, and history will count as one of its peaceful heroes the house painter and decorator, Leclair, whose name I now bestow on this village."

The christening of the new addition over, the visitors were taken in charge by the committee and others and tendered the hospitalities of the city. Many walked over the grounds and looked at the buildings which are in course of erection. The main body went to the City Park and the Court House Square. The band was stationed at the latter place and this soon became the central point. From here the visitors sauntered up and down streets and from end to end of the city. Conveyances were at their command and many availed themselves of these. The visitors left here shortly after five o'clock.

Among the party were N. O. Nelson, president of the company, and his wife and daughters; Geo. A. Wells, vice president; J.B. Case, secretary and treasurer; Frank R. O'Neil and E. A. Jones, city department; H. C. Steifel, machinery department, S. G. McFarland, sanitary expert; W. A. Reed, master mechanic; H. A. Neustadt, cashier; also James H. Dillard, principal of Mary Institute; Chas. Williamson, president of Williamson Belting Co.; Maj. C. H. Hutting, president of Hutting Sash and Door Co.; Fred A. Leonard, merchant, and others.

The excursion was in the immediate charge of Frank H. O'Neil, and with the gentleman's wanted managing capacity there was nothing lacking to make it a success.

The local committee consisted of Wm. E. Wheeler, J. A. Prickett, A. W. Metcalfe, Judge C. L. Cook, Henry Rinker, Robert Hagnauer, G. Bl Crane, a. Gerber, H. C. Gerke, A. Klinge, Wm. H. Krome, Cyrus Happy, A. L. Brown, Wm. R. Crossman and C. Boeschstein.

At a meeting of the employes of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., held on Tuesday, June 24th, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved. That the extraordinary reception accorded us by the people of Edwardsville, on Saturday last, calls for more than mere conventional acknowledgement.

Resolved. That in declaring our appreciation of the manifold kindnesses shown us and that refined hospitality, which affected no ceremony, pretended nothing, gave everything and put every guest at his ease--we congratulate ourselves on this new acquaintance, and we trust that the [relationships] so auspiciously begun will mature into ripe and enduring friendships, with never a cause for regret that these things have come to pass.

Resolved. That in contemplating the beauties of nature and art, wherein Edwardsville is so rich--in recalling the evidences of intelligence and thrift which are exhibited there on every hand--the elegance of the homes, and the quiet refinement of those who occupy them--we felicitate confidently that in such a neighborhood and under such inspiring influences, our new town of Leclaire is born. Convinced that in natural advantages for the work we are undertaking the location is as well favored as to those conditions created by human enterprise we give greeting to Edwardsville, and promise that the new shall be well worthy of the old.

Signed: FRANK B. O'NEIL, Secretary

J. B. CASE, Chairman

Saturday, June 28, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

LECLAIRE.

In our reference to the Nelson excursion it will be seen that our St. Louis friends have decided to christen their addition to our city "Leclaire." The Republican desires to enter an(d) emphatic negative to this action. While all honor is due the distinguished Frenchman who inaugurated the co-operative plan of work between employer and employees, still the citizens of Edwardsville who put up their good money to secure the location of the Nelson Works here, are entitled to some consideration. The new addition should be named "South Edwardsville" so that the city would derive all the benefit possible in the way of advertising. We want to say right here that, had the fact been known that Mr. Nelson did not intend to incorporate with us before the list was circulated, the committee would have experienced considerable difficulty in raising the \$20,000 bonus. The Republican believes in being outspoken and honest in all matters of public interest, and we desire to offer

an earnest protest in this matter, hoping that the same has not gone so far that it cannot be remedied. Give us the benefit of the name, Mr. Nelson, South Edwardsville, by all means – Edwardsville Republican

We heartily accord with the views expressed by our worthy contemporary and desire to add that when the announcement, “Leclaire,” was made, had Mr. Nelson noticed the cold shudder that went over all of the Edwardsville people, gathered to pay him honor, and which was repeated by everyone throughout the city, so soon as the news passed along, he would probably have made an effort to discover the cause, which he would have had no difficulty in ascertaining is that it was advocated and desired by everyone here without exception, that the premises should be known as South Edwardsville. Truly, Mr. Nelson did a wise and commendable thing in considering in connection with his enterprise some means of paying high tribute to the originator of the grand idea upon which his company is pushing an alarming business, and, doubtless he could have and yet can find some place connected with the grand scheme that will serve equally as well to accomplish that end and give to our people all they ask in recompense – directly for their outlay of \$20,000. We sincerely trust that Mr. Nelson may take the trouble to look into this matter and if he does he will certainly comply with the request of our people in the premises, otherwise we are positive a breach between the two places will be created that will work irreparable injury to both. This is important, Mr. Nelson.

Saturday, June 28, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

More than once has the St. Louis Republic given out to the world, by inference, that two or three boys in this city, scarcely dry behind their ears, are doing all that is being done in the way of introducing and pushing enterprises, which leaves an only impression that such men as the Pricketts, Wheeler, Burroughs, Gillespies, Crane, Tunnells, Schwarzs, Hadley, Gerber, Krome, Dale, Happy, Bradshaw, Warnock, Springers, French, Travous, Pogue, Newsham, Spilman, Klingel, and hundreds of others we might mention would space permit, are merely hewers of wood and drawers of water. A recent quote generally expressed ridicule to which it has subjected itself in this connection here forces us to draw attention of the great journal to its several faux pas in that direction.

The Troy Monitor says John Neary has secured a contract drilling a well for N. O. Nelson of Edwardsville; he is also negotiating for a contract to lay several hundred feet of tiling for the same parties.

If the name “Leclaire” is to go upon the record, then it will be expedient and advisable to give way to it the name of Edwardsville, to avoid confusion in the matter of mails, express, merchandise, etc.

Twenty thousand dollars paid to change the name of “South Edwardsville” to that of “Leclaire!” How do the subscribers like it as far as they have got?

Twenty thousand dollars is a considerable sum of money for the residents of Edwardsville to pay for the privilege of having a dual town set-up at a distance from it only divided by an imaginary line.

July 2, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
“Leclaire” Name Controversy

Pricking a Bubble

When several months ago Mr. N. O. Nelson of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, with a view to deciding on a location for the plant of the company came to Edwardsville, the INTELLIGENCER extended him a frank and cordial welcome. After he had submitted his proposal the INTELLIGENCER assured the citizens and its readers that it was a straight-forward honest business offer, made by the gentleman with no double dealing and no deception.

A committee consisting of Wm. E. Wheeler, Alonzo Keller, A. Gerber, John S. Trares and W. F. L. Hadley, men known for business capacity and integrity, conducted the negotiations on part of the citizens. They had the further assistance of such men as John A. Prickett, Wm. H. Krome, A. W. Metcalfe, Cyrus Happy, John G. Irwin, E. C. Springer, B. R. Burroughs and others. And when they concluded their labors it was almost the universal expression that the confidence reposed in them was most worthily bestowed.

During the pending of the negotiations there was manifested from time to time by parties outside a spirit to discredit the honest purposes of the committee and to lay obstacles in the way of a fulfillment of the project which was under way. The committee was strong and the jealous and ill-natured utterances which were given out proved of little avail. Since the committee has been out of existence, by reason of having discharged its duties, sundry individuals, under pretense of acting in behalf of the citizens, have devoted themselves to making unprovoked assaults on parties who were active in bringing here the enterprise. The attacks have been with envious bitterness.

The INTELLIGENCER did not believe the source of these utterances of sufficient importance to give them attention and while it would prefer not to depart from its resolution to refrain from giving the undue prominence now, the mistaken idea that people not fully conversant with the facts might get, seems to demand some consideration.

Since the new suburb, which has been the outgrowth of the negotiations with the N. O. Nelson Company has been given a name, these critics have condemned the action in undignified and discourteous manner. Yet the facts are, that the committee and the subscribers have known all along that the tract of land occupied by the company would not become a part of the corporation. The question was raised after the original subscription was taken and a paper was circulated to ascertain the sentiment of the contributors. The paper was signed by subscribers representing \$20,000 of the subscriptions. The two local contemporaries of the INTELLIGENCER have given willing assistance to the fault-finding and their comments have been unkind and malicious. They have offered no reasonable argument whatever against the suburb taking a name or the name taken, but have been determined to do the naming for the company.

Mr. N. O. Nelson was sent a copy of the papers containing the unjust and ill-natured censures and has replied to them dignified yet very effectively in a letter to the INTELLIGENCER. He writes:

St. Louis, June 30, 1890

Editor Intelligencer:

Marked copies of the Democrat and Republican of your city have been sent to me, severely criticizing us for giving the name of Leclair, instead of South Edwardsville, to the tract of land upon which we are erecting factories and houses. To this I ask leave to say:

I stated explicitly while negotiations were pending, that we would not agree to incorporate with Edwardsville, that we had plans of our own which we desired to carry out, and that cheap land would be no inducement to hamper ourselves with restrictions.

The sole and only question was: Would the locating of our plant and people, on the tract in question, under the guarantees which we proposed, be worth the concessions we asked? We were not begging any favors. We get no land, except as we occupy it. Occupancy and Investment are the only considerations agreed upon and the only ones we would have made.

Soon after the deal was consummated, Mr. Brown, of the Democrat, assured me in my office that he had already received back his subscription in the increased price he obtained for a piece of property. A large number of your people have assured me that the money had already been refunded in increased property values.

We selected the name Leclaire because it represented an important idea, and because it was evident, by the several names already applied to it, that some distinctive name would be given. We should not, in any event, have adopted South Edwardsville, because too long and cumbersome; nor Nelsonville, because too personal. Leclaire cannot, and will not be either postoffice or railroad station. For all practical purposes--we are, and expect to be Edwardsville; and no amount of unfriendly criticism can drive us from that attitude.

We are erecting better improvements than ever proposed. We shall expend more money in six months than we contracted ever to expend; and we shall always spend many times as much money for public purposes, as our municipal taxes would yield--were we incorporated with Edwardsville. We are fully satisfied with our location and with your people--and we shall go on doing our utmost to make Edwardsville, and its suburb, Leclaire, prosper as they deserve.

Manifestly, it will be impossible for use to conform in all our operations to the views of every inhabitant of Edwardsville. If a censorship were understood to be part of the conditions upon which the tract of land was secured--then we should not accepted it, if covered over with greenbacks.

A final word: I have not heard a complaint on any score from any subscriber; but if the subscribers are dissatisfied, I now offer to cancel the contract, reserving nothing but the right to move our material.

N. O. NELSON

We looked around for over a year for a location which would as nearly as possible combine all the economics for business, along with all the advantages for living. We pay a just compliment to the social as well as material attractions of Edwardsville, in saying that we found no-place approximately its equal -- N. O. NELSON

July 2, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Comments / Opinions on Leclaire Controversy

If Edwardsville is tired of its deal with the N. O. Nelson Co. it is not too late to recant. So intimates N. O. Nelson in his letter. Well, no, Edwardsville is not tired of the N. O. Nelson Company but it is getting very tired of some other people.

The INTELLIGENCER believes that had any reasonable argument been made with Mr. N. O. Nelson against naming the new suburb, he would have gone a great way to meet the views of the citizens. But brow-beating is no good way to change another's mind nor will it have a tendency to induce further accessions to population.

Saturday, July 5, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

The Nelson Manufacturing Co's improvements, in South Edwardsville, present the prettiest appearance coming north on the Troy Road.

Mr. Reed, of St. Louis, master mechanic of the Nelson Co., who came out to push matters, in South Edwardsville, informs us that they will begin to adjust machinery next week. Good!

The least criticizing reference to the Nelson Co., immediately throws some of the members of the "committee" into like condition with the bear with a sore head. Do you see?

For the present we have nothing to say on the subject of South Edwardsville, further than to state it to be a fact that, Mr. Nelson's buncombe don't go here, neither are *all* of the people the fools that we are led to infer he plays them for.

Mr. Nelson is in error if he imagines that there is anyone here whose head is so thick as to be unable to see that we have already felt the stimulus his presence has produced. We were merely insisting that he ought to concede at least one courtesy to our people in naming his premises, especially in view of the fact that the feeling here was so generally that way.

July 9, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire's First Settler

H. A. Neustadt, cashier of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. will be manager of the company's interests at Edwardsville and is making arrangements to bring his family here. He has been trying to get a house in the city, but has been unsuccessful.

He will occupy temporarily one of the dwellings about to be completed in the new suburb, and will hence be the first settler in Leclaire. Good luck be with him, and with the beautiful spot that will soon be crowned by the prosperity that is the attendant reward of energetic and industrious people.

July 9, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

N. O. Nelson Company's Locations

The Intelligencer is in receipt of Supplement to Catalogue No. 17 issued on June 1st by the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company in which the several locations of the company are noted as follows: Offices and warehouse, corner of 8th and St. Charles, St. Louis; Bath tub factory, 8th and Cass avenue, St. Louis; wood pump factory, Mound City, Illinois; New founderies and factories, under construction at Edwardsville, Ill.

Comment is not necessary. Mr. N. O. Nelson stated unequivocally that although they have given their suburb adjoining Edwardsville a name, they will not either post office or railroad station and for all practical purposes be Edwardsville.

The late circular of the Company is a manifestation on their part that they will do just what they have agreed. Edwardsville will get the advertising, not South Edwardsville. And here the question suggests itself, what have the fellows been kicking about?

The Intelligencer will make no further comments. There may be a fusillade of small arms on the other side but that will not matter. The people understand the subject and that is all that is necessary.

Saturday, July 12, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

“Me to” is a bunch of pretty sour grapes for the goslings to chew on, though it must be somewhat of a change to sucking after Nelson against the business interests of Edwardsville.

C. H. Spilman has been retained as consulting architect for the buildings in South Edwardsville.

The business men of Edwardsville properly appreciate the effort of a newspaper to trifle with her material interests in order to secure a little of N. O. Nelson’s job printing. Fortunately the Republican and the other “me to” don’t have to resort to such acts.

Saturday, July 19, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

ANOTHER UNBIASED OPINION

There is not much in a name except its beauty. The best thing to do is to accept the issue and help Mr. Nelson not only to build up LeClaire, but Edwardsville also. – Alton Telegraph.

That is good sense, and to illustrate, Collinsville, in this county, has zinc works and pressed brick works and neither enterprise is in the corporation limits. The people of Collinsville, however, never show their fault finding towards these two enterprises that has been exhibited by some few towards an enterprise in Edwardsville – Edwardsville Intelligencer.

In reply to the above paragraphs, the Collinsville correspondent to the Alton Sentinel-Democrat says: “Well and good,” brother Boeschstein. We will admit that the people of Collinsville have never shown their fault-finding spirit; why should they? O. F. Meister is under no obligation to the people of Collinsville for a penny, but, on the contrary, the people, and particularly the business men, ought to be very thoughtful, and are in every sense of the term, to Mr. Meister for putting the third largest zinc works plant in America right in our midst, and that, too, without asking a penny of the citizens of Collinsville. But how is it with our neighboring sister, Edwardsville? They go to work and pay \$20,000 bonus for what? Why to build a large manufacturing industry and then call the place LeClaire. I myself have no use for old fogies, but in this case I feel as though they ought to have some rights; that we ought to respect that which is right. If you pay to build up Edwardsville you don’t want to pay to build up LeClaire. But such is life; poor, old, Edwardsville!”

Saturday, July 19, 1980
Edwardsville Democrat

A DISINTERESTED OPINION

(East St. Louis Gazette)

After donating to the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company a large tract of valuable land worth \$20,000 in money the citizens of Edwardsville are feeling indignant over the fact that said company has laid out a rival town on the land they have thus secured and named it LeClaire. It is just far enough from Edwardsville to damage it in population and the value of its real estate.

Saturday, July 19, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

At last report there was no movement looking to the removal of buildings, etc., from South Edwardsville; so it is fair to presume that we shall get more job printing in the near future.

John Schmidt, a very worthy man, has been at work in South Edwardsville, as a day laborer, ever since the beginning of operations in that portion of this moral vine-yard. On Tuesday a petition was circulated, signed by Mayor Glass, Senator Hadley, of the committee, besides a long list of other prominent residents, requesting Mr. Nelson to promote him to night watchman on the premises. Wednesday night Johnny got the grand bounce entirely. Hands off, "LeClaire," gentlemen!

Saturday, August 2, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

Jules H. Neustadt, chef de affairs in South Edwardsville, has moved his family here from St. Louis, and they will board at the St. James until the completion of their residence in the new addition.

N. O. Nelson, of St. Louis, was up Thursday morning looking over the progress being made in South Edwardsville.

Saturday, August 9, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

Mr. Neustadt has moved his family from the St. James to his residence in South Edwardsville.

August 13, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb

Ground was broken on Monday for the bath tub department, of which Geo. Felton is superintendent. The building will be 62 x 162 feet.

Twelve more houses have been commenced on. Forty are to go up as soon as possible. After these others will be added so that in a year or two hence there will be no less than 300 residences on the grounds. The buildings will be five and six room cottages of Gothic and Queen Anne design, no two alike. All will have piping and be supplied with water.

The waterworks tower has been erected. It is 48 feet high. Two tanks will be put on top and provision has been made for a third, each of 7,000 gallons capacity. The structure will be walled with corrugated iron. A balcony with a neat railing will be added. A stairway will head up on the inside.

Minor Mention

Robert Miller is night watchman.

The drayage expenses have been near \$800.

Ray Bonner carries water and runs errands.

The ground has been graded for a coal switch.

Springer and Tunnell have another kiln of brick ready.

Manager J. H. Neustadt advertises for a good team of draught horses.

No less than 250 cars of lumber are already in buildings and on the grounds.

George Newcomb, of St. Louis, is time and stock clerk and assistant bookkeeper.

Louis F. Deering, a practical plumber, has charge of putting in the water piping.

W. A. Reid, master mechanic, and George Felton, superintendant were out Sunday.

Jos. Steis, Jos. Schmidt, Jos. Hlad and Edwin Smith are water carriers for the men.

A platform and shed, 20x54, which will be used for storing boilers, is nearing completion.

Charles E. Judd has charge of a dinky engine which runs some light machinery and the pumps.

The brick work on the finishing shop is completed and the brick masons is rushing the walls on the drying house.

A series of public improvements will shortly be inaugurated. Streets will be built, side walks laid and trees planted and the grounds generally will be beautified.

Four journeymen from St. Louis are now engaged in the mechanical part of the works about the grounds. J. H. Vanarsdale is chief engineer; M. J. Curry, first, and Ed. Adams, assistant erecting engineers, and James Bunn, as electrician. Each has a number of men under him.

Manager J. H. Neustadt is cozily settled in one of the new houses. Of course he is glad to be "at home," though the advantage he gains in one way is offset by a disadvantage in another. He is where he can't get away and instead of 10 or 12 hours work, he now and then catches 16 of it.

The club house is nearing completion. The plumbing has been put in and the carpenters are putting on the finishing touches. W. D. Kirkpatrick, the decorator, has commenced to paper the rooms. The building will be a kind of rendezvous where the visitors from Edwardsville can shake hands with their neighbors of Leclaire.

J. E. Falls, who is superintendent of construction, is an old Edwardsville boy. He went to school to Miss Sarah Engliss, when R. P. Rider was principal, some time along in the latter half of the 60's. He was a boy then, but remembers much of Edwardsville as it was in those days. He has been a contractor and builder for twenty years, and among the positions he has held was that of superintendent of construction of the Equitable Building in St. Louis.

Saturday, August 16, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

Private railroad flat-cars belonging to N. O. Nelson arrived here this week. They are lettered "N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, Leclaire, Illinois." We cannot believe that the controlling element of "that committee" caused it to be done; neither do we believe that the cars are to be used in moving the plant from this locality. By the way, where is Edwardsville, anyway?

September 10, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Events of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.'s Suburb.

Half of the first story of the Bath Tub Works is up. The work done gives a good idea of the size of the building. Ground will next be broken for the Tinning Works. Both of these buildings are to be completed in the fore part of October.

The Cabinet Works have been running regularly since they were started up. Although everything is comparatively new, there has been no delay of any kind. Additional machinery is being added and the working force is increased as rapidly as circumstances permit.

The principal work in general improvements is road building and draining. A number of drives have been graded. The system of drainage is being extended into the residence tracts.

MINOR MENTION

Mr. N. O. Nelson was out from St. Louis today.

J. E. Falls spent Sunday with his family in St. Louis.

The coal, lumber and switching tracks have been put down.

George Newcomb, the timekeeper, spent Sunday in St. Louis.

J. E. Falls, the architect, has staked off several more residences.

Dwellings number 4 and 5 are being plastered. No. 6 will be ready in a few days.

John C. Young, formerly firemen of the Bethalto mills, is fireman of the new big boilers.

Russell Richards, a clerk in the St. Louis office, came out and spent Sunday with his parents.

F. M. Eggleston, of St. Louis, succeeds John Head, of Brighton, as foreman of the carpenters.

The waterworks and steam arrangements have proven, all around, an unqualified success.

The next move will be to buy sidewalks. For the present wooden walks will be put down.

The first shipment of goods manufactured was made yesterday. They were billed to San Francisco, Cal.

Master mechanic, W. A. Reid and wife were guests of Manager J. H. Neustadt and wife several days last week.

Denny Roper, of Alton, spent Sunday the guest of E. R. Fish. The two are classmates in Washington University.

A lumber shed to store hard wood for use in the Cabinet Works, will be erected shortly. Its dimensions will be about 40 by 150 feet.

E. R. Fish, the assistant architect, will return to St. Louis, Saturday, to be on hand at the beginning of the term of Washington University, where he will complete his course.

Frank Stillwell, former bookkeeper of the Edwardsville Mills, has been added to the office force. He is a first-rate young man in every respect. *The Intelligencer* is glad to see him where he is.

The electric lighting is near completion. The Club House and the dwellings which have been completed are being wired. The plant will be in running order the latter part of this week.

Bernard Walter and son, Louis and family, were out Sunday, guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Wilson. The first two are of the firm, B. Walter & Son, billiard and pool table manufacturers. They are father and brother of Mrs. Wilson.

The carpentry trade is usually unsteady during the winter. Good workman will have no difficulty in obtaining employment next winter. With the planning mill in operation, a force will be given work in the carpenter shop in finishing sash, doors and other mill work.

New workmen come and go every week. A good laborer or a good mechanic has no difficulty holding a job. A laborer however no matter if he is handy with tools, cannot hold a mechanic's place. When one gets into a position he is unsuited for he is soon found out and the result is embarrassing. It is much better for one who applies for a position to state unequivocally what his capabilities are. If he is a good laborer let him not represent himself as a good carpenter. Where 150 or more men are employed, and the work is distributed over a large territory there are loopholes to loose thousands of dollars. Some of the men who have worked on the grounds but quit, may return, but they will do so understanding more fully what is expected.

J. H. Neustadt is the fond parent of a four-year-old son, Harry, who has much of the paternal activity. Some weeks ago, a friend in the country sent the energetic manager a ram. Harry and the new acquisition soon were acquaintances, and Harry had a good deal of fun with the ram. Lately the ram, which has developed rapidly on the abundance of tin cans and pieces of railroad iron, has had a good deal of fun with Harry. Sunday is visitor's day in Leclaire. Last Sunday a bevy of ladies from the city were viewing the sights. The ram spied them. It had a wicked look in its eyes. The meeting was unfortunate for the ladies. The ram turned from the field of battle with a triumphant air.

THE CABINET WORKS FORCE

J. D. Wilson, the foreman, is a native of Jackson County, Iowa, and dates his birth 1857. He was connected with the A. W. Phelps Contracting Co., Omaha, Neb., and later with the Simmons Hardware Co., St. Louis. He has been with the N. O. Nelson Manf'g Co. eight years. He is a wide awake mechanic.

Frank Bean is a New Yorker, a native of St. Lawrence county, and has been with the company four years.

Peter Rutter (Rotter) was born in Germany and has been with the company six months.

Thoms Hickey is a St. Louisan and has been with the company three years.

Charles Grosch was born in St. Louis and has been with the company two months.

Jos. Degenhardt is a native of Germany and has a record with the company of six years.

Charles Hug is a native of Switzerland and has been with the company nearly two years.

Christ Meyer is a native of St. Louis and has been with the company a year and a half.

Otto Holzgrebe is a native of St. Louis. He has been with the company only a short time.

Charles Ritson is a native of Great Britain and has been with the company a year and a half.

Will Thomas hails from Carlinville, Macoupin County, and has been with the company one year.

Henry Thomas came here from Germany, and has been with the company two and a half years.

William Schulze and Geo. Lenz are new men, both natives of Edwardsville.

Note: Pius Rotter was known as Peter

Saturday, September 13, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

N. O. Nelson, of St. Louis, spent several days here this week, looking after matters and things in South Edwardsville.

The Club House in South Edwardsville is completed and furnished, and we are informed that in the early part of next week a reception will be tendered to prominent residents of this city which will no doubt prove to be a grand affair as Mr. Nelson does not do things by halves.

September 17, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire Laconics

Leclaire Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb.

The event at Leclaire this week was the opening of the Club House. The building is a model of arrangement and has every convenience of a first-class hotel, water, steam heating and electric lights in every room. The culinary department is furnished with apparatus to prepare eatables on short notice for a good sized company. The first meal served was dinner on Monday. M. N. O. Nelson was present. After supper a meeting of the employees was held in the reading room. Mr. Nelson made suggestions as to the manner of organizing and conducting the Club. The members of the force present entered into a temporary organization by electing E. K. Smart chairman and J. H. Neustadt, secretary. An informal discussion ensued, and the membership fee and terms were fixed. Subsequently a permanent organization was effected by the election of J. E. Fallis for president; Frank Stillwell, secretary, and J. H. Neustadt, treasurer. A board of directors was chosen, consisting of E. K. Smart, J. Rounds, J. E. Fallis, F. M. Eggleston and Will Thomas. The last three were decided on as the house committee. They will have a general supervision of affairs. The rooms are nearly all taken up, and in addition, the house enjoys a good patronage by day boarders. Mrs. M. A. Rogers, of Campbell Hill, is the housekeeper.

Minor Mention

The engine in the Cabinet Works has been partitioned off.

“No smoking” is a conspicuous order in the Cabinet Works.

Mrs. Dr. S. T. Robinson was a visitor at Leclaire the other day.

Capt. Anton Neustadt, of Collinsville, was among visitors during the week.

E. R. Fish, the assistant architect, has returned to St. Louis to complete his course.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Miller, of St. Louis, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Wilson.

E. K. Smart returned from Carlinville, Saturday. He has a contract for brick work there.

Tank No. 2 has been put on the water tower. It will hold 7,000 gallons, the same as No. 1.

One of the switch engines yesterday took a notion to break up one of the Leclaire coal cars.

The choice of rooms in the Club House was auctioned. J. E. Fallis, the architect, secured first pick.

Shipments of goods are made almost daily. A consignment yesterday was to Victoria, British Columbia.

George Newcomb had some difficulty the other day with a piece of boiler iron, and as a result he is laid up.

Otto Holzgrebe, who was injured in an eye by a piece of steel flying into it has partly lost sight in the member.

John A. Prickett, Wm. H. Krome and C. Boeschenstein attended the meeting at the Club House, Monday night.

A warehouse 65 by 28 will be built as extension to the freight platform. It will be used for storing steam pipe, radiators, etc.

The machine shop addition to the boiler house has been completed, and J. H. Van Arsdale is preparing to set the engine and palce his machinery.

The brick work on the Bath Tub Works has resumed. A full force will be put on to-morrow. Enough brick has been secured to complete the building.

Mrs. F. S. Bean is expected to join her husband in a day or two. Their household goods have been shipped and will be stored until they can find suitable quarters.

Superintendent G. W. Felton, G. E., C. N. and A. Predock, B. F. Smith and H. H. Blaisdell, of the Bath Tub department, were out Sunday to note the improvements. They paid their respects to the INTELLIGENCER.

The electric light machinery was in operation Monday night. The placing of the machinery, the putting up of the wires and the hanging of lights are evidences of neat workmanship. The job is credited to James Bunn, the electrician.

Hose House No. 1 is about completed. It is provided with two hose carts on each of which is reeled 150 feet of 2 ½ inch hose. No. 2 will be erected in the residence part. Five fire plugs are now in. The working force will have fire drills.

The employes in the various factory departments work 59 hours each week, 10 hours and 20 minutes per day, quitting Saturdays at 3 o'clock. The working hours are from 7 to 12 and from 12:30 to 5:30. The men prefer this arrangement over the usual 10 hours per day.

September 24, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb.

The brick laying on the Bath Tub Works is going rapidly forward and will be completed in several days. The foundations will (.....) in for the Tining Works. These two buildings will be pushed to an early completion.

In general improvements the principal order is still road making and sidewalk building. These will be extended into the tract adjoining the one to which work has been confined until now. The water system also will receive an addition of 600 feet which will extend into the new tract.

The streets have been named. The principal one, which runs in front of the Club, and extends to Troy road, will be known as Holyoke; another has been christened Hale, and others Forest Park, Jefferson and Meisseni. The houses have been numbered. Number signs, or stakes have been put up. This is to avoid confusion, in charging material to the several buildings.

MINOR MENTION

The club held a meeting Monday night.

J. E. Falls spent Sunday with his folks in St. Louis.

G. Davidson, of New York City, now has charge of the plumbing.

The electric lighting has been completed in the Cabinet Works.

George Newcomb, who has been timekeeper, has returned to St. Louis.

George and John Chamberlain, of St. Louis, have a contract for painting.

Another reel of fire hose has arrived, and the force will soon be organized into a brigade.

John Childs has been plastering one of the houses with adamant, for the St. Louis Adamant Co.

J. H. Van Arsdale is fitting up his machine shop, in the addition just completed, adjoining the boiler house.

Henry Messmer, who has had charge of the lumber stock, has resumed his former position in John Stoltze's lumber yard.

The Litchfield Herald says A. O. Van Hyning and J. S. East went to Edwardsville to work for the N. O. Nelson Company at Leclaire.

The Bunker Hill Advance says J. H. Feeney, who had been working at Edwardsville and Leclaire, spent last Sunday with his family.

A child's breast pin, three-cornered gold bar, set with garnets and pearls has been lost. The finder will receive reward. Apply at INTELLIGENCER office.

E. K. Smart is the first purchaser of a lot. He secured a site on Holyoke road and will erect a 5 room cottage. It will be No. 17. He will bring his family from Carlinville.

Will Thomas, of Carlinville, who has been with the company about 2 ½ years, has charge of the finishing shop of the Cabinet Works, under Supt. J. D. Wilson, and has several boys under him. He keeps things moving.

A great deal of inconvenience has been caused and some damage has been done by visitors to the grounds, who thoughtlessly drive over lines and stakes which have been placed to indicate measurements. Sometimes, about one in ten, the driver will reset the stake, but never in the place where it stood before. Later, when new measurements are to be made it is taken for granted that the stake is in its proper place, and it is not until some time afterward perhaps that a discrepancy is discovered. These little misdeeds have caused a great deal of annoyance, and until the streets have been graded, visitors will be kept out of the residence part. Another act of more serious character has been practiced the past several days. Visitors to the grounds strayed into an apple orchard near by and helped themselves to apples. Nothing was said about this until the other day, children and some older persons came along with baskets and sacks, and even barrels, and went into the orchard and filled them with apples. The orchard is not a part of Leclaire, but belongs to A. W. Metcalfe. The Leclaire people purchased several rows of trees since for apples, for their use, and the orchard henceforth will not be quite as public an enterprise.

Note: Some names are spelled incorrectly (i.e. Holyoke) but they are copied exactly as printed in the 1890 newspaper. The spellings were corrected in later editions of the paper.

September 27, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

A fire broke out Thursday in some cotton batting in a trunk at the home of manager Neustadt in South Edwardsville. The fire apparatus down there was put into operation and everything was saved except the trunk and cotton.

October 1, 1890, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Bulletin of Events of the N. O. Nelson Suburb

Wednesday night's meeting was held at the Club as an initiatory step toward organizing a fire brigade. The preliminaries were discussed and it was decided to form an organization on Thursday night. Thursday noon an alarm of fire was given. Continuous shrieks of a whistle accompanied by the blowing of the whistle at the Wolf Mines stirred up Leclaire and a part of Edwardsville. The fire started under a stairs in the residence of Manager J. H. Neustadt's residence. The employes soon had two lines of hose connected with fire plugs, but before water was thrown from these, a bucket brigade had subdued the flames. The origin is not definitely known. The damage was nominal. On the following night the brigade was organized. Two companies were formed, each comprised of six men. No. 1 consists of, E. K. Smart, F. M. Eggleston, Geo. Chamberlain, Henry Thomas, Edgar Rounds and Otto Rogers; No 2, of Will Thomas, J. E. Fallis, A. O. Van Hying, George Rice, Chas. Falk and Jack Hill. John Chamberlain is chief. They have been practicing running and coupling. They have made a run from Engine House No. 1, to the Club and made coupling to the plug in two minutes. The fire signal is a broken whistle.

Minor Mention

A sidewalk will be built along the Troy road.
Mr. N. O. Nelson was out Monday night.
Holyoke road is open for travel to the Troy road.

Manager J. H. Neustadt and wife are in St. Louis, to-day.

J. E. Fallis, the architect, is thinking of bringing his family soon.

A new 8-inch whistle, which has been put in, can be heard eight miles.

J. H. Van Arsdale, the chief engineer, has purchased house number 6. He is a desirable acquisition to the community.

The trusses for the roof are being put on the Bath Tub Works. Charles Falk has charge of the force which is doing the work.

S. R. Callaway and a party of stock-holders of the K. C. road and officials of the Grand Trunk system, were visitors last week.

The framing for the residence of E. K. Smart, the brick contractor, was raised to-day. The building is to be completed in three weeks.

Geo. Rice has removed his family here from Collinsville. They reside in the home recently vacated by D. A. Lynch.

Saturday, October 4, 1890

Edwardsville Democrat

A saloonist of this city who wants to be enterprising in his own line of business, is about to open a saloon in the southern extremity of the city, in close proximity to LeClaire. His object is to participate in the earnings of the factories recently established in that suburb of Edwardsville, without contributing either time, skill, muscle or other valuable consideration to the capital or expenses of the enterprise. But it turns out that the co-operative system of N. O. Nelson makes no provision for saloonists except to prohibit them from becoming members of the concern. Rumor says the gentleman who controls that enterprise recently took occasion to say to his employees that the first man found frequenting the saloon in this vicinity would be summarily discharged. It is also rumored that an employee who had previously violated the well known requirements of the association by imbibing too freely was made to realize that prohibition which did not prohibit in LeClaire, at least had the effect of depriving the offender of membership in it. If this kind of prohibition was applied by the people to their employees in public positions, the evils of the liquor traffic would soon disappear. – Edwardsville correspondence to the Madison County Advance.

October 8, 1890 Wednesday

Edwardsville Intelligencer

LeClaire Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb

The brick work on the Tinning Works was commenced yesterday.

D. M. Davidson, of New York, has charge of the plumbing work.

The Bath Tub Works are under roof. The interior work is being pushed.

Phillip Silvernagel, of Madison, Wis., has been added to the carpenter force.

N. O. Nelson was out Saturday, to view the work. He will come out again tonight.

J. D. Wilson, foreman of the Cabinet Works spent Sunday with friends in St. Louis.

Mrs. M. A. Rogers has resigned as housekeeper. Mrs. M. Hill succeeds to the position.

A number of the employes attended the Veiled Prophet parade, in St. Louis, last night.

Mrs. M. Thomas, of Carlinville, is visiting her son, Will Thomas, foreman of the varnish room. Otto Holzgrebe, whose eye was struck some weeks ago by flying steel, is in a precarious condition. George Lenz has charge of lining the tanks. The metal is furnished ready for placing. He lines 30 a day. Fred Huffmeister, of St. Louis, has been added to the force in the varnish room. He is an expert finisher. The Foundations for houses Nos. 11, 16 and 17 have been completed and the carpentry work has been commenced.

Holes for shade trees are being dug on both sides of the Troy road from Wm. Helle's residence to the K. C. depot.

G. W. Felton, foreman of the Tub Works, in St. Louis, has decided to take charge of similar works in Denver, Colo.

The drives through Leclaire are now open to the public. Visitors are requested to keep vehicles off the sidewalks.

Houses Nos. 5 and 6 have the brown mortar coat on and are ready for the finish. The plasterers are at work on No. 9.

James Bunn, the electrician, is extending the electric light wires to the K. C. depot. Four incandescent lights will be located here.

August Schaffer, Christ Buch, George Rice and J. Whitmore are new acquisitions to the Cabinet Works. The force now numbers 25.

Henry Horney, of this city, who has been doing carpenter work all summer, has taken a position in the Cabinet Works as cutter.

Frank Eggleston, foreman of the carpenter work, has gone to St. Louis. J. E. Fallis, the general superintendent, has assumed complete control.

At the meeting of the fire brigade, Monday night, some new names were enrolled. It was decided to have drills on Tuesday and Friday of each week.

E. K. Smart, the brick contractor, commenced Monday morning, sharing profits of the company. He has taken stock. No more brick contracts will be let. He will have the superintendency of brick and plastering work.

Saturday, October 11, 1890

Edwardsville Democrat

At the regular meeting of the city council Tuesday evening, it was decided to build a five-plank walk on the east side of Buchanan street, commencing at the corner of Post-Master Crossman's property and extending south to the city limits, nearly opposite the residence of F. W. Wolf. This will be extended by the railroad companies across their right-of-way, thence along the front of the N. O. Nelson purchase by the later gentleman, thus affording residents and employees of that place an easy route to reach the city to do their trading.

October 15, 1890 Wednesday

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb

Eddie Weber is working in the Cabinet Shops.

The members of the Leclaire Club will meet to-night.

Marble wash stands are being put into the Club House.

Work is being pushed on the Copper and Finishing Department.

Will Thomas, Jas. Bond, Will Silvernagle and M. Van Hyme speak Sunday in Alton.

The Bath Tub Works are nearing completion. The machinery will be placed next week.

Misses Lena Spran and Minnie Bayer, of St. Louis, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bean.

A side walk will be built from Jefferson road to connect with the one the city will build on Buchanan street.

Misses Mary Murphy and Polly Dawdy, of St. Louis, and Mrs. M. Lanahan and children, of East St. Louis, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Musser.

The carpenter shop will be moved next week from the present location to the east side of the Cabinet Shops.

A coassignment of American and English elm and hard and soft maple shade trees will arrive next week from the Bloomington nurseries.

A new steam pump with heavy pressure has been received for use in case of fire. The fire brigade will give it a test at their regular practice, Friday night. An invitation is extended to visitors.

George Chamberlain, the painter, sang at the Exposition building in St. Louis last night. He is an excellent high tenor. He was with the Marquette Minstrels who showed here some four years ago.

The factory grounds are being graded. The dirt is secured from embankments raised by the new J. S. E. road. T. W. McCune has the contract for hauling and Thos. Kane and Jos. Berger are doing the grading.

A meeting was held at the Club House Monday night to consider the advisability of erecting a billiard hall and bowling alley. J. E. Fallis will draw plans for a building which will be submitted at a subsequent meeting.

J. D. Wilson has purchased a lot on Holyoke street. J. E. Fallis has drawn plans for him for a 5-room one-and-one-half story cottage. Geo. Rice has purchased a lot on the northwest corner of Holyoke street and Jefferson road. He will erect a dwelling shortly.

Christ Meyer had the third finger on his left hand cut off Monday by a buzz-jointer. He was taken to Dr. Jos. Pogue's office, where the member was dressed. He has been working the machine two years and is a careful mechanic. The first finger of the same hand was severed some time ago.

Geo. W. Felton, who has been foreman of the Bath Tub Works, in St. Louis, for the past seven years, has resigned to accept the general management of similar works at Denver, Colo. He was tendered a farewell reception in the parlor of the Frank Boss hotel, in St. Louis, Friday night, by employes of the company. During the time he has been forman of the works, a friendly feeling sprung up, which seldom exists between superintendent and workmen. They felt as though they wanted to show their appreciation of his sterling qualities and took this opportunity of giving him a surprise. He was presented a gold headed umbrella. Harry Blaisdell made the presentation speech, which was followed by addresses from others present. Mr. Felton was moved by the attachment shown by his associates, and in well chosen words thanked them, assuring them that the friendly and cordial feeling which had existed should never vanish from his memory. Several hours were pleasantly spent. Among those present were: Thos. McCune, G. E. Predock, Al. Ameraux, Chas. Dupertre, Chas. Moore, Geo. Broen, E. W. Benson, Wm. Looby, B. J. Goesse, H. Miller, Theo Koester, B. F. Smith, Geo. Ryan, Wm. Moore, Harry Blaisdell, J. H. Miller, C. N. and A. Predock, Jr., Frank Dole, Frank Boss.

Saturday, October 18, 1890

Edwardsville Democrat

N. O. Nelson was nominated for congress in St. Louis Tuesday by the Single Tax League. He will not accept.

Saturday, October 25, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

A "write-up" of Edwardsville's advantages appears in this morning's St. Louis Republic.

John Neustadt, Supt. Of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., Leclaire, Ills, and family, spent Sunday, with A. Neustadt of this city. – Colinsville Herald.

October 29, 1890 Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb

N. O. Nelson was out from St. Louis yesterday.

George Bickelhaupt, Jr. is working in the varnish room.

J. Vosburg was out Saturday. He was well pleased with what he saw.

J. E. Fallis, who has been employed as architect has returned to St. Louis.

The brick work on the Copper and Planishng Department is completed and the roof is now being put on.

Willie Jordan had the third finger on his left hand slightly injured yesterday by the sand papering machine.

Misses Elba Stillwell and Fannie Bonner and James Bunn and Will Thomas visited friends in Alton,

Sunday.

George and John Chamberlain and D. M. Davidson are kept busy attending choir practices in the various churches down town.

The base for the engine in the Bath Tub Works has been set. The engine is expected to arrive to-morrow, and will be placed immediately.

A meeting will be held at the Club to-morrow night to discuss the question of going back to the nine-hour day. Nine hours is considered a day's work. During the busy season the men have been working ten hours.

The Club boys work on the billiard hall and bowling alley after regular working hours. Electric lights have been placed to work by. A good many have business down town after supper since work has been commenced.

Saturday, November 1, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

A party of quite distinguished gentlemen took in South Edwardsville for an hour or so Thursday morning, it being the board of directors of the Clover Leaf who were en route east. Col. Robt. G. Ingersoll was in the party. One of the employees told Mr. Ingersoll if he could be there for a while and witness eyes knocked out, fingers taken off, &c., it would convince him that there is a hell.

November 5, 1890 Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb.

Henry Hansen, of LaCrosse, Wis., has been added to the carpentry force.

A consignment of trees from Bloomington has arrived and are being planted.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Dawdy, of St. Louis, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Musser.

Christ Meyer, who had a finger cut off some three weeks ago, has again taken charge of his machine.

N. O. Nelson has donated over 200 volumes of standard works to the Club Library. The donation is highly appreciated.

A business office is being partitioned off in the north end of the Bath Tub Works. It will be more comfortable than the one now used.

John Delano had his left eye badly injured, Thursday, by the bursting of a water gauge. The workmen have been in bad luck since starting up.

The force in the Cabinet Shops were compelled to work nights last week to keep up with orders. San Francisco, Cal., is their largest shipping point.

The Copper and Planishing department will be completed in a week or two. A general removal will then take place, as the bath tub and copper workers will move out together.

A car load of sidewalk material has arrived, and work will be commenced immediately on the sidewalk on the Troy road. The walk will make connection with the one to be placed by the city on Buchanan street.

Peter Rotter and Gus. Schafer mechanics in the Cabinet department, will move their families out this week. Mr. Schafer will occupy the Mrs. Clara Rundel property, lately vacated by J. H. Van Arsdale and family, they having moved into their new cottage.

The INTELLIGENCER last week stated that at a meeting of the Club, the workmen discussed the question of going back to nine hours. The item may have been misleading. The hours of the company in all its shops are nine a day. Owing to the extraordinary demand for goods and in order to keep the trade supplied, the company has during the past three or four months run ten hours with the full and cordial concurrence of the men. There was no reduction of pay when the company reduced ten hours to nine and a half, nor when later reduced to nine hours a day, neither was there an increase during the time the hours were ten. It was a matter of mutual interest.

The streets are now fully established and are being planted with trees. Holyoke road in front of the Club House, running north and south, Hale avenue in the rear; Troy road, the mud road par excellence, as some one has said, and with which the INTELLIGENCER's readers, many of them, are well acquainted. (Mazzini) avenue running north and south of the lands of the company: Jefferson road is where the old oaken fence "used to was" and Park Place, connecting the Club House with the "fish pond."

Those readers of the INTELLIGENCER inquisitively inclined, and all its readers are, who want to post up on the etymology of these names will find Holyoake, Hale, Jefferson and (Mazzini) among those great minds who have sat up lots of nights writing in behalf of the "poor sap" who has to work for a living. For a history of the Troy road the INTELLIGENCER refers its readers to Col. W. B. Wheeler of that other student of history, John A. Prickett.

Saturday, November 8, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

N. O. Nelson was out Thursday looking over South Edwardsville.

Saturday, November 22, 1890
Edwardsville Democrat

South Edwardsville and its electric lights show up to good advantage coming up from St. Louis on the night trains.

November 26, 1890 Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb

More machinery is being put into the Cabinet shops.

Will Thomas will visit his mother at Carlinville, to-morrow.

Wm. Ivey the city purchaser, is out from St. Louis, this week.

Frank O'Neil and T. Jones of the office force in St. Louis, were out yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Spraul, of St. Louis, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bean.

William McNeilly attended the social ball given at New Douglas, Friday night. He remained over Sunday with his parents.

Work is progressing nicely in the Copper and Planishing department. Machinery is being put in position, and the work of tinning copper has been commenced.

The Club is well patronized. About twenty-five employees take their meals there. The number of rooms in the building do not afford sufficient accommodations for lodging for all, and a cottage near by is occupied.

Otto Holzgrebe, whose eye was seriously injured about two months ago, and George Chamberlain, who has been sick, came out Monday morning with the intention of going to work, but found they had not sufficiently recovered.

A. Predock and sons, G.E., C.N. and A., Jr., Theodore Koester, Thomas McCune and Joe Miller came out Thursday, and commenced placing machinery in the Bath Tub Works. Master Mechanic W. A. Reid is superintending the work, and John Longecker, machinist, is assisting. It will be about two weeks before the work will be far enough advanced to put on the regular force. Nine car loads of machinery arrived last week.

December 17, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb

Manager J. H. Neustadt was in St. Louis, yesterday.

E. G. Predock, who was ill last week, has gone to work again.

C. A. Jones, city salesman, was out this morning, on business.

Most of the workmen will spend Christmas with friends in St. Louis.

A. S. Smart, who has a contract in St. Louis, visited his friends here Sunday.

A meeting will be held the latter part of the week with a view to reorganizing the fire company.

H. G. Sanders, of Louisiana, Mo., and George Ryan, of St. Louis, have been added to the force in the shops. Mr. Sanders was a former employe.

Wm. Jordan, Jr., had the little finger of his left hand badly injured Wednesday last by the sand papering machine. He has not been at work since. This makes the second time he has been hurt.

A neat business office, for the use of Manager J. H. Neustadt and his assistant, F. J. Stillwell, has been partitioned off in the northwest corner of the Bath Tub Works. It is very conveniently arranged, is supplied with water and lighted with electricity. Geo. Chamberlain, the painter, did a neat job of finishing.

December 24, 1890

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Bulletin of Events at the N. O. Nelson Suburb

Manager J. H. Neustadt and wife spent Friday in St. Louis.

John Dwyer, of St. Louis, a tub liner, will go to work, Friday.

Will Davis will spend Christmas with his parents at Collinsville.

E. K. Smart and wife will move into their new house this week.

Chas. Moore, of St. Louis, a tub liner, commenced work, Thursday.

Tom Hickey and Christ Meyer spent Sunday and Monday in St. Louis.

Will Thomas, foreman of the varnish room, will spend Christmas with his parents at Carlinville.

Harry Sanders, a former employe of the company, has been appointed foreman of the bath tub works.

Henry Rollins, the fireman and night watchman, will hereafter have charge of the electric dynamo at night.

Will McNeilly will leave this evening for New Douglas to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James McNeilly.

J. Vasburg, of St. Louis, and Morris Falk, of San Francisco, Cal., stockholders and employes of the company, were out Saturday.

E. K. Smart and his force of men working on the John Meyer shoe factory in St. Louis, spent Sunday here. The force includes Frank Stillwell, Sr., John N. Daniels, Martin McCorkel and others.

Henry Fischer and August Kalitz commenced work in the bath tub works, Monday. They have started in with the intention of learning the trade. The former has been employed in the Democrat office for over three years, and the latter has been working for Frank Stenzel, in the bakery business.

Dec 27, 1890

Edwardsville Democrat

At one o'clock to-day a special train will arrive over the Clover Leaf conveying the St. Louis employes of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. to this city. The party will stroll about the city for an hour or so when they will return accompanied by the Edwardsville employes of the company. Tonight all employes will hold a

meeting at the office of the company in St. Louis, which has been seated and arranged for the purpose. It is the annual meeting and the year's business will be presented and dividends declared on the cooperative.

December 28, 1890
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

A CO-OPERATIVE CITY

A Great Scheme Started by Well-Known St. Louisans.

A Large Party of Inspection Visits the Town of Leclaire, Ill – The Plan on Which the Village was Established – Ideas for the Future

There has been an important addition made to Edwardsville, Ill., in the last half year. This addition has been to the volume of business, the number of inhabitants and the number of houses. It has been made because of the creation of the village of Leclaire upon its southern border – out of its corporate limits and yet in some sense a part of the town.

Edwardsville promoted this village and donated a large sum for the purchase of the land upon which it is built.

Yesterday a special train took 175 citizens of St. Louis from the Union Depot in St. Louis, across the Eads Bridge and over the Clover Leaf Railway (Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City) to Leclaire. The passengers were nearly all stockholders in the company which profited by the concession of Edwardsville, and is erecting on the land a co-operative industrial town. It was the first visit of many of the stockholders to the property, and it was the first annual inspection. The train left the Union Depot at 12:30 o'clock p.m., and arrived at Leclaire less than an hour later. After the inspection the train returned, having added to its passenger list some sixty employes of the Leclaire Shops. All save two or three were employes of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.

How the System Works

Five years ago this concern began to share its profits between capital and wages on this plan: Workmen are paid the same rate of wages as are paid for the same work in other establishments, and capitalists are paid 6 per cent, as its wages; then having ascertained the net earnings of the year one-tenth is set aside for a surplus fund to meet losses in bad years, from one-tenth to one-twentieth is put into a provident fund for the sick, an equal dividend is then made to capital and wages dividends have been heretofore payable in cash or convertible into stock. They must now be taken in stock, which is convertible into cash at par on the severance of the dividend takers' connection with the concern. This plan has been in operation five years, as stated. During the first four years 43 per cent has been paid in dividends on wages. Those wage-takers who accepted stock in lieu of cash dividends have received as dividends therefore 64 per cent on the first year's amount, 47 per cent on the second, 32 per cent on the third and 16 per cent on the fourth, besides compound dividends on the first three. The net dividend declared for the year closed today is 10 per cent on the aggregate capital and wages.

Mr. Nelson believes thoroughly in co-operation. The great establishment of Leclaire in Paris, established fifty years ago, and now employing 1,000 men and the Godin Iron Works at Guise and the co-operative societies of England with a membership of a million, combined capital of \$70,000,000 and annual business of over \$200,000,000 were quoted by him in a little talk he had occasion to make yesterday as showing the results of co-operation. The profit-sharing is one feature of it. The industrial village has many others.

The Village of Leclaire

Leclair contains 120 acres of slightly rolling lands, which is easily drained. Through it passes the road from Edwardsville to Troy, eight miles away – as pretty a stretch of land as can be found in Illinois. Three railroads touch it – the Clover Leaf, the Jacksonville Southeastern and a spur of the Wabash. There is a small lake near at hand that supplies sufficient water for the boilers, and from a coal mine a short distance away the fuel is obtained. On the northern end of the property – nearest Edwardsville – five substantial brick mill buildings, with steel trussed roofs, all belting and shafting under the floors, and innumerable minor conveniences. These buildings are models of their kind.

In the boiler-house are two dynamos, an engine and a pump that draws from an eighty foot well the water supply for the village. A system of water mains is laid under the avenues, to which fire plug and house connections are made. The water is pumped in two large highly elevated storage tanks, from which it passes into the mains.

The factory buildings, avenues and residences are lighted with incandescent electric lamps from one plant. The factory buildings are heated with steam, and eventually the residences will also be heated the same way. A fuel gas plant for domestic service is also one of the schemes for the future.

But a small portion of the land included in Leclair has been built upon. The factory buildings at present cover, say, five acres, and the dozen dwellings are scattered over about ten acres. Nearly all the scattered dwellings have been built by the company to accommodate the employes, who had to have homes on the opening of the factory. All but two of these are to be sold to employes. Hereafter land will be sold to employes, and money will be advanced to them to build houses for themselves.

The avenues have been laid off in circles and rows of trees planted along them. A building line has been established 53 feet back from the street line. The sidewalks are to be 13 feet wide, of which nine or ten feet are to be reserved for grass and the trees. Houses must be built up to a standard yet to be definitely determined. The lots vary from 120 to 175 feet in depth, according to their position in the circle, and have 100 feet front. The price the company will charge for land is \$2 per front foot. This sum is to go into a fund for the improvement of the village. The purchaser gets the land in fee subject to the conditions mentioned above, and the further conditions that he will conduct no business on the land without the consent of the company, and will not maintain any nuisance upon it.

The houses now there and those to be erected are and will be supplied with water at a low cost, and with electric light at 25 cents per light per month. The charges are supposed to be sufficiently large to pay all expense of the service.

A part of the tract will be cultivated by an experienced man, and the product of his garden will be sold to the inhabitants of the village at cost. Vegetable gardens on residence lots will be discouraged and ornamental gardening encouraged.

The dozen buildings now up and occupied are very tastefully built and decorated. All are of frame. The largest, is the Club House. It is the hotel of Leclair, the workingmen's boarding house. It is a co-operative boarding house. It was built by the company and is rented – with another dwelling used as an annex – to workingmen under peculiar conditions. The Club House will accommodate sixteen men. Presuming that it will be full all the time the company charges one-sixteenth of a sum made up of fair interest on the money invested and a fair per cent for wear and tear for each boarder in the house. If the house is full the club pays the full rent. If there are but fifteen boarders it pays but fifteen sixteenths of the full rent, and so according to its patronage. The annex is rented under the same conditions.

How the Club is Managed

The club is managed by a house committee, which is changed periodically. An experienced woman does the buying, supervises the preparation of the food, the service and care of the houses. Each boarder pays \$4 per week into the treasury. Some pay a sum in addition to this. When the house was first occupied there was so much rivalry over choice of rooms, and this device was hit upon. The rooms were put up at auction, and the man bidding the highest weekly premium had the first choice. Two rooms brought premiums of 35 cents per week, and two others 25 cents per week.

There is a large porch on the front of the house and from this you enter the smoking room, which has a wide fireplace, with andirons and logs. Here is a well-filled bookcase and a great rack of newspapers. To the left is the stairway to the sleeping rooms and to the right a double dining room. Behind the fireplace is the

kitchen. All the sleeping rooms are on the second floor. They are light and airy and prettily furnished. The front dining-room is convertible into a parlor.

The first month of the club's life was a financial failure. There was an alarming deficit instead of a hoped for surplus. That was due to too liberal living. The pruning knife of economy was used with such excellent effect that though the boarders are still proud of the table, the income and outgo balance comfortably.

The party from St. Louis was entertained at the club with a lunch yesterday afternoon, after the inspection of the works. Afterward a large number called upon Superintendent of the Leclair Works and Mrs. J. O. Newstead, who occupy a handsome house between the club and the annex. Then a visit to the farm was made, as the last feature of the inspection.

How far cooperation will be carried has not yet been determined. The village has only been in existence six months and many details of the plan are yet to be worked out. There is now being built by the workmen a bowling alley and billiard room. The company furnishes the land and material, and the men the work. No liquors will be sold in the village. The library at the club will be added to for the benefit of the entire community and a modest hall for entertainments is thought of. A co-operative laundry and a co-operative kitchen are in the future. To what extent the private kitchens will be abolished has yet to be determined, but it is probable that if a process of making fuel gas that can be distributed safely is found and adopted only bread making, roasting and baking will be done in the central establishment.

In the meeting held after the return of the party to St. Louis the employes elected Frank O'Neill custodian on their behalf. His duty is to examine the books and ascertain for the wage takers that the statement of profits, etc., is correct. They also elected a committee to have charge of the provident fund.

December 29, 1890
New York Times

SHARING WITH EMPLOYEES

Fifth Annual Meeting of the Nelson Corporation in St. Louis

St. Louis, Dec. 28 -- The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company held last evening its fifth annual meeting since the profit-sharing plan went into effect. The great warehouse and storeroom at Eighth and St. Charles Streets was closed at noon, and all hands, from the President of the Company to the office boys, and numbering over 100 people, took a special train and visited Edwardsville, where the industrial village of Leclair is fast rising on the grounds which, six months ago, were covered by a wheat field and orchard.

The party was greeted on arrival by the blowing of steam whistles. The shops there were in full blast and every machine was kept going for over an hour in order that the St. Louis men might examine them while in motion. The work being done here is the making of bath tubs and bathroom cabinet work, and after looking over the machine shops, the party separated in little groups to examine the eighteen or twenty neat residences and the clubhouse which have been erected in the village.

In addressing his employees Mr. Nelson said:

“Five years ago we began sharing profits between capital and wages. There had never been any trouble between us. The house has been prosperous since its foundation. Its policy was satisfactory to you and us. We had therefore no business reasons for adopting the co-operative system. We did not then nor have we since impressed any conditions or restrictions. We have not asked longer hours nor harder work. We never inquired whether you belonged to unions or favored protection of free trade.

“Most of you understand the method of division, but for newcomers it may be appropriate to here reiterate it. The business is managed by Directors and officers, like any other corporation. We pay regular wages, just as any other manufacturing house. Both to salaried men and to factory men we aim to pay the best of wages, so that we may get the best of men. Our foremen are under standing instructions to pay at least as much as is paid for like work in similar establishments. All capital invested is allowed 6 per cent, as if wages.

“Having ascertained what the net earnings of the year are, we set aside one-tenth for a surplus fund to meet losses in unprofitable years. From one-tenth to one-twentieth goes to the provident fund, which is under the control of a committee elected by yourselves. We then make an equal dividend upon capital and the total amount paid for wages and salaries. Each man gets the same dividend on his wages that he would on a similar amount of stock. When his dividend is converted into stock it receives its interest and dividend just as the capital owned by the original proprietors.

“During the five years which the system has been in operation we have paid 43 percent in dividends on wages, besides the considerable amounts paid out by the Provident Committee and the amount of surplus fund accumulated to meet further contingencies. Those of you who have taken all your dividends in stock have received as interest and dividends thereon, 64 per cent, on the first year’s amount, 47 per cent on the second, 32 per cent on the third, 16 per cent on the fourth, besides compound dividends on the first three.

“Nine hours constitutes a day’s work in this house, with full pay. Believing that ten hours is too long a day’s work, we shortened the time, first to fifty-seven hours a week, and later to fifty-four hours. During the past busy season--for about four months--the hours were, by unanimous consent, made sixty a week. When orders were pressing, it seemed sound policy to try to meet them. The dividend of the past year, as verified by your representative is 10 per cent, for which stock certificates will be handed you in due time.

January 10, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

The Rochester (N.Y.) Herald of January 1, contains a prominently captioned write-up of the profit-sharing business carried on in South Edwardsville by the Nelson Manufacturing Co. It is another dividend on our well-spent twenty thousand dollars.

Through the courtesy of General Manager J. H. Neustadt , Rev. R. G. Hamilton, the new rector of St. Andrew’s Episcopal church of this city, and family are comfortably domiciled in one of the beautiful residences in South Edwardsville.

Saturday, January 31, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

By deed recorded Thursday Haley and Glass, trustees, conveyed to N. O. Nelson, the remainder of the subscriber’s tract lying east of the Troy road which was not previously transferred to him. The title to all of the premises lying between that road and the Clover Leaf track yet remains in said trustees.

N. O. Nelson pronounces the rumor that he is going to move his plant to Omaha the silliest nonsense, he never having even contemplated such thing. On the other hand he holds he already has the most eligible site in South Edwardsville to be found anywhere.

N. O. Nelson was out Thursday looking over things in South Edwardsville.

Miss Jessie E. Prickett attended a reception given in St. Louis on Tuesday by Mrs. N. O. Nelson, also one given on Wednesday by Mrs. Meyers.

On Thursday N. O. Nelson and daughter, Miss Julia, of St. Louis, Miss Alma Armstat, the belle of Springfield, Mo, and Miss Mary West Prickett were dined by Ex-Senator and Mrs. Hadley. Afterward the young ladies were chaperoned through South Edwardsville by H. E. Prickett.

Miss Mary West Prickett attended the Nelson reception in St. Louis on Tuesday.

Saturday, February 21, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

A reed and brass band has been organized in South Edwardsville.

Saturday, March 7, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

Master George Bickelhaupt is shipping clerk in South Edwardsville.
Isolated cases of chicken pox are reported in South Edwardsville and locality.

March 14, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

On Tuesday, while operating a machine, in the Nelson works, Master David Judd had the points of the first three finger of his right hand cut accidentally. Doctor Pogue dressed the wounds, and David will lay off for a while.

N. O. Nelson, of St. Louis, was out Thursday looking over matters and things in South Edwardsville.

Saturday, May 2, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

Machinery is on the ground for sinking an artesian well in South Edwardsville.

May 23, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

SOUTH EDWARDSVILLE NEWS.

The artesian well is down about 125 feet.

Charley Neustadt Sundayed with Manager Neustadt.

The band is already capable of making the nights hideous, but in time it will knock out the Enterprise.

The boulevards are quite popular with pleasure seekers from the city proper, especially those possessed of high steppers.

Dr. Wharff and family, late of Alhambra, are occupying one of the recently completed residences, diagonally opposite to S. S. McCorkle's.

In order to keep up with the largely increasing orders at the Nelson Manufacturing Works, notices were posted Monday that employes would in the future be required to work ten hours per day, but there was no promise of increase of pay. Consequently the employes met Wednesday and by practically unanimous vote decided to work nine hours for nine hours pay. Mr. Nelson, accompanied by Mr. Young, of New York, were present at the voting.

June 3, 1891

Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

Events at the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.'s Suburb

Leclaire was prettily decorated on Saturday.

George Rice will move into his new house, next week.

Supt. J. D. Wilson went to St. Louis, Wednesday night.

John Penn and John Hadley went to St. Louis, Sunday.

George Evans, formerly foreman of the tin shop, spent Sunday with friends.

A new triple-drum polish machine, to be used in polishing flat surfaces on wood, was placed in the cabinet shop, last week.

Herman Guls, a workman in the cabinet shop, and Miss Katie Pansur, were married at St. Boniface's church, Saturday morning.

Miss Emma Wharff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Wharff, while playing, Thursday evening, fell and dislocated an arm at the elbow.

J. H. Van Hyning, of the carpenter force, and John Penn, of the tin shop, have been transferred to the cabinet shop. H. Welgel, Ed. Payne and Casper Vorwald are also new employes in this department.

July 4, 1891

Edwardsville Democrat

The artesian well in South Edwardsville has reached a depth of 425 feet, and the promoters of the enterprise are considering the advisability of increasing it in circumference.

July 8, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

N. O. Nelson was out from St. Louis yesterday
Joe Stierren went to Staunton to spend the fourth.
Manager J. H. Neustadt went to St. Louis Monday.

J. F. Stillwell, Will Thomas and Chas. Vollintine celebrated the Fourth at Litchfield.

Wm. Sido who has been in the varnish room, has been transferred to the Cabinet Shop.

S. Reece, the photographer, who recently moved from Parsons, Kans., is taking photographs of the factory buildings.

A meeting was held last night to organize a bowling club, and make arrangements for the opening. The ten pins, balls, etc., have been received.

Saturday, July 11, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

Miss Julia, daughter of N. O. Nelson, of St. Louis, will spend Sunday here with Miss Jessie Prickett. The South Edwardsville artesian well and brass band will both get there on time.

July 22, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

Events at the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.'s Suburb

Miss Grace Rice is visiting at Collinsville.

The shops commenced running overtime Monday.

Charles Neustadt, of East St. Louis, is a guest of Mrs. J. H. Van Arsdale.

Miss M. Smith, of Collinsville, is a guest of Mrs. George Rice.

A lot of new samples are being made up for the store in St. Louis.

About 1,200 bushels of potatoes were marketed off the farm this season.

Andrew Gilbert and Ed. Barraclaugh went to work in the Cabinet Shop, Monday.

Mrs. Richard J. Barrett, of St. Louis, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Miller.

Christ Meyer, formerly a workman in the Cabinet Shop, came out and spent Sunday.

Thursday, the largest number of bath tubs manufactured by the company in one day were turned out.

K. Schlissinger, of Baltimore, and J. Rowell, of Martinsville, Ind., are new additions to the tub lining force.

Wm. Healy, late of the Beatty Furniture Co., St. Louis, was installed as a foreman of the Cabinet Shop yesterday.

N. O. Nelson was out from St. Louis, Saturday. He expressed himself well pleased with the progress at the factories.

Orren L. Brown, contractor, has placed an order with the company for frames and sills to be used in the addition to the Broadway House.

Chas. Grauer, a tinner, and J. Mierkel (Merkel), a tub liner, of New York City, have taken positions. They have moved their families into the house occupied by E. K. Smart.

The artesian well is down to a depth of 550 feet. The drill is now in sand stone, having passed through about 16 feet. The prospects for water are now favorable.

The receiving cistern, to be used in connection with the artesian well, has been completed. It caved in several time and considerable trouble was experienced in its construction.

A meeting was held at the bowling alley Wednesday night and a club formed. J. H. Van Arsdale, Will Thomas, Henry Fischer and August Kahtz were selected a managing committee. The club numbers 35 members. The initiation fee is \$1 and 75 cents dues each month. The membership is not confined to employees.

The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company by N. O. Nelson, president, and J. B. Case, secretary, filed a plat Monday of the lands conveyed to them by W. F. L. Hadley and E. B. Glass, trustees, on August 14, 1890, and January 14, 1891. The lands have been subdivided into lots and blocks and the whole is known as Leclair. All streets and avenues laid out are dedicated to public use forever. The company reserves the right to maintain along said streets, sewer and water pipes, telephone, telegraph and electric wires, and poles and single or double track surface railways.

July 22, 1891

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Bar at New Saloon Built by Nelson Company

NEW BUSINESS BLOCK

The Henry Trares block on Main street, has about been completed. It is as handsome as any in the city. The lower floor contains two large business rooms. Up stairs are five good-sized, conveniently arranged rooms, all accessible from the large hall at the top of the stairs. Wm. Berry occupies the north room on the lower floor as a saloon, he will also have two rooms on the second floor. He moved in Monday. It is, without question, the best arranged and has the most costly outfit of any in the county. The fixtures were manufactured by the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, and are of natural wood finish. The bar is 30 feet long. Mr. Berry has an office in front, which is partitioned off from the saloon proper. To the rear is a room partitioned off in which are tables. Wm. Zeller, of Bunker Hill, will occupy the other room for the manufacture of cigars. He will move in as soon as the interior work is completed. He expects to employ a number of men. A ganitoid pavement has been put down in front.

July 25, 1891

Edwardsville Democrat

A plat of "Leclair," more properly speaking South Edwardsville, was filed for record Monday. There are 8 blocks and 90 lots conveniently laid off. Deeds to some of the property were also filed.

July 29, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

Mrs. J. H. Van Arsdale is visiting in St. Louis.

P. J. Donohue spent Sunday with friends in Carpenter.

Will Thomas, Wm. Healy and Fred Hoffmeister spent Sunday in St. Louis.

George Ryan, who has been working in the lining department, has been succeeded by Ed. Senn.

The artesian well is down to a depth of 600 feet. No satisfactory water yielding strata has been struck thus far.

John Penn, who has been employed in the Tub Works, will join his father at Carlinville in the carpentry business.

The boys are anxiously waiting for the watermelons to ripen. About an acre and a half are planted with this fruit.

T. J. Thomas, of Collinsville, has contracted to furnish 2,000 bushels of charcoal. He commenced making delivery on Monday.

The continued dry spell has made it necessary to extend the water pipes further into Wolf Bros. reservoir, which is now very low.

Mrs. Edwin Field and family, of Collinsville, were guests of Manager J. H. Neustadt, Sunday. The party took a drive to Troy.

Frank Duncan had the tip of the fore finger on his left hand cut off Friday while at work with a saw in the Cabinet shop. Dr. H. T. Wharff dressed the member.

The shaving conductor is now in successful operation. The shavings are conveyed from the works to the boiler room where they are burned, doing away with considerable labor.

August 5, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

Chas. Rowell will move his family here from Martinsville, Ind., this week.

The well in the boiler house will be sank from a depth of 65 to 100 feet.

J. W. Williams and P. J. Donohue went to Carpenter Saturday and attended the picnic at Sponuth's grove.

Foreman W. C. Healy, of the Cabinet Shop, and Ernst Schleicht, of the Tub Works, spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Rev. R. G. Hamilton moved, Monday, into the house vacated by J. D. Wilson and family, near the Presbyterian church.

J. Richie and J. Gast, of St. Louis are new additions to the Cabinet force. J. Kelly, also of St. Louis, a bath tub liner, commenced work this morning.

A bowling club was organized Monday night with about 35 members. N. O. Nelson was out from St. Louis and participated in the sport. A game was played between Edwardsville and Leclaire. Edwardsville came out the winner, the score being 811 to 743 points. Billiard tables and a library and reading room will be added for use of the members. The initiation fee is \$1 and dues 75 cents each month. The managing committee consists of J.

H. Van Arsdale, Henry Fisher, August Kahtz, Will Thomas and W. D. Harnist. One other will be selected to represent the Edwardsville contingent. The members are: Geo. Rice, J. R. Van Hyning, Sos. Stieren, P. J. Donohue, C. Bailey, W. J. Wilson, C. Carter, Fritz Durer, Roy Bonner, Jos. H. Miller, Chas. Moore, Wm. McNeilly, W. A. Harles, H. Gius, Fred Pfeiffer, Chas. Merkel, E. Schleicht, J. F. Stillwell, J. H. Neustadt, W. A. Reed, N. O. Nelson; the Edwardsville membership includes, G. L. Hall, Henry Riniker, Robert Hagnauer, Hartley Lanham, W. M. Warnock, H. E. Prickett, Judge W. H. Krome, J. E. Tunnell, W. D. Harnist, and C. Boeschenstein.

August 12, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

The artesian well is 660 feet deep.

The bowling alley is open every night and the meetings are well attended.

J. R. Holden, of St. Louis, commenced work in the Cabinet Shop, Monday.

Mrs. J. Rowe and children have arrived from Martinsville, Ind., and are boarding temporarily at the Club.

Master Mechanic W. A. Reed, of St. Louis, was out Monday, superintending the putting in of a new copper roller.

Walter S. Mounts, superintendent of the gas and electric light plant in Carlinville, spent Saturday and Sunday with Will Thomas.

August 19, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

Thos. Mauer's mother of St. Louis, is visiting his family.

Wm. C. Healy, foreman of the Cabinet Shop, spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Henry Thoman, a former employe, is again at work in the Cabinet Shop.

No steam was raised from four o'clock Saturday until Monday noon. The object is to get along with as little water as possible, on account of the shortage of supply.

August 26, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

The artesian well is down to a depth of 780 feet.

The shipments have been quite large the past week.

C. A. Jones, of the store, St. Louis, was out yesterday.

Harry Neustadt has been presented with a donkey by his father.

Foreman W. C. Heally, of the cabinet shops, was in St. Louis yesterday.

Jos. Degenhardt, a former employe, is again at work in the cabinet shops.

Several flues in the heater have been burned out. Engineer J. H. Van Arsdale has been making repairs.

The surrey, wagon and team are at the disposal of employes. Those desiring to use them are instructed to call on Secretary W. B. Thomas.

J. Brown, an artist from St. Louis, was out yesterday to sketch the buildings and surroundings. The sketches will be used in a new catalogue.

A meeting will be held in the bowling alley, at eight o'clock to-morrow night to transact general business and receive subscriptions from members of the club. A billiard and pool table have been placed. They were formerly used in the St. James billiard hall. The library has been transferred to this building and will be at the disposal of members.

Saturday, August 29, 1891

Edwardsville Democrat

A bowling club was organized at the Club House, in South Edwardsville, Thursday night. The following officers were elected: J. H. Neustadt, president; Frank Stillwell, secretary, and J. H. Van Arsdale, treasurer; W. D. Harnist, Robert Hagenauer, F. W. Wolf, J. H. Neustadt, J. H. Van Arsdale and Charles Rice, board of managers. The next meeting will be held Thursday night. There are 52 charter members.

September 2, 1891

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

LECLAIRE LACONICS

Manager J. H. Neustadt went to St. Louis, Friday.

Thos. Hickey, a former employe, spent Sunday and Monday with friends.

Cinders are being put on the road winding through the residence portion. They will make a good driveway.

The company is turning out a complete sanitary outfit of solid mahogany for the new Globe-Democrat building, St. Louis.

N. O. Nelson and Frank O'Neil were out from St. Louis, Thursday night, to attend the meeting of the Bowling Club.

The Excelsiors and the Leclaire nine crossed bats Sunday afternoon. The score was 16 to 15 in favor of the Excelsiors.

The works closed down to-day on account of a shortage of water. The pipes will be extended and work will be resumed to-morrow.

Chas. Neustadt, of East St. Louis, and Cashier J. B. Chambers and A. Webb, of N. O. Nelson Company, were guests of J. H. Neustadt, Sunday.

A meeting of the members of the Bowling Club was held Thursday night. Another meeting will be held to-morrow night to adopt a constitution and by-laws. The alley is open every evening except Sundays.

The artesian well has reached a depth of 820 feet. During the past week a small stream of water was struck. Indications for water are getting better. It will probably be sunk several hundred feet further.

September 9, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

N. O. Nelson was out from St. Louis, Monday.

J. H. Vosburg of the store, was out Saturday.

Will Harles is laid up with a carbuncle on his left hand.

Will Thomas spent Sunday with his parents at Carlinville.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Moore and Joe Degenhardt spent Sunday in St. Louis.

A. O. Van Hyning, who has been working in the cabinet shops, has been promoted to foreman of the tub works; Geo. Rice, of the tub works has been made foreman of the cabinet shops, vice W. C. Heally.

A meeting of the bowling club was held Thursday night. The rules and regulations prepared by the managing committee were adopted. The officers will serve a term of six months. Five members were admitted, W.F.L. Hadley, G. F. Miner, T. L. Gaertner, John Judd and W. H. Brainard.

September 16, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LECLAIRE LACONICS

N. O. Nelson was out Friday.

J. Vosburg was out from the office, Friday.

J. B. Case was out from St. Louis, Thursday.

Ed Cobine is a new man in the bath tub department.

Manager J. H. Neustadt and wife went to St. Louis, Friday.

A large stock order was placed in the cabinet shop, last week.

A tennis court will likely be located south of the bowling alley.

Mr. McNeilly, Chas. Vollintine and Fritz Durer spent Sunday at New Douglas.

Master Mechanic W. A. Reid was out Friday, on business connected with the artesian well.

The bowling alley is divided into three sections. The section, of which F. W. Wolf is captain, meets Mondays and Thursdays; August Kahtz's section on Tuesdays and Fridays and J. R. Van Arsdale's on Wednesday and Saturdays. The members have the use of the billiard and pool tables any night.

September 23, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire man accidently shoots himself

Shot Himself Accidentally

John Henry Weigel met with an accident Saturday evening, while on the premises of John Nix on St. Louis Street, which subsequently resulted in his death. He was in the yard in the company of two other boys, Ollie Nix and Jobe Gilbert, handling a revolver. He had pulled the trigger several times and the weapon had not fired. He snapped it again pointing it at himself when a cartridge was discharged and the bullet, a 22-caliber, penetrated his body just below the neck to the right, ranging upward to the base of his brain to the left.

Dr. Fiegenbaum, Robeson and Olive were summoned and attended the patient. After suffering great pain he died Sunday almost noon. Coroner S.O. Botner was summoned and held an inquest, the jury consisting of Michael Desmond, foreman, J. G. Barnsback, Dennis Hentz, Jake Atkins, John Nix and O. H. McGarvey. The verdict was death by the accidental discharge of a revolver in the victim's own hands.

The funeral took place yesterday morning from St. Boniface's church to Woodlawn cemetery. The funeral was largely attended, including his associates who worked with him at Leclaire. The latter presented some beautiful floral offerings. The pall bearers were Fritz Pfeiffer, Charles Herder, Harry Friday, R. Van Hysing and Ollie and Willie Nix.

He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius H. Weigel, and was 16 years, 11 months, and 18 days old. He was a clever young man and was held in high esteem by his associates and acquaintances.

September 23, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Will Harles has gone to work again.

John Gaffney went to St. Louis, Monday.

The band boys have purchased new instruments.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Ayer are now residing with Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Van Arsdale.

Tell Foster, John Hess and John Peters are new employes in the cabinet shop.

Dr. John Peetz, of Chicago, and Mr. and Mrs. Geo Ashtog, of St. Louis, were guests of Dr. and Mrs. H. T. Wharff, Saturday and Sunday. The Star Quartet favored the party with a selection of songs Saturday night.

Master Mechanic W. A. Reed has been out several days to make experiments at the artesian well. The well has been shut off at a depth of 119 feet from the surface. A test is to be made to determine whether the salt water can be gotten rid of. On Monday a gallon of water was boiled and it produced two ounces of salt.

September 23, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Bowling Alley Teams

A match game of ten pins was rolled last night between the teams of F W. Wolf and August Kuntz at Leclaire. Neither side did any rolling worthy of note, the scores being poorer than are made in practicing. E. W. Mudge and Robert Hagnauer were judges, and Geo. Rice and J. R. Van Arsdale, scorers. Wolf's team won by a score of 1,179 to Kahtz's 1,147. Following was the score:

F.W. Wolf	151	Aug. Kahtz	74
J. T. Crocker	136	J. F. White	115
J. H. Neustadt	100	E. B. Glass	86
Hartley Lanham	91	Anthony Schwab	125
C. A. Wilson	64	Geo. Meyer	138
J. H. Miller	105	N. Schlecht	129
G. L. Hall	102	J. F. Stillwell	91
Frank Moore	90	John Judd	155
W. D. Harnett	112	C. P. Sebastian	104
H. E. Prickett	92	G. Stahlhut	110
Total	1,179	Total	1,147

Saturday, October 17, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

The South Edwardsville ax not only chops off heads but annual co-operative dividends as well. It is a universal rule that the tail goes with the hide.

October 21, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

George Rice and Will Thomas spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Frank Bean, a former employe, was out from St. Louis, Sunday, calling on friends.

Tell Foster and Chas. Herder are new members of the band. The organization now number seven members.

Notices have been issued of a stockholders meeting at St. Louis, on December 21st, for the purpose of voting to increase the capital stock from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, and on the question of making \$250,000 of the new issue preferred stock.

A meeting was held at the Club, Monday night, to make arrangements for a lecture course. N. O. Nelson and a number from Edwardsville were present. Prof. W. I. Sheldon made a talk, after which the Leclaire Self Culture Club was organized. A committee was appointed which will have charge of the arrangements for future meetings. It consists of H. E. Prickett, chairman; T. P. Dooling, Wm. H. Krome, G. F. Miner, Geo. C. Schwarz, J. H. Neustadt, Geo. Rice, Will Thomas, Job Sileren, and J. R. Van Arsdale. They will solicit members. The monthly dues of each will be ten cents, which amount will go towards paying the expenses of the lecturers.

Thursday night a match game of ten pins was rolled at the Leclaire bowling alley between the teams captained by F. W. Wolf and J. R. Van Arsdale. E. W. Mudge and August Kahtz were scorers. E. B. Glass and

B. J. Stillwell, judges. F. W. Wolf's team was victorious by a score of 1,357 to 1,206. The scores were as follows: Wolf's team--W. H. Hall, 190, Hartley Lanham, 149, J. T. Crocker 168, J. H. Miller, 100; H. E. Prickett, 129; J. E. Tunnell, 80; G. F. Miner, 98; T. L. Gaertner, 162, J. H. Neustadt, 191; F. W. Wolf, 160. Van Arsdale's team -- W. H. Krome ,105; Robt. Hagnauer, 123; W. M. Warnock, 108; A. P. Wolf 114; T. C. Hullman, 151; George Bickelhaupt, 117; Fred Merkel, 110; W. F. L. Hadley, 167, C. Boeschenstein, 108; J. R. Van Arsdale, 108. Wolf's team now holds the championship, having defeated the other two teams.

October 28, 1891, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

P. J. Donohue spent Sunday at Carpenter.

George Kingman, of Staunton, spent Sunday with Joe Stieren.

Fred Hoffmeister is employed in painting the woodwork around the shops.

A party of Edwardsville young ladies were entertained at the Bowling Alley, Saturday.

Will Davis came over from Collinsville, Saturday, and spent the day with George Rice and family.

West Bros. have been baling straw the past week. It will be shipped to the St. Louis house to be used in packing.

The water supply for the works is now secured from the river. Two tanks, containing 12,000 gallons, are used every day.

Saturday, October 31, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

Architect Spilman, after an absence of several months, superintending, &c., is again on duty at his office.

Saturday, November 7, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

The Ladies' Guild will meet with Mrs. H. T. Wharff, in South Edwardsville, next Tuesday afternoon.

November 11, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Frank Duncan is sick at his home, at New Douglas.

Joe Ritchie has moved his family into the house vacated by Chas. Womack.

Chas. Rowe had the tip of his left hand cut off Thursday, by the buzz jointer.

Adolph Langwisch commenced work in the Cabinet Shop, yesterday. Casper Vorwald and Fritz Durer returned.

The family of Samuel Deahl has moved to their old home, Martinsville, Ind., for the winter. Mr. Deahl is boarding at the Club.

James Bunn, formerly electrician here, now has charge of the plant at the Marmaduke Military Academy, Speet Springs, Mo.

The bowling alley will undergo a complete reconstruction. The centre alley will be taken up and the two side alleys will be widened from 35 to 42 inches, the regulation width. The rolling distance will be extended eight feet. A new back stop will be put in and the gutters and the box in which the balls are rolled will be lined so as to deaden the noise. Two new sets of pins are being turned. They will be bound with rubber bands. The room will be made comfortable for the winter. When completed the alley will be first-class. The Club will bowl for a gold medal, presented by N. O. Nelson. A team from the Club will go to Marine this afternoon, to play the club there. At the meeting, Thursday night, seven new members were admitted, Mayor W. E. Wheeler, J. P. Rorig, E. H. Moss, C. W. Terry, W. P. Early, E. W. Mudge and Samuel Deahle.

Letter List

List of uncalled for letters in Edwardsville post office, Madison County, state of Illinois, advertised Nov. 11th, 1891:

Allen, Frances	Hill, R. S.
Baily, Lizzie	Koch, A. H.
Blevins, Joe	Patterson, Wm.
Diebold, John	Schultzer, Mary
Fitzpatrick, John	T. M. CROSSMAN, P.M.

November 18, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Engineer Thos. Mauer has been sick the past week.

J. H. Neustadt and George Rice spent Sunday at Collinsville.

Manager Neustadt has presented his wife with a new piano.

Charles Vollintine and Ed. Duncan spent Sunday in New Douglas.

Chas. Neustadt, of East St. Louis, was a guest of his brother, Friday.

J. H. Neustadt will leave, to-night, for a four days' hunt along the Okaw river.

A large double fan is being put in to increase the capacity of the shaving conveyor.

A new pump has been put into the artesian well. The well is improving in the quantity of supply.

The firm has had a birdseye view made of the factory and residents portions, to be used in the new catalogue, now being gotten out.

Lightning rods will be placed on the factories and residences. E. A. Keller & Bro., of this city, and J. E. Cristy, of Alton, have the contract.

The company is making a large order of water tanks to be shipped to southern Texas for stock watering purposes. The tanks are 16 feet in diameter, and 2 feet high.

The bowling team postponed their trip to Marine, Wednesday, on account of bad weather. The club has ordered a pin pool outfit. An electric reflector has been placed on the outside of the rear end of the alley for the benefit of the members who go out on the Troy road. W. D. Harnist has prepared a placard, giving the rules under which the gold medal presented by Mr. Nelson, will be contested for. The concert room above is undergoing repairs and redecoration. Fred Hoffmeister is painting it.

The Leclaire Self Culture Club held its first of a series of illustrative lectures, in the concert room, Tuesday evening, last week. The attendance was good and the lecture, by Prof. W. L. Sheldon, was well received. It is the intention of the club to have a lecture every alternate Tuesday night during the winter. Various subjects, recreative, amusing and instructive, will be given by the professors of Washington University, St. Louis, who have kindly volunteered their services. The admission is free. Complimentary tickets can be had by applying to any member of the managing committee, which consists of H. E. Prickett, J. T. Crocker, G. F. Miner, Geo. C. Schwarz, J. H. VanArsdale, Geo. H. Rice, J. H. Neustadt and Jos. Stieren. The next meeting will be held Tuesday night of next week. The subject will be "Pictures and Stories of the river Rhine."

November 21, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

The Self Culture Club, which holds forth in South Edwardsville will give another entertainment Tuesday night. It will consist of pictures and reminiscent of the Rhine River.

December 16, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

J. Vosburg was out from St. Louis, Monday.

Frank O'Neil was out from St. Louis, yesterday.

A new piano was added to the concert room furnishings, Monday.

A new jointer and double blower have been put in the cabinet shop.

Will Thomas, Joe Degenhart and Henry Thoman spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Prof. F. M. Crunden will lecture at the hall, Tuesday night, next. The Leclaire band will render several selections before the lecture takes place.

A tower is being erected over the artesian well. The well is now furnishing considerable water and gives promise of a much better supply than was at first anticipated.

The entire force will come out from St. Louis Saturday afternoon on a special train, to hold their annual meeting. After the business has been transacted the party will be taken to the Club room, where a luncheon will be in waiting. A committee on reception will be appointed. The citizens are invited to take part.

The contest for medals by the members of the bowling alley commenced Monday night, and will be continued for three weeks. The umpires are W. D. Harnist, Gl. L. Hall and H. H. Van Arsdale, and the scorers are Geo. Rice, Hartley Lanham and Aug. Kahtz. The medals will be the property of the club and will be contested for from time to time.

Saturday, December 19, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

There are about 70 contestants for the Nelson gold medal to be awarded to the bowler making the highest score in 30 frames. Ten frames have been completed so far with Geo. W. Meyer in the lead with 193 points. A large majority of the contestants are struggling hard for the booby prize – a leather medal.

Saturday, December 19, 1891
Edwardsville Democrat

The annual business meeting of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. will take place in South Edwardsville today. The St. Louis contingent will come out on a special train. It will be followed by a spread in the Club House. Prominent residents of the city are expected to join in the latter part of the exercises.

December 23, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Will Thomas, P. J. Donahue and Joe Degenhardt spend Sunday in St. Louis.

Mrs. Charles Moore went to St. Louis, Sunday, to remain several months with her mother.

Frank Duncan, of New Douglas, who has been sick with typhoid fever, is again at work.

Frank R. O'Neil, one of the leading attaches of the St. Louis house, was out the latter part of last week, assisting Manager J. H. Neustadt to make arrangements for the annual meeting held Saturday.

Samuel Diehle, on Thursday, had the third finger of his right hand cut off by a buzz jointer in the tub works. Dr. H. T. Wharff dressed the member. Mr. Diehle has left for his home at Martinsville, to remain several weeks.

December 23, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Annual Meeting

Leclaire Visitors

Results of Profit-Sharing of the N. O. Nelson Company

Four Coaches over the Clover Leaf, Saturday, brought out the stockholders, employes and some fifty guests of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co., to hear the annual report and inspect the shops and buildings of Leclaire. Among the visitors, besides those immediately connected with the firm were, Profs. C .M. Woodward,

E. A. Snow, L. F. Soldan; Drs. H. A. Stimson, Wm. Short and J. C. Larned; F. N. Judson, W. L. Sheldon, T. Hennessey, E. W. Patison, G. F. Durant, C. H. Huttig, T. H. Coffin, G. W. Parker, of the Cairo Short Line; W. E. Barns, of the Age of Steel.

The party was met by the local employes and the Leclair band. They took a walk over the grounds, visited the shops and examined the different machines, after which the meeting was called by J. H. Neustadt, the local manager. Frank O'Neil was chosen to preside. He modestly stated that owing to the suddenness and unexpectedness of his elevation he was unprepared to give his usual outburst of eloquence and suggested that since Mr. N. O. Nelson, the president, had glad tidings of great ajoy concerning the profits of the concern for the past year, he would ask him to take the floor. Mr. Nelson stepped forward and presented the annual report as follows:

"The annual meeting this year has been turned over to the employes of the company. The officers are here as your guests, with no duty on their hands except to enjoy themselves and announce the result of this year's business.

"The year just closed has been one of depression and low prices, especially the last half of the year. Construction of all classes has been neglected owing to the scarcity of investment capital. Under the circumstances we deem it a matter of congratulation that the company is able to declare a dividend of 7 per cent on wages and 14 percent on capital. This makes a total of 50 per cent dividend on wages paid during the six years of profit sharing. Those of you who have invested your dividends from the beginning in the stock of the company have up to date received 72 per cent on your wages, or \$449.28 on \$12 a week wages, \$501.25 on \$15 a week wages and \$1,080 on a \$1,500 salary. You will observe that in the dividend, capital is allowed 7 per cent as interest, instead of 6 per cent in the preceding two years, that being the minimum commercial rate for money this year."

The statement was received with applause and a committee was appointed, consisting of Eugene Jones, Alex Pierce, W. H. Hendricks and H. C. Redmond to draw up resolutions expressive of the sentiment of the employes. A recess was then taken to partake of a luncheon which had been prepared by the ladies. This over, the meeting was recalled and the committee on resolutions reported the following:

Inasmuch as society in general, and the wage-earning class in particular, have an interest in knowing the practical results achieved through any marked departure from ordinary business methods; and inasmuch as the profit-sharing plan of manufacturing and merchandising is a comparatively unknown thin in the United States, we, the employees of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company, deem it proper to put upon record some expression of our views in relation thereto, based upon years of experience with it. Therefore be it

Resolved. That the system of profit-sharing constitutes, in our judgment, a long step toward that emancipation of labor for which wage-workers have for generations prayed, fought and hoped, with but pitiful results.

Resolved. That while on its face, profit-sharing seems to take from the employer a part of his rightful share, and to give to the employe that which is in excess of his due, yet we are convinced that it does neither, but conduces to the betterment of both when both act with an honest conception of the responsibility which it imposes.

Resolved. That, in our judgment, profit-sharing means the application to the every day business of the world of those governmental principles - independence, justice and equality - for which we have fought through all ages; and that, when these principles have been as firmly established between employer and employee as they have been between the government and the governed, there will be little occasion for apprehension concerning the future of our country or the character of its citizenship.

Resolved. That, in our opinion, profit-sharing, when generally adopted, will give to the broad-gauge, liberal capitalist the advantage over a selfish, narrow business rival which should be his by right, but which is denied him under the commercial system prevailing to-day; and that when this new departure becomes the rule, prosperity will come to only those who live fully up to its spirit.

Resolved. That we recognize that profit-sharing puts new obligations upon labor as well as upon capital: that it emphasizes the fact that there is a moral as well as a mathematical element in the contract between the two; that to make success possible the wage-earner must enlist the earnestness, the vigilance and the industry which too often are absent where there is no proprietary interest. But we confidently believe that

these qualities will develop rapidly in the wage-earners of America under opportunity and education. Because therefore, we appreciate such opportunity, and because we know how tardy is the reward of the pioneer, we gladly record this declaration of our esteem for the employer whose name of right and justice is sufficiently strong to move him to the adoption of this system.

Resolved: That a system which demonstrates the possibility of reducing the working hours from ten to nine, without any reduction in the wage standard, which in addition gives every man an interest in the profits, proportioned to the salary he earns; which creates a community such as this about us, with its opportunities for independence and comfort, such as a city does not afford, and which steadily prospers in a commercial way from year to year. A system which does this is no fabric of a dream, no evolvment of the impractical enthusiast. It is business. It is humanity.

Several of the visitors were called on for addresses. Prof. Woodward, Col. Parker, Dr. Stimson and Dr. Short spoke happily of the plan of profit-sharing and the success with which it has been practiced by the N. O. Nelson Company. A letter from Edward Everett Hale, of Boston, had been received, which reads:

My Dear Nelson -- Here it is at noon on Thursday and the gods have not yet opened up a way for me to go to Leclaire. I cannot enough congratulate you and yours on this great success. I wonder whether you have Yankee enough among you to remember how, on Dec. 12, old style, or Dec. 21, new style, a hundred people landed on Plymouth Rock and founded an empire. If you have, I trust that some of them in the few speeches of the occasion may point out what is the certainty, and this rock on which you have built now, and this comely beginning that you have made will be looked back to in the next century with the love and enthusiasm with which we Yankees look back on Forefathers' Rock and Forefathers' Day. Even to you I am tempted to say that you are building a great deal better than you know. I envy you the satisfaction in what you have achieved and I cannot but hope, as I certainly believe, that the satisfaction is to be multiplied to you in a hundred ways of which you do not dream. Be careful to send me every account that is printed of this event. Event it is--an event which marks the beginning of an epoch. I assure you that there are hundreds of friends here, not to say over the whole country, who will read with delight any narration we can make of it.

Yours truly,
Edward E. Hale

The meeting adjourned, well pleased with the events of the afternoon.

The ladies who assisted in the social features of the occasion were: Mesdames J. H. Neustadt, J. Wilson, Chas. More, J. H. Van Arsdale, J. R. Van Hysing, Geo. Rice, H. T. Wharff, E. A. Keller, and Misses Georgia and Ella Stillwell, Emma, Jessie and Mamie Schwarz, Bertha and Annie Trares, Mamie Keller, Mamie Kirkpatrick, Fannie Bonner, Josie Springer and Edith Wharff.

December 30, 1891
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Jos. Stieren spent Christmas at Chicago.

N. O. Nelson and sister were out from St. Louis, Monday.

Master Mechanic W. A. Reed was out Saturday and Sunday.

The factories were closed Friday and Saturday. The engine and machinery were overhauled Saturday.

Prof. James K. Hoamer will lecture at the Pastime Club hall, Tuesday evening next. His subject will be, "Pictures of Germany."

Will Thomas spent Christmas with his parents at Carlinville. He also went to Girard and Springfield the latter part of this week.

Geo. Adlam, of St. Louis, has been a guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Neustadt the past week. He is a brother of Mrs. Neustadt.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lanham, of East St. Louis, and Will Davis, electrician at the Rookery building, Chicago, spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Rice.

The officers and employes desire to extend thanks to the ladies who assisted in entertaining them at the annual meeting.

Manager J. H. Neustadt, on Monday, received a package containing seven pairs of gloves, from England. The duty on it was \$10.65, and the recipient feels much as though he wished he were a democrat.

The company will likely construct a dam across the old Wolf reservoir, thus cutting off the Madison Coal Co.'s supply. A dam has been built across the hollow on the east side of their property. It is 20 feet high and about 200 feet long. It will make a reservoir almost as large as the Wolf. It is in readiness for big rains. A trench will be dug and piping laid to it from the works next week.

January 2, 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

A.O. Van Hying died in South Edwardsville yesterday evening of typhoid pneumonia, aged 45 years. He was superintendent of the Bath Tub Department of the Nelson works.

January 6, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Van Hying Obituary

Death's Doings.

A. O. Van Hying, foreman of the bath tub shop, at Leclaire, died Friday night at 10:30 o'clock of rheumatism of the heart. The remains were sent to Butler, Monday, for interment. The entire working force of Leclaire accompanied the remains to the depot. Mr. Van Hying was 41 years and 9 months of age and leaves a wife and four children.

January 13, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire Laconics & Sleigh Ride

Leclaire Laconics

A lumber shed will be built this week.
Manager J. H. Neustadt went to St. Louis, Saturday.
Mrs. J. H. Miller is quite ill, and is confined to her room.
J. Heffermann, of St. Louis, is working in the bath tub shop.

An overflow line of piping will be put down connecting the two ponds.

George Ryan, a former employe, is now working in the copper shop.

Jos. S. Waintrob, and electrician, of St. Louis, is out overhauling the dynamos.

Roland Van Hyning has returned from Butler. Mrs. Van Hyning and children will remain a week.

A meeting was held Monday evening to inaugurate arrangements for a musical to be given soon by LeClaire talent.

The new issue of stock certificates are ready for distribution among the employes. Edwardsville parties have taken a number of shares

Sleigh Ride

Miss Fannie Richards and brother, Howard, accompanied by Misses Lucie and Nellie Keller and Julia Brink were out sleigh-riding yesterday evening. While driving through LeClaire the sleigh upset and the horse ran away. It was caught by Wm. Judd at the court house square. The occupants were not injured.

January 16, 1892

Edwardsville Democrat

Tuesday night E. N. Plank will lecture in South Edwardsville on the Yellow Stone Park before the Self Culture Club.

January 16, 1892

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Resolutions of Respect

Resolutions of Respect

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God to call from among us our friend and fellow workman, A. O. Van Hyning; therefore, be it

Resolved. That we, the employes of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. at LeClaire, deeply mourn the loss of our dearly beloved brother workman, and although we sadly miss his presence, we humbly submit to the decree of our God. Further be it

Resolved. That we do hereby extend to the bereaved family our deepest sympathy; and, further be it

Resolved. That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the family and a copy framed and hung in the office of the aforesaid company, and that a copy be sent to the Edwardsville INTELLIGENCER and another be sent to the paper at his former home, Butler, Ills.

G. H. Rice,

J. H. Van Arsdale,

G. H. Rowe.

January 20, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Ernst Schleicht has been succeeded by Fred Merckel as foreman of the Copper Shop.

E. N. Plank lectured, last evening, on "The Wonders of Yellowstone Park."

John Penn, of Carlinville, a former employe in the Cabinet Shop, visited friends, Saturday.

Dr. H. T. Wharff and family have moved into the house recently vacated by E. L. Schwarz.

Samuel Diehle will leave the latter part of this week for Martinsville, Ind., his home.

Mr. A. O. Van Hyning and children returned, Saturday, from Butler.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gauer entertained a party of friends, Sunday night.

The interior of the club house is being painted and varnished.

Arrangements are being made for the musical to be given soon. Those who will furnish the vocal part of the program met Saturday evening, and those having instrumental parts met Monday evening.

Saturday, January 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

Social News

Next Tuesday night Prof. H. S. Pritchett will give an illustrated lecture on astronomy in the Pastime Club Hall in South Edwardsville.

Personal Mention

Louis Neustadt, of Quincy, spent Sunday in South Edwardsville, a guest of his brother, Jules.

Want Ads

Wanted – Bright, active young men and boys. Apply to N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.

February 6, 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

Social News

On account of failure of the light, Prof. Pritchett did not lecture on astronomy in Pastime Club hall, in South Edwardsville Tuesday night.

Two large residences are in process of construction in South Edwardsville for use by the Nelson Manufacturing Co. An abundant supply of water is confidently looked for.

February 24, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Events of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co.'s Suburb.

The lumber shed extending along the switch has been completed.

Quite a number of the gentler sex are taking an interest in bowling.

Prof. E. M. Crunden will lecture at the Leclaire Club next Tuesday evening.

Those interested in the musicale will meet to-morrow night to make arrangements for the entertainment.

Mrs. J. H. Neustadt and children will leave the fore part of next week to attend the Mardi Gras at New Orleans.

Manager J. H. Neustadt left Saturday for Wisconsin to buy lumber. He will return the latter part of this week.

The reservoirs have raised considerably during the rainy season and the water supply is good for some time.

George Rice, Friday received word that his mother, Mrs. Emma Rice, of Urbana was seriously ill. He left next morning for her bedside. He returned Tuesday morning and reports her much better. She has a number of relatives in this city.

The first wedding celebrated in Leclaire occurred Monday afternoon at the Club House. The contracting parties were Mr. Charles L. Allyn, of Chicago an expert ice machine man who has been employed by the company, and Miss Emma Uhly, the young lady who has had charge of the Club. Squire E. W. Mudge performed the ceremony. Mr. Allyn has been here about a week employed in putting in the automatic sprinklers, and met the young lady for the first time. In the evening the Leclaire band serenaded the couple at the Club. The members, together with the residents of the locality were invited in. Refreshments were served.

Saturday, March 12, 1892

Edwardsville Democrat

Edwardsville will run water mains to the Mississippi river, a distance of thirteen miles, in order to retain the great N. O. Nelson Mfg. Co. – Staunton Times

It is evident that our esteemed contemporary has confounded the Intelligencer's proposition to expend eighty thousand dollars for a supply of water from that source with the later agitation on the subject of unpaid subscriptions to the original bonus to secure the location of that company in this city. No, Mr. Times, you are in error, and, for your edification, we can truthfully state that there are none here favorable to the scheme except the Intelligencer, which hoped, on consummation thereof, to secure an abundance of the article with which to water its second series of stock, probably to be issued soon after the tickets are nominated for this fall election.

Wanted – Ten bright, active young men at once. Apply to N. O. Nelson, Mfg. Co.

March 16, 1892

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Chas. Moore went to St. Louis, Monday.

J. R. Van Arsdale went to St. Louis, Saturday.

An addition is being built to J. H. Neustadt's house.

A meeting of members will be held at the Club to-night.

Percy P. Lusk commenced work in the cabinet shop, Saturday.

Manager J. H. Neustadt was in St. Louis, Saturday and Sunday.

A spray fountain is being put up at the intersection of Holyoke and Messina streets.

Eugene Howe, of Detroit, Mich., a former employe, is again at work in the copper shop.

An order came in Monday morning, for 3,394 tanks. Orders are now on file for nearly 6,000.

Geo. Wells, Jr., of the machine shop in St. Louis, was out last week overseeing the placing of a planer.

Chas. Norton, of St. Louis, a cabinet worker, commenced work, Monday. Wm. Reed is also a new employe of this department.

W. J. Delano, engineer in the cabinet shop, had the tip of the thumb of the left hand cut off, Monday. The fore finger was also cut.

Sam Pope was struck in the right eye by a spring from one of the copper rolls, Monday. Two stitches were taken by Dr. H. T. Wharff.

Two fire companies were organized last week. George Rice was elected chief; Chas. Grauer, captain truck No. 1; Chas. Wilson, captain truck No. 2. The companies will practice the latter part of the week.

April 6, 1892

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Flooding in Leclaire

Their old tricks

Cahokia and other streams overflow the lowlands

The old time high water trouble, once the standing menace of the Wabash railroad property in this vicinity, was the cause during the past few days, of the first serious interruption of business since the improvement of the road bed several years ago, at which time the track was raised about four feet and numerous waterways were opened.

After the heavy rains Sunday and Monday, the water arose with such unusual rapidity that fears were entertained for the several reservoir along the line east of here, but those stood the test, and by Monday attention was turned to the property in this section, especially to the long bridge west of Carpenter hill. The breach train and crew was kept on duty during the whole of Monday night, and a force of men was busy keeping the drift cleared from the bridge.

The district east from Edwardsville Junction was submerged, the track in some places to a depth of three feet. The road bed at points not under water was alive with rabbits, field mice and even snakes driven from the adjacent fields.

The water reached its highest point before Tuesday morning, and at seven o'clock had fallen eight inches at the upper bridge. Traffic in all directions was entirely suspended. About nine o'clock Tuesday morning H. E. Taylor was ordered to examine into the situation west of the Junction. After proceeding by train as far as the water permitted, he and foreman Martin Flavin continued the investigation on foot wading through and feeling for the rails with their feet, thus assuring themselves that the track was intact. Having passed through the flood they met switch engine 155 from East St. Louis, manned by engineer E. L. Hayes and conductor Mike Sullivan, who being assured that the track was all there had sufficient nerve to stem the tide, which they were able to do, their engine having a fire box high enough to clear the water.

Gen'l. Supt. Magee reached the bridge east of Edwardsville Junction via Litchfield, over the Big Four, and waded in from that point. At the Junction they took engine 155 and returned to St. Louis. It was at first

supposed the damage to track would be great, but it has been found that while most of the gravel bed east is washed away, the rock ballast stood the water test well and is not moved.

When the water began to fall it disappeared as rapidly as it came, and by 4:30 it was announced that all trains which had been run in the morning via the Big Four, would be run on schedule time, via Wabash. The "Central" from here to Edwardsville Crossing is washed out and may require some days to repair. In the meantime it is expected the Alton connection will be made at Mitchell.

Leclaire was flooded and business had to be suspended Monday, on account of the water in the basements of the various departments, where the pulleys and belts are run. The force was busy all day to get the water out so work could be resumed next day. The dam of the new pond was broken. It was thought that it would be swept away, but by stopping up breaks it was saved. The reservoir now have 25 feet of water.

In Ft. Russell township the Cahokia waters broke the levees protecting the lands of Sam. Morrison, Henry Engelhardt, A. C. Patterson, W. H. Cottrell, Henry Brockmeier and others and wrought damage to the crops. Along Indian creek much land was overflowed and wheat and clover fields damaged. Woodrider was also out of banks and filled up the low lands adjacent. Farmers in many places had difficulty to keep fences and stock from being carried away.

April 6, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

N. O. Nelson was in the city yesterday.

The automatic sprinkling outfit is now complete.

N. O. Nelson will lecture next Tuesday evening on "Co-operation."

A boat to accommodate eight persons is being made in the cabinet shop. It will see good service on the pond this season.

The breach of promise case or mock trial, tried by the Literary Club, Friday evening proved an interesting event: Joseph Stieren, dressed as a lady, was the plaintiff and W. B. Thomas, the defendant. The plaintiff's attorneys were G. H. Rowe and J. R. Van Arsdale and those of the defendant J. H. Neustadt and Caleb Bartlett. Ed Kelly was the judge. The jury found for the plaintiff and fixed the damage at five cents.

April 13, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Geo. Rowe went to St. Lois, Monday.

J. H. Neustadt went to St. Louis Monday.

A base ball club will soon be organized.

Several residence cellars will be drained shortly.

N. O. Nelson lectured on "Co-operation," last night.

A lawn tennis court will be put up for the summer season.

R. E. Thomas spent Sunday and Monday with his family at Carlinville.

Mr. Geo. Rice and children returned to-day from a week's visit at Collinsville.

Electric alarms are being attached to the automatic sprinkling system recently put in.

Casper Vorwald, Jr. and Tom Foster, who have been sick, went to work in the cabinet shop again, Monday.

Those desirous of joining the World's Fair Club are requested to make application to J. R. Van Arsdale.

The dam of the reservoir will be raised five feet as soon as teams can be secured. It will also be strengthened.

The medal contest is on this week, and will close Saturday night. The best total score in three games takes the medal. Open to all members.

The Literary Club will meet next Friday evening. The question to be discussed is, "Resolved, that Lafayette deserved more praise than Washington for the part he took in the revolution."

Saturday, April 23, 1892

Edwardsville Democrat

Want Ad

Wanted – Good girl for plain cooking and general house work, apply to J. H. Neustadt.

Social News

Work will be commenced soon for the erection of six or seven additional residences to South Edwardsville. They will be built by the Nelson Mfg. Co. for employes.

Saturday, May 7, 1892

Edwardsville Democrat

Wanted – Dozen bright, active young men. Apply N. O. Nelson's Mfg. Co.

May 11, 1892

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Work has been started on seven new residences.

The billiard hall in the Pastime Club is undergoing changes.

Three new men were put to work in the copper shop this week.

Chas. Hendricks, of the St. Louis force, spent Sunday here.

Patrick Donohue, of the tub shop, was in St. Louis, Sunday.

N. O. Nelson was out Friday evening. He took part in the debate.

R. E. Thomas and family, of Carlinsville, are now located here.

A large fishing party is organized for Saturday to stock the pond.

Caleb Bartlett, of the cabinet shop, accompanied the Alton teachers home, Saturday evening.

A new boat house has been placed on the lake and skiffs are being constructed for use of employes.

Saturday afternoon a game of ball was played between the cabinet shop boys and a nine from the copper and tub shops. The latter were defeated by a score of 13 to 17, in four innings.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Moore entertained a number of friends Saturday evening, complimentary to their guest, Mrs. Wm. Moore, his mother. Refreshments were served.

Edward Senn, a tank solderer in the copper shop, will be married this evening, to Miss Maggie Appel. The event will take place at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Julia Appel, on the Springfield road. Squire J. W. Terry will perform the ceremony.

The debating club Friday evening, discussed the question, "Resolved, that the government of England is more democratic than that of the United States." It was decided in favor of the affirmative. The next question is, "Resolved, that the Southern states were justifiable in Secession."

May 18, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Flowers are being placed around the fountain.

H.A. Durer has been promoted to the liner's bench.

John Williams and Rollin Van Hyning sport new safety bicycles.

Edward McGlaughlin commenced work in the copper shop, last week.

The liners of the bath tub department have a weekly output of 350 tubs.

Wm. Reed and Wm. Senn were put to work in the tank department Monday.

Caleb Bartlett was promoted to the hammerer's bench. James McNeilly succeeds him at the rolls.

The company offers a free scholarship in the St. Louis Manual Training School to one employe's son.

Plans for seven new houses, and a warehouse have been drafted and the buildings will be erected as soon as weather permits.

The mill work for the residences soon to be erected, is being turned out and causes the cabinet shop force to run over time.

A gun club will be organized next week and shoots will be had every Saturday afternoon. Inanimate targets will be used.

The debating club had for its question Friday, "Resolved, That the Southern states were justified in secession." It was decided in favor of the negative. The club has postponed its meetings until June.

The heavy rains in the past few days delayed work in the shops. The basements were flooded. Work was suspended Friday. Pumps were applied and by Saturday afternoon everything was again in order.

The musicale by the band boys was a decided success. The hall was crowded. The participants acquitted themselves creditably. It is their intention to give an open air entertainment some time in June. Refreshments will be provided.

Mr. Edward V. Senn, of the copper shop, was united in marriage to Miss Maggie Appel, Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's mother, on the Springfield road by Squire J. W. Terry. A supper in courses was served. Many handsome and useful presents were received. Will Bartman and Mrs. Rose Hogg, of Litchfield, and Miss Jennie Douser, of Strattman, Mo., were in attendance.

Saturday, June 4, 1892 (Note: Also June 11, June 18, July 16, July 23, Aug 13)
Edwardsville Democrat

Want Ad

Cherry lumber one and one fourth (1 ¼) inches thick. N. O. Nelson Mfg. Co., Edwardsville, Ill.

June 8, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Hugo Reichardt went to Belleville Saturday.

Geo. Bickelhaupt and Fritz Durer are out with new safeties.

The gun club will shoot next Saturday. A good attendance is desired.

A large ware house is being constructed adjoining the carpenter shop.

Another skiff has been launched upon the large pond. It is free to all employes.

The brick work for 3 new residences is completed. The carpenters will start next week.

A sprinkling wagon has been purchased. The streets are sprinkled morning and evening.

Fred Merkel, foreman of the copper shop has purchased a residence on Holyoke street.

A game of ball was played between the N. O. Nelson club, of St. Louis, and a picked nine of Leclaire Saturday afternoon which resulted in a victory for the St. Louis boys by a score of 8 to 2. The Nelsons consisted of Martini, Webb, Bowman, Bollyn, Deel, Shaw, O'Connor, Goll, and McBee; Leclaire, Fisher, Servoss, Katz, Linn, Vandembroeck, McNeilly, Reed, Van Arsdale, Pfeiffer. Martini and Bowman were the battery for the Nelsons and Servoss and Lion for Leclair

Saturday, June 11, 1892 (Note: Also June 18, July 16, July 23)
Edwardsville Democrat

Want Ad

Wanted – House carpenters, apply to the N. O. Nelson Mf'g Co.

June 15, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Caleb Bartlett was in Decatur Sunday.

Chas. Moore and family spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Thos. McCorkle is doing carpenter work on the new residences.

An open air concert will be given next Wednesday by the band boys. All are invited.

H. A. Durer has a new wheel. Fred Pfeiffer and Will and Ollie Nix have each ordered one.

The ware house is nearing completion and will be used this fall for the storage of bath tubs.

Tel Foster had the forefinger of his right hand cut Saturday afternoon. He is again at work.

R. L. Knott took charge of a force of carpenters Monday. They are working on the residences.

One of J. H. Neustadt's Alderney calves was struck by a freight train Saturday, and was killed instantly.

Geo. Ryan, who has been with the company for several years has returned to his home in St. Louis.

The bowling club will hold no more meetings until the warm season is over. This will not prevent the members from having an occasional private bowl.

Fred Merkel, E. P. Kelly, Walter Herder, August Kahtz, H. A. Durer, of the copper shop, and Henry Fischer, formerly of Leclaire, went to Carpenter Sunday, on a fishing expedition. They were equipped with a camping outfit, and had it not been for the mosquitos, would have returned with enough of the finny tribe to stock the large pond.

June 15, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Real Estate Transaction & "Wanted" advertisement

County Records: Transfers

N. O. Nelson trustee, to Fred Merkel, w.d.
Lot 1, block3, Leclaire, subject &c.....\$1,590

Wanted

Cherry Lumber 1 and ½ inches think. N. O. Nelson Mfg. Co, Edwardsville.

June 22, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

There will be an electrical display to-night.
N. O. Nelson will attend the musical to-night.
Business is so rushing that a part of the force is working over time.
N. O. Nelson has donated a large collection of books to the Library.
The dynamos have been overhauled and are now in first-class condition.
Invitations are out for a musical, to be given by the band boys, this evening.
The use of the boats is free to all employes. The keys to the boat house can be had at the office.
Arrangements have been made for additional shrubs and trees, and the residence portion will be sown with blue grass.
Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Neustadt and family, of Quincy; Attorney Chas. Neustadt, of East St. Louis, and J. Armistead, of Vincennes, Ind., were guests of Manager J. H. Neustadt and family, Sunday.

Saturday, June 25, 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

Social News

Hon. N. O. Nelson was up from St. Louis on Wednesday. He was a guest of Hon. W. F. L. Hadley.
There was an open air concert in South Edwardville Wednesday night and it was a pleasant affair.
Invitations were issued to attend it.

July 13, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Joe Burger is scouring copper.
H. Reichardt was in Belleville, Monday.
Chas. Moore and wife spent Monday in St. Louis.
N. O. Nelson was out yesterday, looking after the wheat yield.
The tub liners were laid of Monday and Tuesday, owing to a shortage of copper.
Foreman Geo. Rice of the cabinet shop lacerated the thumb on his right hand Thursday, with a rip saw.
The band has been reorganized. An election of officers will take place Friday. It consists of Leclair employes.

Saturday, July 23, 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

Personal Mention

Hon. N. O. Nelson was up from St. Louis on Thursday.

August 3, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

N. O Nelson has gone east on a two weeks' jaunt.
The residence portion is being plowed and will be sown with blue grass.
A foundry among other things is not on the list of improvements for next spring.
J. B. Jenks, traveling man for the house, spent Sunday with Manager J. H. Neustadt.
J. H. Dugger has the contract to paint the new residences. He commenced work this morning.
The company has decided to put in an ice machine this fall. It will have a capacity of six tons per day.
The output of manufactured articles thus far this season has been extremely gratifying, and the prospects are good for busy times the remainder of the season.

Saturday, August 13, 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

Want Ad

FOR RENT – Four, five and six room houses. Electric light, water and all conveniences. Apply to N. O. Nelson Mfg. Co.

August 17, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Mr. and Mrs. N. O. Nelson were out Saturday and Sunday.
Will Harles has been transferred to the tinning department.
Manager J. H. Neustadt left Monday for a trip through the East.
Miss Pearl Gaskill, of St. Louis, is a guest of Mrs. J. H. Neustadt.
Will Nix had the tip of a finger cut off while operating a buzz jointer, Saturday.
Mrs. M. Young, of St. Louis, is a guest of her brother, J. H. Van Arsdale, and family.
An open air concert will be given by the Leclair band, Tuesday night, next week. All are invited.
Mrs. R. E. Thomas and daughter, Miss Olive, will go to Carlinville, this evening to remain two weeks.
A fishing party went to Long Lake, Wednesday. It consisted of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Van Arsdale and children, Misses Nellie Stewart and Maude Van Hyning and Willie Rice.

Saturday, August 20, 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

Personal Mention

Manager Neustadt of South Edwardsville, is in Nebraska on business.

August 24, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Peter Duffey spent Sunday at New Douglas.
E. E. Kelly and Chas. Moore have gone to Chicago to work in a new tub factory.
Mrs. Geo. H. Rice and children were in Collinsville the latter part of last week.
Mr. & Mrs. J. Stewart, who were in charge of the club house, have moved to St. Louis.

August 24, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Runaway Horse

Brevities

Composed of Live Locas Picked Up During the Week

Another runaway occurred last night. Fred Worst of Glen Carbon, attended the concert at Leclaire in a livery rig owned by Chas. Waters. The horse broke loose and ran away. It came down town and turned the corner at Hotel Hoffman and ran out St. Louis street. In front of A. P. Wolf's residence the buggy struck a telegraph pole. The vehicle was upset and damaged.

August 24, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire Band Concert

Social.

Entertainments and Gaieties Enjoyed by Home People

The Leclaire band gave an open air concert last night. The affair was largely attended and proved an enjoyable entertainment. The program included music by the band, instrumental duets and solos, and several songs by the Edwardsville quartette. An electrical display forming the word "Edwardsville" was a feature. Lemonade was dispensed freely to all.

Saturday, August 27, 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

Want Ad

WANTED – Twelve young men at once. Apply to N. O. Nelson Mfg. Co.

September 14, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

John Nix will move his family to Leclaire, Thursday.
Rol. Van Hyning, who has been sick, is again at work.
Mrs. Henry Wear, of Butler, is a guest of Mrs. O. A. Van Hyning.
Wm. Harles and Ed. Van Arsdale are employed in the tinning department.
Ed. Sparks and Chas. Carter have been placed in the tank department, soldering.
G. H. Rowe and family have moved into his new residence recently constructed.
Mike Burkhard and "Rink" Daech are occupying Liner's benches, and are new hands in that department.
Albert Perkins has moved into one of the new houses. He is employed at the brick-yards at Glen Carbon.
There are five liners, counting the two new men, employed in the copper shop, who have a weekly output of 240 tubs.

Roy Bonner left Saturday evening for Chicago, where he has secured a position in the new bath tub factory, superintended by E. E. Kelly, formerly a liner here.

September 21, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Blue grass will be sown over the entire grounds next week.
The bowling alley will be opened for the winter season on October 1st.
John Nix, J.C. Perkins and G Rowe have moved into their new houses.
Will Thomas, Harry Friday and Wm. Granger were in St. Louis, Sunday.
Arrangments are now being made for another series of illustrated lectures.
Peter Reutter, of the Cabinet shop, has purchased a house and will move his family soon.
The company is adding some new styles to its catalogue, in the shape of handsome embossed outfits.
Manager J. H. Neustadt returned Saturday from Indianapolis, Ind., where he had several days of business.
Miss Libbie Wells and F. Gardner, of the St. Louis Coffin Co., spent last Friday with Manager J.H. Neustadt and family.
The club house has been turned into a kindergarten and is presided over temporarily by Miss J. Colt, of Collinsville. The kindergarten exercises take place in the morning and the older scholars attend school in the afternoon. Outsiders have the privilege of sending their children.

Saturday, September 24, 1892
Edwardsville Democrat

Mr. Nelson for the N. O. Nelson Mfg Co., and the city council's electric light committee have been in conference this week on the proposed contract. Hadley and Burton represent the company and Travous and Warnock are special counsel for the city.

Social News

Miss Nelson, daughter of Hon. N. O. Nelson, of St. Louis, came up to attend the "Character Representation party" given Wednesday night by Miss Julia Hadley, and remained over for a short visit.

September 28, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

The kindergarten has an enrollment of sixteen.
Mrs. Geo. Rice will visit Champaign relatives next week.
Jos. Bizzoli, cabinetmaker, is confined to his home by illness.

Joe Miller and wife and Ed Van Arsdale spent Sunday in St. Louis
N. O. Nelson, Geo. J. Wells and Wm. Reed were out Tuesday on general business.
Deeds have passed for the residences of Ed and Chas. Vollintine, Peter Reuter and Mrs. Van Hying.
Fred Pfeiffer, who has been sick the past three weeks with malarial fever, will be ready to start work again
Monday.
Peter Reuter purchased the house originally built for E. K. Smart and has had the same repainted and decorated.

October 5, 1892, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

George Wells of St. Louis, was out yesterday.
Miss Lizzie Durer is stenographer for the company here.
Henry Schumacher is a new employee in the cabinet shop.
J. H. Van Arsdale and wife visited in St. Louis last week.
V. R. Van Hying, of West Point, Iowa, is visiting Mrs. H. O. Van Hying and family.
J. Gruney, connected with the company, of St. Louis, is out, summing up the costs of articles
manufactured here.
The trip hammers and the entire force of tub liners have been idle the past few days, owing to a shortage
of copper.
Charles Vollintine has moved into his new house and his daughter Miss Hettie, of Nevada, Mo., will
keep house for him.
S. J. Dehl and wife, of Martinsville, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Rowe, to-day. Mrs. Rowe will
accompany them home for a short visit.

October 12, 1890
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

J. H. Neustadt went to St. Louis yesterday.
J. A. Anderson is a new employe in the cabinet shop.
Handsome outfits are being turned out for the World's Fair Missouri building.
The boys are becoming expert accountants since the new system of time keeping.
Jule Dugger, the painter has about completed his contract with the company.
The streets around the factories are being re-graded, under the supervision of Billy Meek.
An accident in the boiler room compelled the residents to go without lights Monday evening.
The dwelling on the farm has been undergoing repairs and will present a neat appearance when
completed.
Chas. Dorin had the end of the fore finger of his right hand severely cut by a sand papering machine,
Saturday.
Jos. H. Miller and wife, spent Tuesday and Wednesday in St. Louis, with C. A. Wilson, a former
employe of Leclair.

Barrels of water are being placed around the different departments, to aid in extinguishing any fire which may occur.

John Williams accompanied Miss Maude Nash to Union Grove, Sunday evening. She is employed as teacher at that place.

A number of young folks attended a party a Charles Vollintine's Saturday evening. It was given in honor of his daughter, Miss Hettie. Refreshments were served. Among those present were Misses Annie Hage, Maude Nash, Effie Nash, Julia Gaffney; Messrs. Caleb Bartlett, John Williams, Rol. Van Hyning, and Chas. Bailey, of St. Louis.

October 19, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

J. H. Van Arsdale, wife and child, are in St. Louis today.

Another furnace has been added to the tinning department.

John Lammers started in soldering everflows to-day, in the copper shop.

Fred Merkel, foreman of the copper shop is having his residence re-decorated and painted.

Geo. Kahtz, Fred Pfeiffer, Harry Friday and George Ryan will go to Chicago this evening, with Company F.

A number of tanks 24 feet in diameter and 20 feet high, are being constructed for the Ft. Leavenworth government barracks.

C. B. Skelton, a former employe of the Mason & Hamlin Organ Co., has moved his family into the house formerly occupied by Mrs. Van Hyning.

A large solid cherry mirror frame was turned out for Geo. B. Crane, Jr., this week. Two handsome oak bath tub casings are being made for Chas. H. Bartels.

October 26, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Ed. Van Arsdale spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Todd Crossman is working in the copper shop.

J. H. Skelton has opened a private boarding house.

Mrs. George Rice will visit Champaign relatives this week.

Brick are being hauled for the foundation of a new set of boilers.

Albert Perkins started to work in the copper shop, soldering tanks.

Caleb Bartlett has been promoted from the hammerer's to the tinner's bench.

A variety of forest trees have been placed upon the premises of G. H. Rowe.

Quite a large consignment of fruit trees and shrubbery was received last week.

N. O. Nelson was out Monday and J. H. Neustadt returned to St. Louis with him, yesterday.

Telegraphic communications are now received over the private wire from the office in St. Louis.

The Pastime Club will open the bowling alley and billiard hall, on Tuesday, next, and invite all members and friends to be present.

The self Culture Club will hold their first meeting for the season at the Club house on Tuesday evening, next. Prof. Merwin, of St. Louis, will lecture on "Self-Improvement, Progress," &c.

November 2, 1892, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

The literary club will shortly reorganize.

Mrs. Jos. H. Miller is in St. Louis, today.

Will and Thos. McNeilly spent Sunday in New Douglas.

Ed and Will Robinson, of New Douglas, are new hands in the cabinet shop.

Miss Annie Johnson, of St. Louis, was a guest of Miss Lizzie Durer, Sunday.

The lecture at the club house, by Prof. T. B. Merwin, Tuesday evening, was well attended.

The bowling club will hold a meeting in the pastime hall this evening and reorganize for the winter.

November 9, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Frank Bayer is running one of the trip hammers.

Al Perkins has been promoted to the liner's bench.

Eugene Howe, an expert tub-liner, left Sunday for Chicago.

Theo. Lauer has resigned his position in the varnish department.

Miss Hattie Vollentine, who has been ill this past week, is improving.

Rol Van Hyning and Miss Edna Nash spent Sunday with friends in Hillsboro.

The bowling club held a meeting last week and re-elected the old officers. The alley is now open for the season.

Geo. Rice, foreman of the cabinet shop, returned Monday evening from Champaign, where he was visiting relatives.

The literary club held a meeting Thursday night at the club house. A committee consisting of J. H. Neustadt, Will Thomas and G. W. Rowe were chosen to make arrangements for the next meeting, which occurs next Friday evening. Declamations, recitations and vocal and instrumental music will consist the program.

November 16, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics.

Caleb Bartlett was in Carpenter, Sunday.

Mr. J. H. Miller is recovering from her recent illness.

A handsome toilet room outfit is being turned out for a customer in Zacacetas, Mexico.

A variety of specimen bath tubs of white maple are being turned out this week.

Prof. W. L. Sheldon, of St. Louis, lectured Tuesday evening on "The Haunts of Columbus."

Fred Douglas, of the tub shop, cut the thumb of his left hand last week with a chisel, which necessitated a vacation for a few days.

The Literary Club had its meeting last week and the exercises consisted chiefly of declamations, recitations and singing. The meetings hereafter will be held every alternate Tuesday evening at the Club House.

Short hand and typewriting done with neatness and dispatch. CARRIE WOLF. Leave orders at Wolf & Desmond's Hardware Store.

November 23, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics.

Mrs. J. H. Van Arsdale spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Caleb Bartlett is having a book case made. It is of unique design.

A number of names have been added to the membership of the bowling club.

Mrs. H. N. Haskell, of Monticello Seminary, Godfrey, was a visitor, Tuesday.

George Ryan had a finger of his right hand injured last week and blood poisoning set in.

Mrs. J. J. Malone and Miss Fanny Ward, of Benton, are guests of Mrs. Ed. Vollintine, this week.

F. J. Kuny, who has been here the past few weeks, will leave Saturday, for St. Louis, having completed his work here.

Ed. Duncan has been promoted to the foremanship of the tub shop, Vice G. W. Rowe, resigned, who is now employed in the Cabinet shop.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Senn went to Litchfield Tuesday evening to attend the nuptials of his sister, Miss Bertha, to Mr. John Maloney, both of that city. Miss Senn has many friends in this city who wish them well.

The literary met last night and a short program, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, was rendered. A debate will take place at the next meeting, the question being: "Resolved, That the World's Fair be open on Sundays."

A surprise was given Rol. Van Hying Friday evening, by a number of his friends in honor of his birthday. Refreshments were served. Among those present were: Misses Hettie Vollintine, Maude and Effie Nash, Maggie Nix, Nannie Bartlett and Anna Hage; John Williams, Caleb Bartlett, Will Nix, Charles Vollintine and Chas. Moore.

The Self Culture Club has arranged the following program for the remainder of the season: Nov. 29th, "Some reformers," N. O. Nelson; Dec. 13th, "Popular Readings," Dr. John Snyder; Dec. 27th, "The Sources of American Law," Everett W. Pattison; Jan 19th, "Scenes in London," E. N. Plank; Jan. 24th "Phases of the English Parliament," Henry T. Kent; Feb. 7th, "Round about London," E. N. Plank; Feb. 21st, "Topics of the Times," J. B. Merwin; March 7th, Concert, Members of Leclaire Band. All are invited to attend these meetings; they will be instructive and entertaining.

November 30, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

A new set of boilers are being put in.

The company will take its annual invoice tomorrow.

Robt. VanArsdale visited relatives in St. Louis Friday.

A new embossing machine has been placed in the cabinet shop.

Ed. Hagnauer started in this week and runs one of the trip hammers.

Arrangements are being made to treat the children to a Christmas tree.

Two large saw frames were turned out this week for Desmond's machine shop.

Mrs. J. H. Neustadt and daughter, Genevieve, visited in St. Louis last week.

Jake Snyder, the butcher, moved into the house formerly occupied by Charles Moore.

John Daech and Wm. Robbins started to work this week, and were placed in the copper shop.

E. K. Smart and wife, of Carlinville, spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. VanArsdale.

A little son of Peter Reuter had the misfortune to slip and fall Wednesday last, receiving a severe scalp wound from a pair of scissors which he was holding.

Mr. N. O. Nelson spoke at the club house last night on "Some Reformers," to quite a large audience.

The lecture was very interesting and highly appreciated.

Henry Rollins, night watchman, went to St. Louis yesterday, to make arrangements for the funeral of his step-daughter, Mrs. C. Darity, who will be buried in this city.

December 14, 1892, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

An infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Rowe is dangerously ill.

Ben Richards and force are laying the foundations for the new boilers.

Jos. Warren and Wm. Reid, of St. Louis, were out Monday evening.

J. B. Case, Frank O'Neil and C. A. Jaynes, of the St. Louis house, were out last week.

A meeting was held last week to perfect arrangements for entertaining the visitors, Saturday.

Wm. Nevins, of the Cabinet shop, has purchased a house on Holyoke street and moved in Saturday.

Jos. H. Miller went to St. Louis, today, to lay in a supply of Christmas goods for the children of Leclair.

The declaration of dividends of the co-operative store, at the meeting at the club house, Monday night, amounted to 20 per cent on the dollar to members.

G. H. Rowe has composed an appropriate song to be sung by the quartette at the stockholders' meeting, Saturday afternoon. Mr. Rowe is a graduate of Danville Normal University.

Dr. John Snyder, a Unitarian minister of St. Louis, spoke at the Club House, Tuesday evening, on "Popular Readings." On the evening of the 27th inst. Everett W. Pattison, of St. Louis, will discuss "The Sources of American law."

A special train will come up from St. Louis, Saturday afternoon, with the officers, stockholders and co-operatives of the company. The annual meeting will be held in the copper shop and the dividend declared. After the meeting the employes and friends will partake of a spread, to be served in the bowling alley. The band, composed of 20 members, will furnish inspiration.

The Leclaire Literary Club will give an entertainment at the Club House, Tuesday evening next. The program will be as follows: Piano forte solo, Miss Lizzie Durer; recitation, Miss Emma Schwarz; reading, Mrs. Wm. Nevins; dialogue, Misses Maude Van Hyning and Ollie Thomas; piano duet, Miss Ollie Thomas and Mrs. Van Arsdale; vocal duet, with piano accompaniment, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Neustadt, and vocal and instrumental selections by the Misses Schwarz and Trares. A debate will follow. The question will be: "Resolved that the World's Fair be open on Sunday."

Wednesday, December 16, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

J. Vosburg was out from St. Louis, Monday.

Frank O'Neil was out from St. Louis, yesterday.

A new piano was added to the concert room furnishings, Monday.

A new jointer and double blower have been put in the cabinet shop.

Will Thomas, Joe Degenhart, and Henry Thoman spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Prof. F. M. Crupden will lecture at the hall, Tuesday night, next. The Leclaire band will render several selections before the lecture takes place.

A tower is being erected over the artesian well. The well is now furnishing considerable water and gives promise of a much better supply than was at first anticipated.

The entire force will come out from St. Louis Saturday afternoon on a special train, to hold their annual meeting. After business has been transacted the party will be taken to the Club room, where a luncheon will be in waiting. A committee on reception will be appointed. The citizens are invited to take part.

The contest for the medals by the members of the bowling alley commenced Monday night, and will be continued for three weeks. The umpires are W. D. Harnist, G. L. Hall and J. H. Can Arsdale, and the scorers are Geo. Rice, Hartley Lanham and Aug. Katz. The medals will be the property of the club and will be contested for from time to time.

December 28, 1892
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

The employees of the copper shop took a holiday Monday.

M. J. Delano spent Christmas with his family in Cuba, Mo.

Tom Fischer, of St. Louis, is filling the position of night fireman.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Senn entertained a number of relatives at Christmas dinner.

Miss Callie Coit, teacher of the kindergarten, is spending the holidays with home folks in Collinsville.

The patrons of the co-operative store presented Jos. H. Miller, their clerk, with an oak desk for Christmas.

The boys of the cabinet shop, of which George Rice is foreman, presented him with a handsome arm chair for Christmas.

Misses Maude and Effie Nash and John Williams and Rol. Van Hyning spent Sunday at Union Grove. Miss Effie will be a guest of her sister for several days.

The members of the Leclaire band presented their leader, W. B. Thomas, with a handsome silk umbrella. N. O. Nelson made the presentation in behalf of the boys.

The children were treated to a Christmas tree Saturday evening at the Club House. J. H. Miller played the role of Santa Claus and an impartial divide of toys was made.

A number of young people took advantage of the opportunity offered and had a skating party at the large pond, Monday afternoon. A bonfire was built and the sport was kept up until dusk.

December 28, 1892, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Physician "Business Card" Advertisement

H. T. WHARFF, M. D.

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, Edwardsville, Ill. Office, opposite St. John's M. E. church on St. Louis street. Office hours 8 to 10 A.M; 1 to 3 and 7 to 8 P.M. Residence Leclaire; Office hours at residence from 6 to 8 A.M; 12 to 1 and 6 to 7 P.M.

December 28, 1892, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Physician "Business Card" Advertisement

Social.

Entertainments and Gaieties Enjoyed by Home People

The Leclaire band and a party of friends serenaded Walter Herder at the home of his parents, on St. Louis street, Saturday night. Refreshments were served.

January 4, 1893
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire Construction Summary for 1892

Leclaire

The improvements at Leclaire during the year include eight dwellings, the cost of which was \$8,000, a new battery of boilers has been added, costing \$3,000, other machinery has been put in, the cost of which was from \$8,000 to \$10,000. A good deal of building has been planned and is partly under way among which is a new dry house, to cost from \$3,000 to \$4,000; a sash, blind and door department, to cost from \$2,500 to \$3,500, an ice plant also is to be constructed with a capacity of 25 tons per day.

January 4, 1893
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Employees will not be paid for holidays hereafter.

Will Appel started to work in the copper shop Monday.

N. O. Nelson has left for California to spend the winter months.

An order of 500 tanks will be filled this week for a firm in Pittsburg, Pa.

The severe cold snap caused the residents annoyance with freezing and bursting water pipes.

Jas. McNeilly, Tell Foster, Bob Robbins and Fritz Durer attended the ball at New Douglas, Saturday evening.

Miniature bath tubs and tanks for the use of salesmen are being turned out. The tubs measure 12 inches in length.

J. H. Neustadt, W. A. Reed, of St. Louis, Wm. (F), of Collinsville and others will leave Saturday on a hunting trip through the wilds of Southwest Arkansas.

An entertainment was given at the Club House last evening. The following was the program: Vocal duet, Laura and Alice Daniels; dialogue, Hettie Vollentine and Caleb Bartlett; sextet, members of the band; reading, Mamie Durer; dialogue, Hettie and Edgar Vollentine; address, "Scenes of London," E. N. Plank, St. Louis; debate subject, "Resolved, that the character of South Carolina exceeds that of Massachusetts in national greatness." Affirmative – G. H. Rowe and E. N. Plank; negative – Will Thomas and Caleb Bartlett. It was decided in favor of the negative.

Wednesday, January 25, 1893
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Will Harles has resigned as gluer in the cabinet shop.

Mrs. Neustadt and son Harry spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Vollentine entertained visitors from Sorento last week.

Tom Fischer, fireman, is off on a week's vacation to visit his family at Litchfield.

Chas. Hill has accepted a position with Cahill & Collins, of which plant J. D. Wilson, formerly of this place, is superintendent.

Prof. H. T. Kent, of St. Louis, lectured at the Club House last evening on the "Phases of the English Parliament." A good audience greeted him.

The program of the debating club is being prepared for next Tuesday's entertainment at the Club House. It will consist of selections from Tennyson. Vocal and instrumental music will be rendered by volunteers.

Manager J. H. Neustadt returned yesterday from Arkansas, where he has been spending the past ten days on a hunting expedition. He reports a good time, and brought home with him one wild cat, nine coonskins, six mallard ducks and other game.

Wednesday, January 25, 1893
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire Laconics

JOTTINGS.

Newsy Business and Otherwise of More or Less Importance.

Edward Everett Hale, of Boston, is expected to give a lecture at Leclaire, Thursday evening, February 16th. No admission fee will be charged, and no doubt many will take advantage of the chance to see and hear the distinguished speaker.

February 1, 1893, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire Literary Club

Brevities.

Composed of Live Locas Picked Up During the Week

The Leclaire Literary Club meeting at the Club House, last evening, was well attended and the program consisted of the following: Essay on Tennyson, Mrs. J. H. Van Arsdale; piano solo, Miss L. Herder; recitation, Mrs. J. H. Neustadt; song, Tennyson's lullaby, Miss Hettie Vollentine; reading, Mrs. Wm. Nevins; vocal duet, Misses Laura and Alice Daniels; recitation, Miss Daisy Hobson; recitation, Miss Hettie Vollentine; piano solo, "Home, Sweet Home," Miss Ollie Thomas.

February 1, 1893, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire Wedding

Social.

Entertainments and Gaieties Enjoyed by Home People

Mr. Wm. McNeilly and Miss Ella Ryan were married yesterday morning, at nine o'clock, at St. Mary's church, by Rev. Father J. C. Daw. The bridesmaids were Misses Mamie McNeilly and Lulu Schwarz, and the groomsmen, Peter Ryan, of Le Seuer, Minn., and Thomas McNeilly. An elegant wedding dinner was served at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. E. L. Schwarz, to which only relatives and intimate friends were invited. The couple have taken up their residence on Holyoke street, Leclaire, where the groom is employed in the Cabinet shops. Their many friends, and with them the INTELLIGENCER, wish them a long and happy life.

February 1, 1893, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics.

Mrs. Geo. Rice is on the sick list.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Miller spent Monday in St. Louis, guests of the former's mother.

Mrs. J. H. Van Arsdale returned Monday from a few days' visit with relatives in St. Louis.

Business has been exceedingly good the past few weeks owing to large orders from eastern jobbers.

The members of the co-operative store held a meeting Monday evening and elected Wm. Nevins secretary, vice G. H. Rowe, resigned.

The copper shop is turning out a new design of tub, registered in the catalogue as the "Leclair." It is put up in maple and has no casing. This is the cheaper grade and presents a neat appearance.

E. N. Plank will begin a series of illustrated lectures at the Club House, on the "History of England." The initial one will be held about March 1st. Mr. Plank has about 100 slides and his lectures will be of much interest.

The two large tanks shipped to Oklahoma, burst recently, causing a loss of property to the amount of about \$8,000. The cause was due to the contractors who placed them in position. The company is making new tanks.

February 8, 1893
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

The Literary Club will meet Tuesday evening.

Chas. Neustadt, of East St. Louis, was out Sunday.

Several new hands will be installed in the Copper Shop next week.

Edward Robbins has been assigned to a position in the Cabinet Shop.

As soon as weather permits a general building boom will be inaugurated. Several new factory buildings will be erected.

Henry D. Kent, of St. Louis, lectured at the Club House last night on "The Phases of the English Parliament." His address was well received.

Percy Lusk, of the Cabinet Shop, had a narrow escape from being seriously injured by the sand paper machine, several days ago. His clothing was caught by a moving bolt when fortunately the garment gave way.

February 22, 1893, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Edward Everett Hale in Leclair

Social.

Entertainments and Gaieties Enjoyed by Home People

Edward Everett Hale's lecture, Thursday night, was well attended by Leclaire and Edwardsville people. Manager Neustadt opened the meeting by reading an address of welcome from N. O. Nelson, who is spending the winter in California. Mr. Hale's subject was "Washington," and was a treat, as it abounded with so many interesting reminiscences of General Washington's life not treated by biographers. His life was discussed from boyhood to old age with but little of his war record and more of his private life. His discourse was followed by some pleasant remarks by Dr. John Snyder, of St. Louis. After the lecture a reception was tendered Mr. Hale by Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Neustadt, at which a large number of Edwardsvillians were present.

February 22, 1893, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer
Leclaire Kindergarten

Brevities

Composed of Live Locas Picked Up During the Week

Hereafter no tuition fee will be charged children of suitable age and requirements at the kindergarten at Leclaire. Many may be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity of having their children taught there. A library consisting of several hundred volumes of standard works is also free to members. Applications for membership should be made to J. H. Neustadt.

February 22, 1893, Wednesday
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclaire Laconics

Attorney Chas. Neustadt, of East St. Louis, was out Sunday.

Peter Duffy visited East St. Louis relatives Saturday and Sunday.

George Rice's two children have been very sick with pneumonia the past week.

Dr. Snyder, J. B. Case, W. A. Reed and W. T. Lawrence, of St. Louis, attended the lecture and reception, Thursday evening.

A Sunday school will probably be started as soon as favorable weather sets in. The Club House will be used for this purpose.

Prof. J. B. Merwin, of St. Louis, lectured at the Club House yesterday evening to a well-filled house. His subject was the "Topics of the Times." Mr. Merwin has delivered several lectures here and is well liked.

March 1, 1893
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Mrs. A. Perkins is on the sick list.

Mrs. J. H. Neustadt spent Saturday in St. Louis.

C. A. Jaynes was out from the store, in St. Louis, Saturday.

A new stake wagon has been added to facilitate work in the shipping department.

Joseph Rizzoli, a cabinet maker, has purchased the residence known as the Van Hyning house.

The steam pipes of the new boilers are being covered with mineral wool and asbestos to protect them from the cold weather.

Gus Kahtz, who runs the trip hammers, is enjoying a two weeks' vacation. Caleb Bartlett has been placed in charge until his return.

Julius Horstman, of the cabinet shop, was injured Saturday afternoon by a machine known as the jointer. The third finger of his right hand was cut off.

Geroge Rice, foreman of the cabinet shop had his right hand severely cut with the band saw, Saturday. The insured member required several stitches.

The musical and literary last evening was largely attended and the selections were of unusual interest. Several well-written essays were read and discussed.

E. N. Plank, of the St. Louis Ethical Club, will deliver a course of seven illustrated lectures in the Club House, on English history. He gave the first last night and will continue each alternate Tuesday until finished. All are cordially invited.

March 22, 1893
Edwardsville Intelligencer

Leclair Laconics

Rollin Van Hyning is enjoying a week's vacation.

Joe Miller and wife spent Sunday in St. Louis.

Miss Lizze Durer, stenographer, visited Venice relatives, Sunday.

Mrs. Al. Perkins is on an extended visit to relatives in the East.

Jack Nix has been placed in charge of the Leclair farm, vice Thos. Mitchell.

Miss Cora Beattiste, of Carlinville, is a guest of the family of R. E. Thomas.

Gus Kahtz, Frank Daech and Eugene Howe, of the Copper Shop, were laid off Monday.

John Hess had the forefinger of his right hand badly cut by the sand papering machine, Monday.

Miss Sophia Vollintine, of New Douglas, is visiting her father, Chas. Vollintine and family this week.

Henry Rollins, fireman, resigned last week and L. Kinch, of St. Louis, has been employed. He will move his family to Leclair.

Will Nevine has resigned his position in the Cabinet Shop. He will remove his family to a farm near New Douglas the latter part of the week.

A debate will take place at the Club House next Tuesday evening. The question will be, "Resolved, that poverty produces more crime than wealth."

Hugo Schaff, the florist, has moved into the house formerly occupied by Joe Rizzoli. The latter now occupies the residence recently purchased from the company.

Chas. Hill, who has been absent for the past two months, has again taken his position in the Tub Shops and has been placed at the bench formerly occupied by Ed Taylor, tub maker.

E. N. Plank, of St. Louis, delivered his third lecture of a series of seven on the "History of England," at the Club House, last night. These lectures are well delivered and illustrated by magic lantern views.

April 5, 1893

Edwardsville Intelligencer

The alligator brought here a year ago from Lake Charles, La., by B. F. Peters, was killed at the county farm pond Thursday. Mr. Peters gave the reptile to Will Thomas at Leclaire. It made its escape shortly afterward and had not been seen until Thursday, when some boys who were playing around the pond killed it.

(Note: A few years later it was announced that it was legal to shoot alligators during gaming season. The reminder came after an Edwardsville resident on Kansas street came across a three foot alligator in his tomato patch. Evidently Will Thomas was not the only one to lose an alligator in Leclaire or Edwardsville.)

Tuesday, October 17, 1893

Edwardsville Intelligencer

Schwarz-Thomas Wedding

Joined Hands and Hearts

A pretty home wedding occurred last evening at six o'clock at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Schwarz, in the marriage of their eldest daughter, Miss Jessie E., to Mr. W. B. Thomas. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father C. A. O'Reilly, of St. Mary's church, and was witnessed by relatives and a few most intimate friends. The wedding march was rendered by Messrs. C. M., W. C., Geo C., and Elmer Schwarz, accompanied by Miss Laura Schwarz. The bride was attired in a handsome traveling costume of navy blue, with hat and gloves to match. After the ceremony an excellent supper was served. The bride is an accomplished, amiable and highly esteemed society young lady. She has taught successfully in the public schools for several years. She is a member of the choir of St. Mary's church and has been for some time the organist. The groom is foreman of the varnishing department at the N. O. Nelson plant at Leclaire, is one of the leading spirits in the society movements of the place and a well-known and popular young man. He is also director of the Leclaire band. The couple left on the night train for Chicago to remain a week at the Fair, after which they will live several weeks with the groom's parents, until their new residence in Leclaire is completed, when they will go to housekeeping. The twain start in life with bright promises for happiness and prosperity and their friends and with them the INTELLIGENCER wish them God speed in their journey.

Portrait & Biological Record of Madison County Illinois N. O. NELSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

One of the best industrial institutions in this country is the one above mentioned. It has its like only in St. Louis, where is the older and main establishment. It is co-operative in its system of labor and differs materially from all other corporations. The plant was erected on the outskirts of the city in 1890, on the site of one hundred sixty acres which were laid out for the purpose and named Leclaire, after the distinguished Frenchman, the originator of this system of labor and profit sharing. Mr. Nelson selected the site with its large acreage so that he could have a wider scope to carry out and fully develop his cooperative methods.

Every one of the one hundred and fifty employees connected with the establishment is a stockholder and draws six per cent interest on the amount of his stock. He also has a salary equal to that paid for similar work elsewhere, to which is added a per cent of the profits after caring for the sick and disabled. This percent on his stock he can draw out at the end of the year or allow it to remain, increasing his stock capital. The conditions are also applied to his salary. Thus the employees take an interest in their work, become identified with the establishment, labor for its success and feel pride in it.

Another grand feature is that it gives a man the opportunity to acquiring a home and educating his children. The intellectual and social features of it are a kindergarten, a well selected library, a billiard hall and bowling alley, all free. Recently Mr. Nelson endowed the institution with an educational fund of \$10,000, to which he proposes to add from time to time as necessities may require. The gift is placed in the hands of five trustees selected from the employees, whose only qualification is that they must be a householder in Leclaire.

The first officers of the company were N. O. Nelson, President; George A. Wells, Vice-President; and J. B. Case, Secretary. Mr. Nelson is still President. They manufacture all kinds of sawmill and planing mill machinery, pipe machines and machine shop tools. They also carry on a brass foundry and do brass work of all descriptions. Another department is devoted to coppersmithing and in the third department they manufacture hardwood cabinet ware, fixtures, plumbing supplies, etc.

The shop embraces seven large buildings constructed of brick. The residence portion is laid off after the manner of a park, with a view to landscape effect, with drives, walks, flower beds, fountains, etc. The dwellings are neat, attractive and commodious. Here too are the billiard and bowling halls, the kindergarten and supply store owned and operated by members. Most of the employees live here, although they are free to select a residence elsewhere.

The Leclaire institution is under the able management of J. H. Neustadt, a native of Madison County, who has been connected with it since its formation. Though comparatively young in years, he is especially fitted to conduct an establishment of this kind, and its success is largely due to his careful supervision. The founder of this system of labor is doing a great deal of good elevating the industrial classes, and is a benefactor of his race, a true philanthropist.

(Note: The above article is copied directly except for changes in punctuation and paragraphing to make it easier to read. Also, in the original article Leclaire was misspelled with a capital "C", a common error still made by many in Edwardsville today.)

April 14, 1894
New York Times

PROFIT SHARING

An Open Letter to Employers and Employes.

In anticipation of a revival of business and the consequent reopening of many mills and factories, which now seems probable, we would invite your attention to the importance of introducing some form of profit sharing as a feature of your industrial relationships. The method of paying a dividend to the workman out of profits as they are realized annually has been approved by most of the economists of Europe and America as thoroughly practical and advantageous to both the employer and the employed. We will mention a few characteristics which should commend it to your careful attention.

Profit sharing can be adopted by an employer without risk of loss, inasmuch as he assumes under it no obligations except such as are to be discharged from profits actually made. His prerogatives as manager and his rights as proprietor are not curtailed. Profit sharing would establish a more friendly relationship of common interest between working people and the employer. This would be the surest pledge of industrial peace, and the firmest support in times of commercial distress.

The employe, responding to such an advance by the employer, can increase the quantity and improve the quality of the product under a deeper feeling of personal interest. By his diligence, care, and economy, he can actually create an additional profit, which is to be used in supplementing regular wages. Profit sharing includes the payment of the best wages current, and promises a bonus beyond this, which, experience shows, the interested workman can invariably produce in good times.

Profit sharing, as a principle, may be applied in a large variety of ways, and it can readily be adapted to the great majority of productive and distributive enterprises. We invite applications for full information concerning the history and the results of the system, as it is now in operation in many establishments, small and large, in Europe and the United States. The address of the Secretary of our association is 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

For the Association for the Promotion of Profit Sharing:

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NELLIE BLY FINDS A MODEL TOWN.

The Labor Question Solved
and Everybody Happy
in a Little Village
Near St. Louis.

A CONTRAST TO PULLMAN.

Profit-Sharing and Co-Opera-
tive Theories in Practi-
cal and Satisfactory
Operation.

NO STRIKES NOR DISAGREEMENTS.

Every Workman a Stockholder
with a Vote in the Manage-
ment of the Com-
pany.

THEIR CO-OPERATIVE STORE.

**Does the Town of Leclaire, ILL. Stand
as a Living Ideal of the Proper
Relations Between Capi-
tal & Labor?**

There is one place in America where the labor question seems to have been solved. That is in Leclaire, ILL. one hour's ride from St. Louis, Mo.

Leclaire is a town founded upon the principles of profit-sharing and co-operation.

As an experiment it is interesting not only to the employer and employed, the student and the philanthropist, but to the entire United States, which has been forced into a realization of the increasing dissatisfaction of the employed, the misery of strikes and the cruelty of corporations.

What the solution to it is thousands have asked and none have answered. Indeed the man who could say what course or what place would settle all wrongs and dissatisfactions would gain a higher pinnacle of fame than that ever reached by mortal.

What I had seen and learned in Pullman had not only converted me into a striker, but had left me very despondent as to the ultimate fate of the employed, men and women. Even Gov. Altgeld, who has the subject very much at heart, could only suggest one hope when I interviewed him: "Let them all stand together: It is their only hope."

But standing together seemed to offer strikes, and strikes mean hunger and crime: so I accepted most eagerly the suggestion to investigate Leclaire, a town wherein was promised a perfect solution to the labor question.

I watched very eagerly for the first glimpse of Leclaire, and my first impression from the car window was that it was very unlike Mr. Pullman's "model" (?) town. In Pullman the fine buildings and the park face the railroad and hide the poverty flats and the squalor from view. At Leclaire the backs of the houses were towards the tracks. They looked very simple and country-like, but prosperous and clean. That impressed me most.

IDEAL WORKSHOPS.

The train slowed down enough to permit me to jump off. There was no station, and that amused me, for, excepting the hotel, the station is the most artistic building in Pullman. I walked across the fields to the settlement of workshops. They were not imposing to the eye of the uninitiated. To one who noticed only the beauty of architecture the factories must look painfully plain and unassuming. They were only one-storied, red brick, and the man who understood would have explained that they were the ideal perfection of buildings for man to labor in, and a working man would have called them blessed. Their chief feature was windows-big, generous windows-that admit as much light and air as could be obtained under a canopy. Every factory has fire-sprinklers, electric fans, electric lights and steam heat.

Could anything be more ideal in the way of a building for man to labor in?

I recall the pens I have seen in New York and elsewhere, where slaves, male and female, labor in ill-lighted, badly ventilated, foul-smelling firetraps, and I had an irresistible longing to say to them: "I know a place where to labor is a pleasure, not an agonizing slave task."

THE MEN AT WORK.

As I walked through the factories I looked at the men. It is generally easy to judge a man's condition by his face. I noticed it so much in Pullman. The men, and more especially the women, had a sad, weary expression, as if they never had any chance to feel light-hearted and to laugh. But the workmen in the Leclaire factories were working away as if work were a pleasure, and those who were not actually smiling did not bear the slightest expression of care.

Everybody was busy, but no one was afraid to look up. I have been in factories where the employed are commanded under penalty of dismissal to "look steadily at their work when visitors are present."

The absence of a "boss" was another noticeable feature. I have never before visited a factory where I did not see at the very first moment a "boss," stationed at a prominent part of the factory and watching the workers with the cruel eyes of a slave-driver. If there was a "boss" in the Leclaire factories I did not see him. Every man seemed to be working. I afterward learned that among the one hundred and fifteen men employed in Leclaire, there are only three men who do no actual hand work. One is the foreman, and what the others are I neglected to ask. I presume one is a shipping clerk and the other a bookkeeper.

A high green hedge with a dividing driveway separated the factories of Leclaire from the home part. I thought if there was nothing else to recommend Leclaire the beautifully constructed factories would, but when I was once within the green hedge I began to realize the beauty of the town. If one expects to find grandeur in Leclaire one will be disappointed. The town is simple and pretty and is wears splendidly. The longer I was in Leclaire the better I liked it. The longer I was in Pullman the less I liked it.

When I first landed in Pullman and saw the park, the pretty lake, the fine station and hotel, the impressive front to the shops, the arcade, I thought it was all so beautiful, but when I walked to the rear of the town and saw the miserable "Letter" blocks and "brickyard" frame tenements, I felt like tearing down the sham front and showing the filth and poverty behind it.

THE WORKMEN'S HOUSES.

But in Leclaire the more I searched for faults the more I became impressed with the perfection of the place. The streets are not laid out like a checkerboard, with barracks of brick tenements filling every square, as at Pullman, but wind this way and that in pleasing and artistic irregularity. The only brick employed in Leclaire are the factory buildings. All the houses are frame, as country houses should be. They all occupy lots averaging one-third of an acre and are set back twenty feet or more from the pavement.

There are no double houses for two or more families in Leclaire, there are no blocks of tenements with from six to a dozen people in two rooms as at Pullman. Every house in Leclaire is individual, and only one family lives in a house. Along the winding roads I saw the two-storied frame houses, prettily painted, set in wide green lots that were only broken by pretty flower beds or growing trees. There is no supervision of houses and streets, as in Pullman, and yet everything, just the contrary to Pullman, was the perfection of cleanliness. There was that look about the little homes that bespoke prosperity and happiness.

There is no fine hotel to impress the traveller in Leclaire, as there is in Pullman, but visitors who have heard of the object of the town and are anxious to investigate its workings are not unknown, even all the way from France, and it has come to be generally understood that they shall be simply, unaffectedly and cordially made welcome at the manager's home. This was my fate also. The manager is an enthusiast on profit-sharing and co-operation, and he never stopped to ask me what my business was, or why I had come to Leclaire, but took me to his home and introduced me to his pretty wife, just as if I had been a friend they had long expected.

After supper the manager went off with a friend to attend a meeting where further co-operation was to be discussed, and the little wife asked me to walk around with her to see the town. We not only saw the town, but I grasped the opportunity to talk with the people.

The first house we stopped at was a two-storied white frame, with a very roomy and pretty veranda. The windows were all open, the lawn was green and well kept and the flower-beds were one mass of fragrance and color. The entire place was so pretty and homelike that I was anxious to see the inhabitants, and had that curiosity partly gratified when the wife, seeing us stop, came out to speak to Mrs. N., the manager's wife, and to offer us flowers.

The woman had very dreamy brown eyes and an intellectual face. Mrs. N. strolled on to speak to another neighbor and I talked with the woman. She was German by birth and had formerly lived in New York, in West Thirty-eighth street, between Ninth and Tenth avenues. This interested me very much, for I could not well imagine a greater contrast than between her New York and Leclaire homes.

"How do you like Leclaire?" I asked her, first telling her I was from New York and thereby establishing a bond of sympathy between us.

"When we first came here we thought we were in heaven." she said earnestly. "My husband would not go away for anything. He says Leclaire is the best place in America. I like it too, only you know, sometimes I want to see my friends. They all live in New York. I would like to go back to see them, but I wouldn't move away from here."

"Why don't you go on a visit, then?" I asked.

"We don't want to spend the money yet." was the reply. "We are buying this house, and until it's paid for we don't want to waste money foolishly."

"How much did you pay for the house?"

"I am not sure; I think it was \$1,450; maybe it was more. I don't remember. Our lot is on the corner, you see, and it is 100x140. We pay for the house just the same as rent, \$18 a month. Of course, if we were renting it would be much less, but it isn't much even to buy."

"How much does your husband earn?"

"He gets a salary-\$16 per week-and that is the year round. Once we tried to buy a home on the Palisades; we didn't like to have our children grow up in the streets of New York and we had no other place for them. We saved enough money to make a big first payment, and then we were to pay just like rent, with an interest on the whole amount. Well, somehow, we couldn't get along. While my husband has always been a steady worker, work would be slack and he would be laid off, and we got back, try as we would, until we lost our home and everything we had paid on it. It's different here; it's steady work all the time, and if a man is sick everything is let go until he is well, and then he begins paying like he did before without having to make up the lost payments."

HE PAYS ONLY \$12 RENT.

I walked across to another corner where I met a man who had once worked in Pullman.

"I didn't live in the town, though," he told me promptly, "for times were good then, and even with that I could not have paid the big rents."

"How do you like Leclaire?" I asked. He smiled contentedly.

"I've only been here three months" he said promptly, "and I can't find anything to kick about."

Wasn't that delightful? We are all so: If we can find anything to kick about we always do so, but he hadn't been able in three months to find the slightest cause.

"Do you own your house?" I asked.

"Not yet, but I hope to do so." he replied. "I have six big rooms and a bath, a lot 100x120 where I can have my flowers and vegetables if I please, and for it I pay \$12 a month rent. That includes water and electric light.

"It's nice to have your own house and lot," he added. "Think of the Pullman people without a bit of ground! Next year I don't intend to have my lawn cut up in flower beds. I like a few flowers, but I like the smooth green grass."

"Do you own any stock in the company?" I asked.

"Not yet; you see I wanted to know if I liked it first. I expect to buy a share soon now."

This man gets \$2.25 a day.

I could not help comparing his rent with rent in Pullman. The nearest to it in price are the five-roomed "cottages" built in a row. The five rooms could be placed inside of half of his six, so much smaller are they. Their rent is \$17 per month: his \$12. They have not a bit of lawn or any ground: he has a lot 100x120. Theirs is in a row built with front and back doors, side by side: his is a house standing alone in a corner lot. They pay Mr. Pullman 71 cents a month for running water in the kitchen: he has running water and a bath for nothing. They pay \$2.25 a thousand for Pullman gas: he has electric light for nothing.

RENTS UNIFORMLY LOW.

This is the highest rent I found in Leclaire. Another family I visited had a lovely large cottage, with five big rooms and a pretty veranda and a very large lot, for which they paid, including electric light, running water &...\$10.50 a month.

"Rent is lower here than any place I ever lived and I've lived in Michigan and St. Louis before we came here." the wife said to me. "I don't want to live any other place. My husband has work steady here, and the pay is just as large."

"The smallest rent in Leclaire is for a three room cottage on a lot 100x170. The three rooms are larger than Mr. Pullman's five-roomed cottages. The rent, including electric light and running water, is \$6 a month. Mr. Pullman has three-roomed frame cottages. They are known as the brick-yard houses. The rooms are so small that they will scarcely hold a single bed, and the black, filthy ceilings are so low that I could touch them by merely raising my arm. For these filthy holes, without water or light, with no ground and not a blade of grass within their limit and one public hydrant for forty-four houses, for these miserable pest-holes of three rooms each, Mr. Pullman charges \$8 a month.

Think of it! Compare it with Leclaire! The more I think of it the more I wish I had been made one of the arbitrators. I am sure the other two would not have missed anything in Pullman's "model" town.

One of the prettiest houses in Leclaire belongs to an Italian. If he had remained here he would doubtless have had to huddle in the tenement room with several other families and he would have been called a "Dago" and his children would have played in the gutters in the daytime and slept on the roofs or fire escapes at night.

But he lives where profit-sharing and co-operation is the rule. He is a fine cabinetmaker, and gets \$2.50 every working day in the year. He owns a share in the factory and one in the store. He has a corner lot 100 feet square and his five-roomed cottage is large, airy and pretty. He is paying for it \$18 a month. The price of his house was \$1,400. His children are pretty, bright and clean. They attend the kindergarten, and have great big beds of flowers. You can't see the flowers in the picture, or the vines which run up on the porch, for the photograph was taken when the house was first built.

PLANNED HIS OWN HOUSE.

Across the street from the Italian family live a bride and bridegroom. He works in the factory and planned his own house. It occupies a lot 100x130 feet. The house cost \$1,465 and was built under the direction of the young husband. It is one of the prettiest houses in Leclaire and will be paid for just the same as rent. After

working hours the young husband decorates the interior of his home. He has done all the inside painting, and will do the paper-hanging. He and his bride are both musical, both good looking, and both as happy as the happiest.

To tell the happy story of one home in Leclaire is but to tell the story of them all, just as to lay bare the misery of one family in Pullman, is to tell the story of the entire town.

THE CLUB-HOUSE AND BAND.

As the twilight lengthened into night the town was lighted instantaneously by electric light, and a loud burst of music was heard and women and children left their homes and strolled up towards the factories. I naturally fell into line, which ended suddenly at the largest building in Leclaire. The building is called the Club-House.

Upon the lawn near it was the band, composed of the young men in Leclaire. They played very, very well, and their audience was very appreciative. Women and girls in light summer dresses, and men, some without coats and hats, sat and stood around on the lawn listening until the Leclaire Band had exhausted itself. The band was very amiable and repeated popular airs upon request.

"Can women go in to the club-house? I am very anxious to see it." I remarked, and the man to whom I spoke laughed.

"It is free to everybody." he said, and presently I went in to see it.

It is a two-storied building with a veranda. The first thing that greets one on entering is a wide and artistic fireplace, a handsome bronze bust on a pedestal, a glass cabinet and a piano. To the right are bookcases containing from five to six hundred books, and I might as well add that there is a list of three hundred books that will be bought within a month. On the tables are periodicals, magazines and several daily newspapers.

This is the Leclaire library, and it is not only free to the people of Leclaire, but to the people in the nearby towns, or in the State for that matter. The kindergarten is also held in the club-house, but a school-house is to be built this year. Lectures and entertainments are held in the club-house, and quite a number of prominent men have lectured there-the Rev. Edward Everett Hale being among the number.

DANCING, BOWLING AND BILL-IARDS.

To the left of the entrance is a stairway leading to the floor above, where live, unmarried men and men whose homes are elsewhere. These young men have a co-operative club; sharing expenses, and are extremely comfortable and happy.

One said to me: "I never knew what home was until I came to Leclaire."

When the band stopped playing everybody came into the club-house, and those who could dance, danced, and those who couldn't enjoy it just as much looking on. There doesn't seem to be any jealousy in Leclaire, and young men as often danced with married women as with young girls, and husbands looked on and were well pleased.

Some men wore coats and some didn't, some women were "dressed up" and some were not, and the children were generally barefooted. It was a very Democratic gathering and a very pretty one to look upon. Everybody was as good as his neighbor, and everybody seemed good natured. I had almost a notion to say it was like one big family, but big families are not always amiable when together.

I went away and left the greater part of the village still dancing. I went down to see the bowling alley, and the few young men who preferred bowling to dancing, likewise the billiard room and beneath it the co-operative store.

The bowling alley and billiard-room are as free to everybody in Leclaire as the swings and the see-saws near the club-house. In fact, everything is free in Leclaire. Workmen are free to work in the factories and live where they please. A census is not taken of the village every six months, as is done in Pullman, to see if very workman lives or boards in the town.

If the men wish to live in Leclaire they can do so. They can rent, buy or have built as suits their pleasure. If they buy and afterwards wish to remove and go elsewhere they can keep their house or sell it. If they wish to sell they receive just the same price they paid less what they would have paid per month for rent.

There is no charge for street lighting, street sprinkling or cleaning. Water is free as is the library, kindergarten, billiard-room and bowling alley. House-owners pay 25 cents a month per light for electric lights. The highest pay is \$3 per day. The majority of workers get \$2.50 and \$2.25. The lowest pay is for plain labor, \$1.25.

The cost of living is very low in Leclaire. Coal is only 70 cents a ton, or 5 cents a bushel. The best beef and mutton are 10 cents a pound, for the best cuts, and lower prices accordingly. Ham is 12 1/2 cents a pound, sugar 18 to 22 pounds for \$1. Coffee is 25 to 20 cents per pound and flour \$3.10 a barrel or \$1.60 for 100 pounds.

Now how do workmen get all this-low rent, big wages and steady work?

I will explain to you as clearly as I can.

There is a man back of it all, of course. N. O. Nelson, a plain, unassuming man, about 5 feet 5 inches tall and possibly weighing one hundred and forty pounds. He is somewhere between forty and fifty years old and has bushy whiskers and a decided

His manner is as unassuming as his wearing apparel, and neither could be freer from pretense. There is something about this N. O. Nelson that prevents one knowing whether his eyes are dark or light. It is by the greatest effort I recall his appearance, and yet I remember vividly every word he said to me, and I spent the good part of a day conversing with him. There are men I have talked with whom I could afterwards describe to the very lines in the palms of their hands and still not be able to recall one word they said to me.

There is that difference in men, and my reader can solve it to suit his pleasure.

This N. O. Nelson is modesty itself. He is constantly trying to do good for his fellow creatures, and he wants to live in obscurity and be forgotten.

He is the friend of Rev. Edward Everett Hale and "Looking Backward" Bellamy, and numerous other men who would like to turn this great big miserable world into a lovely garden where everybody would work just enough to give the blood a healthy circulation.

Mr. Nelson could have been a very rich man had done like Mr. Pullman. But he didn't, although, like Pullman, he built a model town, and unlike Pullman, he did not name the town after himself, and unlike Pullman-but there. Mr. Nelson is so totally unlike Pullman that I need not point out the difference. Mr. Nelson was a farmer boy once, then he was a soldier and afterwards was engaged in various businesses. For some years he was a working partner in a manufacturing house in St. Louis, and in 1877 he started, "with a pocketful of quarters," as he expressed it, the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company. Mr. Nelson was always a great admirer of Leclaire.

Leclaire? I did not not know who he was either, and you won't unless you have devoted some time to the study of profit sharing, so I'll tell you.

Leclaire was a plain, unassuming being, who was born in France in 1801 and died there in 1872. He was the founder of profit sharing in Paris some fifty years ago, and I believe a street in Paris has been named in his honor.

Edme Jean Leclaire's father was a shoemaker and the lad did not receive much of an education. He became a house decorator and painter, and in 1828 began business on his own account. In 1840 he announced to his forty-four best workmen that the profits of the year's business would be divided between them and himself. The men considered the proposition a great joke until at the end of the year he gave \$2,500, or an average of \$55 each, to the men.

Some years later he incorporated the older employees into a relief society, which became the owner of one-half the capital of the house. To this day there is admitted to this society employees who have been with the house a certain length of time and who can read and write. But all employees participate in the profits.

The house employs about 1000 men and is splendidly prosperous, although the founder has been dead twenty-two years.

So you understand why Mr. Nelson called his profit-sharing and co-operative town Leclaire. The fine bronze bust in the club-house is of Leclaire and was presented to Mr. Nelson's town by the house of Leclaire in Paris.

LAYING OUT THE TOWN.

Four years ago Mr. Nelson selected the site which comprises 150 acres. He had many things to consider, beauty of location, health, well water, nearness of coal and convenience to a city. All this he found and so Leclaire was started gradually for Mr. Nelson thinks nothing new can be accomplished by going into it wholesale, a few people must be brought together and allowed to assimilate.

Factories were erected, the club-house and a few dwellings, and then a few workmen were moved there. Profit sharing was gradually revealed to the workmen. It had to be done gradually, for workman have been

wronged so many countless years that they are mistrustful and can't believe any man is going to give them a penny over the lowest wages he can force them to accept.

In the factories at Leclaire the same wages are paid that would be got elsewhere. In hiring a man profit sharing is never mentioned and the first motto of Leclaire is "Individual Independence." Workmen can live where they please or how they please: they can buy stock or not; they can go away and come back, and share in the profits just the same.

THE WAGES OF CAPITAL.

Every year, after wages and expenses are paid, capital is given a low commercial rate of interest, which as Mr. Nelson says, is capital's wages. At Leclaire, capital's wages are only 6 per cent. which is considered very moderate. Then, after this was done an equal dividend was made on wages and capital. One hundred dollars of wages would receive the same dividend as \$100 of capital. That was as originally started. Now 2 per cent. is allowed on wages to 1 per cent. on capital.

Originally men had to work for the company as much as six months before they shared in the dividends. They were given an opportunity to invest in stock, and most of them have done so. A share costs \$100 and a man can buy as much or as little as he desires or even a fraction of a share. As Mr. Nelson does not consider it wise to give something for nothing, and as he wished to make men assume a responsibility for inclusion profit sharing is now subject to a condition: men can only share in the profit if they lay up and invest in the business one-tenth of their pay. It is a free option: no one has to do it.

During this profit-sharing period, men have received altogether in dividends 54 per cent. on their wages, equal to 7 per cent. per annum. The stock has made 13 1/2 per cent., i.e. in addition to wages derived from the profit sharing, dividends have averaged 7 per cent. on each year's wages, and those who invested their wages in stock have received in interest and dividend an average of about 13 per cent. on their investment. Profit sharing is also in force in the office in St. Louis. Three girls, stenographers, belong to the company. One girl has \$700 in stock. Nearly all the employees own stock in the company, although it is optional with them. When an employee quits, if he wants to sell his stock the company buys it for just the same price that he paid.

Nine hours used to be the working day, but when times became so hard the men mutually agreed to work ten hours. The pay was not reduced and not a day's work was lost. One hundred and thirty people, adults and children, live in Leclaire in twenty-six houses. One hundred and fifteen men work in the factories, and new factories are in course of erection, which will raise the force to 225. Mr. Nelson has found it necessary to provide work for girls, so a factory is to be built for them.

Besides the business there is the co-operative store. Any one who wishes can become a member and a stockholder by subscribing for one \$50 share. Under the co-operative law of Illinois one share is all one person may own. Members can pay for their share as they wish, 50 cents a week or the entire amount at once. Every quarter stock is taken and net profits are returned to members in proportion to their purchases. If they don't buy anything, they don't get anything but the 6 per cent. interest on their capital.

Every purchase is strictly cash. This saves complications and trouble. Even Mr. Nelson himself could not get a 5-cent cigar on trust. The storekeeper is paid a salary of \$41 a month. The co-operative store has been in operation two years, and the dividends returned on purchases have never been less than 10 per cent. and have been as high as 20. One great thing about the co-operative store is that there is no incentive to cheat in weight, measure or quality.

Another beautiful thing in Leclaire is the Provident Fund. Originally 5 per cent. of the profits were set aside to provide for the Provident, but now the committee, composed of five workmen, draw what they need and the company charges it to expenses at the end of the year.

Mr. Nelson says that in having the committee composed of the employed they will not be unjust to one of their own fellow-workers and are less liable to be imposed upon. An allowance is made in every case of sickness or death. The general rule in sickness is to allow the man \$3 a week for himself, \$3 for his wife and \$1 for each child. If a man dies his funeral expenses are paid and the committee takes charge of the family to see that it is supported and the children educated.

If a man is paying for a house and falls sick all payments are declared off until he is well again, and meanwhile the Provident committee takes care of him. Mr. Nelson says he sees no reason why the hale and hearty workmen of a hale and hearty institution shouldn't take care of it's sick.

There are no working unions in Leclaire, but the men in the city belong to unions and societies. Mr. Nelson is very much in favor of unions.

"Association and organization are the first principles of society." says Mr. Nelson. "Union is a protection for laborers who would singly be helpless in the face of combined capital."

Mr. Nelson also believes in encouraging marriage. When any young man gets married his wages are increased.

The Leclaire School and Library associated is incorporated and endowed. The plan for the education of the children is a magnificent one.

Every boy upon reaching the age of twelve is made to work one hour a day in the factory. He works for pay just like a man and is paid according to his labor. When the boy is thirteen, he works two hours a day and so on until he reaches the age of eighteen, when he will have completed his education, and have at the same time mastered a trade.

Mr. Nelson thinks many failures can be credited to boys being turned out at eighteen with a semi-college education, and having to compete in trade with a boy of twelve. By Mr. Nelson's plan a boy graduates at school and at his work when he is eighteen. He is then not only a full-fledged man, but a full-fledged workman.

The same course is to be pursued with girls. They are at twelve to be given an hour's work per day at productive sewing, and factories with work suitable for girls between twelve and eighteen are to be built. This is to make girls self-supporting, so that if fathers or husbands die, if necessary, they can turn out in the world and be competent to earn their living by some trade. Special provisions will be made for boys and girls of unusual talents.

A WORKINGMAN'S MEETING.

I am glad to be able to offer a picture of a meeting I surprised. I had been walking around the village when I came upon Mr. Nelson, his manager and a group of workmen from the factories who had sat down in the shade near the club-house to discuss a new scheme for the betterment of the workmen in Leclaire.

Everybody can see from the picture what an amiable and democratic gathering it was. The workmen were in their undershirts, just as they had been in the factories, and Mr. Nelson, who is the first one to the left, to better make himself one of them, pulled off his coat.

My hostess and myself stood off under the tree, hoping to attract the men's attention and thereby divert it from the photographer, who stood near the club-house, but someone saw him and raised the alarm just as he was ready to catch them, and only my excited protests compelled them to remain seated, but they looked conscious just the same.

It is joy to see Mr. Nelson among his men. He is truly one of them. Children cling around his knee and kiss him, and young men pat him on the shoulder with fond familiarity. He is very fond of flowers. He has a greenhouse on the farm, and every spring all the women in Leclaire are invited to come and take away all the flowers they want. He believes it very beneficial to teach people to grow flowers and to care for them. He has succeeded well. Next to their children, the women's chief pride in Leclaire are their exquisite flower-beds.

I don't want to forget to add that the Leclaire Band wears a uniform, and one of it's members told me proudly that the handsome-uniforms were a present from Mr. Nelson. How unlike Mr. Pullman, the philosopher at 6 per cent.! When the Pullman Band applied to him for a small loan with which to buy uniforms he promptly asked them what security they could give, and even bound their wages over for the money he advanced them at 6 per cent.

Mr. Nelson doesn't eat meat. He considers it brutal to put animals through all the torture they must endure to furnish man with flesh. Sea food he excepts, for he considers the suffering of fish and oysters to be very small because of their little sensibility.

In conclusion, I wish to beg two men to visit Leclaire at an early date. One will see what he might have done, the other will see the only way to benefit the world, and both may be benefited.

The first is Palace-Car Pullman, the philosopher at 6 per cent.

The second is Herr Most, the Anarchist of man-destroying beliefs.

NELLIE BLY.

(Note: The above article by Nellie Bly had a number of illustrations we are unable to reproduce here.)

October 1, 1894
Delphos Daily Herald, Delphos, Ohio
The Town of LeClaire

The town of LeClaire, an hour's ride from St. Louis, is organized on the co-operative, profit-sharing ideas promulgated by the philanthropic Frenchman from whom the place is named. LeClaire taught his doctrines fifty years ago, but this town was founded four years since by Mr. N. O. Nelson. The experiment is said to be so far a success in every way. The profits of the labors of the whole community are divided to the earners, according to the value of the services and the needs of each, and the people are reported to be prosperous, contented and happy. The founder of the place believes in matrimony, and whenever one of the members of the community gets married his share in the profits is increased.

Note: LeClaire was referenced in newspaper articles from cities all over the country. LeClaire is mistakenly spelled with a capitol "C" in this article.

December 9, 1894
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Hand Worth \$15,000

EDWARDSVILLE, Dec. 8. – A case is on trial in the Circuit Court in which the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Co. is sued for damages in the sum of \$15,000 by Otto Stolzenberg, a former employe, for the loss of a hand. The accident happened while plaintiff was engaged in one of the shops of defendant on March 1, last, at LeClaire. Stoltzberg being expert in the handling of belts and pulleys was requested by the foreman to place a belt in a department in which he was not an employe. Not being familiar with the machinery at that point he placed his left hand under the pulley and it came in contact with a set of small saws which severed the member at the wrist.

December 28, 1894
Edwardsville Intelligencer

LeClaire's Christmas

The LeClaire kindergarten had its Christmas treat Monday morning. After the regular exercises by the children the tree was brought in by George Roe, who acted in the capacity of Santa and distributed candies, nuts and oranges among the little ones, whose joy knew no bounds.

J. H. Neustadt, superintendent of the N. O. Nelson Mfg. Co. plant was pleasantly remembered on Christmas Eve. The employees at LeClaire presented him with a diamond pin and the LeClaire Co-operative Association with a gold headed cane. J. R. Van Arsdale made the presentation. Mr. Neustadt thanked the donors and invited them to his house where refreshments were served and an hour was spent in a very cheerful manner.

The LeClaire band to express their appreciation of W. B. Thomas, their leader, presented him with a handsome parlor lamp. Harry Friday made the presentation, and the popular leader gracefully acknowledged the favor.

December 28, 1894
Edwardsville Intelligencer

J. H. NEUSTADT WILL VISIT EUROPE AFTER HE RETIRES

What He Has to Say About Leclair and Profit Sharing

(From the St. Louis Republic)

J. H. Neustadt, superintendent of the works of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company at Edwardsville, has resigned and it is probable that within a year he will be at the helm of a manufacturing concern of his own, which will be operated on the co-operative plan.

"I have resigned my position here," said Mr. Neustadt yesterday, "the resignation to take effect at the end of the year. In two weeks or more I intend to start on a lengthy tour in Europe, probably extending over a period of six months. I am a firm believer in the co-operative system as the only fair way of dealing with labor, and as the only equitable means of adjusting the labor question. While in Europe I intend visiting and making a thorough inspection of the co-operative community at Leclair, France, and will also visit similar institutions elsewhere, besides visiting the large manufacturing cities in England and Germany. I have letters of introduction to a number of leading men in co-operative communities, and authorities on the labor question from various standpoints. I expect to study the subject thoroughly. I expect to make my future home in St. Louis, and when I return, it is possible that I may start a concern of my own on a co-operative line. I say that it is possible, because it may be that I will become imbued with the greed of capital and want to "hog" everything in sight. The ocean ozone may work that change in my present composition, but I hope it will not," and Mr. Neustadt's laughing face was a guarantee of the zeal with which he espouses the share system, and belied the prediction that his philanthropic views were in much danger of being extinguished.

* * *

The fact that Mr. Neustadt has tendered his resignation revived an old rumor to the effect that there were differences between himself and Mr. Nelson, and between the men and Mr. Nelson. On being asked about this Mr. Neustadt said: "The men have nothing to be dissatisfied about. Why should they have? They are paid the full market price for their services. There are men getting \$2.50 and \$3 a day, and in addition they receive a dividend on the profits, provided profits are made. They have this advantage of labor elsewhere and have absolutely nothing to lose or risk. Those who desire may purchase stock in the concern and thus become capitalists themselves, getting interest on their stock, in addition to their dividends as employees. As for myself I am still superintendent of the N. O. Nelson Manufacturing Company and honor would forbid me to air any grievance I might have until my term of service had expired. But, as a matter of fact, I have no grievance whatever. Mr. Nelson and I differ in opinion simply as to the best means of accomplishing a common end. That is all. I have been close to Mr. Nelson socially as well as in business matters. I will say to you candidly that I believe that he is honestly and conscientiously trying to put his views into practice. I differ with him as to the best methods, and that difference has led me to leave him to pursue the plans I have outlined. But those differences involve no criticism of his methods, and I want to assure you that they are accompanied by no bitterness, and I leave him with the best of feeling."

When asked if there was any truth in the statement made several months ago to the effect that while men were entitled to a share of the profits after a year's service, that they were discharged before the expiration of that term, Mr. Neustadt emphatically denied it. "It was merely a local calumny," he said. "As a matter of fact, we have men who have been with the concern ever since it started, four years ago," and in this he was confirmed by Mr. Hendricks, foreman of the brass department.

When asked about the operations of the co-operative store, about which some Edwardsville merchants complained several months ago, making the charge that the employes were obliged to trade there and contending that instead of being a help to Edwardsville, it was becoming a rival in business. Mr. Neustadt said: "The co-operative store is not owned by the Nelson Manufacturing Co., but is fostered by it. It belongs to the employes, and the profits from it are divided. But there is no compulsion about the men trading there. We try to keep the ugly word compulsion out of our dictionary. Not only is every man free to trade in Edwardsville, but many of them do it right along, and you can see Edwardsville merchants' wagons delivering groceries and dry goods right in the company's grounds a dozen times a day. The number of men employed vary from 175 to 200 and of these not more than 50 live on the company's grounds. The rest keep house or board in Edwardsville."
